

## Learning Goals: Grades 3-5

*These goals are based upon the Archdiocesan Religion Standards for Catholic Education and provide an overview of what the Faith Formation team at St. Therese is striving to teach your youth about our Catholic faith prior to completing Grade 5.*

### **Sacraments**

- Identify and explain the meaning of the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service and how they are celebrated.
- Understand the meaning of grace as a sharing in God's life.
- Describe how the sacraments begin with Jesus: Jesus is the original Sacrament.
- List the 7 Sacraments
- Explain the purpose of sacramentals.

### **Mass/Holy Eucharist/Liturgy**

- Explain why Sunday (the Lord's Day) is the main day for celebrating Eucharist (Mass).
- Show respect for sacred time and places, including proper behavior in church and with religious objects while praying together.
- Summarize why the Eucharist has a special place in the life of the Church.
- Acknowledge the Sacrament of the Eucharist as an action in which we give thanks, receive Jesus and remember His life, death and resurrection, and are sent to be Christ to others.
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist (Mass) (what you see/hear/images/smell/what touched you).
- Explain the significance of the two major parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word; Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- Experience a Word/Communion service.
- Identify the roles of various ministers in our liturgical celebrations (priest, lector, Eucharist Minister, greeters, etc.)
- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations (e.g. praying with the community (assembly), singing, choir, gift bearers, readers, greeters, etc.).
- Recognize that the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy is central to the life of the Church.
- Relate how the Eucharist calls all to serve because we are all made in the image and likeness of God.
- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations (e.g. praying with the community (assembly), singing, choir, gift bearers, readers, greeters, etc.).

### **Moral Decision Making and Reconciliation**

- Express how each person is responsible for one's own life and decisions.
- Determine ways to make moral decisions (e.g. critical reflection process).
- Describe how to use critical reflection when encountering a moral problem.
- Explain personal, venial, mortal and social sin.
- Describe an examination of conscience.
- Choose critical reflection to examine various values and behaviors promoted by society and the media.
- Describe the role of the teaching church in knowing right from wrong.
- Apply the Great Commandment to daily life.
- Acknowledge how the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes guide us (e.g. telling the truth, avoiding bad language, respecting the good name of others).
- Apply the Beatitudes to life.
- Choose to treat others with respect as Children of God.
- Know that the Fourth Commandment teaches us to respect and obey our parents and to work for harmony in their families.
- Choose respectful language and behavior toward others' religious beliefs and practices.
- Examine the various values and behaviors promoted in society—especially the media.

## **Baptism**

- Explain how Baptism calls us to be disciples of Jesus.
- Understand that Baptism calls us to live as responsible stewards of God's gifts to us.
- Express that Christ is the source of unity of all Christians by their Baptism.
- Explain how the "People of God" help one another to live as disciples.

## **Holy Orders**

- Describe the roles of the laity, vowed religious and ordained.
- Explain how the laity and the ordained (deacons, priest, bishops, pope) share in the mission of the Church.
- Identify ways the ordained serve the Church.

## **Matrimony**

- Know that the Sacrament of Matrimony supports parents throughout their life.

## **Trinity**

### **God**

- The purpose of the Christian life is to know, love and serve God and to live forever with Him in heaven.

### **Jesus**

- Recognize Jesus is the visible sign of God's love.
- Know that Mary was Jesus' mother and Joseph his foster father.
- Recognize that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live lovingly, justly, humbly, and prayerfully.
- Identify and explain that the "People of God" (the Church) help one another because we are disciples of Jesus.
- Know that Jesus lived, died, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven.
- Understand that God calls each person to be holy and that through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus all are saved.

### **Holy Spirit**

- Recognize and explain that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost and continues to guide us.

## **Bible/Scripture**

- Explain a few parables and how they relate to our lives.
- Demonstrate the ability to find scripture passages in the Bible.
- Explain how the Old Testament expresses the faith of the Israelite people and the New Testament expresses the faith of Christians as followers of Christ.
- Know and retell the "Creation Story" (Gen. 1:1-31).
- Retell the Beatitudes and explain how they relate to our lives.
- Identify where the Great Commandment and the Ten Commandments are found in the Bible and explain how they relate to our life.
- Locate the Psalms in the Bible.
- Know that the Psalms are used in both the Liturgy of the Hours and at Eucharist (Mass).
- Retell stories from the Bible about God's forgiveness (e.g. Lost Son, Lost Coin, Lost Sheep).
- Understand the importance of the Feast of Pentecost.

## **Holy People/Saints**

- Explain the role of Mary and the saints in the life of the church.
- Name 6 holy men or women who believed in God and lived before the time of Jesus.
- Name 6 holy men and women who lived at the time of Jesus and those living now who follow Jesus' teachings.
- Know that the universal church consists of those both living and dead.
- Recall some history of our parish.

- Explain how a pope is chosen.
- Name models and heroes of our faith and retell their stories.
- Interpret stories of saints or biblical figures who demonstrate God's faithfulness.
- Identify ways saints, heroes and holy people model Christian life.

### **Prayer**

- Pray short selections from the Psalms particularly suited to morning and evening prayer.
  - Compose and pray intercessions for the world, the Church and personal needs.
  - Know that the Our Father is an integral part of the public prayer of the church.
  - Recite the following prayers: Apostle's Creed; Rosary.
  - Formulate spontaneous prayers, including intercessions.
  - Use old and New Testament stories for Guided Meditation.
  - Engage in contemplative prayer for longer periods (10 minutes).
  - Demonstrate reverence for and through contemplative prayer.
  - Invite God into everyday experiences, needs and relationships at different times of the day.
  - Formulate prayers which reflect growing understanding of the world and its needs.
  - Understand the importance of learning to pray for enemies.
  - Understand that blessings include both praise for God for ordinary gifts and intercessions for the appropriate use of these gifts.
  - Experience a Word/Communion service.
- ▶ See **Learn/Memorize/Recognize** section for a complete listing of prayers/doctrine that are to be learned.

### **Catholic Social Teaching/Service**

- Apply the Beatitudes to life.
- Recognize the Catholic Social Teachings.
- Know that life begins at conception.
- Apply the Great Commandment to daily life.
- Choose to treat others with respect as Children of God.
- Explain how peacemaking and working for justice enriches us.
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice to family and peer relationships, to sports, and other activities.
- Relate some Bible stories that demonstrate Jesus' respect for all persons (e.g. man born blind, leper).
- Name ways to defend those whose dignity of life is threatened.
- Practice mercy, compassion and justice as essential components of a Christian life.
- Identify God-given gifts and explore ways to share them for the common good.
- Exemplify awareness and responsibility for the common good.
- Understand that from the moment of conception, a child has the right to life.
- Distinguish between acts of charity and acts of justice.
- Relate works of charity to principles of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Practice acts of charity and justice.
- Identify ways in which giving service can be a lifestyle and a career.
- Relate how the Eucharist calls all to serve because we are all made in the image and likeness of God.
- Explain that the Reign of God is a time and place of peace and justice.
- Practice mercy and justice as essential components of Christian life.
- Plan, participate in and evaluate a service activity.
- Apply Catholic Social Teachings to daily life.
- Explain how forgiving, peacemaking and working for justice enrich our communities.
- Treat all life with respect and care for it with good stewardship.
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice in all relationships and activities (e.g. family and peer relationships, sports, activities).
- Differentiate between need and want.
- Give examples of loving and unselfish behavior or heroism.
- Recognize how the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are lived out in our daily lives.

- Demonstrate responsible stewardship (e.g. involvement in parish ministry, financial contributions, care for all property).
- Volunteer time and talent for the parish community.
- Demonstrate a sense of compassion toward peers that grows out of deepening awareness of God's love for them.
- Relate strong family relationships with mutual respect and understanding of the different roles of family members.
- Practice acts of charity and justice.
- Identify personal gifts/talents and use them for good stewardship.
- Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions.

### **Evangelization**

- Give examples of how we live a Christian life.
- Demonstrate how to live faith at home, school and other places.
- Demonstrate ways to share the Gospel with others.
- Know that the term "Catholic" means universal.
- Demonstrate how to live faith at home, school and other places.
- Identify ways they experience belonging to the church, the "Body of Christ."

### **Learn/memorize/recognize**

- Beatitudes
- List the 7 Sacraments
- Identify the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service and how they are celebrated.
- List the Holy Days.
- Recite the Great Commandment and the 10 Commandments
- Recognize the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
- Recognize the seven themes of Catholic Social Teaching
- Name, locate, and state the purpose of the sanctuary, altar, ambo, tabernacle, baptismal font, sanctuary light, paschal candle, lectionary, Book of the Gospels, Stations of the Cross, chalice, Reconciliation Room, chapel.
- Explain the meaning and significance of the church seasons/feasts: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum/Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time.
- Identify and explain the Holy Days of Obligation.
- Give examples of some virtues and vices.
- Rosary
- Apostle's Creed
- Give examples of Cardinal and Theological virtues.
- Name the four marks of the Church (one, holy, catholic, apostolic)
- Identify some of the major religions of the world (e.g. Judaism, Muslim).