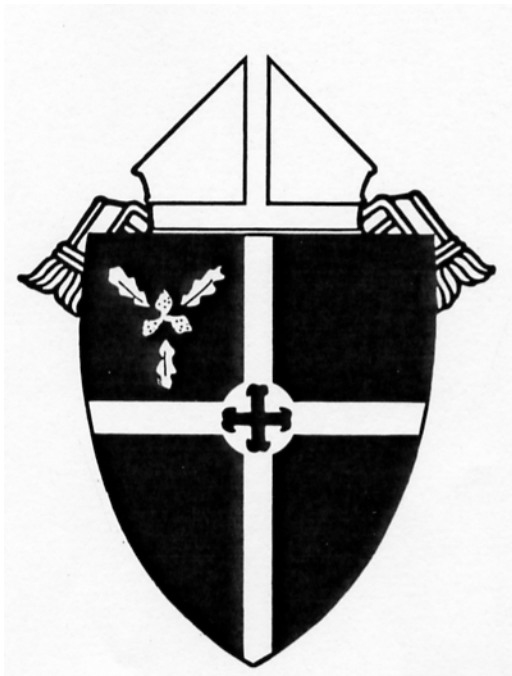


# *Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis*

Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve



**Diocese of Bismarck  
Office of Faith Formation  
520 N Washington Street  
Bismarck, ND 58502-1137  
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## Resources

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, United States Catholic Conference,  
Washington, DC., 1997.

*Doctrinal Elements for Elementary Grades Based on the Catechism of the Catholic Church*: Working Instrument, National Conference of Catholic Bishops, 1998.

*Handing On The Faith*: A Unified Content Reference For Teaching the Catholic Faith, Diocese of Birmingham, Alabama, 1999, used with permission.

*National Directory for Catechesis*, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C., 2005.

*New American Bible*, Bishops' Committee of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, Catholic Book Publishing Co., New York, 1970.

*The Faith That Marks God's People*: Guidelines for Catechesis Pre-Kindergarten Through Grade Six, Archdiocese of New York, 1996.

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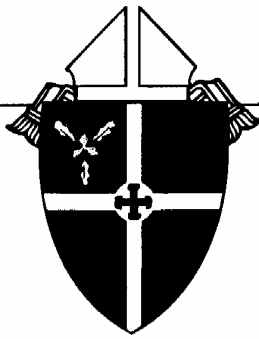
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# Diocese of Bismarck

## THE CHANCERY

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The Feast of St. Thomas Aquinas  
January 28, 2009

My dear Sisters and Brothers in the Lord,

Through the Office of Faith Formation I am pleased to make this Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis available for use throughout the Diocese of Bismarck.

With greatest respect and appreciation for all that you catechists have done in the service of the Church of Bismarck, I entrust these Guidelines to you with the understanding that they will help ensure that the content of the Catholic faith is taught on every grade level in every Catholic school and parish catechetical program. Your dedication, countless hours of labor in teaching God's Word, sacrifices that only the Lord can know, have furthered the handing on of the faith year after year.

These guidelines will serve as the doctrinal and theological bases for all catechetical programs offered to our students from Kindergarten through Grade Twelve within the diocese. If they are followed by all "teachers" (from parents to pastors) we have every reason to expect that our students will be well informed in their Catholic Faith.

I pray that the Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis will serve as a valuable and worthy instrument to truly "lift up our hearts" – that it will significantly energize the vocation of each of us ***To Be Ambassadors For Christ Who Live Stewardship In Word, Sacrament and Service.***

Sincerely in Christ,

+ *Paul A. Zipfel*

Most Reverend Paul A. Zipfel  
Bishop of Bismarck



# Introduction

*Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis* is intended for all those who are involved in passing on the faith in the Diocese of Bismarck. The *Guidelines* contains appropriate doctrinal and content statements clustered around the four parts of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. Each statement is referenced to the *Catechism* and in many instances also to Scripture.

*Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis* is an adaptation of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* for the Diocese of Bismarck. It is the statement of what is the church's doctrine, dogma, or content and not the methodology on how they are to be taught.

The intention in citing the *Catechism* and Scripture references is to offer the catechist a pointer or a locator. It is to serve only as a starting point; this is certainly not an exhaustive reference nor is it the best or most definitive of references. In looking up the suggested Scripture texts, the catechist can easily find multitudes of other Scripture references by referring to all the cross references and footnotes found on that page of the Scriptures.

In the same manner, in looking up the suggested references to the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, the catechist should take a moment to notice the context of the particular reference as well as the cross-references in the margins to that particular *Catechism* text.

*Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis* is intended only as a guide to ensure that the content of the faith is authentically, completely, and faithfully presented to students at the appropriate grade level.

*Religion Curriculum Guidelines for Catechesis* is not a textbook nor is it a lesson plan. It is a resource and a guide for the catechist.

By selecting religion textbooks from the “Conformity Listing of Catechetical Text and Series” published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops , which is in compliance with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*; you can ensure that the students are receiving a comprehensive approach to the faith each year and that they are also receiving a faithful and complete treatment of the faith by the end of a given series of courses.

An updated listing can be found on the Conference website: [www.usccb.org/catechism](http://www.usccb.org/catechism) scroll down to “Conformity Listing.”





# Introduction for K-5

The following pages offer a unified content reference for catechists and religion teachers of children in grades K-5.

These reference statements are clustered around the four pillars of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*: The Profession of Faith; The Celebration of the Christian Mystery; Life in Christ and Christian Prayer.



The reference statements for each grade level are intended for the reflection, guidance, and direction of the catechists. **It is important to understand that these statements are not intended to serve as a lesson plan, nor as a course outline, nor as a syllabus to be slavishly followed.** These statements should not be looked upon as either a minimum or a maximum of what literate Catholics need to know.

These reference statements are intended to serve as an over-all review to be used and consulted during the school year in order to ascertain how these references are being incorporated throughout the over-all presentation of the content in that grade.

The reference statements are written for each grade - **not** for the students, **not** in appropriate language for the students, **not** for a lesson plan, **not** for a course outline but, primarily as doctrinal and content statements taken from the *Catechism* for the reflection, assimilation, and enrichment of the catechist and religion teacher.

The cross-references and the footnotes given for each reference and citation from both the Bible and the *Catechism* are intended to further enrich the catechist.

By selecting religion textbooks from the “Conformity Listing of Catechetical Text and Series” published by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops which is in compliance with the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, all areas are covered throughout the various grades. You will find this listing with regular updates on the Conference website [www.usccb.org/catechism](http://www.usccb.org/catechism); scroll down to “Conformity Listing.”



# Kindergarten

## **Topic: Good News**

*A suitable early introduction to the good news of God's loving initiative will ground all later developments in a child's religious and moral life.*



## **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| * We believe in God (199-202).  | <i>Ex 3:11-15</i>     |
| * We give God the Father certain names and attributes (203-221).                        | <i>Mt 6:9-15</i>      |
| * The Holy Trinity is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit (253-256).               | <i>Lk 3:21-22</i>     |
| * God is the creator (279-281).   | <i>Gn 1:1-6</i>       |
| * We are to care for all of God's creation (337-349).                                   | <i>Gn 1:28-41</i>     |
| * We are made in God's image - male and female (355-361).                               | <i>Gn 1:27</i>        |
| * Adam and Eve disobeyed God - original sin (396-412).                                  | <i>Gn 3:1-24</i>      |
| * Jesus Christ is the only Son of God - the Incarnation (456-463).                      | <i>Jn 1:29-34</i>     |
| * Mary is the Mother of God (484-507).  | <i>Lk 1:26-55</i>     |
| * The holy family is Jesus, Mary, and Joseph (522-534).                                 | <i>Lk 2:41-52</i>     |
| * Jesus died for our sins and rose from the dead (638-655).                             | <i>Mk 15:1 - 16:8</i> |
| * The church is the people of God (836-838).  | <i>Mt 16:13-20</i>    |
| * Christ's faithful people are the lay people, the religious, and the clergy (934-945). | <i>1 Pt 2:5</i>       |

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 1066-1690*

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| * We are called to pray with the church - Christ's prayer (1071-1073).   | <i>Acts 2:42-47</i>   |
| * Liturgy is thanksgiving, blessing, and praise (1077-1083).   | <i>Eph 1:3-6</i>      |
| * The sacraments, instituted by Christ, are actions of the Holy Spirit (1114-1116).                                | <i>Lk 5:17</i>        |
| * We actively celebrate the liturgy with the full body of Christ - God's holy people, living and dead (1136-1144). | <i>1 Cor 12:12-26</i> |
| * In the liturgy we celebrate the mysteries of Christ - liturgical seasons, feast days, and holy days (1163-1173). | <i>Lk 24:30</i>       |

- \* The church is a house of prayer where Eucharist is celebrated, where the faithful gather, and where we worship God, our savior (1181).
- \* Jesus was baptized by John the Baptizer in the river Jordan (1223-1225). *Mt 3:13-17*
- \* In baptism our sins are forgiven and we become children of God and members of the church (1262-1270). *Eph 4:25*
- \* At Mass, Jesus gives us himself in the form of the Eucharist (1333). *Lk 22:14-20*
- \* In the Eucharist, we remember what Jesus did and said at the Last Supper and on the cross (1341-1344, 1367). *Mt 26:26-30*
- \* Sin is an offense against God (1440). *Gn 3:1-24*
- \* Jesus, as God's son, forgives sins (1441). *Mk 2:5*
- \* In the sacrament of reconciliation, our sins are forgiven (1446). *Jn 20:19-23*

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Because of our differences, we are called to share our gifts with one another through generosity and kindness (1936-1938). *1 Cor 12:12-30*
- \* To prepare for the coming of Christ, God chose Israel to be a special people and revealed the law to them (1961). *Dt 14:2*
- \* The new law is the law of love given us through Jesus (1966). *Jn 13:31-35*
- \* Grace is God sharing his life with us (1996-1997). *Jn 15:1-17*
- \* Each person is made in the image of God (1701-1702). *Gn 1:26-27*
- \* With the beatitudes, Jesus teaches us how to obtain happiness (1725-1728). *Mt 5:3-12*
- \* Sin is an offense against the love of God (1849-1850). *Gn 3:1-7*
- \* Respect is to be shown to all human persons because they are created in God's image (1934-1935). *Mt 25:31-46*
- \* In baptism, we are each given a name in the church (2156-2159). *Is 43:1*
- \* The Third Commandment asks us to keep Sunday holy (2180-2188). *Mk 2:23-28*
- \* After himself, God has willed that we should obey our mother and our father and those in authority (2214-2220). *Ex 20:12*
- \* Every human life is sacred (2258). *Mt 5:21-22*
- \* Our bodies are holy (2331-2336). *Gn 5:1-2*
- \* God is the father of all truth; therefore, we should not lie, steal, or cheat (2464). *Gn 1:26*

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| * God calls each person to prayer (2566-2567).  | <i>Acts 17:26-28</i> |
| * Jesus teaches us how to pray (2607-2615).   | <i>Lk 11:1-4</i>     |
| * Jesus hears our prayers (2616).   | <i>Lk 11:9-10</i>    |
| * Mary prays and intercedes for us (2618).  | <i>Jn 2:1-12</i>     |
| * The prayer of blessing is our response for all that God has given us (2626).              | <i>Lk 1:67-79</i>    |
| * We adore God by acknowledging his greatness (2628).                                       | <i>Ps 95:1-6</i>     |
| * In the prayer of thanksgiving, every event and need can become an offering to God (2638). | <i>1 Thes 5:18</i>   |
| * We can pray to the Father or to Jesus (2680).   | <i>Jn 6:44-51</i>    |
| * The church invites us to ask the Holy Spirit to teach us to pray (2681).                  | <i>Jn 14:25-26</i>   |
| * We ask the saints to pray for us and the whole world (2683).                              | <i>Heb 12:1</i>      |
| * The Lord's Prayer includes all other prayer (2761-2764).                                  | <i>Lk 24:44</i>      |



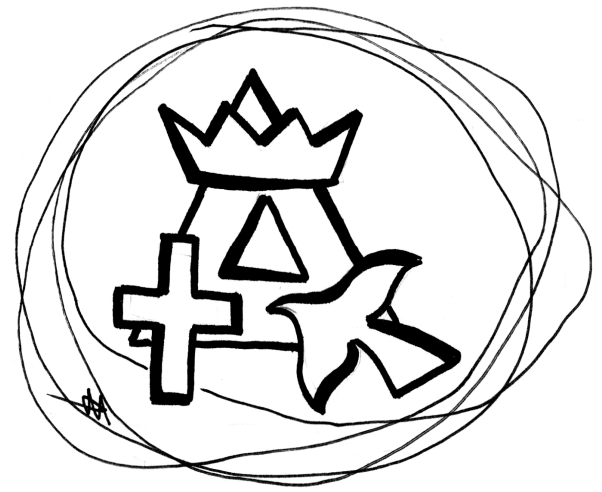
# Grade 1

## Theme:

*God is our Father who loves us.*

*Jesus is the Son of God who tells us about the Father.*

*The Holy Spirit helps us to be holy.*



## **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- \* God is our Father who loves us (220-221, 238). *1 Jn 4:8*
- \* God is the our Creator and the creator of all things (279). *Gn 2:4-24*
- \* God is all loving and all holy (218-21, 301, 733, 278).
- \* God knows everything and can do everything (268-71, 303).
- \* God has always been and always will be (34, 213).
- \* Jesus is the Son of God who tells us about our Father (240-242). *Mal 2:10*
- \* Jesus, the Son of God, became human like us and loves us (422, 478). *Lk 2:7-14*
- \* Jesus loved us as his friend, even until his death (609). *Jn 13:1*
- \* Mary is the Mother of Jesus (501). *Jn 19:26-27*
- \* We look to Mary as a very special woman and our Mother (501). *Jn 19: 26-27*
- \* Each of us has a guardian angel (336). *Mt 18:10*
- \* Followers of Jesus are called Christian (897). *Acts 4:32*
- \* The Holy Spirit is the expression of God's love for us (733). *Rom 5:5*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* Through baptism we become members of the church, God's family (1213). *Acts 2:38-39*
- \* Through baptism we receive grace, a sharing in God's life.
- \* Sometimes we hurt others and have to say we are sorry (1439). *Lk 7:48*
- \* Church is the place where the liturgy is celebrated (1179-1186). *2 Cor 6:16*
- \* In the Mass we praise, thank, and bless God our Father (1359-1361). *Eph 1:3-6*
- \* Jesus is with us in the Eucharist as a sign of his love for us (1380). *Jn 13:1*
- \* Jesus is present in the tabernacle and we genuflect or bow deeply to show our adoration (1378-1380). *Phil 2:10*
- \* The seasons of the church are celebrated: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, and ordinary time (1171, 1194).

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Jesus shows us the best way to live (459, 520). *Jn 14:6*
- \* God wants us to be happy on this earth and in heaven (1718-1721). *Mt 6:21*
- \* We love God more than anything (1822-1829). *Rom 5:10*
- \* We love God in others and show our respect for them (1929-1933). *Rom 13:8-10*
- \* We are to show love and obedience to the ones who care for us in our family as Jesus did to his parents ( 2199). *Lk 2:51*
- \* We use Jesus' name with respect and with love (2142-2144). *Ex 20:7*
- \* We are to respect the good name, property and possessions of others (2401). *Mt 19:18*
- \* We are to be truthful; we do not lie (2464). *Dt 5:20*
- \* We are to be like Jesus in caring for people in need, especially the poor and suffering, praying for and helping them (2447). *Mt 22:37-40*
- \* God's family includes people of all races, languages, and differences (1934-1938). *Mt 24:40*
- \* The saints show us how to live and how to become holy (2030). *Gal 6:2*

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer is listening to and talking with God (2559-2564). *Mt 6:5-15*
- \* Jesus taught us to pray the Our Father (2607-2615). *Mt 6:9-15*
- \* Many times we pray together out loud (2700-2704). *Acts 4:24-26*
- \* There are times when we pray alone (2705-2708). *Mt 6:6*
- \* The Holy Spirit helps us to pray ( 2652). *Gal 4:6*
- \* In prayer, we praise and adore God (2628-2639). *Ps 24:9-10*
- \* In prayer, we ask God to help ourselves and others (2629-2636). *Col 4:12*
- \* In prayer, we tell God we are sorry (2631). *Lk 18:13*
- \* In prayer, we thank God (2637-2638). *Col 4:2*
- \* In prayer, we ask God to bless us and the food we eat at the beginning and at the end of our meals (2834). *Lk 22:14-20*
- \* In prayer, we offer each day to God in our morning offering (2659). *Ps 5:3*



## **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Advent 524, 1095	Creator 290	Liturgical Year 1168-71
Amen 1061-62	Easter 1169	Mary 501
Blessed Sacrament 2691-96	Guardian Angel 336	Mass 1407, 1332
Catholic 830, 837	Holy Spirit 733	Sacrament of Baptism 1213
Christmas 525	Jesus 457	Sin 1850, 1871
Church 752	Lent 1095, 540	

## **LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT**

Altar 1383, 1182	Holy Water Font 1185	Sanctuary
Baptismal Font 1185	Kneeling	Sign of the Cross 2157
Genuflection 1378	Lectern 1184	Tabernacle 1183

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 133

Have the children bless themselves with holy water as a reminder of their baptism. 1668

Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199

Have the children genuflect or bow deeply before the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle. 1378

Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish. 2179, 2226

## **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1061-65, 2157  
Glory to the Father (Doxology\*)

### **\*DOXOLOGY**

Glory to the Father,  
and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

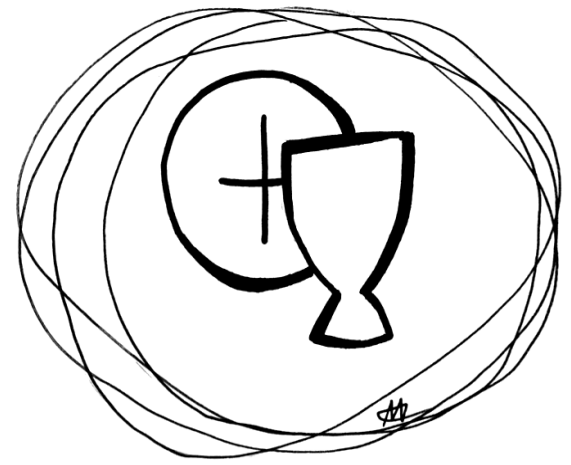
Our Father 2759  
Grace at Meals 2834, 2698  
Spontaneous Prayer 2590, 2659-60



# Grade 2

## Theme:

*Jesus nourishes us,  
and strengthens God's life, grace, within us.*



## **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065*

- \* God shows himself to us so we can know and love him (52). *1 Tm 6:16*
- \* The Bible tells us about our Father who is in heaven and who comes to meet his children and speaks with them (104). *1 Thes 2:13*
- \* God reveals himself as both our beginning and our end (229). *Rv 1:8*
- \* Jesus is the Son of God and one with his Father (262). *Jn 1:1*
- \* God made all creation good (299). *Gn 1:31*
- \* God the Father gives us the gift of Jesus (422, 443-45). *Jn 3:16*
- \* Jesus, the son of God, became human and was born of Mary (456, 461-63). *Mk 1:11*
- \* Joseph is the husband of Mary and foster father of Jesus (437, 496-97, 532). *Mt 2:13-14*
- \* Jesus, the Son of God, became man so that we could all know his Father's love (458). *1 Jn 4:9*
- \* Sin breaks our friendship with God (386-387). *Gn 3:14-19*
- \* Jesus came to save all people from sin (430). *Mt 1:21*
- \* Jesus died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures (601). *1 Cor 15:3*
- \* The resurrection of Jesus is both the heart and chief truth of our faith (638). *Acts 13:32-33*
- \* God sent the Spirit into our hearts so that we can know his son (683). *1 Cor 12:3*
- \* The Holy Spirit teaches us how to pray (741). *Rom 8:26*
- \* Mary is the Mother of God and our mother (963). *Jn 19:26-27*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* God is always present within each of us, in the church, in all the sacraments, in a special way in the Eucharist, his Word, and in prayer and song (1088). *Mt 18:20*
- \* Jesus shared his life with others when he lived on earth, and today he shares his life with us in the sacraments (1115-1116). *Lk 5:17*
- \* By baptism we are freed from sin, share in God's life, and become members of God's family, the church (1213, 1262, 1265-67). *Mt 28:19-20*
- \* In the Eucharist, bread and wine are changed into the body and blood of Christ (1333). *Mt 26:26-28*

- \* To prepare to receive Holy Communion, we must be free from serious sin and fast from food and drink for one hour (1385-1387). *1 Cor 11:27-29*
- \* The new life of the grace of baptism can be lost by sin (1420). *Col 1:21-23*
- \* God's mercy calls us back to union with God (1449, 1465). *Lk 15:11-13*
- \* The sacrament of penance reconciles us to God and to the church (1496).
- \* To have our sins forgiven, we must first be sorry for them ( 1451). *Lk 19:1-10*

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* God gave us the free will to make choices (1730). *Sir 15:14*
- \* Forming one's conscience helps a person know right from wrong (1776).
- \* Sin is a word, deed or desire contrary to God's law (1849). *Ps 51:4*
- \* There are serious sins (mortal) and there are sins of lesser gravity (venial) (1854). *1 Jn 5:13-20*
- \* Love of neighbor cannot be separated from love of God (1878-80). *1 Jn 4:20-21*
- \* The Ten Commandments tell us what is expected in order for us to Love God and to love our neighbor (2067). *Mt 19:16-19*
- \* God's name is holy and we must respect it (2143-44). *Ps 29:2*
- \* We keep the Lord's day by participating in the Mass on Sundays and holy days (2181).
- \* We must honor and obey our parents and guardians (2200). *Dt 5:16*
- \* Stealing or taking the property of another is wrong (2408). *Dt 5:19*
- \* Lying is saying what is untrue and is against God's law (2482-2487). *Dt 5:20*
- \* Our bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit and we must keep them pure (2343-45, 2519). *Jn 15:15*

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* We develop a personal relationship with God when we pray (2558). *Mt 6:5-8*
- \* Our prayers usually take the form of blessing, adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise (2626-2643).
- \* We are able to pray in communion with Mary, the Mother of God, because of her obedience to God (2682). *Lk 1:46-55*
- \* Jesus gave us the Our Father as our foundational prayer to God (2759). *Mt 6:9-13*

## **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Bible 104	Hell 1035	Resurrection 638, 651-55
Blessed Sacrament 1330	Holy Day 2177	Sacrament of
Christmas 525-26,563	Holy Week 1169	Confirmation 1212,12
Crucifixion 623	Lent 1171	Sacrament of the Eucharist
Charity 1822, 1813	Liturgy of the Word 1349	1211, 1322-23
Conscience 1777-78	Liturgy of the Eucharist	Sacrament of Penance
Eucharist 1333	1350-55	1420-22
Grace 1997	Mortal Sin 1854-55	Ten Commandments 1962
Heaven 1023	Pentecost 731	Triduum 1171
	Prayer 2590	

## **LITURGICAL GESTURES AND SYMBOLS TO BE TAUGHT**

Reconciliation room 1185  
Confessional 1185

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 132  
Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199  
Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish. 2179, 2226

## **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Our Father  
Grace at meals 2834, 2698  
Act of Contrition  
Simple responses at Mass

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

## **REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES**

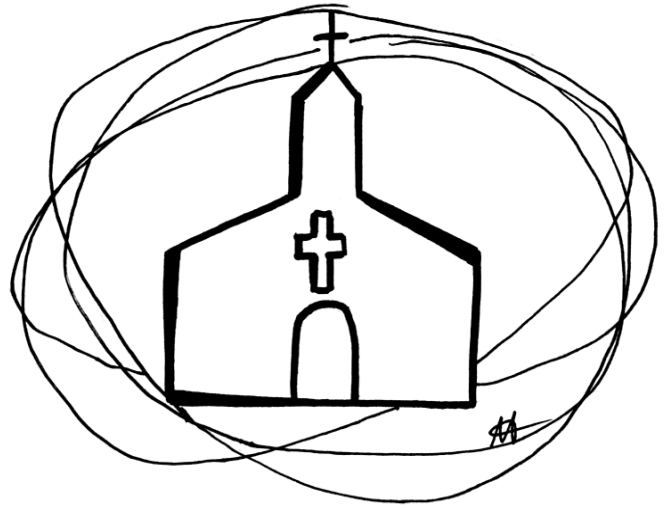
Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1235, 2157  
Glory to the Father (Doxology)  
Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60



# Grade 3

## Theme:

*Jesus continues his life and work through his church.*



## The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065*

- \* God speaks to us and tells us about himself (50). *Ex 3:4-14*
- \* God speaks to us through tradition and sacred Scripture (81-82). *Heb 1:1-2*
- \* God exists from all eternity (212-213). *Ps 102:26-27*  
God is present to everything he has made (300). *Acts 17:28*
- \* God sent his beloved Son to save and redeem us (422). *Gal 4:4-5*
- \* Jesus' obedience to Mary and Joseph is a model for us (531-534). *Lk 2:41-52*
- \* The paschal mystery is the death and resurrection of Jesus and we are all called to share in it (618) *Rom 6:3-11*
- \* Jesus died for everyone and God's love includes everyone (604-605). *Mt 18:14*
- \* In the mystery of the Ascension, Jesus returns to his Father and sits at his right hand (659). *Mk 16:19*
- \* By the power of the Spirit we live and walk by the same Spirit (736). *Gal 5:22-25*
- \* The church, as the body of Christ and the temple of the Holy Spirit, fulfills the mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit (737). *Eph 4:3-5*
- \* Through Baptism we become members of the church (782, 804). *Acts 2:38-39*
- \* The church is both holy and sanctified through her union with Jesus (824). *Eph 4:11-16*
- \* The church honors saints, especially Mary, for their holiness (829). *Eph 5:26-27*
- \* God calls all people to salvation (836). *Mt 28:19-20*
- \* Every Christian is called to take part in the mission of Jesus (863). *Jn 13:12-16*
- \* The church is also the communion of saints (946). *Rom 16:2*
- \* The communion of saints is bonded, united, nourished, and enriched by the sacraments, especially the Eucharist (950). *2 Cor 9:11-15*
- \* Mary is the mother of Christ, mother of the church, and our mother (963). *Acts 1:13-14*
- \* Our life continues after death according to a particular judgment that assigns either eternal life or eternal punishment (1021-22) *Mt 25:31-46*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* The sacraments are called “sacraments of faith” because they not only require faith but they also deepen faith (1122-1126). *Rom 5:1-5*
- \* The sacraments of initiation are baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist (1212). *1 Jn 5:6-8*
- \* Catholics celebrate Eucharist especially on Sundays and holy days (1343). *Acts 20:7*
- \* Catholics should receive Communion every time they participate in the Eucharist, but at least once a year, during the Easter season (1388-1389).
- \* The sacraments of reconciliation and anointing of the sick are called sacraments of healing because they continue Jesus’ work of healing and salvation by the power of the Holy Spirit (1421). *Jas 5:13-18*
- \* After baptism, our sins are forgiven through the sacrament of reconciliation (1446). *1 Jn 1:8*
- \* Jesus brings peace and forgiveness through the sacrament of the anointing of the sick (1499). *1 Pt 4:13*
- \* Marriage, the covenant between a baptized man and woman, has been established by Christ as a sacrament (1601). *Gn 2:18-24*
- \* Through the sacrament of holy orders a man is ordained to serve the faith community in the name of Jesus (1591). *Jn 20:19-23*
- \* Holy orders includes three degrees: bishops, priests, and deacons (1536). *Mk 10:45*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* The creation of men and women in the image of God is the foundation for the dignity of the human person (1700). *Gn 1:27*
- \* All persons are created and born with free will (1730). *Sir 15:14*
- \* We are to exercise our free will by making good moral choices (1731-34). *Rom 6:17*
- \* Our conscience enables us to take responsibility for what we do (1781). *1 Jn 3:19-20*
- \* Jesus’ great commandment is that we love one another as he has loved us (1823). *Jn 15:9, 12*
- \* Sin is a failure of love of God and of neighbor (1849). *Ps 51:4-6*
- \* The Ten commandments express our basic responsibilities toward God and toward neighbor. They are written by God on the human heart (2072). *Ex 20:1-17*



## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer is primarily a gift from God (2559-2561). *Jn 4:10*
- \* Jesus taught us to pray by the way he prayed (2607-2615). *Mk 1:15*
- \* There are many expressions of prayer: blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise (2626-2643).
- \* We can pray any time and in any place (2660). *Lk 13:20-21*
- \* Christian life and our prayer life are inseparable for they both proceed from God's love (2745). *Jn 15:16-17*

## **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Ascension 665	Easter Season 1169-70	Savior 1708
Apostles' Creed 190	Emmanuel 721-26, 744	Stewardship 2415-2456
Communion of Saints 946, 960	Gospel 1846	Trinity 234
Disciple 787, 1816	Parables 546	Virtue 1803-1833
	Pope 881-82	Word of God 135

## **LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT**

Presider Chair 1184	Sacristy
Sacred Vessels 1672	Vestments

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 132  
Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199  
Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish. 2179, 2226

## **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Hail Mary 971  
Apostles' Creed  
Rosary  
Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Nicene Creed

## **REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES**

Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1061-65, 2157

Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60

Glory to the Father (Doxology)

Our Father 2759

Blessings before and after meals 2834, 2598

Act of Contrition

Simple responses at Mass

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

# Grade 4

## Theme:

*As God's people, we are called to live as Jesus did,  
choosing a life of love,  
characterized by obedience to God  
and service to others.*



## The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| * We are made for God and desire for God is deep in our hearts (27-30).  | <i>Acts 17: 26-28</i> |
| * We know God through the world and through other people (31-35).  | <i>Rom 1:19-20</i>    |
| * God reveals his plan of salvation and offers us a covenant relationship (51-61).   | <i>1 Tm 6:16</i>      |
| * God gave his law to Moses and to the people of Israel so they might recognize and serve him as true God (62).            | <i>Dt 6:1-9</i>       |
| * Sacred Scripture is God's word and, therefore, whatever God tells us in these inspired words, must be true (105-108).    | <i>2 Pt 1:19-21</i>   |
| * The Christian faith is primarily and essentially Trinitarian (150-153).  | <i>1 Cor 12:3</i>     |
| * Christians are baptized in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (232).   | <i>Mt 28:19-20</i>    |
| * We are all made in God's image and likeness (355-361).   | <i>Gn 1:27-31</i>     |
| * Jesus is our redeemer and savior, and during his earthly life he knew, loved, and gave himself for each one of us (478). | <i>Gal 2:20</i>       |
| * The Father's only Son was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit (484-486).   | <i>Lk 1:34-35</i>     |
| * Jesus experienced the condition of real human death (624).   | <i>Heb 2:9</i>        |
| * Jesus' body did not remain in the tomb (638-644).  | <i>1 Cor 15:3-4</i>   |
| * God will judge us all at the end of time (668-679).  | <i>Mt 25:40</i>       |
| * At Pentecost, the followers of Jesus received the Holy Spirit as God's special gift (731-736).                           | <i>Acts 2:33-36</i>   |
| * Everyone in the church shares in Christ's role as priest, prophet, and king (783-786).                                   | <i>Heb 5:1-5</i>      |
| * The church includes a great diversity of members (791).  | <i>Gal 3:27-28</i>    |
| * Mary is the Mother of God and the mother of the church (963).  |                       |
| * Through the sacrament of penance all the baptized can be reunited with both God and the church (980).                    | <i>Jn 20:19-23</i>    |

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

### *Catechism of the Catholic Church 1066-1690*

- \* Liturgy is the participation of the people of God in the work of God (1069-1070). *Jn 17:4*
- \* Christ is always present by the power of the Holy Spirit in the liturgy and in the sacraments (1084-1085). *Eph 1:6*
- \* In the liturgy the paschal mystery of Christ is celebrated but not repeated (1104). *Rom 12:1*
- \* There are seven sacraments, all instituted by Christ (1114). *Jn 3:5*
- \* Sacraments are necessary for salvation because they make us partakers in the divine nature (1129). *2 Pt 1:4*
- \* The church has a liturgical year with different seasons which celebrate the various aspects of the one Paschal mystery (1171).
- \* Baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist are the sacraments of initiation (1212).
- \* Baptism frees us from sin and regenerates us as children of God (1213). *Acts 1:8*
- \* Confirmation is required to complete the grace of baptism (1285).
- \* As at Pentecost, the sacrament of confirmation is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit (1302). *Acts 2:1-4*
- \* The Eucharist completes Christian initiation and is the source and summit of all Christian life (1322-1327).
- \* Reconciliation is called the sacrament of conversion because we return to God from whom we have turned away by sin (1423).
- \* Reconciliation is called the sacrament of penance because we do satisfaction and penance to show that we are sorry for our sins (1423).
- \* Reconciliation is called the sacrament of confession since we tell our sins to a priest as a necessary element in this sacrament (1424).
- \* Reconciliation is called the sacrament of forgiveness because we receive, through the priest's sacramental absolution, God's pardon (1424).
- \* Penance is called the sacrament of reconciliation because it reunites us to God and the community (1424). *Mt 5:24*
- \* The sacrament of reconciliation reconciles us with the church which has suffered from the sin of one of her members (1469). *1 Cor 12:26*
- \* The sacrament of the anointing of the sick is intended particularly to strengthen those afflicted by illness (1511). *Jas 5:14-15*
- \* The sacrament of holy orders enables one to act as a representative of Christ in his three-fold office of priest, prophet, and king (1581). *1 Cor 7:32*
- \* The sacrament of matrimony is a sign of the covenant relationship between Christ and the church (1661). *Eph 5:28-33*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Christians are called to recognize their special dignity as children of God and partakers in the divine nature of God (1691-1692). *Jn 3:1*
- \* The beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' preaching (1716). *Mt 5:3-12*
- \* The purpose of human existence is found in the beatitudes (1719).
- \* Because God created humans as rational beings, he has created them free and conferred on them the dignity of people who can initiate and control their own actions (1730). *Sir 15:14*
- \* The morality of one's actions depends on the object which is chosen, the purpose intended and the circumstances surrounding the action (1749).
- \* An informed conscience makes judgments according to reason and conforms with that which is the true good. Everyone is responsible to use every available means to form their conscience good (1798).
- \* The human virtues are grounded in the three theological virtues: faith, hope, and charity. They are the foundation of Christian moral activity (1812-1829). *1 Cor 13:13*
- \* The gifts of the Holy Spirit are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord. These gifts sustain the moral life of all Christians (1830-1831). *Is 11:2*
- \* Sin is a deliberate choice against God's law; a turning away from God (1849). *Ps 51:4*
- \* For a sin to be mortal, three conditions must be met: grave matter, full knowledge and complete, free consent (1854-1861). *1 Jn 5:16*
- \* Venial sin diminishes charity, demonstrates an inappropriate desire for created goods, and hampers spiritual growth (1862-1863). *1 Jn 5:17*
- \* The capital sins are pride, greed, envy, anger, lust, gluttony and laziness (1866).
- \* Love of neighbor can never be separated from the love of God (1878). *Lk 10:29-37*
- \* The authority that supports the moral order comes from God. All responsible authority, in all persons, institutions, and circumstances ultimately comes from God (1899). *Rom 13:1-2*
- \* Respect for the dignity of the human person requires respect for the rights that come from one's dignity as a creature (1930). *Mt 25:40*
- \* Grace is the participation in the life of God (1996). *Jn 1:12-18; 17:3*
- \* The Ten Commandments set forth our most fundamental responsibilities toward God and toward neighbor (2072). *Ex 20:2-7*
- \* All Christians are called to holiness. Holiness consists in sharing in the intimacy and compassion of God (2012-2016). *Rom 8:28-30*

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer is the raising of one's mind and heart to God and the asking of all good things from God (2559). *Ps 8:2-10*
- \* Scripture speaks of the heart that prays. If our hearts are separated from God, our prayers are then in vain (2562). *Lk 18:9-14*
- \* Prayer is that special relationship between our creator and ourselves in Christ, Jesus (2564).
- \* There are different types of prayer: blessing and adoration, petition, thanksgiving, intercession, and praise (2626-2642). *Ps 62:2-9*
- \* In the Eucharist we find the expression of all forms of prayer (2643). *Mal 1:11*
- \* Tradition supports these three major expressions of prayer: vocal prayer, meditative prayer, and contemplative prayer (2699-2719). *Sg 1:7*
- \* Jesus teaches us how to pray by entrusting to us the foundational Christian prayer—the Our Father (2759). *Lk 11:1-4*
- \* A true summary of the whole Gospel is found in the Lord's Prayer (2761). *Lk 11:1-4*

## **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Absolution 1449	Covenant 70-72, 613	New Testament 124
Beatitudes 1716	Examination of Conscience	Old Testament 121
Commandment 2055, 2082	1779, 1784-85	Saint 1717, 828
Conscience 1776	Gifts of the Holy Spirit 1830-31	Sanctus 1352, 559
Contrition 1451	Holiness 2013	Spiritual Works of Mercy
Corporal Works of Mercy	New Commandment 2055	2447
2447		Temptation 2847

## **LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT**

Lectionary                      Enthronement of the Bible                      Liturgical Assembly

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 132

Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199

Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish. 2179, 2226

## **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Nicene Creed  
Sanctus

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Act of Faith  
Apostles Creed

### **\*SANCTUS**

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

## **REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES**

Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1235, 2157  
Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60  
Doxology  
Our Father 2759  
Blessing before and after meals 2834, 2698  
Act of Contrition  
Simple responses at Mass  
Hail Mary 2676-77  
Apostles' Creed  
Rosary  
Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

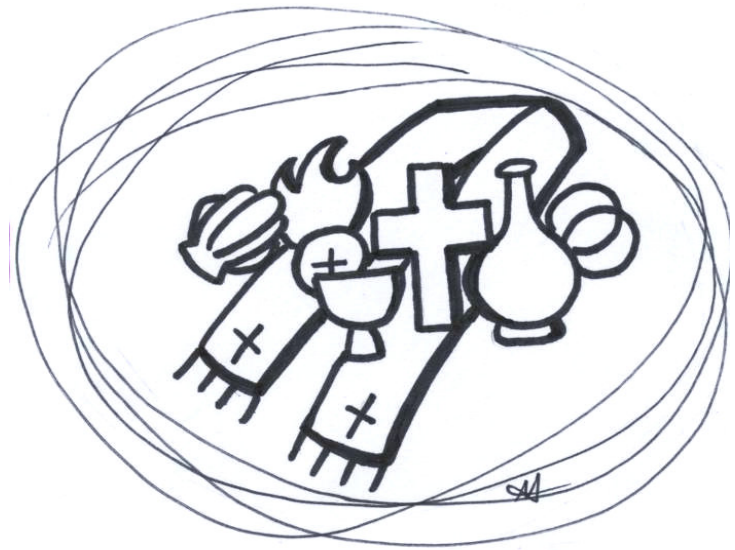




# Grade 5

## Theme:

*Through the sacraments the Church celebrates Christ's saving action in our lives.*



## The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)

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*Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065*

- \* God is always present and remains active in the church (79). *Col 3:16*
- \* By Revelation, the invisible God invites us into his life (142).
- \* The human race forms a unity because of its common origin in Adam and Eve (360-361).
- \* Adam and Eve transmitted to their descendents human nature wounded by their own first sin and hence deprived of original holiness and justice; this deprivation is called “original sin” (404, 416, 417).
- \* The Incarnation means that Jesus is both human and divine (461-463). *Jn 1:14*
- \* The reign of God is visible and active in the world today (547-556). *Acts 2:22*
- \* Jesus is the source of our salvation (430). *Mt 1:21*
- \* The Incarnation of the Son of God is the distinctive belief of Christians (463). *1 Jn 4:2*
- \* Mary is the Mother of God (495).
- \* Jesus’ death was part of the mystery of God’s plan of salvation (599-600). *Acts 2:23*
- \* The church makes present and completes the mission of Jesus through the the Holy Spirit (737). *Jn 15:8*
- \* The church is truly the body of Christ (787-789). *Jn 15:4-5*
- \* The church has a great diversity of members and always seeks to maintain bonds of unity and peace (814). *Eph 4:3*
- \* The church has visible signs of unity: one faith, one liturgy, an unbroken line of succession from Peter to today (815). *Col 3:1*
- \* Assumption means that Mary was taken up body and soul into heaven (966).
- \* After death, each individual receives a particular judgment which will be heaven, purgatory, or hell (1021-1037). *Ti 2:13*
- \* The general judgment will be at the end of time (1038-41, 1059) *Acts 24:15*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 1066-1090*

- \* Christ is present to his church, especially in the liturgy, in the sacraments, and when the church prays and sings (1088). *Mt 18-20*
- \* Sacraments are powerful actions of the Holy Spirit at work in the church, the body of Christ (1113-1116). *Lk 5:17*
- \* Baptism, confirmation, and holy orders are sacraments that impart a special permanent character and they cannot be repeated (1121).
- \* Baptism, Eucharist, and confirmation are the sacraments of initiation and they form the foundation for Christian life (1212).
- \* The fruits of baptism are forgiveness of original and personal sin and birth into new life (1213, 1263). *1 Tm 2:4*
- \* The *Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults* specifies the states whereby a person becomes a Christian. This goes back to the time of the apostles and continues to the present day (1229-1233).
- \* The essential elements of the sacrament of confirmation are: the anointing with chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of hands, and through the words, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit” (1300).
- \* The bishop is the ordinary minister of confirmation (1312-1313).
- \* Confirmation completes baptism and is given only once. Confirmation Imprints a permanent character on the soul (1304-1305). *Acts 8:14-17*
- \* Christ is present in the priest, the assembly, the word of God, and especially in the bread and the wine of the Eucharist (1373). *Rom 8:34*
- \* The essential signs of the sacrament of the Eucharist are bread and wine and the words of consecration: “This is my body which will be given up for you... This is the cup of my blood...” (1412). *Mt 26:26-29*
- \* The church’s healing sacraments of penance and anointing of the sick continue Jesus’ mission of healing and salvation today (1421). *Mk 2:1-12*
- \* The essential elements of the sacrament of reconciliation are contrition, confession, and satisfaction on the part of the penitent; and God’s action of forgiveness through the absolution of the priest (1448).
- \* The sacrament of the anointing of the sick is especially intended to strengthen those who are afflicted with illness (1603). *Jas 5:14-15*
- \* The essential elements of the anointing of the sick include the priest’s laying hands on the sick, prayer, and anointing with oil (1519). *Jas 5:14*
- \* Holy orders is a sacrament through which the church continues until the end of time the ministry handed on to the apostles by Jesus (1536).

- \* The essential rite of the sacrament of holy orders is the imposition of hands and the prayer of consecration. The bishop is the minister of holy orders (1573).
- \* Marriage, the intimate communion of love and life between man and woman, is established by God (1603). *Gn 1:27*
- \* Consent between husband and wife is the indispensable element of marriage (1626-1627).
- \* As sacred signs, sacramentals are different from the sacraments but carry a resemblance to them (1667).

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Given a soul, intellect, and free will, a person is drawn to God and destined for eternal life. True freedom is “seeking and loving what is true and good” (1711). *Col 1:15*
- \* The beatitudes present us with decisive choices and show us that happiness is to be found in God alone (1723-1729). *Mt 5:3-12*
- \* Freedom of choice makes human beings moral subjects whose actions can be morally evaluated either good or evil (1750-1761). *Lk 18:18-23*
- \* Passions, emotions, and feelings are neither inherently good nor evil. However, their expression can be either good or sinful (1762-1774). *Mk 11:15-18*
- \* An informed conscience is shaped by reason, enlightened by education, and aided by the witness and teaching of the church (1783-1785). *Ps 119:105*
- \* The cardinal virtues are prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance. Through them the Holy Spirit helps us seek truth and goodness (1803-1832). *1 Cor 13:4-13*  
*Gal 5:22-23*
- \* The exercise of authority and the preservation of the common good are closely connected with social justice. Society safeguards social justice by creating the conditions that permit individuals and groups to obtain their just due (1928-1948). *Mt 25:34-40*
- \* Grace, a participation in the very life of God, is the free gift of God’s life through the Holy Spirit which helps us live God’s law (1996-2005). *Jn 1:12-18*
- \* The Ten Commandments and the precepts of the church nourish us with moral guidelines and principles for application and use in facing the social justice issues of our day (2041-2051). *Dt 5:6-21*
- \* The holy days of obligation are: Mary, Mother of God, Ascension, Assumption, All Saints, Immaculate Conception and Christmas (2177).

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer can be said to be a raising of one's mind and heart to God and the asking for all good things from God (2590). *Lk 11:2-4*
- \* The forms of prayer contained in the Scripture are models for us today and are usually called blessing and adoration, prayer of petition, prayer of intercession, prayer of thanksgiving, and prayer of praise (2623-2649). *Acts 1:14; 2:42*
- \* The Eucharist includes and expresses all forms of prayer (2643). *Mal 1:11*
- \* There are three main expressions and forms of prayer: vocal, meditative, and contemplative. Composure of the heart is the common trait for all three expressions of prayer (2697-2724). *Mt 6:5-14  
Mk 14:32-42  
Lk 11:1-13  
Jn 17:1-6*
- \* In St. Luke's Gospel, emphasis is placed on the work of the Holy Spirit and the infusion of prayer throughout Jesus' ministry. Jesus always prayed before the significant moments in his ministry (2600). *Lk 3:21; 6:12;  
9:18-20, 28;  
22:32, 41-44*
- \* Because of Mary's special relationship with God, we love to pray in communion with her, to link her prayers of praise and petition with the prayers of the entire church, and to proclaim the goodness of the Lord to, for, through, and with her (2673-2682). *Acts 1:14  
Jn 19:25-27  
Lk 1:26-56*
- \* The saints in heaven continue to pray with and for us on earth. We should constantly ask their intercession for us, for the communion of saints, and for the entire universe (2683). *Heb 12:1*

## **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Absolution 1449	Incarnation 461-63	Reign of God 547-56
Anointing of the Sick 1499	Matrimony 1601	Rite of Christian
Assumption 966	Minister 874,876, 903	Initiation of Adults
Cardinal Virtues	Oil of Catechumens	1229-1233
Chrism	Oil of the Sick	Sacramentals
Confirmation 1285	Original Sin 397, 416-17	Salvation 430
Consecration	Pope 882	Seasons of Ordinary
Disciple	Precepts of the Church 2041-51	Time
Holy Days of Obligation	Priest	Social Justice
Holy Orders 1536-38	Purgatory, heaven, hell 1021-57	Vocation 1533

## **LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT**

Anointing  
Laying on of hands  
Use of various sacramentals

Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom. 103, 132  
Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199  
Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish, in particular in the rites of the sacraments. 2179, 2226.

## **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Apostles' Creed  
Act of Faith

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Act of Hope

## **REVIEW PRAYERS OF PREVIOUS GRADES**

Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1235, 2157  
Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60  
Doxology  
Our Father 2759  
Blessing before and after meals 2834, 2698  
Act of Contrition  
Simple responses at Mass  
Hail Mary 2676-77  
Apostles' Creed  
Rosary  
Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380  
Nicene Creed  
Sanctus

# Catholic Faith Literacy

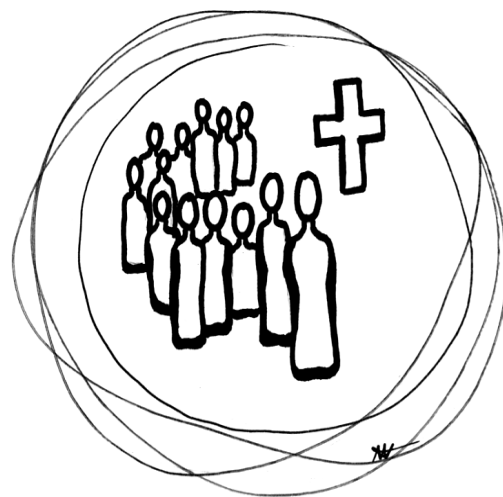
## Grade 5

Students involved in Catholic faith formation either through Catholic schools or parish-based religious education programs should know the follow terms. The listing by Grade is cumulative, that is advanced levels assume knowledge of terms from earlier grades.

Act of contrition	Ecumenical/Ecumenism	Jesus	Priest
Acts of Mercy	Epistle	John	Prodigal Son
Advent	Eucharist(ic)	Judge	Promised Land
All Saints (Feast)	Evangelization	Laity	Prophets
All Souls Day	Excommunication	Last Supper	Psalms
Anointing	Exodus	Lent	Purgatory
Apostles' Creed	Faith	Liturgical Season	Reconciliation
Baptism	Fasting	Liturgy	Redeemer
Beatitudes	Father	Lord	Redemption
Bible	Feast of All Saints	Love	Religious Life
Bishop	Forgiveness	Magisterium	Roman Catholic
Cardinal	General Intercession	Mary	Rosary
Catholic	Gifts of the Holy Spirit	Mary Magdalene	Sacrament
Christian	God	Mass	Sacrament of Penance
Christmas	Good Friday	Matrimony	Sacrifice
Church	Gospels	Memorare	Saint
Commandment	Grace	Missal	Salvation
Communion	Hail Mary	Mortal Sin	Samaritan
Communion of Saints	Heaven	Moses	Sanctifying Grace
Confess	Hell	Mystery	Savior
Confession	Hierarchy	Noah	Sermon on the Mount
Confirmation	Holy	Old Testament	Sin
Conscience	Holy Communion	Original Sin	Son
Contrition	Holy Days	Our Father	Spirit
Covenant	Holy Spirit	Paschal Mystery	Ten Commandments
Creator	Holy Trinity	Paul	Thanksgiving
Creed	Hope	Pentecost	Trinity
Cross	Immaculate Conception	Peter	Venial Sin
David	Incarnation	Pharisees	Virtue
Deacon	Initiation	Pope	Vocation
Diocese	Israelites	Prayer	Volunteer
Discrimination	Jericho	Prayer of the Faithful	
Divine	Jerusalem	Stations of the Cross	

# Introduction for Grades 6-8

Many junior-high school education programs are multi-aged. Such programs may elect to cover particular content areas at different times during the junior-high school years. Therefore, specific content for each grade is not defined in the pages that follow. Rather, the content statements are grouped under topic headings that are to be covered in the course of junior-high years of religious instruction.



Three topic areas are identified for the purpose of organizing the catechetical effort at this grade. These topic areas are **not** to be considered courses but as points of reference for catechizing young people. Within each topic area, content statements are grouped according to the four parts of the *Catechism*: The Profession of Faith, The Celebration of the Christian Mystery, Life in Christ, and Christian Prayer.

A brief description of each of the three topic areas follows:

1. The **Old Testament** topic area includes foundational principles of Scripture study, especially applied to the Old Testament; tracing and connecting our liturgical and sacramental life to its roots in the Hebrew Scriptures; exploring the foundations for contemporary moral living and practice in the Old Testament; and developing the examples of prayer found in the Hebrew Scripture accounts.
2. The **Jesus Christ** topic area highlights the fundamental beliefs necessary for an informed Catholic's understanding of our savior and redeemer, our sacraments, our moral life, and our practice of prayer in imitation of Jesus.
3. The **Church** topic area includes statements on the core doctrines of our tradition, our liturgy, our moral practice and living, and our prayer life.

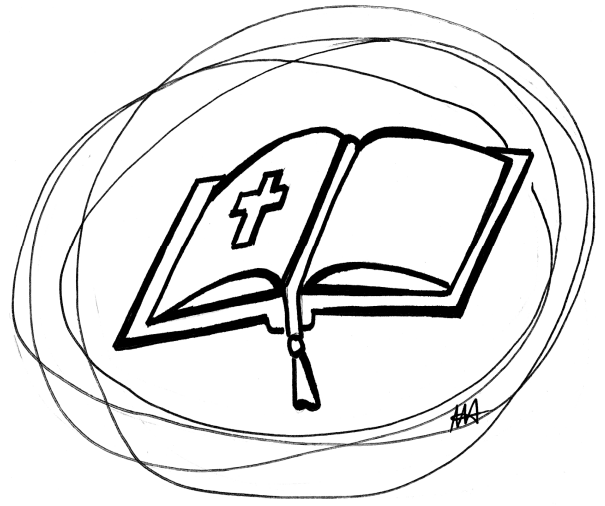




# Grades 6-8

## Topic: Old Testament

*God's saving actions are found throughout history. The Bible, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, records God's plan of salvation.*



## The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- \* All people are inherently drawn to God because God created them and has written this very desire in every human heart (27). *Gn 1:26-27*
- \* God's self-revelation to humans is a gradual process and follows a special divine plan (53). *Heb 11:1-40*
- \* In order to bring together a dispersed people, God called Abram and made him Abraham, which means the father of many nations (59). *Gn 17:1-5*
- \* Through all of history God has formed his people in the hope of salvation and in the expectation of a new and eternal covenant, open to all people (54-64). *Jer 31:31-34*
- \* "Sacred Scripture must be read and interpreted" with its divine authorship in mind (*Dei Verbum* 12, 3) (111). *Ps 103*
- \* The canon of sacred Scripture includes 46 books of the Old Testament and 27 for the New Testament (120).
- \* The Old Testament books, because they are divinely inspired, have a permanent and lasting value (121).
- \* The human response to God is by faith, a complete submission of one's mind, will, and whole being (143). *Mic 6:8*
- \* God revealed himself, his very essence, by making his name known to his people Israel (203). *Ex 3:13-15*
- \* God needs no help nor any pre-existent thing in order to create—to bring something out of nothing (296).
- \* Humans are the summit of God's creation (343).
- \* From the moment of conception, every human soul is created immediately by God and is immortal (366).
- \* God and all his works are infinitely good. Adam, by his disobedience, brought sin and death into the world (385, 402). *Rom 5:12*
- \* Throughout the centuries, in the Old Testament, God prepared us for the coming of Christ (522). *Jn 3:16*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* For all times, all of God's works are truly a blessing. This divine blessing is fully communicated and revealed in the church's liturgy (1079-82). *Gn 9:8-16*
- \* The sacramental life of the church was prefigured in the Old Testament. The liturgy of the Church has retained and adapted many elements of worship found in the Old Testament (1093).
- \* The signs and symbols of a sacramental celebration are rooted in creation and human culture; they are underscored by Old Testament events and are completely revealed in the work and person of Jesus (1145).
- \* In Christ, the symbols of creation, human life and the Old Testament become sacramental signs (1146-52, 1189).
- \* The blessing of the baptismal water during the Easter Vigil celebrates the events of the Old Testament that prefigure the mystery of baptism: (1217)
  - Water—Source of life (1218)
  - Noah's Ark—Salvation (1219)
  - Crossing the Red Sea—Liberation (1221)
  - Crossing the Jordan—New life (1222).
- \* The Eucharist is prefigured in the Old Testament Passover and the New Testament multiplication of loaves, but is fulfilled at the Last Supper (1334-35, 1337, 1339-40).
- \* The ministry of priesthood in the New Testament is foreshadowed by Aaron's priesthood, the Levites' service, and the establishment of the seventy elders in the Old Testament (1544). *Nm 25:10-13*
- \* Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the priesthood of the Old Testament. Jesus is the mediator between God and humanity (1544). *1 Tim 2:5*
- \* Sacred Scripture declares that man and woman were created for each other (1605). *Gn 2:18*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* The dignity of the human person flows from being created in the image and likeness of God (1700).
- \* Human beings have been given free will and are able to direct themselves toward what is good (1704). *Gn 1:15-17*
- \* We have an obligation to follow the moral law, and by doing so, we witness to the dignity of the human person (1706, 1713). *Ps 34:12-22*

- \* Human nature is weakened through original sin. Human beings still desire good but are now inclined to evil and prone to error (1707). *Gn 3*
- \* The Ten Commandments are the foundation for a Christian life. They prescribe what is fundamental for love of God and love of neighbor (1962).
- \* The old law prefigures the new covenant of the Gospel (1964).
- \* The law of the Gospel fulfills and brings to perfection the old law (1967).

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* By virtue of God's relationship with us, God always calls us to prayer. We find its origin in the Old Testament, beginning with Abraham (2569).
- \* In their special encounters with God, the prophets received both their strength and their light for their mission (2584). *Jer 1:4-10*

### **WORDS TO BE TAUGHT**

Canticle of Zachariah	Liturgy of the Hours	Prophet 702, 64, 2594
Chosen People 62-63, 218	Manna 1334	Psalter
Exodus 62, 1221	Magnificat 2619, 2682	Psalms 2596-97
Inspiration 105-07	Messiah	Revelation 50, 53
Lector 1143, 1154	Passover 1164	Scripture
	Patriarch	Worship 2135, 1070

### **LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT**

Passover Meal

Give sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom 103, 132

Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship. 1186, 1199

Foster the student's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish. 2179, 2226

### **PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT**

Morning Prayer (Canticle of Zachariah)

Evening Prayer (Magnificat)

Come Holy Spirit

Act of Hope

## **PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED**

Act of Love

## **REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES**

Sign of the Cross and the Amen 1235, 2157

Spontaneous prayer 2590, 2659-60

Doxology

Our Father 2759

Blessing before and after meals 2834, 2698

Act of contrition

Simple responses at Mass

Hail Mary 2676-77

Apostles' Creed

Rosary

Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament 1380

Nicene Creed

Sanctus

Act of Faith

# Grades 6-8

## Topic: Jesus Christ

*The fundamental beliefs necessary for informed Catholic's understanding of our savior and redeemer, our sacraments, our moral life, and our practice of prayer in imitation of Jesus.*

### **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*



- \* Jesus is the one sent by God to inaugurate definitively the kingdom. In the threefold office of priest, prophet, and King, Christ fulfilled Israel's messianic hope (436). *Heb 1:1-14*
- \* In the Old Testament, God was addressed as "Lord." The New Testament uses this full sense of the title "Lord" both for the Father and Jesus. Jesus is thereby recognized as God himself (446). *Jn 20:24-29*
- \* Through the Incarnation we believe Jesus Christ is truly God and truly man (464). *1 Cor 2:6-10*
- \* The church has always confessed that Jesus was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary (496). *Lk 1:34-35*
- \* In God's plan for salvation, Jesus, as obedient suffering servant and as the new covenant sacrifice, offered himself for our redemption (609). *Heb 2:9-13*
- \* The resurrection is the culmination and confirmation of all Christ's teachings, works, and deeds (651).
- \* The paschal mystery proclaims that through Christ's death, he frees us from sin and through his resurrection he gives us new life (654). *1 Cor 15:14*
- \* The Holy Spirit, along with the Father and the Son, is truly God. The three are inseparable (689).
- \* Christians serve Jesus and one another particularly through attending to the suffering and needs of the poor (786). *Jn 12:32;  
Mt 20:28*
- \* The church is the temple of the living God. In much the same way as the soul gives life to the human body, the Holy Spirit gives life and unity to the body of Christ, which is the church (787). *2 Cor 6:16-18*
- \* We believe that the church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic (811). *Jn 15:4-5*
- \* Heaven is intended for those who die in God's friendship and grace and have been perfectly purified (1023). *Rev 22:1-5*
- \* We believe that those who die in God's friendship, but not yet completely sinless, are purified in purgatory before entering heaven (1030-1031).

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* The sacraments words and actions are accessible to our human nature. Through the action of Jesus and the power of the Holy Spirit they make present what they signify (1084).
- \* The sacraments sanctify us, build up Christ's body, and give worship to God. As signs, the sacraments also instruct us because they are discernible to our senses (1123).
- \* The sacraments are (effective) signs of grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the church, by which divine life is dispensed to us (1131).
- \* Baptism, confirmation, and Eucharist are the sacraments of Christian initiation. They lay the foundations of every Christian life (1212).
- \* Baptism is the basis for the communion of all Christians (1271).
- \* Confirmation perfects baptismal grace. It is the sacrament which enriches the baptized with a special strength of the Holy Spirit in order to root the baptized more deeply to the church (1316).
- \* The Eucharist was instituted by Jesus Christ at his Last Supper. He did this to continue the sacrifice of the cross until his return, as a memorial of his death and resurrection (1323). *Mk 14:22-24*
- \* Christ is fully present in the sacrament of the Eucharist (1374). *Jn 6:41-68*
- \* The sacrament of penance celebrates Jesus' reconciling presence. Jesus gave his church the authority to forgive sins. This authority is exercised in Christ's name by priests in the sacrament of penance. (1461-61) *Jn 20:22-23*  
*2 Cor 5:18-19*
- \* Anointing of the sick celebrates Jesus' healing and forgiving presence (1503). *Lk 7:11-13*
- \* Holy orders celebrates God's call to special ministry as bishop, priest, or deacon (1536).
- \* Matrimony is a covenant between a man and a woman for life and is intended for the growth of the spouses and the generation and education of their children. This covenant between baptized spouses has been raised by Christ to the dignity of a sacrament (1601). *Eph 5:31-32*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* One with Jesus Christ through baptism, Christians try to be imitators of God by conforming their thoughts, words, and actions to those of Jesus (1694). *Phil 2:1-11*

- \* The beatitudes are at the center in the preaching of Jesus (1716). *Mt 5:1-12*
- \* The beatitudes reflect the human desire for happiness (1718-1719).
- \* The formation of conscience is a lifelong process informed by the teachings of Jesus (1784-1785).
- \* A virtue is a habit and strong determination to do good (1803). *Phil 4:4-9*
- \* The cardinal virtues are prudence, justice, fortitude, and temperance (1805-1809).
- \* The theological virtues of faith, hope, and love are the cornerstone of Christian moral life (1813). *1 Cor 13:13*
- \* Jesus' law of love extends to everyone, even to our enemies (1825). *Mt 5:43-45*
- \* Jesus taught the two great commandments: to love God with our whole mind, heart, and soul and to love our neighbor as ourselves (2055). *Mt 22: 36-40*
- \* Jesus teaches that whoever possesses and uses authority should exercise this authority as a servant to and for others (2235). *Mt 20:26*
- \* Citizens are not required to obey civil authorities when their directives contradict the moral law, the rights of others, or the teachings of the Gospel (2242).
- \* Jesus teaches us to choose life over death. Therefore, acts such as homicide, abortion, and euthanasia are not morally acceptable (2268-2279).
- \* Jesus condemned scandal: a behavior or an attitude which draws others to commit evil (2284). *Mt 18:6*
- \* Jesus identifies his chosen ones based on their actions on behalf of the poor (2443). *Mt 25:31-46*
- \* The works of mercy are loving actions which help our neighbor and are examples of living as Jesus taught us to live (2447).

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Sppirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* In prayer, Jesus calls each of us to a deeper relationship with him, his Father, and his Spirit (2567). *Acts 17:26-28*
- \* Jesus, in all he did and how he lived, was primarily a person of prayer and compassion (2599). *Mt 26:36*
- \* Three principal parables on prayer are found in Luke's Gospel, and they illustrate these three qualities in praying: urgency in prayer, persistence in prayer, and humility in prayer (2613). *Lk 11:5-13, 18:1-8, 9-14*
- \* Jesus gave us the Lord's Prayer in response to his disciples' specific request, "Lord, teach us to pray" (2759). *Lk 11:1-4*





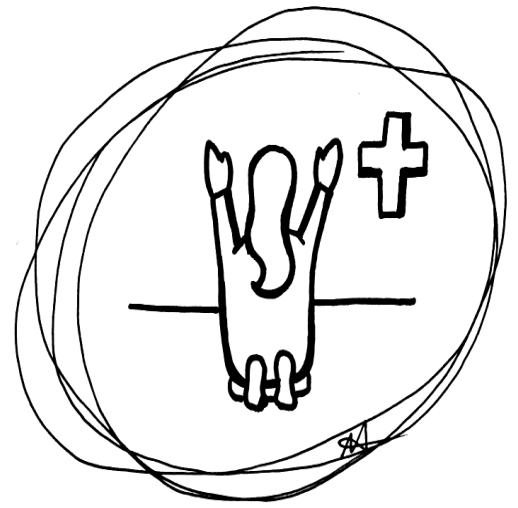
# Grades 6-8

## Topic: The Church

*The Church, in her doctrine, life, and worship, perpetuates and transmits to every generation all that she herself is, all that she believes.*

### The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*



- \* Our salvation comes from God alone. We call the church our mother because we receive the life of faith through her and we call her our teacher because she teaches us and instructs us in the faith (169).
- \* From the very beginning, the church has handed on the content of faith in the professions of faith called creeds (186-187).
- \* The Nicene Creed, prayed each Sunday at the liturgy, comes to us from the great councils of Nicaea and Constantinople. (195).
- \* Christ is head of the church, called his body (669).
- \* As it was revealed by the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, the church is missionary by her very nature (767).
- \* God the Father anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit to be priest, prophet, and king. The whole church takes part in these offices of priest, prophet, and king and also assumes responsibility for their inherent service and ministry (783).
- \* The church is often called the bride of Christ because of the close unity between Christ, as the head, and the members, as the body (796).
- \* The Holy Spirit works in many different ways to build up the church. Some of these are scripture, sacraments, virtues, charisms, and the grace of the apostles (798).
- \* All salvation comes from Christ through the church. Others who are not aware of Christ and his church and who lead good and sincere lives are also able to achieve salvation (846-848).
- \* Following the example of Jesus' commissioning the twelve, the bishops are also called to minister in a collegial style and manner (877).
- \* The magisterium has a pastoral responsibility and duty to see that the people of God receive the truth that sets them free (890).
- \* The communion of the church includes the pilgrim church on earth, those in purgatory, and the blessed already in heaven (954-962).
- \* Reconciliation calls us to conversion and reconciles us to God (981).

*Acts 2:1-28*

*Eph 5:21-27*

*Jn 14:26*

*1 Cor 5:16-21*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* Liturgy is the work of Christ and the action of the church. Liturgy invites the people of God to be involved actively, consciously, and fully (1071).
- \* Christian liturgy recalls, actualizes, and makes present the saving action of Jesus (1104).
- \* Throughout the liturgical year the church unfolds the paschal mystery of Christ (1104).
- \* In the liturgy, particularly the sacraments, some parts are unchangeable and some parts that the church has the authority to adapt to different cultures (1205).
- \* To be true to our reception of Jesus in the Eucharist, we must also recognize Christ in the poor (1397).
- \* The law of the church requires us to confess our serious sins at least once a year (1457).
- \* Bishops and priest are ministers of the sacrament of the anointing of the sick (1516).
- \* Called by God and the church, priests are ordained to serve as co-workers with the bishop in serving the church (1551).
- \* The bishop receives the fullness of the sacrament of holy orders and is the visible head of the particular church entrusted to him (1555-1561).
- \* The bishop is the minister of holy orders (1573).

*Mk 10: 43-45*

*Acts 1:8*

*Eph 4:11-16*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Freedom is not just doing what we want. When we do good, we become freer; when we sin, we become slaves. (1731-22, 1740-44, 1747).
- \* Catholics are not just individualists, but are committed to the common good, which fosters dignity, prosperity and peace for all (1905-08, 1924-26).
- \* The church has the right to articulate moral principles required to preserve the rights of the human person and to insure the salvation of souls (2032).
- \* Christian moral teaching has been passed down from age to age under the watchful concern of those called to the role of pastor (2033).
- \* The pope and the bishops in communion with him, teach the faithful truth to believe, charity to practice, and blessings to be hoped for (2034).

- \* The members of the church are responsible to observe the laws promulgated (conveyed) by church authority (2037).
- \* In the name of the Lord, all ministries should be carried out in the spirit of service and dedication to God's people (2039).
- \* Through ongoing evangelization, the church empowers us to spread the message of Christ throughout the world in all societies (2105).
- \* The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is the heart of the church's life (2177).
- \* When the church proclaims the gospel she gives testimony to the human person's dignity and calling to be in community with others. This forms the basis of her teachings on peace and justice (2419).
- \* In her ministries, the church has always showed a preferential love for the poor (2444, 2448).
- \* True Christians set their hearts on the kingdom of heaven; this makes them detached from all material things (2544-47, 2552, 2556).

*Rom 12:8, 11*

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* The church encourages us to learn about and relate intimately with Jesus by frequent Scripture reading with prayer (2653).
- \* Prayer is everywhere and always connected with and involves participation in the life of the church (2655).
- \* From its beginning the church developed their prayer to the Mother of God centering it on the person of Jesus Christ in his mysteries (2675).
- \* The church building is the proper place for liturgical prayer of the parish community. It is also the place for adoration of the Blessed Sacrament (2691).
- \* When asked by his disciples about how to pray, Jesus gave them the Our Father, the fundamental prayer of every Christian (2773).

*Phil 3:8*

*Mt 6:6*

*Lk 1:46-55*

*Mt 6:9-15*

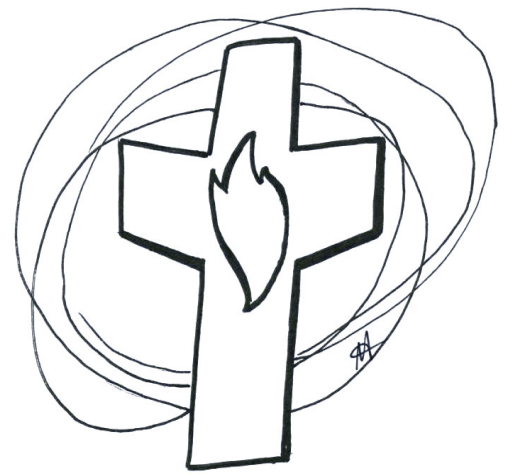
# **Catholic Faith Literacy**

## **Grade 8**

Students involved in Catholic faith formation either through Catholic schools or parish-based religious education programs should know the following terms. The listing by grade is cumulative, that is, advanced grades assume knowledge of terms from earlier grades.

Abortion	Miracle
Abraham	Mission
Acts of the Apostles	Missionary
Adultery	Moral
AIDS	Parable
Altar	Peacemakers
Ascension	Preach
Assumption	Presentation
Blasphemy	Presentation of Jesus in the Temple
Brother (Religious)	Procreation
Capital Punishment	Prophecies
Catholic Social Teaching	Protestant
Church Council	Rebecca
Church Fathers	Resurrection
Consecration	Revelation
Conversion	Rite
Crusades	Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults
Disciples	Roman Empire
Emperor	Sarah
Euthanasia	Scripture (s)
Final Judgment	Sexual Intercourse
Homily	Spirituality
Inspiration	Sister (Religious)
Isaac	Stewardship
Isaiah	Temple
Kingdom	Tithing
Lector	Tradition
Liturgical Year	Vatican II
Liturgy of the Word	Virginity

# Introduction for Grades 9-12



Catholic high schools religious education programs may elect to treat particular content areas at different times during the four years of high school. Therefore, specific content for the grade is not defined in the pages that follow. Rather the content statements are grouped under topic headings that are to be presented in the course of four years in religious instruction.

Identified here are five topic areas for the purpose of organizing the catechetical effort at this level. These topic areas are **not** to be considered courses but as points of reference for catechizing young people. Within each topic area, content statements are grouped according to the four parts of the *Catechism*: The Profession of Faith, The Celebration of the Christian Mystery, Life in Christ, and Christian Prayer.

A brief description of each of the five topic areas follows:

1. **Catholic Literacy - Faith Fluency** highlights facts and beliefs that all Catholics should know.
2. **Grace Community** includes statements on the core doctrines of Trinity and Incarnation. Statements related to the church, sacraments, grace, Mary, and prayer are also included.
3. **The Moral Life** includes foundational principles of Catholic moral life. Statements Regarding conversion, reconciliation, the Ten commandments, beatitudes, virtue, sin, and the formation of conscience are also included.
4. **Scripture** highlights the fundamental beliefs necessary for an informed Catholic's understanding of sacred Scripture.
5. **Social Teaching** lists the basic principles that underpin the rich heritage of the church's social teachings.



# Grades 9-12

## **Topic: Catholic Literacy-Faith Fluency**

*This highlights facts and beliefs that all Catholics should know.*

### **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065*

- \* A shared vocabulary of faith unique to Catholic Christians provides a context for experiencing and expressing Catholic identity (170-171). *Dt 11:18-20*
- \* The Holy Spirit sanctifies and directs the church in continuing the mission of Jesus (765-768). *Jn 14:15-18*
- \* Catholic church history is the story of the pilgrim people of God and their journey of faith through the ages (758-769). *Mt 28: 19-20*
- \* The church has survived and flourished in the midst of conflicts both from within and without (817). *Acts 11:1-18*
- \* To insure that the church is true to the faith handed on by the apostles, Christ bestowed on the shepherds of the church the gift of infallibility in faith and morals (889-890). *Mt 28:18-20*
- \* The exercise of infallibility takes different forms: a definitive proclamation by the pope on matters of faith or morals, the teaching of the body of bishops in communion with the pope, or a proclamation of belief by an ecumenical council (891).
- \* The term diocese or particular church refers to a community of believers united in faith and sacraments with their bishop-a successor of the apostles (833). *Lk 6:12-16*
- \* The church has been blessed with many differences which emanate from both the multiplicity of God's gifts and the vast variety of peoples and cultures. In the church we celebrate our unity in diversity. The church engages the unity of faith of God's people amidst the diversity among the many cultures and gifts (814-815). *Gal 3:27-29*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* Throughout the liturgical year, the paschal mystery's various aspects unfold in the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, and Ordinary Time (1117). *1 Cor 11:23-26*
- \* Sunday, the Lord's day, is the pre-eminent day for the faithful to gather to listen to the word of God, and to celebrate the Eucharist (1167). *Acts 2:423*
- \* In the Liturgical year the church honors Mary, the Mother of God, and the saints as faithful examples of those who have shared in Christ's suffering and glory (1172-1173). *Lk 1:26-38*
- \* The Liturgy of hours-the divine office-is the prayer of the church praising God throughout the whole day and night (1174-1178; *Eph 6:18*
- \* An understanding of the Roman Catholic faith is enhanced by knowledge of other rites and religious traditions (1200-1206).
- \* The worship of the church incorporates distinctive rituals, signs, symbols, and actions (1146-1162). *Mt 26:26-29*

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* The magisterium of the pope and the bishops united with the pope, teaches truths to believe, love to practice, and blessings to hope for (2034). *Acts 4:1-13*
- \* The precepts of the church are situated in the framework of Catholic moral life and strongly linked to the liturgical life of the church (2041).

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer is a living tradition in which each local church develops a language of prayer, within the context of its history and culture, that is faithful to the apostolic faith (2663). *Acts 2:42*
- \* Gifts and diversity are especially evident in the lives of the saints and the writings of the church fathers and doctors (2683-2684).
- \* In the Catholic tradition, personal piety, prayers, and devotions can nurture our faith and deepen our relationship with Jesus (2688). *Eph 6:18*



# Grades 9-12

## **Topic: Grace Community**

*This includes statements on the core doctrines of Trinity and Incarnation. Statements related to the church, sacraments, grace, Mary, and prayer are also included.*

## **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- \* God so loved the world that he gave his only son so that all who believe may have eternal life (219). *Jn 3:16*
- \* The doctrine of the Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith (234). *2 Cr 13:13*
- \* The Trinity is a community of unconditional life-giving love and complete self-donation among the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (257). *1 Jn 4:7-16*
- \* The Trinity is the foundational belief and model of the Christian community (259-260). *Jn 17:21-23*
- \* Women and men are made in the image and likeness of God (299). *Gn 1:27*
- \* Jesus sent the gift of the Holy Spirit from the Father to those who believe (735). *Jn 16:7-14*
- \* Jesus Christ is the mediator and the way of salvation. The salvation mediated through Jesus comes to us through the church, the body of Christ (836). *Mk 16:16*
- \* The church is a community of loving disciples called to transform the world according to the mind and heart of Jesus (425). *Phil 2:1-11*
- \* The church is like a sacrament of unity of the human race (775). *Eph 4:1-14*
- \* Grace is the free gift of God's own life to us (654). *Eph 4:15-32*
- \* Vocation is the call to sanctity within the community (825). *Col 3:12-17*
- \* The consecrated life is characterized by the profession of poverty, obedience, and chastity in celibacy for the sake of the kingdom of God (915). *Mt 19:12*
- \* Mary is the model of obedient response to God's call to sanctity and discipleship (969). *Lk 1:26-38*
- \* The doctrine of the virgin birth of Jesus calls us to believe that Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit without the assistance of a man, and that his mother, Mary, even in the act of giving him birth, remained always and entirely a virgin (496-511).

- \* The dogma of the Assumption calls us to believe that Mary, the mother of Jesus was assumed body and soul, into heaven at the conclusion of her life on earth (966-9740).

### **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* Liturgical services are never private affairs but celebrations of the whole community of the church (1140). *Acts 2:42*
- \* Sacraments are outward signs instituted by Christ that give grace (1114-1116).
- \* Sanctifying, building up the body of Christ, and giving worship to God are the purposes of the sacraments (1123).
- \* The sacramental life of the church, particularly the Eucharist, communicates the mystery of communion with God who is love (1382). *1 Jn 4:7-21*
- \* The Eucharist is the primary prayer of the church. All other sacraments, ministries, and works of the church are oriented toward the Eucharist (1324). *1 Cor 11:23-26*

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Sanctifying grace is God's gift to us (2023). *Jn 10:10*
- \* Our response to God's love is to love one another (1970). *Jn 15:11*
- \* The ten Commandments are based on the two great commandments: love God with all your heart, mind, and soul, and love your neighbor as yourself (2052). *Lk 10:25-37*
- \* The seven gifts of the Holy Spirit - wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord - sustain the moral life of the Christian (1830). *Is 11:1-2*
- \* The twelve fruits of the Holy Spirit that the Spirit forms in us are: charity, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity (1832). *Gal 5:22-23*
- \* The beatitudes challenge the followers of Jesus to make important choices regarding earthly goods. The beatitudes teach and call us to love God above all things (1728). *Lk 6:20-26*
- \* The family, the domestic church, is the first community of life and love; it is a sign and image of the love and community that exists in the Trinity (2205). *Gal 6:10*

- \* Spouses are called to love each other with a covenant love that is a sign of how Christ loves the church (2365). *Eph 5:21-33*
- \* The union of spouses in marriage accomplishes the double purpose of marriage - the good of the couple and the generation of life (2363). *Mt 19:4-6*
- \* Physical intimacy of man and woman in marriage is a sign and a commitment to the spiritual union of the couple (2360). *Mk 10:6-9*

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* Prayer is the vital relationship of ourselves with the Trinity (2565). *Lk 18:1-8*
- \* In the life of the church the three main expressions of prayer are vocal, meditative, and contemplative (2699). *Mt 14:23*
- \* There are different forms of prayer in the tradition of the church: blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise (2626-2649). *Acts 2:42*



# Grades 9-12

## **Topic The Moral Life**

*This includes foundational principles of Catholic moral life. Statements regarding conversion, reconciliation, the Ten commandments, beatitudes, virtue, sin, and the formation of conscience.*

## **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- \* A fundamental principle of Catholic moral life is that God created heaven and earth and that creation is good (299). *Gn 1:1-31*
- \* Humans are made in the image and likeness of God (355). *Gn 1:26*
- \* Our hope of redemption is based on God's unconditional love (600-618). *Jn 3:16*
- \* Jesus call all people to be disciples (542). *Mk 1:17-20*
- \* Original sin deprives humans of original holiness and leads to a weakened human nature (399-400). *Gn 3:1-24*

## **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 1066-1690*

- \* Conversion involves the forgiveness of sin by God and reconciliation with the Christian community (1440). *1 Jn 1:6-10*
- \* Through the liturgical celebration of the sacrament of penance, the forgiveness of sin by God and reconciliation with the church are both expressed and achieved (1440).

## **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Humans are called by their very nature to live a virtuous life (1803). *2 Pt 1:5-8*
- \* Humans, because they have the faculties of intellect and will, are graced with freedom (1705). *Gal 5:13*
- \* Conscience enables the human person to judge whether an action is morally right or wrong (1796). *Rom 2:15*
- \* The formation of an individual's conscience is a lifelong process guided by god's word, the teachings of the church, and the witness of the community of faith (1784).

- \* The theological virtues of faith, hope, and love are the basis of Christian moral life and action (1813). *1 Thes 5:8*
- \* Chastity involves the integration of sexuality within the person's whole being - body and spirit (2337). *Gal 5:16-26*
- \* The beatitudes are central to Jesus' teaching because they fulfill the promises of the Old Covenant by connecting the promises to the kingdom of heaven (1716). *Mt 5:3-12*
- \* The beatitudes highlight the actions and thinking of the true disciples of Jesus (1717).
- \* Jesus affirmed the Ten Commandments and taught additional expectations of the Ten Commandments for the new law (2054). *Mt 5:17-48*
- \* Human life is always sacred. No one has the right to kill, under any circumstances whatsoever, an innocent human being (2258).
- \* The direct abortion of an unborn child is a grave offense against the moral law (2271).
- \* Euthanasia, regardless of motives, is morally wrong (2277).
- \* Sin is a violation of our relationship with God, self, and others, and in our hearts it either diminishes or destroys charity (1849-1850). *Ps 51:3-10*
- \* The gravity of sin is determined by the seriousness of the act, full knowledge, and deliberate consent (1857).
- \* Social sin is the effect of personal sins which promote social and societal conditions and structures that are contrary to the law of God (1869). *Am 8:4-7*

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

#### *Catechism of the Catholic Church*

- \* Prayer is lifting the mind and heart to God (2559). *1 Cor 14:13-15*
- \* Prayer is a living relationship between our triune God and us (2565).
- \* We are made to be in an intimate relationship with God as expressed in the Our Father (2786-2787). *Hos 2:21-25*

# Grades 9-12

## Topic: Scripture

*this highlights the fundamental beliefs*

*necessary for an informed Catholic's understanding of sacred Scripture.*

### **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church 26-1065*

- \* Sacred Scripture is the divinely inspired revelation of God at work in human history (105).
- \* Sacred Scripture is the written record of God's revelation in the history of salvation - the story of god's covenant relationship with his people (55-62). *Gn 9:8-16*
- \* Scripture developed over time through the church's lived tradition of the word of God (113).
- \* Catholic biblical criticism involves considering literary genre (e.g., psalms, parables, letters, apocalyptic writings), historical background, and the author's purpose in interpreting the religious message in Scripture (109-119).
- \* The list of sacred books included in the Bible is called the canon of sacred Scripture (120).
- \* The canon of sacred Scripture was discerned through apostolic tradition (120).
- \* The Hebrew Scripture is organized into the law, prophets, historical, and wisdom literature in 46 books (45 books, if *Jeremiah and Lamentations* are considered as one) (120).
- \* The Christian scripture includes Gospels, letters, Acts, and Revelation in 27 books (120).
- \* Jesus Christ is the fullness of all revelation (65). *Heb 1:1-3*
- \* Jesus instituted the New Covenant (66). *Heb 8:7-12*
- \* Scripture is the living word of God that calls for a personal faith response from all believers (142-143). *Gal 4:6*
- \* The Gospels were written by the post-resurrection Christian community (125-126). *Acts 1:1-2*

### **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* The church, especially during Advent, Lent, and the Easter Triduum recalls, remembers, and relives in her liturgy the great salvation events of the sacred Scriptures (1095) *Lk 24:44-45*
- \* The Christian response to the message of Jesus is the living out our vocation as disciples in the Christian community(1102). *Acts 2:42-47*
- \* The liturgical signs from the Old Covenant - circumcision, anointing, laying on of hands, sacrifices, and Passover - prefigure the sacraments of the church today (1150). *Gn 12:2-14*

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* The Ten Commandments lay the foundation for a life fashioned in the image of God (1961). *Ex 20:1-17*
- \* The new law is expressed particularly in the beatitudes, which are found in the Sermon on the Mount (1965). *Mt 5:1-7,29*

### **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* The revelation of prayer in the Old Testament takes place between the sin of Adam and Eve and the coming of Jesus into the world (2568). *Heb 10:1-10*
- \* The Psalms are timeless prayers for the people of God (2585-2589). *Ps 23:1-6*
- \* The mission of the prophets was to call God's people to conversion and teach them to hope for salvation (2581). *Is 2:2-5*
- \* When the disciples asked Jesus, "Lord, teach us to pray," Jesus gave them the Our Father - the foundational prayer for Christians (2772). *Lk 11:1-4*



# Grades 9-12

## **Topic: Social Justice**

*This lists the basic principles that underpin the rich heritage of the church's social teachings.*

### **The Profession of Faith (Doctrinal Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 26-1065*

- \* Being made in the image and likeness of God is the foundation for the dignity of the human person (357).
- \* Stewardship of the earth requires respect for creation which God has entrusted to humanity (373).

*Gn 1:26*

*Wis 11:24-26*

### **The Celebration of the Christian Mystery (Sacramental Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1066-1690*

- \* Reception of the Eucharist and commitment to the poor are intimately connected because we must recognize Christ in the poorest among us (1397).

### **Life in Christ (Christian Living Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 1691-2557*

- \* Principles underlying the church's social teachings are:
  1. Dignity of the human person (1929)
  2. Respect for human life (2273)
  3. Common good (1906)
  4. Human equality (1934)
  5. Human differences call for interdependence (1936-1937)
  6. Participation (1913)
  7. Love for the poor (2444)
  8. Solidarity (1939)
  9. Stewardship (2402)
  10. Subsidiarity (1883).
- \* Social justice is only achieved and recognized through respect for the dignity of the human person (1929).
- \* The responsibility of loving and serving our neighbor becomes compelling when it especially involves those who are disadvantaged (1932).

*Mt 25:40*

- \* The fundamental dignity shared among human persons calls for the elimination of excessive and sinful social and economic inequality (1947). *Jas 2:1-9*
- \* The goods of the earth belong to the entire human race (2402). *Gn 1:26-29*
- \* The right to private property guarantees the dignity and freedom of persons and it also ensures the obtaining of a person's basic needs and the needs of those for whom the person is responsible (2402).
- \* The owner of property is a steward responsible for making that property productive and beneficial to others (2404).
- \* Jesus extends the new law of love to include all enemies (1933). *Mt 5:43-44*
- \* Peace is required for the development and respect of human life. Peace flows from charity and justice (2304). *Is 32:17-18*
- \* The church has a special love of the poor, among whom we find the presence of Christ. Social justice compels one to give preferential option to the poor (2443-2449). *Lk 6:20-26*
- \* Sinful structures are the direct result of personal sins (1869). *Am 8:4-8*
- \* The corporal and spiritual works of mercy are acts of charity whereby we reach out to assist our neighbors in their bodily and spiritual needs (2447). *Is 58:6-7*
- \* The common good requires three elements: respect for the human person, concern for the well-being and development of a group of people, and dedication to peace (1906-1909).
- \* Capital punishment should not be used if non-lethal means are sufficient to protect society and the common good against an aggressor (2267). *Mt 5:38-39*
- \* There are strict conditions that must be present to justify defense by military force: lasting, grave, and certain damage by an aggressor; all other means of ending aggression must be demonstrated to be impractical or ineffective; the real possibility of success; use of arms must not bring about disorders and evils worse than those to be eliminated (2309).
- \* Human work is participation in God's creative activity and a way to express and live out our humanity (2427).
- \* People have a right and obligation to work; they have a right to a just wage that allows them to live in dignity and provide for their families (2427-2429). *Dt 24:14-15*
- \* Our dominion over the earth is not absolute, it is limited by the common good (2415). *Dn 3:74-82*

## **Christian Prayer (Prayer-Spirituality Concepts)**

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2558-2865*

- \* In praying “thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven,” Christians commit themselves to achieve in this world the justice, peace, love, and joy that is characteristic of the kingdom of God (2819-2820).
- \* The Lord’s prayer is a prayer of unity and zeal for the kingdom (2750).

*Rom 14:17-19*

*Jn 17:1-26*

## **Catholic Faith Literacy Grade 12**

Students involved in Catholic faith formation either through Catholic schools or parish-based religious education programs should know the following terms. The listing by grade is cumulative, that is, advanced grades assume knowledge of terms from earlier grades.

Adoration

Annulment

Catechumen

Catechumenate

Commemoration

Community of Faith

Dark Ages

End Time

Evangelists

Genesis

Grace (Sanctifying)

Indulgence

Inquisition

Kingdom of God

Monasticism

Papal Infallibility

Pastoral Letter

Precepts of the Church

Preferential Option for the Poor

Racial Discrimination

Reformation

Veneration



## Biblical Abbreviations

### Books of the Old Testament

Genesis	<i>Gn</i>	Proverbs	<i>Prv</i>
Exodus	<i>Ex</i>	Ecclesiastes	<i>Eccl</i>
Leviticus	<i>Lv</i>	Song of Songs	<i>Sg</i>
Numbers	<i>Nm</i>	Wisdom	<i>Wis</i>
Deuteronomy	<i>Dt</i>	Sirach	<i>Sir</i>
Joshua	<i>Jos</i>	Isaiah	<i>Is</i>
Judges	<i>Jgs</i>	Jeremiah	<i>Jer</i>
Ruth	<i>Ru</i>	Lamentations	<i>Lam</i>
1 Samuel	<i>1 Sm</i>	Baruch	<i>Bar</i>
2 Samuel	<i>2 sm</i>	Ezekiel	<i>Ez</i>
1 Kings	<i>1 Kgs</i>	Daniel	<i>Dn</i>
2 Kings	<i>2 Kgs</i>	Hosea	<i>Hos</i>
1 Chronicles	<i>1 Chr</i>	Joel	<i>Jl</i>
2 Chronicles	<i>2 Chr</i>	Amos	<i>Am</i>
Ezra	<i>Ezr</i>	Obadiah	<i>Ob</i>
Nehemiah	<i>Neh</i>	Jonah	<i>Jon</i>
Tobit	<i>Tb</i>	Micah	<i>Mi</i>
Judith	<i>Jdy</i>	Nahum	<i>Na</i>
Esther	<i>Est</i>	Habakkuk	<i>Hb</i>
1 Maccabees	<i>1 Mc</i>	Zephaniah	<i>Zep</i>
2 Maccabees	<i>2 Mc</i>	Haggai	<i>Hg</i>
Job	<i>Jb</i>	Zechariah	<i>Zec</i>
Psalms	<i>Ps</i>	Malachi	<i>Mal</i>

### Books of the New Testament

Matthew	<i>Mt</i>	1 Timothy	<i>1 Tm</i>
Mark	<i>Mk</i>	2 Timothy	<i>2 Tm</i>
Luke	<i>Lk</i>	Titus	<i>Ti</i>
John	<i>Jn</i>	Philemon	<i>Phlm</i>
Acts of the Apostles	<i>Acts</i>	Hebrews	<i>Heb</i>
Romans	<i>Rom</i>	James	<i>Jas</i>
1 Corinthians	<i>1 Cor</i>	1 Peter	<i>1 Pt</i>
2 Corinthians	<i>2 Cor</i>	2 Peter	<i>2 Pt</i>
Galatians	<i>Gal</i>	1 John	<i>1 Jn</i>
Ephesians	<i>Eph</i>	2 John	<i>2 Jn</i>
Philippians	<i>Phil</i>	3 John	<i>3 Jn</i>
Colossians	<i>Col</i>	Jude	<i>Jude</i>
1 Thessalonians	<i>1 Thes</i>	Revelation	<i>Rv</i>
2 Thessalonians	<i>2 Thes</i>		

