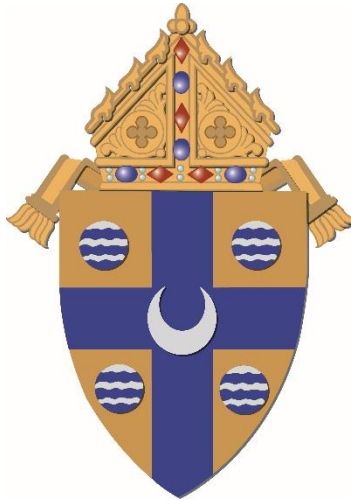


**RELIGION STANDARDS
PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE**



DIOCESE OF SPRINGFIELD IN ILLINOIS

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RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

PRE-K / KINDERGARTEN

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Bible is God's special book.

Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Know that the Bible contains stories about God and his people.
B 2. Know the story of creation.
B 3. Be familiar with other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)

Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Know that the Bible contains stories about Jesus and his followers.
B 2. Be familiar with the stories of the birth, death and Resurrection of Jesus.
B 3. Be familiar with other New Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Know that there are three persons in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that God is love and that God loves each of us.
Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God created the world.
B 2. Know that God takes care of all things.
B 3. Know that we are God's children.
Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus is the Son of God.
B 2. Know that Jesus is our friend and brother.
Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit helps us to do what is good.
Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is God's family.
B 2. Know that we become members of God's family through Baptism.
B 3. Know that we gather as God's family at Mass.
Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that the saints show us how to be Christians.
B 2. Know that our Guardian Angel looks out for us and protects us.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:
B 1. Know that God gave us signs of his love called sacraments.
B 2. Know that Jesus gave his friends a sign of his love by eating with them.
Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:
B 1. Know that water is a sign of new life in Baptism.
B 2. Know that bread and wine are signs of God's life and love in the Eucharist.
Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Show understanding that God forgives us when we say we're sorry.
Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
Will be introduced in Grade 1.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:
B 1. Recognize that we talk and listen to God together with a community.
B 2. Demonstrate respect for churches and other sacred spaces.
Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:
B 1. Participate in celebrations appropriate to the liturgical seasons.
B 2. Recognize Christmas as the birthday of Jesus.
B 3. Recognize Easter as the Resurrection of Jesus.
B 4. Recognize Advent as the time before Christmas.
B 5. Recognize Lent as the time before Easter.
Concept 3: The Mass Students will:
B 1. Know that Sunday is the day when we go to Mass and pray as a family; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 2. Be introduced to the importance of participating at Mass.
B 3. Demonstrate participation at Mass through appropriate responses.
Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:
B 1. Show respect for holy things.
B 2. Know that we bless ourselves with holy water.
B 3. Participate in blessings and devotions of the Church.
B 4. Learn how to genuflect.
Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Recognize how religious signs and symbols tell us about God.
B 2. Demonstrate the Sign of the Cross.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:
B 1. Show a sense of being loved by others.
B 2. Show understanding that God wants me to love myself and others.
B 3. Show respect for others in our work and play.
Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:
Will be introduced in Grade 1.
Concept 3: Commandments Students will:
B 1. Know that God gives us rules to live by.
B 2. Know that we honor our parents with respect and obedience.
B 3. Know that we must respect the property of others.
Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus wants us to care for all creation.
B 2. Know that God created all of us different from each other.
B 3. Know that we treat people the way Jesus showed us.
Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church gives us rules to live by.
Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Begin to distinguish between what is right and wrong.
B 2. Know that we must listen to what God tells us.
Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus always loves us and forgives us.
B 2. Know that when we hurt someone we must say we are sorry.
B 3. Know that, like Jesus, we must always love and forgive others who have hurt us.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Describe prayer as talking and listening to God at anytime and anywhere.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that we ask God for what we need.
B 2. Know that we thank God for what we receive.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that we pray alone, with others and anywhere.
B 2. Know that we pray with our bodies and with our hearts.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Learn to make the Sign of the Cross.
B 2. Begin prayer with the Sign of the Cross.
B 3. Learn to pray in the morning, before meals and at bedtime.
B 4. Learn to pray the Guardian Angel prayer.
B 5. Learn to pray together the Our Father and Hail Mary.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that those who believe in Jesus form his one, true family.
Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is God's family.
B 2. Know that we pray together every Sunday and holy day as God's family; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 3. Know that God's family cares for and loves one another.
Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church begins with Jesus Christ.
B 2. Identify Pentecost as the birthday of the Church.
Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Recognize and name the current pope, local bishop and pastor.
B 2. Know the name of our parish.
Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know Mary is the mother of Jesus.
B 2. Know that we show Mary special respect and devotion.
Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some saints. (See appendix II for suggestions.)

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:
B 1. Know that the parish is our special home in the Church.
B 2. Know that the parish church is a place where we go to pray.
Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus wants us to always grow in our faith.
Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:
B 1. Know that the members of our parish work together to help others.
B 2. Know that each of us is called to serve others.
B 3. Identify at least one missionary activity of our parish (e.g. Missionary Childhood Association, Rice Bowl, local food pantry, etc.).
Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:
B 1. Know that others will learn about Jesus by what we say and do.
Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus wants all people to be one family.
B 2. Know that Jesus wants us to share our love with all people.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that God wants each of us to be the best person we can be.
B 2. Understand that our lives are special gifts from God to share with others.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that bishops, priests and deacons are God's special ministers who help us learn about God.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Know that religious sisters and brothers help us learn about God.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Know that parents, teachers and other adults in the community are God's helpers in our lives.
B 2. Know that our parents/guardians show their love for God by loving and taking care of us.

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

FIRST GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Bible is God's special book.
B 2. Know that the Bible teaches us that God is the creator of all things.
B 3. Know that in the Bible God tells us about himself.
Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Know that the Old Testament contains the story of God's people before the birth of Jesus.
B 2. Know the story of Adam and Eve in the garden.
B 3. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 4. Discuss the message of those Bible stories.
Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Understand God's love for his people through Jesus and the early Church.
B 2. Know the stories of the birth, death and Resurrection of Jesus.
B 3. Be able to retell other New Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 4. Discuss the message of those Bible stories.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Know that there are three persons in one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that God is love and that God loves each of us.
B 3. Know that all people are created in God's image.
Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God is our creator who made us to be happy with him in heaven.
B 2. Know that God created everything in the universe.
B 3. Know that God cares for all creation.
B 4. Know that God is our Father.
Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that God sent his Son, Jesus, into our world because God loves us.
B 2. Know that God chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus.
B 3. Know that Joseph, Mary and Jesus are the Holy Family.
B 4. Know that Jesus teaches us how to love one another.
B 5. Know that Jesus' followers are called Christians.
B 6. Know that Jesus teaches us how to live as Christians.
Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that the Holy Spirit is the expression of God's love for us.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit lives in us and helps us to do what is good.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit helped the Church to grow and still helps the Church today.
Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is God's family and is made up of people who follow him.
B 2. Know that Baptism makes us members of God's family, the Church.
B 3. Know that we gather to worship as God's family at Mass.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that the saints in heaven and the faithful on earth belong to God's family.
B 2. Know that the saints in heaven pray for us.
B 3. Know that our Guardian Angel looks out for us and protects us.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:
B 1. Know that God gave us signs of his love called sacraments.
B 2. Know that Jesus instituted the sacraments and gave them to the Church.
B 3. Know that the Church celebrates seven sacraments.
B 4. Identify the outward signs for each of the sacraments.

Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Christian Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
B 2. Know that Baptism welcomes us into the Church.
B 3. Know that we have godparents and who they are.
B 4. Know that Confirmation gives us the strength to live as Christians.
B 5. Know that Eucharist feeds us with the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Know that the two Sacraments of Healing are Anointing of the Sick and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
B 2. Know that God forgives our sins through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
B 3. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation helps us to say we are sorry when we hurt one another.
B 4. Know that Anointing of the Sick strengthens those who need healing.

Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Service are Matrimony and Holy Orders.
B 2. Know that in Matrimony God unites a man and a woman in married love.
B 3. Know that in Holy Orders God calls men to represent Christ as bishops, priests and deacons.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:
B 1. Know that liturgy is participating in prayer and worship.
B 2. Know that the church building is a sacred place.
Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:
B 1. Know that the liturgical year celebrates the birth, life, death and Resurrection of Jesus.
B 2. Know the names of the liturgical seasons (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ordinary Time).
B 3. Identify the liturgical seasons with their colors.
Concept 3: The Mass Students will:
B 1. Know that in the Mass we give thanks to God and receive the gift of the Body and Blood of Christ.
B 2. Know that God speaks to us through the Liturgy of the Word.
B 3. Know that during the Liturgy of the Eucharist the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ.
B 4. Know that the priest is the one who leads the celebration of Mass.
B 5. Know that we worship together as Church on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 6. Know that it is wrong to miss Mass on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:
B 1. Know that liturgical celebrations include gathering for prayer and worship outside of Mass.
B 2. Know and participate in rituals such as Stations of the Cross, May Crowning, blessing of pets, Advent wreath lighting, blessing and distribution of ashes (Ash Wednesday), communal penance services, other prayer services and other blessing prayers.
B 3. Understand that we use symbols and objects to help us pray.
B 4. Show respect for sacramentals and blessed objects.
B 5. Know that we bless ourselves with holy water.
B 6. Identify some sacramentals.
Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Know that liturgical symbols are objects used during Mass and liturgical celebrations.
B 2. Identify symbols used in the celebration of the Mass (bread, wine, altar, chalice, vestments, etc.).
B 3. Identify symbols used in the seasons of the liturgical year (Advent wreath, palms, ashes, Easter candle, etc.).

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:
B 1. Know that God created us as good and loving, to be respected and loved by others.
B 2. Know that with the light of Jesus shining within us, we love and respect others.
B 3. Know that we show our love and respect by good works and actions.
Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of the word beatitude.
B 2. Know the story of the Sermon on the Mount.
B 3. Know that we are called to live the Beatitudes.
Concept 3: Commandments Students will:
B 1. Know the story of Moses and the Ten Commandments.
B 2. Know the Two Great Commandments of God and their meaning.
B 3. Know that God's name is holy.
B 4. Know that God wants us to obey our parents and teachers.
B 5. Know that we must respect the property of others.
B 6. Know that it is important to tell the truth.
Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church teaches us to treat others and our world with respect.
B 2. Know that all people are respected and appreciated for their differences.
B 3. Know that Jesus wants us all to be one.
B 4. Know that we must show by our action Jesus' special love for the poor.
B 5. Know some ways that we can serve others.
Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know that Church law helps us to do good and avoid evil.
B 2. Know that Jesus wants us to obey his teachings.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus wants us to be like him.
B 2. Know that we must listen to what God tells us.
B 3. Know that God gives us the ability to choose freely to do what is good and avoid what is wrong.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus always loves us and forgives us.
B 2. Know that when we hurt someone we must say we are sorry.
B 3. Know that, like Jesus, we must always love and forgive others who have hurt us.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Know that when we pray we talk to God, listen to God and are aware of God.
B 2. Know that God is holy and loving and know that his presence is in us.
B 3. Articulate some of the different ways in which we are aware of God's presence.
B 4. Know that the church building is a special place to pray and adore Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that we ask God for what we need.
B 2. Know that we thank God for what we receive.
B 3. Recognize that there are many forms of prayer.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Understand that we pray alone (personal) and with others (communal).
B 2. Know that we pray with our bodies and with our hearts.
B 3. Know that we encounter God in the quiet of our hearts.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Begin prayer with the Sign of the Cross.
B 2. Learn to pray the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be to the Father.
B 3. Learn to pray in the morning, before meals and at bedtime.
B 4. Know that the Mass is our most important prayer.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that those who believe in Jesus form his one, true family.
B 2. Know that God blesses the Church and makes her holy.
B 3. Understand that the Church is worldwide.
B 4. Understand that the apostles were special people called by Jesus to know and follow him.
Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is God's family and is made up of people who follow him.
B 2. Know that we pray together every Sunday and holy day as God's family.
B 3. Know that God's family cares for and loves one another.
B 4. Know that God's Church is like our body with many parts and members.
B 5. Know that the Church is a sign of God's love for us.
Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church begins with Jesus Christ.
B 2. Know the story of the birthday of the Church, Pentecost.
B 3. Know that Jesus sent the apostles to spread the Gospel and establish the Church.
B 4. Know that Jesus appointed St. Peter the first leader of the Church.
B 5. Know that the Church continues through us today.
Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that God's family has a leader called a pope.
B 2. Know the name of the current pope, our current bishop and our pastor/priest(s)/deacon(s).
B 3. Know that our local Church family is called a parish.
B 4. Know the name of our parish and the meaning of this name.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know Mary is the mother of Jesus.
B 2. Know that we show Mary special respect and devotion.
B 3. Know that the Church celebrates many special days dedicated to Mary

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some saints. (See appendix II for suggestions.)
B 2. Know saints are models of our Christian Life.
B 3. Know that the Church celebrates many special days dedicated to the saints.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

<p>Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that we worship together as Church on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 2. Know that it is wrong to miss Mass on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 3. Know that we are encouraged to participate in Mass often, not just on Sundays and holy days.
B 4. Know the parish is a place where we help one another pray, celebrate and support others.

<p>Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Jesus wants us to always grow in our faith.

<p>Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the names of some ministries in our parish (e.g. Catechetical, Parish Leadership, Social Justice, Maintenance, Liturgical, etc.).
B 2. Know that each ministry in our parish has a special role.
B 3. Know that the members of our parish work together to help others.
B 4. Participate in at least one missionary activity of our parish (e.g. Missionary Childhood Association, Rice Bowl, local food pantry, etc.).

<p>Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that it is a responsibility of Catholics to evangelize by sharing the Gospel.
B 2. Know that others will learn about Jesus by what we say and do.

<p>Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that all people are brothers and sisters in Christ.
B 2. Know that God loves and cares for all people and challenges us to do the same.
B 3. Show awareness that we have neighbors who know about God in different ways than we do.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that a vocation is a special calling by God to love and be loved.
B 2. Know that everyone has a vocation.
B 3. Know that through our baptism, God wants each of us to be the best person we can be.
B 4. Understand that we hear God's invitation by listening in prayer and listening to others.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that some men answer God's invitation by becoming bishops, priests and deacons.
B 2. Understand that the ordained guide and help people to serve God.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's invitation by professing special vows to God.
B 2. Know that these vows help these individuals lead others closer to God.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's call by serving the Church in the world through marriage and single life.
B 2. Know that married couples help each other be the best persons they can be.
B 3. Know that, in their relationship, married couples witness to God's love for us.

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

SECOND GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Bible is a special book that tells who God is and how we live as God's children.
B 2. Know that the Bible proclaims the words and deeds of God throughout history.
Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Know that the Old Testament contains the story of God's people before the birth of Jesus.
B 2. Identify Genesis as the first book of the Old Testament.
B 3. Know that Adam and Eve disobeyed God.
B 4. Know that sin came into the world through the disobedience of Adam and Eve.
B 5. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 6. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.
Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Identify the Gospels as stories about Jesus and what he taught.
B 2. Understand that parables tell us about the Kingdom of God. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 3. Know the meaning of the miracle of the loaves and fishes.
B 4. Understand that Jesus' last meal with his disciples is a special sharing of love.
B 5. Be able to retell other New Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 6. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Know that God reveals himself in the Holy Trinity, three Persons in one God.
B 2. Know that God shows himself to us so that we can know and love him.
B 3. Know that God is our beginning and our end.

Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God made all creation good.
B 2. Know that God is holy, all wise and all loving.
B 3. Know that God is a forgiving God.
B 4. Understand that God expects us to love and forgive each other.
B 5. Know that God raised Jesus from the dead.
B 6. Know that angels are created beings without physical form who have been present throughout history since the creation.
B 7. Know that angels carry out God's commands, including speaking on his behalf.

Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that Mary is the mother of Jesus and is our mother.
B 2. Know that Jesus sacrificed himself for us.
B 3. Know that Jesus' death and Resurrection saves us from our sins.
B 4. Know that Jesus' Resurrection is the central truth of our faith.

Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit listens to our prayer.
B 3. Know that symbols of the Holy Spirit include a dove and fire.

Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of creed.
B 2. Know that at our baptism we affirmed our beliefs as expressed in the creed.
B 3. Know that the Church is the Body of Christ.
B 4. Know that we gather as the Body of Christ at Mass.

B 5. Know that every person has a Guardian Angel who protects and guides each one of us individually.

B 6. Know that we can ask our Guardian Angel for help and protection.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints

Students will:

B 1. Know that the saints are people we can imitate and see as heroes.

B 2. Know that the saints intercede for us.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of sacrament.
B 2. Know that grace is a special gift of God's love and action in our lives.
B 3. Know that Jesus Christ gave the seven sacraments to the Church as signs of his living presence and action in the world.
B 4. Identify the signs and symbols of each of the seven sacraments.
Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Christian Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.
B 2. Know that Baptism makes us members of the Church, frees us from sin and gives us new birth in the Holy Spirit.
B 3. Know that godparents help us live our faith.
B 4. Know that Confirmation fills us with the gift of the Holy Spirit and strengthens us.
B 5. Know that the bread and wine consecrated by the priest at Mass become the Body and Blood of Christ.
B 6. Know that receiving the Eucharist helps us to live more fully as the Body of Christ, the Church.
B 7. Know that the celebration of the Eucharist is the highest form of worship.
Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Healing are Penance and Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.
B 2. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation reconciles us to God and one another.
B 3. Know the meaning of the four major actions of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation: contrition, confession, absolution and penance.
B 4. Know that in the name of Jesus Christ, the priest forgives our sins.
B 5. Know that Anointing of the Sick can give strength to both the mind and the body.
Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Service are Matrimony and Holy Orders.
B 2. Know that in Matrimony God gives the man and woman the grace to live a Christian life together.
B 3. Know that in Holy Orders God gives bishops, priests and deacons the grace to live a life of love and service for His people.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

<p>Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:</p>
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Demonstrate appropriate behavior in sacred spaces.
<p>Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that each liturgical season celebrates various aspects of the Paschal Mystery.
B 2. Know that Advent lasts four Sundays.
B 3. Know that Lent begins on Ash Wednesday.
B 4. Know that Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter Sunday (the Paschal Triduum) are the holiest days in the liturgical calendar.
B 5. Identify different traditional symbols and colors of each liturgical season.
<p>Concept 3: The Mass Students will:</p>
B 1. Exhibit understanding that at Mass we thank God for all the blessings given to us, we offer our lives to God, and we ask God for what we need.
B 2. State the meaning of the major parts of the Mass (Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist and Concluding Rites).
B 3. Recognize the components of the Introductory Rites (Entrance; Reverence to the Altar and Greeting of the Assembled People; Penitential Act; <i>Kyrie, Eleison; Gloria in Excelsis</i> ; Collect) and Liturgy of the Word (Silence; Biblical Readings; Responsorial Psalm; Acclamation before the Gospel; Homily; Profession of Faith; Universal Prayer).
B 4. Recognize the components of the Liturgy of the Eucharist (Preparation of the Gifts; Prayer over the Offerings; Eucharistic Prayer; Communion Rite; Lord's Prayer; Rite of Peace; Fraction of the Bread; Communion) and the Concluding Rites.
B 5. Know that to receive Communion we must be free of serious sin and fast from food and drink for one hour before receiving.
B 6. Know that the celebration of the Eucharist is the highest form of worship and is the source of our Catholic identity.
B 7. Know that we are required to participate in Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation in order to help each other pray; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 8. Know that the priest acts as Christ when he leads the celebration of the Mass.
B 9. Demonstrate the proper postures and gestures used during the Mass (sitting, standing, kneeling, bowing, Sign of the Cross, Sign of Peace, etc.), including the proper reception of the Blessed Sacrament.
B 10. Be given an opportunity to participate in planning a Mass.

Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:
B 1. Know that liturgical celebrations include gathering for prayer and worship outside of Mass.
B 2. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.
B 3. Know and participate in rituals such as Stations of the Cross, May Crowning, blessing of pets, Advent wreath lighting, blessing and distribution of ashes (Ash Wednesday), communal penance services, other blessings and other prayer services.
B 4. Understand that we use symbols and objects to help us pray.
B 5. Know that sacramentals are sacred signs given to us by the Church.
B 6. Show respect for sacramentals and blessed objects.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Know that liturgical symbols are objects used during Mass and liturgical celebrations.
B 2. Identify symbols used in the celebration of the Mass and what they represent (bread, wine, altar, ambo, chalice, vestments, etc.).
B 3. Identify symbols used in the seasons of the liturgical year and what they represent (Advent wreath, palms, ashes, Easter candle, etc.).
B 4. Know the difference between a cross and a crucifix.
B 5. Identify the tabernacle as the place where the Blessed Sacrament is reserved.
B 6. Identify the sanctuary lamp and know that when it is lit the Blessed Sacrament is present in the tabernacle.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:
B 1. Know that God created us in his image and likeness.
B 2. Know that God created us to know, love and serve him.
B 3. Identify how we show our love for Jesus by following him through our actions.
Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes are a model for how we live.
B 2. Tell the story of the Sermon on the Mount.
B 3. Know how the Beatitudes help us live justly in this world.
Concept 3: Commandments Students will:
B 1. Know that God gives us laws called the Ten Commandments.
B 2. Know the Ten Commandments.
B 3. Identify how the Ten Commandments guide us in loving God and others.
B 4. Be able to use the Ten Commandments to make an examination of conscience.
B 5. Know that stealing is taking the property of another without permission and is against the seventh commandment.
Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know that to follow Jesus requires that we learn to care for ourselves and others as human persons belonging to the family of God.
B 2. Know that we must respect all life.
B 3. Know that we must share our talents and gifts with others.
B 4. Know that acts of penance help us care for the needs of the poor and vulnerable.
B 5. Know the meaning of stewardship.
Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Understand that the Church gives us certain precepts (laws) to follow (i.e. Mass on Sunday and holy days, Reconciliation once a year, Communion once a year during Easter Time, days of fasting and abstinence and support of the Church).
B 2. Know that Church law helps us to follow the teachings of Jesus.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that God gave us a free will to choose what is right and avoid what is evil.
B 2. Know the meaning of conscience.
B 3. Know that our conscience tells us the difference between right and wrong.
B 4. Understand how to listen to God's voice within, which helps us grow in goodness and love.
B 5. Know how to make a good examination of conscience.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of sin.
B 2. Know the difference between accident and sin.
B 3. Know the meaning of venial sin and mortal sin.
B 4. Know that God will forgive our sins no matter how serious they are.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Understand that prayer is essential to our life with God.
B 2. Know that we pray throughout all the events of our life.
B 3. Know that the church building is a special place to pray alone or as a community.
B 4. Know that Jesus taught us how to pray.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Recognize that there are five forms of prayer (blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, praise).
B 2. Know that, through prayers of blessing and adoration, we acknowledge and accept the gift of God's holiness.
B 3. Know that, through prayers of petition, we ask God for what we need.
B 4. Know that we ask God to respond to the needs of others through prayers of intercession.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that we pray both out loud and silently in our hearts.
B 2. Know that we pray both with memorized prayers and spontaneously.
B 3. Know that we use Sacred Scripture, spiritual books and other guides to help us pray.
B 4. Know that we encounter God in the quiet of our hearts.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Learn the Nicene Creed.
B 2. Learn an Act of Contrition.
B 3. Learn the Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel.
B 4. Learn to pray in the morning, before meals and at bedtime.
B 5. Know that the Mass is our most important prayer.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that there are four words that describe the Church.
B 2. Know that those who believe in Jesus form his one, true family (One).
B 3. Know that God blesses the Church and makes her holy (Holy).
B 4. Understand that the Church is worldwide (Catholic).
B 5. Understand that the apostles were special people called by Jesus to know and follow him (Apostolic).
Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is the People of God.
B 2. Know that the Church is the Body of Christ.
B 3. Know that Jesus is the head of the Body.
B 4. Know that the Church is the Bride of Christ.
B 5. Know that we are a member of the Catholic Church community.
B 6. Know that it is baptism that makes us members of the Catholic Church.
B 7. Know that we pray together every Sunday and holy day as God's family.
Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church was started by Jesus to help him spread the Gospel.
B 2. Know the story of the birthday of the Church, Pentecost.
B 3. Know that Jesus sent his followers to baptize people as his disciples.
B 4. Know that Jesus called 12 disciples to be apostles.
B 5. Know that the Church continues through our call to be disciples.
B 6. Know that the Church continues Christ's work of teaching, healing and proclaiming.

Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the universal Catholic Church has a leader called a pope.
B 2. Know that parishes are grouped into a geographic area known as a diocese.
B 3. Know that the leader of a diocese is called a bishop.
B 4. Know that the local Church family is called a parish.
B 5. Know that the leader of a parish is called a pastor.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know that we honor Mary as Jesus' mother, the Mother of God.
B 2. Know that we honor Mary as the Mother of the Church and therefore our mother.
B 3. Know that the Church celebrates many special days dedicated to Mary.

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some saints. (See appendix II for suggestions.)
B 2. Know that saints are people we can identify as heroes and imitate.
B 3. Know the names and stories of saints representing different countries.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

<p>Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that we worship together as Church on Sunday and holy days.
B 2. Know that it is wrong to miss Mass on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 3. Know that we are encouraged to participate in Mass often, not just on Sundays and holy days.
B 4. Know the parish is a place where we help one another to pray, celebrate and support others.
B 5. Understand that it is in the parish that the sacramental life is celebrated and lived.
<p>Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Jesus wants us to always grow in our faith.
B 2. Know the importance of belonging to the parish community.
<p>Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the pastor as the head of the parish.
B 2. Know the roles of the liturgical ministries of reader, server and Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion.
B 3. Identify ways in which members of our parish help others.
B 4. Participate in at least one missionary activity of the parish (e.g. Missionary Childhood Association, Rice Bowl, local food pantry, etc.).
<p>Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that it is a responsibility of Catholics to evangelize by sharing the Gospel.
B 2. Know that others will learn about Jesus by what we say and do.
B 3. Know that we share Christ's love by inviting others to pray and celebrate with us.
<p>Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that we respect people of all faiths because God loves all people.
B 2. Know that all baptized people have the indelible character of God's love.
B 3. Understand that many people believe in God even though they are not baptized and that God loves them.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that a vocation is a special calling by God to love and be loved.
B 2. Know that everyone has a vocation.
B 3. Know that God calls each of us to serve in special ways.
B 4. Understand that we hear God's invitation by listening in prayer and to others.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that some men answer God's invitation by receiving the Sacrament of Holy Orders to become bishops, priests and deacons.
B 2. Understand that bishops, priests and deacons are known as the ordained.
B 3. Know that the ordained are the ordinary ministers of the sacraments.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's invitation by professing special vows to God.
B 2. Know that these vows help these individuals lead others closer to God.
B 3. Know that these individuals are called by various names such as monks, nuns, friars, sisters and brothers.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's call by serving the Church in the world through marriage and/or single life.
B 2. Know that married couples help each other and their family grow closer to God.
B 3. Know that, in their relationship, married couples witness God's love to all.
B 4. Know some roles in which lay people serve the Church (e.g. teachers, DREs, principals, etc.).

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

THIRD GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Identify the Bible as a collection of books that tell us about God.
B 2. Identify the Old Testament and the New Testament as the two major divisions in the Bible.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit inspired people to write the books of the Bible.
B 4. Know that the Bible is the Word of God written in human words.
B 5. Know how to locate a specific passage in the Bible.

Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Know that the Old Testament tells us about God as creator and protector.
B 2. Identify Abraham as the father of our faith in God.
B 3. Know that Mary is preceded by many holy women in the Old Testament such as Sarah, Miriam, Ruth and Esther, etc.
B 4. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 5. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.

Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Identify the New Testament as the stories and teachings of Jesus and the early Church.
B 2. Identify some of the chief characters within the Gospel of Mark (Jesus, John the Baptist, Peter, the Twelve Apostles, Judas, Herod, Moses, Elijah, the demons, the Pharisees, Mary Magdalene, etc.).
B 3. Identify the Persons of the Holy Trinity in the story of Jesus' baptism.
B 4. Understand the power of Jesus to heal and to forgive in the Gospel of Mark.
B 5. Know the meaning of the word rabbi.
B 6. Identify some parables from the Gospel of Mark.
B 7. Understand Mark's account of the Resurrection of Jesus (Mk. 16: 1-8).

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Know that the Creed speaks of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that grace is participation in the life of the Trinity.
B 3. Know the meaning of “I believe in one God.”
Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that creation reflects the beauty of the Creator.
B 2. Know that God is present in everything he has made.
B 3. Understand that God the Father loves us as a loving and forgiving parent.
B 4. Know that God wants our love as a response to his love.
B 5. Understand that God expects us to love and forgive each other.
B 6. Know that angels are created beings without physical form who have been present throughout history since the creation.
B 7. Know that angels carry out God's commands, including speaking on his behalf.
B 8. Know that the faithful join with the angels at every liturgy in praising God.
Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus Christ was born of the Virgin Mary.
B 2. Know Jesus is the greatest sign of God's love for us.
B 3. Know Jesus Christ is our Savior and Redeemer.
B 4. Know the Paschal Mystery is the suffering, death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.
B 5. Know Jesus died for everyone.
B 6. Know the meaning of the Ascension.
B 7. Know that angels served Jesus during his life on earth and will announce his Second Coming.
Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity worshiped with the Father and the Son.
B 2. Know that God's Holy Spirit dwells in us and inspires us to do what is good.
B 3. Know that, through Mary's “yes” to the Holy Spirit, the Father gives the world Jesus.

Concept 5: The Church

Students will:

B 1. Know that we become members of the Church by faith in Christ and through our Baptism.

B 2. Know that God calls all people to salvation.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints

Students will:

B 1. Know the meaning of the Communion of Saints.

B 2. Know that the Church is the Communion of Saints.

B 3. Know that the Church honors saints, and especially Mary, for their holiness.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:
B 1. Know that the seven sacraments are signs of God's grace and are true encounters with Jesus Christ.
B 2. Know that the sacraments require faith.
B 3. Know that the sacraments build up our faith.
B 4. Know that the sacraments are visible signs of the Holy Spirit's work in us.
B 5. Know that the sacraments are ordinarily celebrated in community.
B 6. Know that the purpose of the sacraments is to build up the body of Christ and to give worship to God.
Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:
B 1. Know the primary symbols and gestures of the Rite of Baptism (water, the baptismal formula: the words "I baptize you...", the Sign of the Cross, the oils, the white garment and the baptismal candle).
B 2. Know that Confirmation is a Sacrament of Christian Initiation celebrated after Baptism to help us live the Christian life.
B 3. Recognize the primary symbols and gestures of the Rite of Confirmation (Sacred Chrism, the Laying of Hands, the words "Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" and the Sign of Peace).
B 4. Know that the celebration of the Sacrament of the Eucharist remains the center of the Church's life, especially on Sundays and holy days, when the Church obliges us to attend Mass.
B 5. Know that Catholics must receive Communion at least once a year during Easter Time, but are encouraged to receive Communion whenever they attend Mass.
Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Know the two Sacraments of Healing are the Anointing of the Sick and the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
B 2. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation are also referred to as penance, reconciliation or confession.
B 3. Know that in the forgiveness of our sins we prepare ourselves to receive the Eucharist.
B 4. Know that the Anointing of the Sick shows the Church's care for the sick through prayer with them.
Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that God is the author of marriage.
B 2. Know that the Sacrament of Matrimony unites a man and a woman as one.
B 3. Know that the Sacrament of Holy Orders has three degrees: bishop, priest and deacon.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

<p>Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:</p>
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious, and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Develop a deeper familiarity with the dominant symbols (bread, wine, altar, ambo, chalice, vestments, etc.) and gestures (sitting, standing, kneeling, bowing, Sign of the Cross, Sign of Peace, etc.) of the liturgy.
B 3. Define "liturgy" as the official public prayer of the Church.
<p>Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that each liturgical season celebrates various aspects of the Paschal Mystery.
B 2. Know that through Advent we prepare both for the celebration of Christmas and for Christ's second coming.
B 3. Know that through Lent we enter with Jesus into his 40 days in the desert through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
B 4. Know that through the Paschal Mystery we celebrate the life, death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ.
B 5. Know that the Sacraments of Initiation are celebrated at the Easter Vigil and new members are welcomed into the Church.
B 6. Know that through Ordinary Time we continue our growth and formation.
<p>Concept 3: The Mass Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that in the Mass we share in Christ's prayer to the Father in the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that every Mass is celebrated for a special intention.
B 3. Know that we can ask a priest to celebrate a Mass for our own special needs or the needs of others.
B 4. Know that the readings for every Mass are contained in a book called the <i>Lectionary</i> .
B 5. Understand that at Mass on Sunday the first reading is taken from the Old Testament (or the Acts of the Apostles during the Easter Time) and the second reading is taken from one of the non-Gospel books of the New Testament.
B 6. Know that the Church assigns readings for every Sunday Mass in a three-year cycle.
B 7. Know that the prayers for Mass are contained in a book called the <i>Roman Missal</i> .
B 8. Be given an opportunity to participate in planning a Mass.

Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions
Students will:

B 1. Know that we adore Christ by making visits to the Blessed Sacrament.

B 2. Participate in Benediction.

B 3. Know how to participate in a Celebration of the Word.

B 4. Participate in other liturgical services.

B 5. Pray the Rosary.

B 6. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.

B 7. Memorize the mysteries of the Rosary.

B 8. Know that the Mysteries of the Rosary include the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous events in Jesus' life.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols
Students will:

B 1. Identify an ambry as the place where the Holy Oils are stored in a church.

B 2. Identify the three types of Holy Oils (Oil of the Sick, Oil of Catechumens and Sacred Chrism).

B 3. Identify where in the church we can obtain holy water to use at home.

B 4. Identify the baptismal font as the place where new members of the Church are baptized.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the mutual love of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit is the model for harmony among human persons.
B 2. Know that grace is a gift from God that helps us make good moral choices.
B 3. Be able to define the word morality.
B 4. Know that virtue is a habitual and firm disposition to do good.
B 5. Know that virtues are important to our lives as followers of Jesus.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes are a model for how we live.
B 2. Know that the Beatitudes are attitudes that we all need to have.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Jesus gave us Two Great Commandments: the love of God and love of neighbor.
B 2. Know that all the commandments are encompassed in the Two Great Commandments.
B 3. Know that Sunday is the Lord's Day, the day every Catholic gathers to celebrate the Eucharist; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 4. Know that marriage is a covenant that cannot be broken.
<p>Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that every human life is sacred and created in God's image.
B 2. Know that all creation is sacred and we are called to be good stewards of God's world.
B 3. Know the meaning of the words justice and service.
B 4. Relate justice and service to practical examples in our lives.
B 5. Know that our actions can cause division among our family and neighbors.
B 6. Know that we are responsible to help with work in our homes and Church.
<p>Concept 5: Church Law Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Church has laws (precepts) that give us rules for living the Christian life (i.e. Attending Mass on Sundays and holy days, receiving the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation once a year and Communion once a year during Easter Time, observing the days of fasting and abstinence and supporting of the Church).

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that God gives us a free will so that we might love, honor and obey God freely.
B 2. Know that we form our conscience through prayer and listening to God's word.
B 3. Know that we need to follow our conscience.
B 4. Know how to make a good examination of conscience.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning and various types of sin; venial, mortal, personal and social.
B 2. Know the meaning of God's mercy.
B 3. Know that we receive the grace from Jesus to restore what sin has damaged in us.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Understand that we pray to honor God because he created us and loves us.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit inspires us to pray.
B 3. Know that Christians pray always and that prayer is inseparable from Christian life.
B 4. Know that God's creation helps us to pray.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Recognize that there are five forms of prayer (blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise).
B 2. Know that, through prayers of blessing and adoration, we acknowledge and accept the gift of God's holiness.
B 3. Know that, through prayers of petition, we ask God for what we need.
B 4. Know that we ask God to respond to the needs of others through prayers of intercession.
B 5. Know that we thank God for what we receive through prayers of thanksgiving.
B 6. Know that, through prayers of praise, we give God glory because he is good and great.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that prayer is expressed publicly or privately.
B 2. Know some examples of devotional prayer (Rosary, Stations of the Cross, etc.).
B 3. Know that we use Sacred Scripture, spiritual books and other guides to help us pray.
B 4. Know that we encounter God in the quiet of our hearts.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Learn the Apostles' Creed.
B 2. Know that through the Our Father, Jesus teaches us how to pray and shares his Father with us.
B 3. Know that the Mass is our most important prayer because it celebrates Jesus' life, death and Resurrection.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the four marks of the Church are named in the Nicene Creed.
B 2. Know that the Church is united as the one Body of Christ.
B 3. Know that Jesus prayed that all Christians be united into one Church.
B 4. Know that, while the members of the Church sin, the Church is holy.
B 5. Know that Christ continues to send the Church to do his work in the world.

Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is described as the building of God and a holy temple.
B 2. Identify Jesus as the cornerstone of the Church.
B 3. Identify the apostles (and in particular St. Peter) as the foundation of the Church.
B 4. Know that the Temple of Jerusalem was the dwelling place of God in the Old Testament.
B 5. Know that the Holy Spirit dwells within the Church.

Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that many stories of the early Church are in the Acts of the Apostles.
B 2. Know that those who are killed for their faith are called martyrs.
B 3. Know the story of St. Stephen, the first martyr.
B 4. Know Saul's role in the martyrdom of St. Stephen.
B 5. Know the story of St. Paul's conversion.
B 6. Know that Jesus sent St. Paul to preach the Gospel to the non-Jewish people (Gentiles).
B 7. Know that St. Paul went on missionary journeys to establish churches in other countries.
B 8. Know the story of St. Paul's arrest and martyrdom.

Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Identify the pope as the chief shepherd of the Catholic Church.
B 2. Identify bishops as shepherds of their local churches.
B 3. Identify pastors as shepherds of their parishes.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know that Mary was kept free of Original Sin and that we call this her Immaculate Conception.
B 2. Know that at the Annunciation the announcement was made to Mary that she would be the mother of Jesus.
B 3. Know that throughout history Mary has appeared in numerous places to strengthen people in their faith in her son Jesus. ¹
B 4. Know some stories of Marian appearances. (See appendix III for suggestions.)

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some martyrs. (See appendix II for suggestions.)
B 2. Know the name and story of our patron saints.
B 3. Know that the Church has a process for declaring a person a saint.
B 4. Know that in order to be declared a saint a person must have lived a life of heroic virtue or remained faithful to God through martyrdom.

¹ Only apparitions approved by the Church should be taught.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:
B 1. Know that the parish is our church home where we celebrate Mass.
B 2. Know the importance of being a member of a parish community.
B 3. Know that God blesses us through participation in the Mass and sacraments.
B 4. Know that as Catholics we have an obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:
B 1. Know that we grow in our faith in a variety of ways (prayer, study, religion classes, reading the Bible, service to others, etc.).
Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:
B 1. Know that we are called to participate in the ministries of our parish.
B 2. Know the roles of the liturgical ministries of cantor, greeter, gift bearer, musician and usher.
B 3. Identify ways that we as members of the parish can personally help others.
B 4. Support the missionary activities of our parish (e.g. Missionary Childhood Association, Rice Bowl, local food pantry, etc.).
Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:
B 1. Know that it is a responsibility of Catholics to evangelize by sharing the Gospel with all people.
B 2. Know that others will learn about Jesus as we show compassion and mercy.
B 3. Know that we share Christ's love by inviting others to worship with us.
Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:
B 1. Understand that there are many Christians who are baptized but belong to different ecclesial communities.
B 2. Know that the Catholic Church works for the unity of all people to live in peace and justice.
B 3. Know that Jesus calls us to cooperate with other Christians.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that our Christian vocation is to grow in holiness by living lives close to God.
B 2. Know that our family, friends, and faith community help us live out our vocation.
B 3. Define vocation as a calling to serve God and others.
B 4. Understand that we hear God's invitation by listening in prayer and listening to others.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that the ordained are the ordinary ministers of the sacraments who guide and help people to serve God.
B 2. Know that some men answer God's call by being ordained as bishops, priests and deacons.
B 3. Know that bishops, priests, and deacons have different roles.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's invitation by professing special vows to God.
B 2. Know that these vows help these individuals lead others closer to God.
B 3. Know that these individuals are called by various names such as monks, nuns, friars, sisters, brothers.
B 4. Know that some of these individuals join special religious orders (e.g. Franciscans, Dominicans, Benedictines, Jesuits, etc.).
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Know that some women and men answer God's call by serving the Church in the world through marriage and/or single life.
B 2. Know that married couples help each other and their family grow closer to God.
B 3. Know that, in their relationship, married couples witness God's love to all.
B 4. Name some roles in which lay people serve the Church (e.g. teachers/catechists, DREs, principals, liturgists, youth ministers, etc.).

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

FOURTH GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

<p>Concept 1: Revelation Students will:</p>
B 1. Define covenant as a solemn agreement made between people or between God and a person or persons.
B 2. Know that God's response to sin was to promise salvation and offer a covenant relationship.
B 3. Know that the two major covenants are the covenant between God and the people of Israel (the Mosaic Covenant) and the new covenant established by Jesus through his death and Resurrection.
B 4. Know how to locate a specific chapter and verse in the Bible.

<p>Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the Old Testament as the Jewish scriptures of the Bible.
B 2. Identify and explain the three major Old Testament covenants with Noah, Abraham and Moses.
B 3. Know that the covenant with Abraham was passed on through his descendants.
B 4. Know that Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are our ancestors in the faith (patriarchs).
B 5. Know the story of Joseph and the movement of the People of God to Egypt.
B 6. Know the story of the call of Moses and the Exodus.
B 7. Know the meaning of the Passover.
B 8. Know that on Mt. Sinai God gave his law to Moses and the people of Israel so that they might serve him as the one true God.
B 9. Know that the Ten Commandments are a gift from God.
B 10. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 11. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.

<p>Concept 3: New Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the New Testament as the Christian scriptures of the Bible.
B 2. Define Gospel.
B 3. Know that each Gospel writer tells the same stories in different ways.
B 4. Know that each Gospel writer tells different stories about Jesus.
B 5. Identify the major geographical features and cities of Samaria and Judea during the time of Jesus.
B 6. Identify the main characters in the Gospel of Matthew and their purpose.
B 7. Identify the major components in Matthew's Infancy Narrative and their connections to the Old Testament.
B 8. Identify the Beatitudes as Matthew's introduction to the teachings of Jesus (Mt. 5: 1-12).
B 9. Identify Matthew's understanding of the mission to the Gentiles (Mt. 28: 19-20).

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Name God as Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 2. Identify the ways God reveals himself as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 3. Know that we are made in the image and likeness of God.
B 4. Know that God is always faithful to his promises.
B 5. Know that showing love to others is the way we show the love of the Trinity.

Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God created the universe and made the world good.
B 2. Understand that faith is a gift freely given by God and freely received.
B 3. Know that God is all-powerful.
B 4. Understand that God is loving and forgiving.
B 5. Understand that God expects us to love and forgive each other.

Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that in everything he did, Jesus is our model.
B 2. Know that Jesus gave himself up for each one of us.
B 3. Know that Jesus wants us to share the Good News with all the world.
B 4. Know that Jesus was conceived by Mary through the power of the Holy Spirit.
B 5. Know that through the Paschal Mystery, Jesus suffered and died for our sins, rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven so that we might have eternal life.

Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that at Pentecost the risen Lord sent the Holy Spirit, thus revealing the Trinity.
B 2. Know that the risen Lord pours out the Holy Spirit on his followers.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit directs the Church leaders in teaching and guiding the faithful.
B 4. Know the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that everyone in the Church shares in Christ's role as priest, prophet and king.
B 2. Know that Church leaders have the authority to explain Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
B 3. Know that the one Church includes a great diversity of members.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that Mary is in heaven and continues to pray for us.
B 2. Know that the saints intercede for us as we live our Christian lives.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

<p>Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the seven sacraments are signs of God's grace and are true encounters with Jesus.
B 2. Know that the Church teaches that sacraments are necessary for salvation.
B 3. Know that the sacraments give sanctifying grace and help us live Christian lives.
B 4. Define the term sacramental sign.
B 5. Give examples of how the Church and parish family are sacramental signs of God's love.

<p>Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation: Baptism which is the beginning of new life; Confirmation which strengthens that life; and Eucharist which completes initiation and nourishes us with Christ's Body and Blood.
B 2. Understand that Baptism makes us members of the Church, forgives sin, and gives new birth in the Holy Spirit.
B 3. Understand Confirmation gives the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit as experienced by the apostles on the day of Pentecost.
B 4. Recognize the Eucharist as the center of Catholic life.
B 5. Define transubstantiation.
B 6. Name sacramental signs (symbols) for the Sacraments of Initiation (Baptism: Water poured over or immersed in water while saying, "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."; Confirmation: Laying on of hands and anointing with Chrism (sacred oil) while saying, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."; The Eucharist: Wheat bread and grape wine and the words of Consecration).

<p>Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Church has the power to forgive sins through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.
B 2. Know that in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation we confess both personal and social sin.
B 3. Name and describe the essential components of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (contrition, confession, absolution and penance).
B 4. Understand how the examination of conscience helps us to recognize our sin and to be reconciled with God and others.
B 5. Know that Christ touched and healed people during his life on earth and continues to do so in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
B 6. Name the sacramental signs (symbols) for the Sacraments of Healing (Penance and Reconciliation: Laying on of hands and the words of absolution (forgiveness); Anointing of the Sick: Anointing with the Oil of the Sick accompanied by the liturgical prayer of the priest).

Concept 4: Sacraments of Service

Students will:

B 1. Know that in the Sacrament of Matrimony a man and woman vow their love and life to one another forever.

B 2. Know that in the Sacrament of Holy Orders a man vows his obedience and service to the bishop.

B 3. Name the sacramental signs (symbols) for the Sacraments of Service (Holy Orders: Laying on of hands and the prayer of Consecration asking for the gifts specific to that order; Matrimony: Exchange of marriage vows).

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious, and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Recognize the liturgical actions of the Church as central to the Christian life.
B 3. Identify Sunday as the Lord's Day, a day of rest.
B 4. Know that on Sunday we celebrate Jesus' Resurrection from the dead.
Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:
B 1. Know that, through the liturgical year, we celebrate the life, death and Resurrection of Christ.
B 2. Understand that Ordinary Time celebrates the teaching and public life of Jesus.
B 3. Memorize the holy days of obligation.
Concept 3: The Mass Students will:
B 1. Identify the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup, the Lamb of God, and other elements of the Mass contained in the Mass.
B 2. Know that, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, the priest offers the same sacrifice offered by Jesus on the Cross.
B 3. Know that, in the Liturgy of the Eucharist, we offer our own prayers and sacrifices with the priest.
B 4. Know that, at the Dismissal, we are sent into the world to continue Christ's work.
B 5. Know how to write the Universal Prayers or Prayer of the Faithful.
B 6. Be given an opportunity to participate in planning a Mass.
Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:
B 1. Have opportunities to lead rituals such as Stations of the Cross, May Crowning, Advent wreath lighting and other prayer services.
B 2. Know that some people in the Church – especially clergy and vowed religious – pray at regularly scheduled times of the day.
B 3. Know that this prayer is called the Divine Office or the Liturgy of the Hours.
B 4. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.
B 5. Know that the Divine Office consists of praying the psalms, reading from Sacred Scripture and intercessory prayers.
B 6. Know how to pray the Rosary.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Identify the persons or stories represented in the artwork (statues, stained glass windows, etc.) in the parish church.
B 2. Identify other prominent artwork in the parish church.
B 3. Know the meaning of processing, bowing, genuflecting, prostrating and kneeling in liturgical celebrations.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that God created each of us in his own image with a spiritual soul, intellect and free will.
B 2. Know that we are called to holiness by uniting ourselves to Jesus' life and living as he lived.
B 3. Know the theological virtues of faith, hope and love (charity).
B 4. Know that God calls each of us to eternal happiness with himself.
B 5. Know that the Works of Mercy are acts of love that help us care for others in need.
B 6. Know the difference between the Corporal Works of Mercy and the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes show us the path to the happiness of heaven.
B 2. Know that the Beatitudes are a model for how we are to live like Jesus.
B 3. Explore ways to lead lives that reflect the Beatitudes.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Know why God wants us to follow the Ten Commandments.
B 2. Identify which commandments are about loving God.
B 3. Identify which commandments are about loving others.
B 4. Know and apply all of the commandments to daily life.
B 5. Know that we look upon sacred images with reverence, but we worship only God.
B 6. Know that blasphemy is the use of the name of God, of Jesus Christ, of Mary and the saints in an offensive way.
B 7. Know that we must participate at Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and rest from all unnecessary work.
B 8. Know that we are called to respect not only parents but all those in authority.
B 9. Know that the Fifth Commandment forbids the deliberate killing of another person.
B 10. Know that adultery is wrong and is the breaking of a promise.
B 11. Know that stealing and defrauding another is sinful.
B 12. Know that false witness and perjury are grave offenses against the truth.
B 13. Know that Christians respect their bodies, and the bodies of others, as temples of the Holy Spirit.
B 14. Know that the Tenth Commandment forbids acting on the strong desire to possess something that belongs to another.

Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know the corporal works of mercy.
B 2. Know stories of how people put faith into action.
B 3. Know some basic principles of Catholic social teaching.
B 4. Relate justice and service to practical examples in our lives.
B 5. Know that social justice is based on the dignity of the human person.
B 6. Know the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance.
B 7. Know that God calls us to work for the good of all people.
B 8. Know that God calls us to be stewards of our possessions.

Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know the precepts of the Church.
B 2. Know that Church law is based on Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that conscience is our secret core where God speaks to us.
B 2. Know that we do good and avoid evil by following our conscience.
B 3. Know how to do an examination of conscience in light of the Beatitudes and Ten Commandments.
B 4. Know that our feelings and emotions are gifts of God, but they are not always indicators of right and wrong.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that sin is a deliberate choice against God's law.
B 2. Understand the reality of sin and its consequences in the world.
B 3. Understand the difference between the seriousness of mortal and venial sin.
B 4. Know that the capital sins are pride, greed, envy, anger, lust, gluttony and laziness.
B 5. Relate certain behaviors as sinful.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Define prayer as raising our hearts and minds to God.
B 2. Understand that prayer is a living relationship with God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
B 3. Know that faith is the basis of prayer.
B 4. Understand the power of prayer in our lives.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Name each of the five different forms of prayer (blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise).
B 2. Participate in creating prayers that fit each of the five prayer form categories.
B 3. Identify prayers of blessing and adoration, praise, thanksgiving, petition and intercession in the liturgical prayers of the Mass.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that meditation is thinking about God.
B 2. Know that prayer can be expressed through words, music, movement, art, etc.
B 3. Know that there are formal (memorized) and informal (spontaneous) prayers.
B 4. Know that examples of formal prayer include the Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be.
B 5. Know that informal prayers are personal, spontaneous conversations with God.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Use scripture as reflective prayer.
B 2. Show understanding that devotion to Mary is an essential part of Catholic prayer.
B 3. Know and reflect on the meaning of the traditional prayers of the Church.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is one because her source, the Holy Trinity, is one.
B 2. Know that the Church on earth is endowed already with a holiness that is real but imperfect.
B 3. Know that catholic comes from a Greek word meaning universal.
B 4. Know that the fullness of Christ's body subsists in the Church.
B 5. Know that the Church hands on the teachings of the Apostles.

Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Identify the Church as the Body of Christ.
B 2. Know that just as a body is one, the Church is one.
B 3. Know that even though the Body of Christ is one, it is made up of diverse members.
B 4. Know that St. Paul's reflection on the Body of Christ is found in 1 Corinthians 12.
B 5. Know that just as a body grows, Christ helps us to grow.
B 6. Know that Christ provides us with spiritual food.

Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know the history of the first deacons.
B 2. Know that the apostles are the spiritual successors of the twelve tribes of Israel.
B 3. Know that after Pentecost the apostles traveled to different places to spread the Gospel.
B 4. Know that St. Peter was given special authority by Jesus to lead the Church.
B 5. Know that St. Peter was the first pope.
B 6. Know the story of St. Peter's journey to Rome and martyrdom.
B 7. Know that the Roman emperors persecuted the early Christians because they failed to worship the emperor.

Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Identify the pope as the bishop of Rome and the successor of St. Peter.
B 2. Identify bishops as the successors of the apostles
B 3. Know that the three offices of the bishop are to teach, to govern and to sanctify.
B 4. Know that priests and deacons participate in the three offices of the bishop and assist the bishop in carrying them out.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know that Mary is venerated under many different titles such as Mother of God, Our Lady of Sorrows, the Immaculate Conception, Our Lady of Guadalupe, etc.
B 2. Know that after careful study the Church approves devotions to Mary under various apparitions.
B 3. Know the stories of some Marian titles. (See appendix III for suggestions.)
B 4. Know that Mary was kept free of Original Sin (through her Immaculate Conception) in order to give birth to the Son of God.
B 5. Know that at her Assumption Mary was taken body and soul into heaven because she was free of all sin.
B 6. Understand the difference between the Immaculate Conception and the Annunciation.
B 7. Know that Mary prays for us in heaven.

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some martyrs and early Christians. (See appendix II for suggestions.)
B 2. Know that the process of declaring a person a saint is called canonization.
B 3. Know that only the pope can declare a person a saint.
B 4. Know that careful study of a person's life is done before a saint is canonized.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:
B 1. Know the importance of being members of the liturgical assembly.
B 2. Know that as Catholics we have an obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:
B 1. Know that God wants us to always grow in our faith.
B 2. Know that the Church provides opportunities for us to grow in our faith.
Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:
B 1. Explain how the parish is part of the Catholic Church.
B 2. Explain how we are members of the Catholic Church.
B 3. Explain how we become members of a parish.
B 4. Recognize that as members of a parish we have responsibilities.
B 5. Know that there are catechetical (teaching) roles in a parish.
Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:
B 1. Know that we share in the mission of Christ through evangelization.
B 2. Know that we are called to proclaim the Good News of Christ by what we say and do.
B 3. Know that evangelization takes place in our everyday lives.
Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:
B 1. Understand the importance of respecting the religious beliefs of others.
B 2. Identify the Jews as the descendants of Abraham who received God's covenant.
B 3. Understand that Jesus was a Jew and followed the Jewish religion.
B 4. Know that both Christians and Jews recognize the revelation of God contained in the scriptures of the Old Testament.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that a vocation is a call from God to follow a special way of life.
B 2. Know that our common vocation is the call to holiness and evangelization.
B 3. Know that in discernment we pray to understand what God is calling us to do.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that through the ordained ministry, these men reflect Jesus to the Church.
B 2. Know that the ordained live a chaste, obedient life for the sake of God's kingdom.
B 3. Know that the unmarried ordained live a celibate life for the sake of God's kingdom.
B 4. Understand that by their teaching, leadership in worship and pastoral decisions, the ordained guide others to God.
B 5. Know that the primary responsibility of the ordained is to be a servant to God's people.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Know that in response to God's call some men and women profess vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.
B 2. Understand that these professed men and women model their lives and ideals after particular saints such as St. Francis, St. Dominic, St. Benedict, etc.
B 3. Know that consecrated religious men and women serve as a sign of God's love for his people.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Know that in the lay vocation, men and women witness their love of Christ through marriage or single life.
B 2. Understand that through the man and woman's vow to each other, they profess a faithful love to each other.
B 3. Know that through the married union husband and wife reflect Christ's love for his Church.
B 4. Know that in the vocation of single life an individual gives oneself to the service of others.
B 5. Know some ministries in which lay people serve the Church (e.g. teachers/catechists, DREs, principals, liturgists, youth ministers, diocesan ministries, etc.).

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

FIFTH GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

<p>Concept 1: Revelation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that through the study of Sacred Scripture we come to know Christ.
B 2. Know that we accept in faith all that God has revealed to us.
B 3. Know that the Old Testament is made up of the Torah, the Prophets and the Writings.
B 4. Know that the New Testament is made up of the Gospels and the Epistles.
B 5. Define an epistle as a letter.
B 6. Know how to locate a specific chapter and verse in the Bible.
<p>Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the story of the Israelites' conquest of the Holy Land.
B 2. Know the story of the fall of Jericho.
B 3. Know the story of David's selection as king and his succession by Solomon.
B 4. Know the story of the first temple and its significance.
B 5. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 6. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.
<p>Concept 3: New Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the three Synoptic Gospels (Matthew, Mark and Luke) and their characteristics.
B 2. Know the differences in the prologue of Luke's gospel from both Mark and Matthew.
B 3. Describe the Infancy Narrative in Luke and its differences from Matthew's account.
B 4. Know the importance of Jesus' journey to Jerusalem in the Gospel of Luke.
B 5. Identify the importance of the poor in Luke's gospel.
B 6. Describe the Resurrection Narrative in the Gospel of Luke as the fulfillment of Old Testament promises and Jewish messianic hopes.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Identify each person of the Trinity and their distinction as stated in the Nicene Creed and Apostles' Creed.
B 2. Know that the Trinity remains present and active in the Church.
B 3. Know the ways we experience the mystery of the Trinity in our lives.
B 4. Know that God calls us his friend and always invites us into his life.
Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God created men and women in his image to be stewards of all creation.
B 2. Know that God communicates a loving plan for all that he has created.
B 3. Understand that God gives us the freedom to choose good over evil.
B 4. Know that God expects us to love and respect each other.
B 5. Explain various ways that God loves us and wants only what is good in our lives.
Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Understand the Church teaches that Jesus Christ is truly God and truly man.
B 2. Know that the heart of catechesis is Christ.
B 3. Know that the name Jesus means God saves.
B 4. Know that we can find salvation only in Jesus Christ.
B 5. Know that the Incarnation means that the Son of God became man.
B 6. Know that the Incarnation is the foundation of our Christian faith.
B 7. Know that Jesus fulfills the promises contained in the Old Testament.
B 8. Know that Jesus' death was part of the mystery of God's plan.
Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that the Holy Spirit lives in the Church, Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, the teaching office of the Church and the sacraments.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit continues to guide the Church and her leaders.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit inspired the writing of the scriptures.
B 4. Know the meaning of each of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is the Body of Christ and that Christ is the head of the Body.
B 2. Know that the Church has a great diversity of members.
B 3. Know that the Church has visible bonds of unity: unity in faith, unity in worship.
B 4. Know that the bishops are the successors of the apostles.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that the Communion of Saints is the unity in Christ of all the redeemed, those on earth and those who have died.
B 2. Know that all members of the Church belong to the Communion of Saints by reason of baptism.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

<p>Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that a sacrament is an effective sign given to us by Jesus through which we share in God's life.
B 2. Name the seven sacraments.
B 3. Know that the sacraments truly bring about what they represent.
B 4. Know that in the sacraments we receive sanctifying grace to help us trust in God and live as Jesus did.
B 5. Understand that the sacraments join people all over the world with Jesus and unite us as the Body of Christ.
<p>Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Christian initiation is the process of becoming a member of the Church.
B 2. Know that the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist initiate us into the Church.
B 3. Know that through Baptism, a person receives forgiveness from original sin and all of our personal sins.
B 4. Know that through Baptism, a person is incorporated into Christ and shares in the priesthood of Christ.
B 5. Know that through Baptism a person becomes an adopted child of God and is welcomed into the Church family.
B 6. Know that through Baptism a person becomes a temple of the Holy Spirit.
B 7. Know that Confirmation continues and completes what Baptism has begun.
B 8. Know that in Confirmation we are sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.
B 9. Know that the bishop is the ordinary minister of Confirmation.
B 10. Know that in Confirmation the Holy Spirit strengthens us to share in the mission of Jesus and to be his witnesses to others.
B 11. Name the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
B 12. Recognize the Eucharist as the center of Catholic life.
B 13. Know other common names for Eucharist (e.g. the Lord's Supper, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, Holy Communion and the Holy Mass).
B 14. Know that in the Eucharist we receive the Real Presence of Jesus.
B 15. Know that Eucharist completes initiation, making us full members of the Church.
B 16. Know that we are encouraged to receive Eucharist frequently because it strengthens our connection to our Church family.
B 17. Know that the Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation are received only once while Eucharist may be received daily.
B 18. Know how the sacramental signs are used to symbolize each Sacrament of Christian Initiation.

Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus' healing is continued in the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit in the Sacraments of Healing.
B 2. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation reconciles us to God and the Church.
B 3. Know that the priest forgives sins in the name of Christ and the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.
B 4. Describe and understand the essential elements of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (confession, contrition, absolution and penance).
B 5. Know that the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation forgives all sins committed after Baptism.
B 6. Know that we are encouraged to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation frequently; however, we are required to celebrate it at least once per year if there is serious sin.
B 7. Know that the priest can never for any reason tell anyone what we have confessed.
B 8. Know that the Anointing of the Sick unites our suffering to Christ and his suffering.
B 9. Know that through the Anointing of the Sick we receive forgiveness for our sins and comfort in our suffering.
B 10. Know how the sacramental signs are used to symbolize the Sacraments of Healing.
Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that Matrimony and Holy Orders enable people to devote themselves to the service of others.
B 2. Know that the love of husband and wife is the image of the love of Christ for his Church.
B 3. Know that through Holy Orders, men help continue Jesus' presence on earth in the tradition of the apostles.
B 4. Know how the sacramental signs are used to symbolize the Sacraments of Service.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

<p>Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:</p>
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious, and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Know that the Holy Trinity is at work through the liturgy of the Church.
B 3. Know that God the Father is the source of the liturgy and the focus of our worship.
B 4. Know that Christ, the High Priest, is the principal celebrant of the liturgy.
B 5. Know that the Holy Spirit prepares us to meet Christ in the liturgy and makes Christ's saving work present and active in our lives.
<p>Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:</p>
B 1. Define Paschal Triduum.
B 2. Know the significance of the major liturgies of the Paschal Triduum – The Mass of the Lord's Supper, The Passion of the Lord and the Easter Vigil.
B 3. Know the major rituals of the Paschal Triduum – the Washing of Feet, the Adoration of the Holy Cross, <i>Lucernarium</i> (the Service of Light) and the Baptismal Liturgy.
<p>Concept 3: The Mass Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that, in the Mass, Christ is present in the Eucharist, the proclamation of the Word, the priest and the assembly.
B 2. Know that the celebration of the Eucharist is also called the Lord's Supper, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and Holy Mass.
B 3. Understand the sacrificial nature of the Mass in the words of consecration.
B 4. Compare the sacrifice of the Mass with the sacrifice of the Temple.
B 5. Be given an opportunity to participate in planning a Mass.
<p>Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:</p>
B 1. Develop a prayer service using components of liturgical prayer.
B 2. Have opportunities to lead rituals such as Stations of the Cross, May Crowning, Advent wreath lighting and other prayer services.
B 3. Know that the Liturgy of the Hours is a prayer of the whole Church and lay people are invited to celebrate it with others or by themselves.
B 4. Know that the components of the Liturgy of the Hours are psalms, scripture readings, petitions, the Our Father and other prayers.
B 5. Know that in the Liturgy of the Hours we pray the psalms in a four-week cycle.
B 6. Know that the rosary is a Scriptural reflection on the life and ministry of Jesus.
B 7. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.
B 8. Participate in other liturgical services.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols

Students will:

B 1. Identify the liturgical symbols found in the Cathedral Church of the Immaculate Conception by touring, either in person or online, the church building.

B 2. Identify the major liturgical vestments (alb, surplice, chasuble, deacon's dalmatic and stole).

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Recognize that Christian morality is an invitation to respond freely to God's love.
B 2. Know how morality is connected to following Jesus.
B 3. Know that life is a struggle between good and evil.
B 4. Know that Scripture and the teaching of the Church provide guidance for the moral life.
B 5. Know the cardinal virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance.
B 6. Name the Corporal Works of Mercy.
B 7. Name the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the eight Beatitudes as Jesus' teaching about the Kingdom and moral goodness.
B 2. Know that the Beatitudes present us with decisive choices and show us that happiness is to be found in God alone.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Explain how the first three commandments honor God and the other seven commandments honor others.
B 2. Know that the First Commandment calls for faith, hope and charity.
B 3. Know that the First Commandment requires us to pray and to avoid the practices of superstition, divination and magic.
B 4. Know that our moral life begins with faith and we must strive to avoid sin.
B 5. Know that Catholics have the duty of participating in Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and not to do so is a mortal sin.
B 6. Know that the Fifth Commandment teaches that suicide is contrary to justice and charity.
B 7. Know that God gave us animals to appreciate and not to abuse.
B 8. Know that the Sixth Commandment teaches that sexuality involves all aspects of the human person and that Christ is the model of chastity.
B 9. Know that the Seventh Commandment teaches that when we steal or defraud another we must make reparation.
B 10. Know that perjury is making a false oath.
B 11. Know that the Eighth Commandment teaches that a lie or offense against a person's reputation demands reparation.
B 12. Know that the Ninth Commandment teaches Christians to respect their bodies and the bodies of others as temples of the Holy Spirit.

Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is the seed of the Kingdom of God and we are called to bring about the Kingdom here on earth.
B 2. Know that as Catholics we are to share our material goods with one another.
B 3. Know that sin wounds human dignity.
B 4. Know that the family is the first unit of society and that society depends on families and must foster them.
B 5. Understand individual responsibility and the meaning this has for promoting the good of families and the larger society.
B 6. Know that offending the dignity and rights of others requires reparation.
B 7. Know that sin causes division.
B 8. Know that we must respect creation and protect the environment.

Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know moral law is a rule of conduct established by God and people in authority for the common good.
B 2. Know that moral laws have been revealed to us by God in the Old Testament and in the new law given by Jesus.
B 3. Know that moral laws are based on God's direction to us to do what is right and avoid what is wrong.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that because of the many competing influences in our lives, the good formation of our conscience is absolutely necessary.
B 2. Know that through our conscience God is calling us to continual conversion.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know original sin and its results.
B 2. Know that God wants us to practice true humility by admitting our sins and asking forgiveness.
B 3. Know that venial sin weakens charity and can lead us in the direction of mortal sin.
B 4. Know that grave matter, full knowledge and deliberate consent are all three necessary to commit a mortal sin.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Know that prayer enhances our relationship with God.
B 2. Show understanding that God is in relationship with us at all times.
B 3. Know that God takes the initiative, even in prayer.
B 4. Know that Jesus prayed at all the decisive moments of his life.
B 5. Know that prayer enriches family life and unites family members with the Church in a unique way.
B 6. Know that we grow in holiness through prayers and acts of kindness.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Define the five different forms of prayers (blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise).
B 2. Participate in creating prayers that fit each of the five prayer form categories.
B 3. Know that the Church teaches us to pray in different forms.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Understand the importance of silent prayer.
B 2. Participate in a meditation experience using Sacred Scripture.
B 3. Demonstrate the practice of formal and informal prayer.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know and reflect on the meaning of the traditional prayers of the Church.
B 2. Know that the Liturgy of the Hours is a public prayer of the Church.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

<p>Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Church looks forward to the day when all people will truly be one body in Christ.
B 2. Know that the holiness of the Church is exemplified in the saints.
B 3. Know that the Church is catholic because Jesus is fully present in it.
B 4. Know that Jesus gives the Church to the whole world.
B 5. Know that the Church continues to be taught, sanctified and guided by the apostles through their successors, the bishops.
<p>Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the Church as the Temple of the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit is the soul of the Body of Christ.
B 3. Know that the Body of Christ is unified through the Holy Spirit.
B 4. Know that this unity mirrors the unity of the Holy Trinity.
B 5. Define charism.
B 6. Know that the Holy Spirit gives charisms to the members of the Church.
<p>Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the story of the conversion of Constantine.
B 2. Know the stories of some of the early monastics.
B 3. Know that the early Church was challenged by many heresies about the nature of Christ.
B 4. Know that the Church called special gatherings of the bishops, called ecumenical councils, to address the questions raised by the various heresies.
<p>Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify the symbols of authority in the Church (ring, miter, crozier and pallium).
B 2. Know that bishops and popes teach through special letters called pastoral letters or encyclicals.
B 3. Know that the College of Cardinals elects the pope and advises him in the governance of the Church.
B 4. Know the process by which the pope is elected.
B 5. Know that bishops are appointed by the pope.
B 6. Know that bishops and the pope are helped in their governance of the Church through special offices called a curia.
B 7. Know that the Vatican is the seat of the central administration of the worldwide Church and the location of the pope's curia.

B 8. Know that all bishops make up the College of Bishops, which, with the pope, has supreme and full authority over the universal Church.
B 9. Know that when the whole College of Bishops gathers together they have the authority to define Church teaching and practice.
B 10. Know that the bishops of the United States belong to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) which works to advocate for just laws in our country, establish liturgical guidelines and guide Catholics as Christ's disciples.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know Mary as a model of discipleship.
B 2. Know that the Church prays in union with Mary and entrusts her with our petitions.
B 3. Know that when Mary visited Elizabeth, Mary responded to Elizabeth's greeting with the words that are known as the Magnificat, the Cantic of Mary (Luke 1:39-55).

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the names and stories of some of the monastics and defenders of the faith. (See appendix II for suggestions.)
B 2. Know that the saints in heaven intercede for us.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:
B 1. Know that by our Baptism we are called to participate fully in the liturgical life of the Church.
B 2. Know that participating fully includes responding to the prayers, joining in the song, listening to the homily, sharing in the sign of peace, etc.
B 3. Know that it is a grave sin to deliberately miss Mass on Sunday and holy days; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:
B 1. Know that we can grow in our faith by participating in prayer groups, scripture study, service to others, vacation Bible school, etc.
Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of stewardship as sharing our time, talent and treasure with other people.
B 2. Describe how service to the parish helps us to become closer to the parish community.
B 3. Identify how participation in the life of the Church helps family life.
B 4. Examine how we might take active roles in the liturgical life of our parish (e.g. server, reader, gift bearer, greeter, musician, choir member, etc.).
Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:
B 1. Understand that the Catholic Church is entrusted with the mission of Jesus Christ.
B 2. Be able to articulate why being Catholic is important to us.
Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:
B 1. Know that ecumenism is the promotion of the restoration of unity among all Christians.
B 2. Know that as Catholics we are called to pray and work with other Christians for unity and peace.
B 3. Know that Catholic leaders gather with other Christian leaders for interfaith dialog.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

<p>Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand that each of us has a general vocation to fulfill our baptismal call.
B 2. Understand that each of us has a specific vocation within our baptismal call: ordained life, consecrated religious life or lay vocation.
B 3. Know that each of us is called to live a life of sacrificial love as modeled by Jesus.
B 4. Understand that God gives us the gift of grace to grow in holiness.
B 5. Understand that we discern God's call by listening in prayer and listening to others.

<p>Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the Church continues the Apostles' mission.
B 2. Know that the ordained live a chaste, obedient life for the sake of God's kingdom.
B 3. Know that the unmarried ordained live a celibate life for the sake of God's kingdom.
B 4. Understand that by their teaching, leadership in worship and pastoral decisions, the ordained guide others to God.
B 5. Know that the primary responsibility of the ordained is to be a servant to God's people.

<p>Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that many religious brothers and sisters live in community in service to God and the Church.
B 2. Define the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience.
B 3. Understand that religious sisters and brothers model their faith and ideals for us.

<p>Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:</p>
B 1. Know laity is the name for members of the Church who are not ordained or consecrated religious.
B 2. Know that the laity share in the mission of bringing the Good News of Christ to the world.
B 3. Know that the laity has the responsibility to bring the Good News of Christ to their workplaces and local communities.
B 4. Know that a married couple lovingly accepts children as a gift from God.
B 5. Know that the married man and woman are to help each other grow in love.
B 6. Know how a single person gives him or herself to the service of others.
B 7. Know how ministries in the Church help to build the Church.

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

SIXTH GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Know that revelation is an invitation from God and calls for a response.
B 2. Know that the Old Testament prophets responded to God's invitation by proclaiming redemption and salvation.
Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Define prophet as one sent to call the Israelites to the hope of salvation.
B 2. Identify the Prophetic Books as a major section of the Old Testament.
B 3. Know that the prophets called the people back to God when they were unfaithful to the covenant.
B 4. Identify some of the images used by the prophets to call the people back to God (e.g. the potter and clay, the cracked vessel, the burning coal, etc.).
B 5. Know the story of the Babylonian Exile and the destruction of the First Temple.
B 6. Know that John the Baptist concludes the work of the prophets.
B 7. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 8. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.
Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Identify how the Gospel of John differs from the Synoptic gospels.
B 2. Know the meaning of John's prologue.
B 3. Identify the importance of signs in John's gospel.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

Concept 1: Triune God Students will:
B 1. Know that the Blessed Trinity is the central mystery of Catholicism that cannot be fully understood and can only be accepted through the gift of faith.
B 2. Know that each person of the Trinity is related to, connected to and inseparable from the others.
B 3. Know that God reveals himself as love and fidelity in Sacred Scripture and Tradition.
B 4. Know that God invites all people into relationship with him.
Concept 2: God the Father Students will:
B 1. Know that God created all things out of nothing.
B 2. Know that God is the creator of the universe and the creator of humanity.
B 3. Know that God shows deep love and care for humankind regardless of our sinfulness.
B 4. Know that God expects us to love and respect each other.
B 5. Know that the devil, also known as Satan, is a fallen angel.
B 6. Know that Adam and Eve were seduced by the devil to disobey God.
B 7. Know that Satan's power, unlike God's, is finite.
Concept 3: God the Son Students will:
B 1. Know that believing in Jesus Christ is necessary for salvation.
B 2. Know that Christ means Anointed One because the Father anointed his Son with the Holy Spirit.
B 3. Know that Jesus Christ is true God and true man.
B 4. Know that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Old Covenant and he established the New Covenant.
B 5. Know that Christ's passion and death merited justification for us.
Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that the Holy Spirit dwells within us.
B 2. Know that the Spirit of Truth guides, sanctifies, strengthens and draws people closer to God.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit filled the disciples with courage and strength to continue the work of Jesus.
B 4. Know the meaning of each of the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is Trinitarian: prepared by the Father, founded by the Son and revealed by the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that the Church symbolizes the unity of the whole human race.
B 3. Know that the Church continues Jesus' mission to share the Kingdom of God with all people.
B 4. Know that the Church is the Bride of Christ and therefore the Mother of God's children.
B 5. Know that the Church is the Guardian of Faith.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that the Communion of Saints is based on our one faith and is nourished by our participation in the Eucharist.
B 2. The Communion of Saints includes those on earth, those being purified in Purgatory and the Blessed already in heaven.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

<p>Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that a sacrament is an outward sign given to the Church and instituted by Christ to give grace.
B 2. Describe how the seven sacraments are embedded in the ministry of Jesus.
B 3. Describe how the seven sacraments accompany us from birth to death.
B 4. Know the difference between actual grace and sanctifying grace.
B 5. Know that the sacraments give grace because we encounter Christ at work in them.
<p>Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that two of the Sacraments of Christian Initiation, Baptism and Confirmation, have an indelible character.
B 2. Explain why Baptism and Confirmation are never repeated.
B 3. Know that the blessing of baptismal water celebrates the events of the Old Testament that prefigures Baptism.
B 4. Know that Baptism makes us children of God and commits us forever to God.
B 5. Know that in Baptism we reject Satan's empty promises and are given grace to resist his temptations.
B 6. Know that Confirmation bestows the gift of the Holy Spirit.
B 7. Know the sacramental signs (symbols) of Confirmation are anointing of the forehead with Sacred Chrism, the laying on of the minister's hand and the words, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."
B 8. Know that Confirmation leads to Eucharist and that it strengthens us to live as a Eucharistic people.
B 9. Know why candidates for Confirmation have a sponsor.
B 10. Know that the Eucharist is both sacrifice and meal.
B 11. Know that the Eucharist is prefigured in the Old Testament Passover, the multiplication of loaves in the New Testament and is fulfilled at the Last Supper.
B 12. Know that the catechumenate is a journey of faith that leads to full initiation into the Church.
B 13. Know that the catechumenate is a form of preparation for Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.
<p>Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the importance of a careful examination of conscience.
B 2. Know that the celebration of the Rite of Penance reconciles us with God and with the Church.
B 3. Know the meaning of the formula of absolution.
B 4. Know that the seal of confession means the priest can never tell what we have confessed.
B 5. Know that the scriptural basis of the Anointing of the Sick is found in the Book of James in the New Testament.
B 6. Know when and how often the Anointing of the Sick can be celebrated.

Concept 4: Sacraments of Service

Students will:

B 1. Identify the Sacraments of Matrimony and Holy Orders as sacraments at the service of communion and mission.

B 2. Describe the Sacrament of Matrimony as a permanent bond between one man and one woman.

B 3. Know the essential element of Matrimony is the exchange of marriage vows.

B 4. Know that the purposes of marriage are the good of the spouses and the generation and education of children.

B 5. Know the essential elements of Holy Orders are the laying on of hands and a prayer of consecration.

B 6. Know that the bishops are successors of the apostles.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

<p>Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:</p>
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious, and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Know that Christ is present in all liturgical actions by the power of the Holy Spirit.
B 3. Know that the word liturgy originally meant public work and is the people's participation in the work of God.
<p>Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the liturgical year has different seasons which celebrate different aspects of the Paschal Mystery.
B 2. Know that the Church provides a plan for which scripture readings are proclaimed throughout the liturgical year.
B 3. Identify the scripture readings for Sundays in the liturgical year.
B 4. Relate the scripture readings and liturgical seasons to the life of Christ.
<p>Concept 3: The Mass Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Eucharist is both sacrifice and meal.
B 2. Know that the Eucharist is prefigured in the Old Testament Passover, the multiplication of loaves in the New Testament and is fulfilled at the Last Supper.
B 3. Reflect on the Eucharistic teaching of John 6 and its connection to the celebration of the Mass.
B 4. Be given an opportunity to participate in planning a Mass.
<p>Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:</p>
B 1. Know how to pray and lead Morning and Evening Prayer from the Divine Office.
B 2. Know the many types of blessings of the Church and become familiar with the blessings that can be used in the domestic church (the home).
B 3. Celebrate a variety of liturgical blessings (sacramentals) that correspond to our human experience (e.g. Blessing of a New Home, Blessing of Animals, Blessing of Fields and Flocks, Blessing of an Advent Wreath, etc.).
B 4. Participate in Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.
B 5. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.
B 6. Know that an exorcism is a public rite of the Church in which we ask God to protect and liberate a person from the power of the devil.
B 7. Know the difference between a major and minor exorcism.
B 8. Know that in Baptism a simple prayer of exorcism (minor exorcism) asks God's help to overcome the power of Satan and the spirit of evil.
B 9. Know that demonic possessions are rare, extraordinary events and that the ordinary way in which the devil attacks us is by tempting us to sin.
B 10. Know that the ordinary way in which we resist the devil is through prayer and the reception of the sacraments.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Identify the monstrance as the vessel holding the consecrated Eucharist during Exposition and Adoration.
B 2. Identify the humeral veil as the vestment worn during Exposition and Benediction which the priest or deacon uses to cover his hands when blessing the people with the monstrance.
B 3. Identify the cope as the liturgical vestment worn for Benediction, processions and other liturgical actions outside of the Mass.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Christian living is following the teachings of Jesus as an active disciple.
B 2. Know that the foundation for morality is rooted in respect for laws.
B 3. Know that a morally good act has three sources: the object or the act chosen, the intentions of the person doing the act and the circumstances of the act.
B 4. Know that God gives us His grace to make morally good choices.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes are the heart of Christian teaching.
B 2. Know the Beatitudes by memory.
B 3. Know concrete ways to live out the Beatitudes in our daily living.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the First Commandment teaches that the right to religious liberty is part of human dignity.
B 2. Know that the Second Commandment teaches that oaths should be taken only when necessary and must be truthful.
B 3. Know that we keep the Sabbath holy as a memorial sign of God's covenant with his people.
B 4. Know that Catholics have the duty of participating in Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and not to do so is a mortal sin; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 5. Know that a family begins with a man and woman united in marriage.
B 6. Know that intentional euthanasia, whatever its forms and motives, is murder.
B 7. Know that the virtue of temperance disposes us to avoid every kind of excess: the abuse of food, alcohol, tobacco or medicine.
B 8. Know that terrorism and torture are gravely wrong.
B 9. Know that sex is a noble and honorable gift from God.
B 10. Know that marriage exists for two ends; the good of the spouses and the transmission of life.
B 11. Know that the Seventh Commandment forbids the misuse of another's goods.
B 12. Know that the Seventh Commandment requires us to keep promises and contracts.
B 13. Know that the Eighth Commandment teaches that Catholics must bear witness to their faith.
B 14. Know that the Ninth Commandment requires purity of heart.
B 15. Know that envy is a capital sin and the source of other sins.

Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know the meaning of a consistent life ethic.
B 2. Know that we must bear witness to our faith by concern for the justice of all peoples in the world.
B 3. Know how to connect social justice actions with Church teaching and our own activities.
B 4. Know how to respect themselves and others.
B 5. Know that the common good is achieved through the protections of the rights of all people.
B 6. Know that the spiritual works of mercy include caring for the poor and ignorant.
B 7. Know that all workers have a right to a just wage and benefits.
B 8. Know that work is a continuing participation in God's creation.
B 9. Know that the Church is a sign of unity.
B 10. Know that we are called to be stewards of the environment.
Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know that all authority comes from God.
B 2. Know that natural law is the original moral sense that is part of our very being and enables us by human reason to know good and evil.
B 3. Know the principles of natural law: do good and avoid evil, tell the truth to each other and be respectful toward one another.
Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that we must take care to form our consciences well by following the Word of God, Church teaching, advice of mature persons and the help of the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that we must always obey our conscience.
Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that mortal sin separates us from God.
B 2. Know that mortal sin requires the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation for forgiveness.
B 3. Know that lack of repentance puts a person in danger of hell.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Know that prayer arises from faith and deepens our relationship with God.
B 2. Know that daily prayer nourishes our spirituality.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit inspires us and helps us to pray.
B 4. Know that prayer of adoration reveals our position as creatures before God.
B 5. Know that Abraham is an Old Testament model of prayer.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Understand why it is important to know how to pray in different forms.
B 2. Know that prayer is a communion with God through Christ in the Church.
B 3. Know that the five different forms of prayer are found in the psalms.
B 4. Know that the intercessions prayed during the Mass are prayers of petition.
B 5. Utilize daily the five different forms of prayer (blessing and adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise).
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know how to use formal and informal prayers in our conversations with God.
B 2. Know that contemplation helps us look on Jesus and the mysteries of his life.
B 3. Know that when we are distracted in prayer we should gently turn our hearts back to God.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Liturgy of the Hours includes the Canticle of Zachariah in Morning Prayer and the Magnificat in Evening Prayer.
B 2. Know that the Angelus recalls the Annunciation of Mary and is recited at noon.
B 3. Know that the Memorare is a prayer used to ask for Mary's intercession.
B 4. Know that the Our Father is the universal prayer of the Church and teaches us to forgive others as we forgive ourselves.
B 5. Learn the Come Holy Spirit prayer.
B 6. Know that Exposition is adoration of the Eucharist.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church symbolizes the unity of the whole human race.
B 2. Show understanding that the Church has visible bonds of unity: one origin, one baptism and an unbroken line of apostolic succession beginning with St. Peter.
B 3. Know that the Church extends beyond cultural and national borders.
B 4. Know that the Church guards and transmits the truth.
B 5. Know that the Church is our mother who first teaches us the language of faith.
B 6. Know the meaning of the four marks of the Church.

Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that Jesus is the Good Shepherd who tends his sheep.
B 2. Know that the Good Shepherd lays down his life for his flock.
B 3. Know that Jesus explains his role as the Good Shepherd in John 10:1-18.
B 4. Know that the Church is the flock of sheep tended by Christ.
B 5. Know that Jesus is the gate by which individuals enter into the flock.
B 6. Know that Jesus gathers all sorts of people into his flock.

Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know the story of the Muslim conquest of Jerusalem and the Crusades.
B 2. Know that in the 11th century the Eastern Orthodox Church, based in Constantinople, split from the Roman Catholic Church, based in Rome.
B 3. Identify the Franciscans and Dominicans as the first two mendicant orders.
B 4. Know that the Inquisition began as a response to the rise of heresies in the 13th century.
B 5. Know that in the 14th century multiple claimants to the papacy resulted in the Western Schism, which was ended by the Council of Constantine.

Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the bishops of the United States belong to the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) which works to advocate for just laws in our country, establish liturgical guidelines and guide Catholics as Christ's disciples.
B 2. Know that the USCCB issues pastoral letters and other resources which respond to current issues facing our nation (e.g., war, immigration, marriage, right to life, political activity, etc.).
B 3. Know that Catholic Charities is an organization of the U.S. bishops which oversees charitable work in the United States.
B 4. Know that Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is an organization of the U.S. bishops which provides international disaster relief and promotes sustainable development initiatives.

Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Know that Mary, as the Immaculate Conception, is the patroness of the United States and the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois.
B 2. Know that Our Lady of Guadalupe is the patroness of the Americas (North and South).
B 3. Know that Mary is the New Eve.
B 4. Know that Mary is our model of faith.

Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the stories of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Clare, St. Dominic, St. Catherine of Siena, St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Louis IX.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

<p>Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that participation in the liturgical life of the Church includes Mass, the Sacraments, Morning and Evening Prayer, blessings, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction and Celebrations of the Word.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that Christ is present in all liturgical actions by the power of the Holy Spirit.</p>
<p>B 3. Know that at every Mass we continually renew our commitment to Christ.</p>
<p>B 4. Know that we are to celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation frequently.</p>
<p>Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that the Church teaches that we must continue our formation in the Catholic faith until we die.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that Christ calls each of us to discipleship and through grace gives us the ability to respond continuously to his call.</p>
<p>B 3. Know that retreat experiences call us to set aside time away from our daily lives to grow in our faith.</p>
<p>Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Show understanding that active involvement in the life of the Church is evident through different forms of participation in parish life.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that stewardship is based on a spiritual understanding that God’s blessings are given to be shared.</p>
<p>B 3. Know that we are responsible to actively participate in formational, liturgical and apostolic works of our parish and diocese.</p>
<p>Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that evangelization is the central mission of the Church in which all Catholics have a role.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that our role to evangelize flows from Baptism.</p>
<p>B 3. Know how the public nature of our belief is part of the evangelizing mission of the Church.</p>
<p>Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that as Catholics we are called to promote unity among all Christians</p>
<p>B 2. Identify relationships between Catholic and Jewish customs of worship.</p>
<p>B 3. Define monotheism and know that Judaism, Christianity and Islam are monotheistic religions.</p>
<p>B 4. Explain the relationship of the Catholic Church with the Orthodox Churches.</p>
<p>B 5. Know that the pope meets with Orthodox leaders to further reconciliation between the two churches.</p>

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that, through our baptism, we are called to be disciples of Christ.
B 2. Understand how our families help us to live the Christian life faithfully.
B 3. Understand that a vocation is a call from God that we receive based on God's plan for us.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that deacons exercise a special vocation of service open to both married and unmarried men.
B 2. Know that a priest is ordained to preach the Gospel and serve the faithful, especially by celebrating the Eucharist and other sacraments.
B 3. Know that some priests are also members of religious congregations and take vows as members of their religious order.
B 4. Know that a priest is selected by the pope and ordained a bishop to continue the Apostles' mission of leadership and service.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Understand how religious sisters and brothers model their lives and ideals after particular saints, such as St. Clare, St. Katherine Drexel, St. Ignatius of Loyola and St. Angela Merici.
B 2. Know that some religious sisters and brothers live contemplative lives of prayer.
B 3. Know that other religious sisters and brothers live apostolic lives of service.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Describe how married life is important to the life of the Church.
B 2. Identify the virtues that help married people live their lives for God.
B 3. Describe how the single life is important to the life of the Church.
B 4. State some virtues that help single people live their lives for God.

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

SEVENTH GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

Concept 1: Revelation Students will:
B 1. Know that revelation is God revealing himself and making himself present to us through events and words.
B 2. Know that the task of interpreting the Word of God authentically has been entrusted solely to the Magisterium of the Church -- that is, to the pope and to the bishops in communion with him.
B 3. Know that divine inspiration means that the human authors of the Bible worked under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.
B 4. Know that Sacred Scripture must be read and interpreted in light of the same Spirit by whom it was written.
Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:
B 1. Know the story of the return from the Babylonian Exile and the restoration of the Temple in Jerusalem.
B 2. Know the story of the Maccabean revolt.
B 3. Be able to retell other Old Testament stories. (See appendix I for suggestions.)
B 4. Discuss and relate the message of those Bible stories.
Concept 3: New Testament Students will:
B 1. Identify the epistles of St. Paul as the earliest writings in the New Testament.
B 2. Identify St. Paul as the Apostle to the Gentiles.
B 3. Know some of the issues St. Paul addressed in his letters and their relevance for today.
B 4. Map the communities addressed by St. Paul in his epistles.
B 5. Identify the other authors of the New Testament epistles.
B 6. Know some of the issues addressed in the other epistles and their relevance for today.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

<p>Concept 1: Triune God Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Blessed Trinity is the mystery of the loving relationship of one God in three divine persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
B 2. Know that our faith in the Trinity calls us to loving relationships with God and one another.
B 3. Know that God invites all people to journey with him in Faith.
B 4. Know that faith is our response to God.
B 5. Understand that faith is a gift from God helping us to respond to God's revelation to us.
B 6. Know that faith is a life long journey.

<p>Concept 2: God the Father Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that God made man and woman in his image.
B 2. Know that we and all creation are designed for God's glory.
B 3. Know that God calls us to cooperate freely with his plans.
B 4. Know that God wills everyone to be saved.
B 5. Understand that God has shown his love for humankind throughout the ages.
B 6. Know that God expects us to accept and respect the differences and gifts in each other.

<p>Concept 3: God the Son Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that to be a Christian one must believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.
B 2. Know that because we love Christ, we want to know him better and to proclaim him to the world.
B 3. Know that Jesus is truly God and truly man, not part God and part man.
B 4. Know the mysteries of Christ's public life are his baptism, temptations, announcement of the kingdom, transfiguration, journey to and entry into Jerusalem.
B 5. Know that the holy women and disciples came to believe in Christ's Resurrection through the discovery of the empty tomb and through the appearance of the Risen One.
B 6. Know that our belief in the resurrection of the dead is essential to Christianity.

Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit

Students will:

- B 1. Know that the Holy Spirit, as one of the persons of the Holy Trinity, has the one, same nature as the Father and Son, yet is distinct from them.
- B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit is present and active in God's plan of salvation.
- B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit prepares for the coming of Jesus Christ through Mary and John the Baptist.
- B 4. Know that the Holy Spirit guides the life, teachings and leaders of the Church.
- B 5. Relate each of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit to our Christian lives.

Concept 5: The Church

Students will:

- B 1. Know that believing the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic is inseparable from belief in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- B 2. Understand that the Church's gifts and growth are evident through all periods of history in the last 2000 years.
- B 3. Know that the whole Church is missionary by nature and all of us share in this vocation.
- B 4. Know that the Church has a special mission to serve the poor and suffering.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints

Students will:

- B 1. Know that because of our link with the Communion of Saints, we are called to pray for the dead.
- B 2. Know that because the saints are closely united to Christ, they pray for us, constantly helping the Church to grow in holiness.
- B 3. Know that the Church remembers all of the saints in the Church Year.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

<p>Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Church is the sacrament of Christ's action in the Church through the work of the Holy Spirit.
B 2. Show understanding of the meaning of the sacraments as means of grace in our lives.
B 3. Know that living the sacramental life of the Church is an act of faith rooted in prayer.
B 4. Recognize that the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders cannot be repeated because they impart an indelible character by which the Christian shares in Christ's priesthood.
B 5. Recognize that the Sacraments of Eucharist, Penance and Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick and Matrimony may be repeated.
B 6. Recognize that the Sacrament of Holy Orders may be conferred once for each degree of the sacrament (c.f. concept 4, benchmark 9).
<p>Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that in the case of an emergency anyone can baptize with water, using the words "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit."
B 2. Know that Baptism is the basis of unity for all Christians and is the foundation of communion among all Christians.
B 3. Recognize that the Sacrament of Confirmation is a Sacrament of Christian Initiation, the elements of which are sealing with the oil of chrism and the laying on of hands.
B 4. Know the fruits of the Holy Spirit.
B 5. Know that Confirmation is necessary to complete the process begun in Baptism.
B 6. Know that the Eucharist makes present the sacrifice of the cross, which is the one single sacrifice.
B 7. Know that when we receive Christ in the Eucharist we receive him whole and entire – Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity.
B 8. Know that we receive Christ whole and entire under either form of bread or wine, but receiving under both forms is a more perfect sign of communion.
B 9. Know that the Eucharist commits us to the poor.
B 10. Know that the Eucharist forgives venial sins and helps us to grow in our relationship to God.
B 11. Know that only validly ordained priests can consecrate the Eucharist.
<p>Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that perfect contrition arises out of an awareness and belief that God loves us.
B 2. Know that Jesus gave the Church authority to forgive sins and that this is exercised in Christ's name by priests in the sacrament.
B 3. Show understanding that Catholics must receive the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation at least once a year.
B 4. State that the seal of confession cannot be broken under any circumstance.
B 5. Know that the Anointing of the Sick consists of the laying on of hands, prayers and anointing the forehead and hands of the sick person with the Oil of the Sick.

B 6. Know that bishops and priests are the ministers of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
B 7. Know that the Anointing of the Sick is for the dying, those who are seriously ill and the elderly.
B 8. Know that viaticum is the reception of the Eucharist by those who are dying.

Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that the Sacraments of Service confer a special mission directed towards the salvation of others and building up the Church.
B 2. Know that marriage requires sacramental preparation.
B 3. Know that the essence of marriage is the consent of the couple; without this consent, the marriage is invalid.
B 4. Know that marriage is not just a contract, but a covenant.
B 5. Understand that marriage requires fidelity, permanence and openness to children.
B 6. Recognize the spouses as the ministers of the Sacrament of Matrimony through the exchange of vows witnessed by a minister of the Church.
B 7. Know that the Sacrament of Holy Orders is conferred by the laying on of hands followed by a prayer of consecration.
B 8. Recognize the Sacrament of Holy Orders is for men who are baptized, prepared through a process of formation and called by the bishop to be ordained.
B 9. State that there are three degrees of Holy Orders: the episcopate (bishops), the presbyterate (priests) and the diaconate (deacons).
B 10. Identify the priesthood as an apostolic call that comes from Jesus Christ commissioning the apostles to continue the work of the Church.
B 11. Know that ultimately Christ is the one priest, and ordained ministers share in his priesthood.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Explore opportunities to participate in various liturgical ministries.
Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:
B 1. Know that the readings for Sunday Mass come from a three-year cycle provided by the Church.
B 2. Identify the current lectionary year (Year A, B or C) and the respective Gospel associated with that year (Matthew, Mark or Luke).
B 3. Know that the Gospel of John is used throughout each lectionary year.
B 4. Know that the readings for weekday Masses come from a two-year cycle provided by the Church.
B 5. Identify the current weekday cycle (Year I or II).
B 6. Know that selections from all four Gospels are used throughout the weekday cycle.
Concept 3: The Mass Students will:
B 1. Understand that the Mass is a sacrifice because it memorializes the sacrifice of Christ who offered himself once and for all to God for our sake.
B 2. Know that the assembly offers their lives, prayers and sufferings in union with the sacrifice of Christ in the Mass.
B 3. Know that the celebration of the Mass is directed toward union with Christ through the reception of communion.
B 4. Know that Christ is present in four primary ways in the Mass: in the gathered assembly, in the proclamation of the Word, in the person of the priest and in the Body and Blood.
B 5. Participate in planning a Mass.
Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:
B 1. Be given opportunities to lead Morning and Evening Prayer from the Divine Office at school or at home.
B 2. Define novenas as special prayers or prayer services that occur nine times.
B 3. Identify a special cause and pray a novena for that cause.
B 4. Celebrate a variety of liturgical blessings (sacramentals) that correspond to our human experience (e.g. Blessing of a New Home, Blessing of Animals, Blessing of Fields and Flocks, Blessing of an Advent Wreath, etc.).
B 5. Participate in Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.
B 6. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.
B 7. Recognize and appreciate various ethnic and cultural prayer celebrations.
B 8. Know that an indulgence removes the temporal punishments incurred by sins which have already been forgiven (as through the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation).
B 9. Know the difference between a partial and plenary indulgence.

B 10. Know that in order to obtain an indulgence we must, in addition to the conditions of the particular indulgence: be in a state of grace; have the interior disposition of complete detachment from sin (even venial sin); celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation; receive the Holy Eucharist; and pray for the intentions of the pope.
B 11. Know the circumstances under which some common partial and plenary indulgences may be obtained.
B 12. Know that we may apply an indulgence to ourselves or to the souls of the deceased, but not to another living person.
B 13. Know that we are especially encouraged to obtain indulgences on behalf of the deceased on All Souls Day and throughout the month of November.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols Students will:
B 1. Understand the significance of candles in various liturgical and prayer contexts (baptism, votives, the Easter Vigil, the sanctuary lamp, the altar, etc.).
B 2. Understand the significance and use of incense.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand that Christian discipleship requires following Jesus Christ as the way, the truth and the life.
B 2. Know the meaning of morality.
B 3. Learn to integrate the meaning of Christian morality with Jesus' teaching, the dignity of the human person and the Incarnation.
B 4. Identify steps in moral decision-making as see, judge and act.
B 5. Know how steps in decision-making relate to sources of moral acts (object, intention and circumstances).
B 6. Know that living a moral life is a response to God's love.
B 7. Know that the first and last point of reference for moral catechesis is Jesus Christ.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes are teachings that describe the way to live as Jesus' disciples.
B 2. Know that by living according to the Beatitudes we can help spread God's kingdom and in turn we can find true happiness.
B 3. Know specific ways to live each of the Beatitudes in our daily lives.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the Ten Commandments are a gift and a revelation of God.
B 2. Know that the first two commandments bind us to hope in and worship God.
B 3. Know that idolatry means to worship a false God and to put anything in the place of God.
B 4. Know that Catholics have the duty of participating in Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation and not to do so is a mortal sin; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.
B 5. Know that by participating in the Sunday (Saturday night) liturgy, we show ourselves to be members of the Catholic community.
B 6. Know that the family is based on marriage, which exists for the good of the spouses and the procreation of children.
B 7. Know that the use of drugs inflicts damage on human health and life.
B 8. Know that the production of and trafficking in drugs are scandalous practices and constitute direct cooperation with evil.
B 9. Know that direct abortion (abortion willed as an end or a means) is contrary to moral law.
B 10. Know that the sexual act is only for life-long marriage.
B 11. Know that prostitution, pornography, homosexual acts and rape totally degrade sexuality.
B 12. Know that adultery, divorce, polygamy, and cohabitation are grave offenses against the dignity of marriage.
B 13. Know that every marriage act must be open to children; artificial contraception is not allowed.

B 14. Know that reputation and honor are aspects of a person’s human dignity that can be injured by rash judgments, detraction and calumny.
B 15. Know that purity requires modesty which recognizes and protects the dignity of the human person.

Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:
B 1. Know the social teaching principles of the Church.
B 2. Know the essential relationship between Catholic social teaching and spirituality.
B 3. Define justice and charity and know how they are related to world peace.
B 4. Know that from conception the child has the right to life.
B 5. Know that reputation and honor are aspects of a person’s human dignity.
B 6. Know that to work for the common good in economic and political realities is especially the role of the Catholic laity.
B 7. Know that human beings grow and achieve fulfillment in community.
B 8. Know that the common good is achieved through the protection of the rights of all peoples.
B 9. Know what actions violate the rights of people in society today.
B 10. Know that our service to the poor arises out of the Eucharist.
B 11. Know that access to employment and to professions must be open to all people.
B 12. Know that rich nations must work for the development of poorer nations.
B 13. Know that the duties of citizens are to pay taxes, vote and defend their country.

Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know that the natural law expresses the original moral sense that enables us, by human reason, to know good and evil.
B 2. Know that canon law provides the norms for good order for the visible society of the Church.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Know that the formation of conscience is a life-long task.
B 2. Know how to do an examination of conscience.
B 3. Know that living as a Christian calls us to listen and respond to our conscience.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that the reality of sin is impossible to ignore.
B 2. Know the meaning of original sin.
B 3. Know that venial sins are forgiven in the Eucharist.
B 4. Know that social sin is cooperating in another’s sin either directly or by doing nothing.
B 5. Know the meaning of the seven deadly sins – pride, avarice, envy, wrath, lust, gluttony and sloth.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Know that prayer arises out of hope.
B 2. Know that prayer is an act of self-surrender to God.
B 3. Know that prayer transforms us and helps us to “put on” the mind, the will and the heart of Jesus.
B 4. Know that Mary is the model of prayer in her Fiat (Yes) and at the foot of the Cross.
B 5. Know that faith, conversion and vigilance of heart are ways to overcome the difficulties in prayer.
B 6. Know that the Church encourages certain rhythms of praying to nourish continual prayer, such as daily prayer.
B 7. Know that we can learn to pray always no matter what we are doing.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that in the prayer of intercession, we ask for the good of others, without any boundaries.
B 2. Know that we use the prayers of the saints to help us to pray.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that the Christian tradition comprises three major expressions of the life of prayer: vocal prayer, meditation and contemplative prayer.
B 2. Know that in vocal prayer we pray aloud, alone or with others.
B 3. Know that meditation is a prayer that engages thought, imagination, emotion and desire.
B 4. Know that contemplation is a form of wordless prayer that helps us focus on God’s greatness and goodness.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Lord’s Prayer, the Our Father, is the summary of the whole Gospel.
B 2. Know that God’s power and justice are evident in Mary’s response to Elizabeth in the Magnificat.
B 3. Know how to prepare and lead Morning and Evening prayer.
B 4. Know the difference between liturgical prayer and devotional prayer.
B 5. Know the many forms of blessings of the Church and become familiar with the blessings that can be used in the domestic church (the home).
B 6. Know that Stations of the Cross are places to stop and pray that help us to walk the way of the cross with Jesus.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that we experience a universal call to holiness through our common baptism.
B 2. Know that this call to holiness is demonstrated in our lives by our words and actions.
B 3. Identify signs of holiness in the Church and in others.
Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Describe how the Church is in relationship to Christ as a bride to a bridegroom.
B 2. Understand how the covenants made by God with his people in the course of salvation history are similar to a marriage covenant.
Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Understand the historical events that led to the Protestant Reformation.
B 2. Know that the Council of Trent responded to the Protestant Reformation.
B 3. Know that the Council of Trent produced the first common liturgical book for the Mass, the <i>Roman Missal</i> , and the first universal catechism.
Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Catholic Conference of Illinois has been given responsibility by the bishops of Illinois to advocate Catholic positions in the state.
B 2. Identify issues currently being addressed by the Catholic Conference of Illinois.
B 3. Know that parish pastors have been given authority by the local bishop to shepherd the faithful in a particular geographical area.
B 4. Identify ways our parish pastor fulfills his duty to shepherd the people.
Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Explain why the Church names Mary as her mother.
B 2. Explain how Mary is a model of Christian holiness.
Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the stories of St. Ignatius of Loyola, St. John Fischer, St. Thomas More and St. Teresa of Ávila.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

<p>Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand that participation in the liturgical life of the Church means that we delight in gathering as the Body of Christ.
B 2. Know that as Catholics we rejoice in the gift of God's Son every time we celebrate the liturgy.
B 3. Know that the liturgy is the official public prayer of the Church and includes the celebration of the Mass, the sacraments and the Liturgy of the Hours.
B 4. Know that participation in the Eucharist commits us to serve others.

<p>Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that life in Christ requires continual formation in the faith.
B 2. Know that God calls lay people to growth in the faith through participation in parish ministries.
B 3. Know that retreat experiences call us to set aside time away from our daily lives to grow in our faith.

<p>Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:</p>
B 1. Know the various ministries in our parish and actively participate in one of them.
B 2. Understand that participation in the ministries of the parish is an aspect of stewardship.
B 3. Know how to participate in age-appropriate parish and diocesan events.

<p>Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that evangelization is proclaiming Christ and his gospel in every circumstance of life in fulfillment of his command.
B 2. Know that evangelization takes place in our daily lives as we bring our faith to the world and the world to our faith.
B 3. Know that the Church's mission of evangelization calls us into a loving relationship with the whole world.

<p>Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Church respects all Christians and works with other Christian communities to bring about the unity of the Church.
B 2. Know that the Church calls its members to respect all religions and the rights of individuals to adhere to other religious beliefs.
B 3. Know that Judaism and Islam are major world religions.
B 4. Know that the pope meets with Jewish leaders to enhance relationships with Christians and Jews.
B 5. Describe the culture and family life of the Jewish people during the time of Jesus.

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

<p>Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:</p>
B 1. Recognize that God calls the Church and all its members to the work of the Kingdom.
B 2. Understand how our families live their call to serve God.
B 3. Know that God calls all people, no matter what their particular vocation, to care for all that he has created.
<p>Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that some deacons remain deacons permanently.
B 2. Know that deacons are trained in a special formation program.
B 3. Know that men, as part of their formation for the priesthood, receive ordination as deacons.
B 4. Know that candidates for the ministerial priesthood are trained in special schools called seminaries.
B 5. Know that all deacons share in Christ's mission by assisting bishops and priests in the service of the Church.
B 6. Identify ways in which deacons in our diocese serve the Church.
B 7. Know that a bishop always ordains a newly chosen bishop or bishop-elect, as well as candidates for the priesthood and diaconate.
B 8. Know that in the sacramental act called ordination, bishops, priests and deacons receive one or more of the three degrees of orders: the episcopate, the presbyterate and the diaconate.
<p>Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand how religious sisters and brothers model their lives and ideals after other religious persons, such as St. Theresa of Calcutta, St. Alphonsus Ligouri, Bl. Catherine Kasper and Catherine McAuley.
B 2. Know that the vows of poverty, chastity, and obedience are called the evangelical counsels.
B 3. Know that most men and women called to the consecrated life by God profess the evangelical counsels of poverty, chastity and obedience.
B 4. Describe how the apostolic religious orders provided catechists and teachers for parishes in the United States for over 150 years.
<p>Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the laity participates in their own way in the priestly, prophetic and kingly ministries of Christ.
B 2. Know that the laity participates in the priestly ministry of Christ through their prayers, participation in the Eucharist and offering their lives for Christ.
B 3. Know that the laity participates in the prophetic ministry of Christ by proclaiming the Gospel and witnessing to his truth.
B 4. Know that the laity participates in the kingly ministry of Christ by responding to God's love and caring for others, especially those who are poor and suffering.

RELIGION STANDARDS ARTICULATION BY GRADE

EIGHTH GRADE

Every student will understand and use all concepts and skills from the previous grade levels. The standards are designed so that new learning builds on preceding skills and are needed to learn new skills.

STRAND 1: Sacred Scripture

Every student will be able to read, comprehend and articulate salvation history as conveyed in God's revelation through scripture. Each child will be able to proclaim the gospel message through an active faith and life of service. (NDC pp. 53-54, 59, 70-80, 199-200)

<p>Concept 1: Revelation Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand that Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition make up the deposit of faith.
B 2. Know that Sacred Tradition began with the oral preaching of the Apostles and continues to be handed on through the teaching of the bishops.
B 3. Know some examples of teachings from Sacred Tradition (e.g. the perpetual virginity of Mary, the Assumption of Mary, the Immaculate Conception, Purgatory, the Communion of Saints, etc.).
B 4. Know that Sacred Tradition is distinct from local or ethnic customs (traditions) in a parish or diocese (e.g. May Crowning or blessing of pets on the Feast of St. Francis).
B 5. Know that the Magisterium of the Church has the teaching authority to interpret both Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
B 6. Define the two major senses of Sacred Scripture: literal and spiritual.
B 7. Define the three spiritual senses of Sacred Scripture: allegorical, moral and anagogical.
B 8. Know that the literal sense forms the basis of the other senses of Sacred Scripture.
B 9. Recognize that proper interpretation of Sacred Scripture includes taking into account the culture, history and literary forms of that time.

<p>Concept 2: Old Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Show familiarity with the geography and principal cities of the Ancient Near East and ancient Rome.
B 2. Use the literal and spiritual senses of Sacred Scripture by applying them to stories from the Old Testament.

<p>Concept 3: New Testament Students will:</p>
B 1. Identify St. Luke as the author of the Acts of the Apostles.
B 2. Describe how the first section of the Acts of the Apostles (chapters 1-12) explains St. Peter's leadership in the early Church.
B 3. Describe how the second section of the Acts of the Apostles (chapters 13-28) explain St. Paul's role in the expansion of the Church's mission to the Gentiles.
B 4. Map the journeys of Ss. Peter and Paul and the communities they visited.
B 5. Identify the active presence of the Holy Spirit in the establishment of the Church as narrated in the Acts of the Apostles.

STRAND 2: Creed

Every student will be able to understand, proclaim and believe in the Triune God, as revealed in the signs of creation, Sacred Scripture, Catholic Tradition and human experience. (NDC pp. 45-46, 75-78, 83-86, 91-93, 97-98)

<p>Concept 1: Triune God Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand that the mystery of the Holy Trinity is central to the mystery of Christian faith and Christian life.
B 2. Know that the Trinity is three divine persons that are unique and inseparable, but distinct from one another.
B 3. Know that in the Trinity the Father is God, the Son is God and the Holy Spirit is God.
B 4. Understand that God is holy and deserving of our love and worship.
B 5. Understand that God gives us only one life, unique and unrepeatable, that when we die in God's friendship we live forever in union with God in heaven.
B 6. Understand that faith is a gift that must always be nourished.

<p>Concept 2: God the Father Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that God created all things for good.
B 2. Know that God created the human person as a union of body and soul.
B 3. Know that God created us in a state of holiness.
B 4. Understand God is transcendent - greater than all his works.
B 5. Understand how the desire for God is written in the human heart because we are created by God and for God.
B 6. Describe how we are attracted to the grandeur and beauty of God in creation.
B 7. Know that God expects us to accept and respect the differences and gifts in each other.

<p>Concept 3: God the Son Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that Jesus Christ possesses two natures, one divine and the other human, but united in one person.
B 2. Know that the Incarnation is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in the one person of Jesus.
B 3. Know that Jesus died for our sins opening the possibility of eternal union with God for all people.
B 4. Know that the whole of Jesus' life was a continual teaching: his miracles, his special affection for children and the poor, his death on the cross and his Resurrection.
B 5. Know that Christ is the heavenly high priest, always interceding for us.
B 6. Know that Jesus will come again to judge everyone according to their works.

Concept 4: God the Holy Spirit Students will:
B 1. Know that the presence and guidance of the Holy Spirit is one of the ways that God has expressed his love for humanity.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit has been present with the Father and the Son from the beginning of creation to the completion of the plan for our salvation.
B 3. Know that the Holy Spirit builds up the Church.
B 4. Relate each of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit to our Christian lives.

Concept 5: The Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Church is progressively realized in history: foreshadowed in creation, promised in Adam and Eve, prepared in Abraham and Israel, announced by the prophets, instituted by Christ, manifested by the Spirit, continued in the present and to be fulfilled in heavenly glory.
B 2. Know that when the Holy Spirit came to Jesus' first disciples on Pentecost it marked the beginning of the Church.
B 3. Know some images of Church include People of God, Body of Christ, Temple of the Holy Spirit.
B 4. Know that all salvation comes from Christ through the Church.

Concept 6: Communion of Saints Students will:
B 1. Know that the Communion of Saints is the Church.
B 2. Know that by studying the lives of the saints, we can model our lives on their example of holiness.

STRAND 3: Sacraments

Every student will be able to understand and participate in the sacraments of the Church as efficacious signs of God's grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church. (GDC 85, NDC pp. 87, 113-114, 120-145, 151-152)

Concept 1: Sacraments As Signs of God's Grace Students will:
B 1. Define and explain the difference between actual grace and sanctifying grace.
B 2. Describe how participation in the sacramental life of the Church benefits both individuals and the Church.
B 3. Understand that because Christ is at work in the sacraments they are effective regardless of the disposition or holiness of the minister(s).
Concept 2: Sacraments of Christian Initiation Students will:
B 1. Know that the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is the process by which adults (and children of the age of reason) become members of the Church.
B 2. Know that baptized non-Catholics come into full communion with the Church through a profession of faith and the reception of Confirmation and Holy Eucharist.
B 3. Know that receiving the Eucharist under both forms is a more perfect representation of our communion with Jesus Christ.
B 4. Know that the Sacrament of Confirmation deepens our life in Christ and strengthens our bond with the Church and her mission.
Concept 3: Sacraments of Healing Students will:
B 1. Explain how we are never free from the weaknesses of human nature but the sacraments give us strength in the face of temptation.
B 2. Explain how the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation provides a means for ongoing conversion and renewal in the Christian life.
B 3. Know that Penance and Reconciliation, the Anointing of the Sick and the Eucharist as viaticum are the sacraments that prepare us for heaven.
Concept 4: Sacraments of Service Students will:
B 1. Know that sacramental marriage consists of a man and woman freely pronouncing vows to share their lives in fruitful love.
B 2. Know that the marriage covenant is publicly pronounced for life.
B 3. Know that the Sacrament of Matrimony conveys a partnership that is permanent, equal, self-giving, mutual and faithful.
B 4. Know that the Church requires the faithful to profess their marriage vows in a Catholic church, preferably in the context of a Mass.
B 5. Know that marriage between a Catholic and a non-Catholic includes a promise for any children to be raised in the Church.
B 6. Know that Jesus taught that marriage is permanent and cannot be dissolved.
B 7. Know that persons who are divorced and remarried without an annulment remain in the Church but cannot receive communion.

STRAND 4: Liturgy

Every student will be able to understand and celebrate the liturgical rites of the Church as expressed in the church year and epitomized in the Eucharist, the source and summit of Christian life. (NDC pp. 109-111, 145-151)

<p>Concept 1: Overview of Liturgy Students will:</p>
B 1. Demonstrate full, conscious and active participation in Mass and other prayers.
B 2. Explore opportunities to participate in various liturgical ministries.
<p>Concept 2: Liturgical Year Students will:</p>
B 1. Explain the sequence, significance and primary symbols of the liturgical seasons and major feasts.
B 2. Identify the current lectionary year (Year A, B or C) and the respective Gospel associated with that year (Matthew, Mark or Luke).
B 3. Know that solemnities and feast days have special readings assigned to them.
B 4. Prepare for Sunday Mass by reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday.
<p>Concept 3: The Mass Students will:</p>
B 1. Explain the parts of the Mass from the Introductory Rites through the Dismissal.
B 2. Identify and explain the role of the assembly and the various liturgical ministers.
B 3. Explain the role of the deacon when assisting at the Mass.
B 4. Understand the value of reflecting on the readings for the coming Sunday Mass.
B 5. Understand and experience how to plan a Mass.
<p>Concept 4: Other Liturgical Celebrations, Sacramentals and Devotions Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Christian funeral is a liturgical celebration of the Church.
B 2. Know that the Christian funeral consists of three parts: the vigil, the Christian funeral itself and the final commendation.
B 3. Know that in a Christian funeral we express our communion with the deceased, participate in that communion of the gathered community and remember Christ's promise of eternal life for all believers.
B 4. Know that in a Christian funeral we make our final farewell to the deceased before commending them to God.
B 5. Know that, before a funeral, we keep vigil by praying with family and friends for the repose of the soul of the deceased.
B 6. Understand and experience Eucharistic Adoration and Benediction.
B 7. Understand and experience how to lead Morning and Evening Prayer from the Divine Office at school or at home.
B 8. Know how to make an examination of conscience and participate in the Rite of Penance.

Concept 5: Liturgical Symbols
Students will:
B 1. Know that the pall covering the casket at a funeral and the blessing with holy water remind us of Christ's promise of eternal life through the Sacrament of Baptism.
B 2. Know that we incense the casket at a Christian funeral during the final farewell.
B 3. Know that the Easter paschal candle is used for funeral liturgies.

STRAND 5: Morality

Every student will understand, embrace, and live the moral teachings of the Church through a life of discipleship in Jesus Christ expressed in love for God, conversion, the dignity of the human person, positive self-image, personal integrity, social justice and love of neighbor. (NDC 85-86, 97-99, 104-105, 159-169, 170-184)

<p>Concept 1: Life in Christ Students will:</p>
B 1. Understand and apply the great commandment to love God and others in our daily relationships.
B 2. Know that our attitudes toward our neighbor reflect our acceptance or refusal of grace.
B 3. Know that rejection of God's grace and love can lead to our condemnation.
B 4. Know that freedom is not just doing what we want but doing what is right.
<p>Concept 2: Beatitudes Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that the Beatitudes are the heart of Christian teaching.
B 2. Understand how to live the Beatitudes in our daily lives.
<p>Concept 3: Commandments Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that we are meant to love God above all things.
B 2. Know that indifference toward God and denial of the existence of God (atheism) are opposed to the First Commandment.
B 3. Know that in addition to participation at Mass, we can sanctify the Lord's day by prayer, visiting the sick, helping the poor and spending time with the family.
B 4. Know that the Fourth Commandment provides one of the foundations for the Church's social doctrine.
B 5. Know that although innocent human life can never be deliberately taken, there is a legitimate right of self-defense for the individual and society.
B 6. Know that the Sixth Commandment teaches that homosexual acts (not tendencies) are gravely sinful.
B 7. Know that discrimination against homosexual persons must be avoided.
B 8. Know that the Seventh Commandment teaches that we are called to show a preferential love for the poor.
B 9. Know that the Eighth Commandment teaches that we are to keep personal and professional confidences.
B 10. Know that the Ninth Commandment teaches that we will promote a culture free of eroticism, voyeurism and illusion.
B 11. Know that the Tenth Commandment teaches that we live for the kingdom of heaven and must be detached from material things.
<p>Concept 4: Catholic Social Teaching Students will:</p>
B 1. Know that unjust social situations are improved by conversion of heart and changing the unjust situation.
B 2. Know that natural law is written on the heart of each person and forms the basis for a just society.
B 3. Know the major themes of Catholic social teaching.
B 4. Know that we are called to foster dignity, prosperity and peace for all.

B 5. Know the importance of human sexuality.
B 6. Know that we must be committed to the common good.
B 7. Know that the common good is achieved through the protection of the rights of others.
B 8. Know that the family is the original nucleus of social life.
B 9. Know that we are responsible to one another, our families and to society at large.
B 10. Know, identify and recognize the needs of the poor and vulnerable in our communities and in the world.
B 11. Know that the Church teaches that everyone is entitled to a just wage and benefits.
B 12. Know that every person has a right to private property.
B 13. Know what it means to respect the basic rights of others.
B 14. Know the meaning of social sin.
B 15. Know that when one member of the Body of Christ suffers, all suffer.
B 16. Understand the importance of care for God's creation.

Concept 5: Church Law Students will:
B 1. Know that the <i>Code of Canon Law</i> is the body of laws that govern the Church.
B 2. Know that Church law teaches that we should not miss Mass on Sunday and holy days of obligation; this obligation is fulfilled by attending Mass the evening before.

Concept 6: Conscience Students will:
B 1. Understand that our conscience leads us to know and long for God.
B 2. Know that the Holy Spirit guides us to set our hearts on the Kingdom of God rather than on material riches.
B 3. Know that our conscience is a judgment of reason that helps us to recognize the moral quality of each action.
B 4. Know that without a sense of sin and an awareness of God's love, it is impossible to find conversion and forgiveness.

Concept 7: Sin and Forgiveness Students will:
B 1. Know that the result of original sin is ignorance, suffering and death.
B 2. Know that God's love triumphs over all evil and pain.
B 3. Identify which acts are mortal sins and require sacramental confession.
B 4. Know that sin upsets our relationship with God.
B 5. Know that the power to forgive sins is a great gift of Christ to the Church.
B 6. Know that God always forgives us.

STRAND 6: Prayer and Spirituality

Every student will develop a personal relationship with God and learn to express the various forms of Christian prayer, recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit and the meaning of self-surrender to God. (NDC pp. 60-61, 111-113, 151-156)

Concept 1: Overview of Prayer and Spirituality Students will:
B 1. Understand that prayer is a way of life.
B 2. Know that prayer can lead to inner peacefulness even when life's experiences are difficult.
B 3. Understand the importance of prayer in any of its forms as something to be consciously experienced every day.
B 4. Know that prayer arises out of the gift of God's love.
B 5. Know that Christian prayer is a communion of love with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
B 6. Know that Christians pray the way Jesus prayed.
Concept 2: Forms of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that prayers of blessing are used to bless God for the gifts he has bestowed upon us.
B 2. Know that the Lord's Prayer is the most perfect of prayers.
B 3. Know each part of the Lord's Prayer and its meaning for our lives.
Concept 3: Expressions of Prayer Students will:
B 1. Know that vocal prayer associates the body with the interior prayer of the heart, following Christ's example of praying to His Father.
B 2. Know that contemplation is a quiet prayer that gifts us with an awareness of God's presence within us.
B 3. Know that meditation, reflecting on God's word, helps us understand God's revelation and the purpose of the Christian life and how it should be lived.
Concept 4: Prayers of the Church Students will:
B 1. Know that the Liturgy of the Hours is a public prayer of the Church that Catholics of all states in life may pray.
B 2. Know that the Stations of the Cross help us to visit and pray at the places where Jesus lived, suffered, died and rose from the dead.
B 3. Know that the Church has four forms for Eucharistic Prayers used during the Mass.
B 4. Know that the Divine Praises are a part of the Exposition of the Eucharist.
B 5. Know that the Litany of the Saints honors the saints of the Church and is included within various liturgical services.

STRAND 7: Ecclesiology of the Catholic Church

Every student will understand and appreciate the mystery of the Church, the Body of Christ, the community of believers, as expressed in the Church's origin, history, hierarchical structure, marks, charisms, members and the lives of the saints. (NDC pp. 93-94, 109, 124-125, 131-132, 186, 214)

Concept 1: Marks of the Church Students will:
B 1. Explain how the four marks are expressed in the life of the Church.
B 2. Explain how the Church is a living sign to the world of salvation in Christ.
Concept 2: Images of the Church Students will:
B 1. Identify images of the Church (Body of Christ, a cultivated field, the building of God) as found in <i>Lumen Gentium</i> (Dogmatic Constitution on the Church), the <i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> and other Church documents.
Concept 3: History of the Church Students will:
B 1. Identify the various types of infallibility exercised within the Church.
B 2. Know that the dogma of papal infallibility was formally defined at the First Vatican Council.
B 3. Understand the growth of Catholicism in the United States.
B 4. Understand the concepts of <i>aggiornamento</i> and <i>resourcement</i> as they apply to the work of the Second Vatican Council.
B 5. Identify full, conscious and active participation in the life of the Church as a major theme of the Second Vatican Council.
B 6. Explain the changes to the liturgy called for by the Second Vatican Council.
Concept 4: Hierarchical Structures of the Church Students will:
B 1. Explain how the diocesan curia is organized by departments and offices to help carry out the ministry of the bishop to teach, govern and sanctify.
B 2. Know that the activities of the diocesan curia are funded by the Annual <i>Catholic Services Appeal</i> (ACSA).
B 3. Identify ways in which our parish benefits from the services of the diocesan curia.
Concept 5: Mary, Mother of God Students will:
B 1. Understand and explain various titles and apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
B 2. Know that Mary remained a virgin in conceiving her Son by the power of the Holy Spirit.
B3. Know that Mary cooperated with Christ in the work of redemption.
Concept 6: Lives of the Saints Students will:
B 1. Know the stories of St. Kateri Tekakwitha, the North American Martyrs, St. Angela Merici, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Katharine Drexel, Servant of God Augustus Tolton, St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. John XXIII, Servant of God Dorothy Day, St. Theresa of Calcutta and St. John Paul II.

STRAND 8: Parish Life and Mission

Every student will understand and participate in the life and mission of the Church as lived in the parish through its community, cultural aspects, worship, sacramental life, service, evangelization and missionary endeavors. Each child will understand and participate in the call of the Church to be a sign of unity in the world through knowledge of and collaboration with other Christians, Jews, Muslims and all faith traditions. (NDC pp. 64-66, 82-83, 100, 104-105, 152-154, 210, 211-216, GDC # 222, 224, 226, 253, 254)

<p>Concept 1: Liturgical Life Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that Christ is present in the gathering of the faithful at Mass.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that full, conscious and active participation in the Eucharist includes our participation in responses, songs, prayers, silence and gestures.</p>
<p>Concept 2: Lifelong Faith Formation Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that life-long participation in a parish includes regularly attending Mass, receiving the sacraments, praying together and ongoing faith formation.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that ongoing faith formation (catechesis) prepares us for Christian discipleship.</p>
<p>B 3. Know that retreat experiences call us to set aside time away from our daily lives to grow in our faith.</p>
<p>Concept 3: Parish Ministries Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Understand that life as a confirmed Catholic requires active, life-long participation in a parish.</p>
<p>B 2. Know the various ministries in our parish and actively participate in one of them.</p>
<p>B 3. Understand that stewardship in parish life is giving our time, talent and treasure as a response of gratitude to the blessings God gives to us.</p>
<p>B 4. Understand that stewardship is a spiritual commitment that requires taking responsibility for global environmental and human concerns.</p>
<p>B 5. Know that in her ministries, the Church has always demonstrated a preferential love of the poor.</p>
<p>Concept 4: Evangelization Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Know that evangelization takes place in our daily lives as we bring our faith to the world and world to our faith.</p>
<p>B 2. Know that the Church's mission of evangelization calls us into a loving relationship with the whole world.</p>
<p>B 3. Know specific ways that we can evangelize in our world.</p>
<p>Concept 5: Ecumenism and Interfaith Dialog Students will:</p>
<p>B 1. Understand that ecumenism and dialogue are evangelizing works of the Church in the task of creating unity and peace in the world.</p>
<p>B 2. Understand how ecumenism and dialogue are important aspects of working toward unity and peace in the world.</p>
<p>B 3. Identify the life of present day Judaism as organized around the synagogue and rabbi.</p>
<p>B 4. Describe how anti-Semitism began and how Catholics should not engage in any form of anti-Semitism today.</p>

STRAND 9: Vocation

Every student will understand and fulfill the baptismal call to discipleship in Christ by living a specific call in the life of the Church. (NDC pp. 100-101, 104, GDC # 27, 56, 228, 229, 230, 255, 261)

Concept 1: Universal Call to Holiness Students will:
B 1. Know that Baptism calls us to service that is inherent to life in the Church.
B 2. Understand that every baptized Catholic has a specific call from the Holy Spirit to be lived in the life of the Church.
B 3. Know that the different calls in the Church include the vocations of married, religious, ordained and single.
B 4. Explain how every vocation when it conforms to the will of God can be used for the good of the Church and its mission.
B 5. Explain how we might begin to know through our talents and interests how our vocations might unfold in the Church.
B 6. Know that discernment of our talents and interests involves prayer, reflective listening and dialogue with others regarding decisions made with the direction of the Holy Spirit in our lives.
Concept 2: Ordained Life Students will:
B 1. Know that priests are ordained to serve as co-workers with the bishop in serving the community.
B 2. Know that through the ordained ministry, especially that of bishops and priests, the presence of Christ as head of the Church is made visible in the midst of the community of believers.
B 3. Know that the priesthood reaches its high point in the celebration of the Eucharist.
B 4. Know that the Church confers the sacrament of Holy Orders only on baptized men.
B 5. Know that priests remain celibate to give themselves more fully to the service of the Church.
Concept 3: Consecrated and Religious Life Students will:
B 1. Understand how religious sisters and brothers model their lives and ideals after other religious persons such as St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, St. Théodore Guérin and Thomas Merton.
B 2. Describe how the apostolic religious orders have established hospitals, confraternity centers, orphanages, schools, homeless shelters, food pantries, etc.
B 3. Know that contemplative religious engage in prayer as well as other works of the Church such as gardening and producing altar bread, religious gifts, food items, etc.
Concept 4: Lay Vocations Students will:
B 1. Describe the difference between vocation and career.
B 2. Know that many religious orders have a program for the laity called the Associates.
B 3. Know that Associates join the religious communities in preaching the Gospel message through their vocation or career.
B 4. Know that the missionary life is a call in the Church that can be lived by the laity.

APPENDICES

I. Scripture Stories

Old Testament Stories

The Creation

The Fall

Cain and Able

Noah and the Ark

The Tower of Babel

The Call of Abraham

The Birth of Isaac

The Sacrifice of Isaac

Jacob and Esau

Joseph and his Brothers

Moses and the Exodus

The Giving of the 10 Commandments

The Call of David

David and Goliath

David and Bathsheba

Solomon Builds the Temple

The Babylonian Exile

Daniel in the Lion's Den

The Temple is Rebuilt

The Martyrdom of the Seven Brothers and their Mother

The Rededication of the Temple

God Tests Job

New Testament Stories

The Birth of John the Baptist

The Annunciation

The Birth of Jesus

The Presentation in the Temple

The Flight to Egypt

The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan

The Wedding at Cana

The Call of the Apostles

The Death of John the Baptist

The Sermon on the Mount and the Proclamation of the Kingdom of God

Parable of the Sowing of the Seeds

Parable of the Wise and Foolish Builders

Parable of the Mustard Seed

Parable of the Lost Sheep (The Good Shepherd)

Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus
Parable of the Workers in the Vineyard
Parable of the Good Samaritan
Parable of the Talents
Parable of the Sheep and the Goats
Parable of the Wedding Feast

Jesus Heals the Gerasene Demoniac
Jesus Dines with Nicodemus
The Woman at the Well
Feeding of the 5000
Healing of the Centurion's Son
Jesus Heals the Woman with a Hemorrhage
Jesus Heals the Blind
Jesus Heals the Paralyzed
The Transfiguration

The Raising of Lazarus
The Cleansing of the Temple
The Entrance into Jerusalem
The Last Supper
The Agony in the Garden
The Trial of Jesus
The Crucifixion
The Resurrection and First Appearances to the Apostles
The Road to Emmaus
The Ascension

Pentecost
Peter's Preaching at Pentecost
The Seven Chosen to Serve
The Martyrdom of Stephen
Philip and the Ethiopian Eunuch
The Conversion of Paul
Peter is Delivered from Prison
The Council at Jerusalem
Paul and Silas in Prison
Paul's Missionary Journeys

II. Saints

Name	Death	Note(s)
St. Elizabeth	1 st century BC	Mother of John the Baptist
Ss. Joachim and Anne	unknown	Parents of Mary, the Mother of God
Twelve Apostles	1 st century	Apostle
St. Joseph	18 traditional	Foster Father of Jesus
St. John the Baptist	31-36	Prophet and Martyr
St. Dismas	33	The penitent thief
St. Stephen, Protomartyr	34	Deacon and Protomartyr
St. Mary of Bethany	unknown	Righteous Mary, Sister of Lazarus, Myrrhbearer
St. Martha of Bethany	unknown	Virgin, Myrrhbearer
St. Mary Magdalene	unknown	Disciple
St. Lazarus	unknown	Four-days dead, Friend of Christ
St. Peter	64 or 67	Apostle, Pope, Martyr
St. Paul	67	Apostle, Martyr
St. Mark the Evangelist	68	Gospel of Mark, Martyr
St. Luke the Evangelist	84	Gospel of Luke, Martyr
St. Ignatius of Antioch	107	Church Father, Martyr
St. Cecilia	176-180	Virgin and Martyr
St. Peregrine	182	Martyr
St. Agatha of Sicily	251	Virgin and Martyr
St. Lawrence	258	Martyr
St. Denis	275	Bishop and Martyr
Ss. Cosmas and Damian	287	Twins, Physicians, and Martyrs
St. Maurice	287	Martyr
St. Sebastian of Avla	288	Martyr, Roman Soldier, Healer
St. Barbara	3 rd or 4 th century	Virgin and Martyr
St. Elmo of Formia	303	Bishop, also known as St. Erasmus
St. Agnes of Rome	304	Martyr
St. Lucy	304 traditional	Martyr
St. Philomena	304	Virgin and Martyr
St. Blaise	316	Hieromartyr, Holy Helper
St. Nicholas	343	Defender of Orthodoxy, Wonderworker, Holy Hierarch and Bishop
St. Anthony of the Desert	356	Monastic
St. Athanasius	373	Church Father, Doctor of the Church
St. Basil of Caesarea (Basil the Great)	379	Church Father, Doctor of the Church
St. Monica	387	Mother, Widow, Religious Lay Woman
St. Ambrose	397	Church Father, Doctor of the Church
St. Patrick	5 th century	Apostle of Ireland
St. Alexius	5 th century	Confessor
St. Jerome	420	Church Father, Doctor of the Church
St. Augustine of Hippo	430	Church Father, Doctor of the Church
St. Leo the Great	461	Doctor of the Church, aka Pope Leo I
St. Brigid of Ireland	524	Virgin, Abbess and Inspirer
St. Benedict of Nursia	543	Monastic
St. Columcille	597	Abbot and Missionary, known as Apostle of the Picts (aka St. Columba, St. Columbkille)
St. Gregory the Great	604	Doctor of the Church, Pope Gregory I
St. Isidore of Seville	636	Doctor of the Church

Name	Death	Note(s)
St. Adalbert of Egmond	8 th century	Missionary
St. Bede the Venerable	735	Doctor of the Church, Monk, Historian
St. Boniface	754	Church Father, Bishop and Martyr
St. Wenceslaus	935	Martyr
St. Edward the Confessor	1066	King of England
St. Bruno of Cologne	1101	Confessor
St. Norbert of Xanten	1134	Bishop and Confessor
St. Thomas Beckett of Canterbury	1170	Archbishop, Martyr
St. Hildegard of Bingen	1179	Doctor of the Church
St. Dominic	1221	Mendicant
St. Francis of Assisi	1226	Mendicant
St. Anthony of Padua	1231	Doctor of the Church
St. Clare of Assisi	1253	Virgin, Founder of Monastic Religious Order for Women
St. Margaret of Hungary	1271	Religious
St. Thomas Aquinas	1274	Doctor of the Church
St. Bonaventure	1274	Friar, Doctor of the Church
St. Raymond of Peñafort	1275	Master of the order of Preachers
St. Louis of Toulouse	1297	Bishop
St. Gertrude the Great	1302	Virgin
St. Bridgit	1373	Mother, Visionary
St. Catherine of Siena	1380	Doctor of the Church
St. Joan of Arc	1431	Martyr
St. Rita of Cascia	1457	Mother, Widow, Stigmatist, Consecrated Religious
St. John Fischer	1535	Martyr
St. Thomas More	1535	Martyr
St. Angela Merici	1540	Virgin, Founder of the Order of Ursulines
St. Juan Diego Cuauhtlatotzin	1548	First Indigenous Saint, Apparitions of the Blessed Mother
St. Francis Xavier	1552	Apostle to the Far East, Cofounder Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
St. Ignatius of Loyola	1556	Theologian, Founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits)
St. Stanislaus Kostka	1568	Jesuit Novice
St. Theresa of Avila	1582	Doctor of the Church
St. Charles Borromeo	1584	Archbishop
St. Aloysius Gonzaga	1591	Confessor
St. John of the Cross	1591	Doctor of the Church
St. Philip Neri	1595	Priest, Apostle of Rome, Founder Congregation of the Oratory
St. Paul Miki and Companions	1597	Martyrs
St. Peter Canisius	1597	Doctor of the Church
St. Rose of Lima	1617	Virgin and Penitent
St. Robert Bellarmine	1621	Doctor of the Church
St. Francis DeSales	1622	Bishop, Doctor of the Church
St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen	1622	Religious, Priest and Martyr
St. Martin de Porres	1639	Domincan, Martin of Charity

Name	Death	Note(s)
North American Martyrs	1642-1649	Martyrs - St. Jean de Brébeuf, St. Noël Chabanel, St. Antoine Daniel, St. Charles Garnier, St. René Goupil, St. Isaac Jogues, St. Jean de Lalande, and St. Gabriel Lalemant
St. Isaac Jogues	1646	Martyr, Religious, Missionary
St. Jean de Brébeuf	1649	Martyr, Apostle of the Hurons
St. Peter Claver	1654	Apostle of the Blacks, Religious, Priest and Confessor
St. Vincent de Paul	1660	Great Apostle of Charity
St. Kateri Tekakwitha	1680	Virgin, 1 st Native American saint
St. Marguerite Marie Alacoque	1690	Disciple of the Sacred Heart
St. Alphonsus Ligouri	1787	Doctor of the Church
St. Elizabeth Ann Seaton	1821	Widow, Foundress and Educator
St. Rose Philippine Duchesne	1852	Religious and Educator
St. Théodore Guérin	1856	Religious, Foundress
St. John Vianney	1859	Tertiary and Priest
St. John Neumann	1860	Bishop
Ugandan Martyrs	1885-1887	Martyrs, Companions of St. Charles Lwanga
St. Charles Lwanga	1886	Martyr
St. John Bosco	1888	Confessor, Founder, Father and Teacher of Youth
St. Damien de Veuster	1889	Martyr of Charity
St. Therese Lisieux	1897	Doctor of the Church
Servant of God Augustus Tolton	1897	First Black Roman Catholic Priest in the United States
St. Maria Goretti	1902	Virgin and Martyr
St. Frances Xavier Cabrini	1917	Religious and Foundress
St. Maximilian Kolbe	1941	Priest, Martyr
St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross	1942	Martyr, Philosopher (Edith Stein)
St. Josephine Bakhita	1947	Slave, Religious
St. Katharine Drexel	1955	Foundress
St. John XXIII	1963	Pope
St. Pius of Pietrelcina	1968	Aka St. Padre Pio, Priest, Religious, Stigmatic and Confessor
Servant of God Dorothy Day	1980	Journalist, Social Activist and Devout Catholic Convert
St. Theresa of Calcutta	1997	Religious and Missionary
St. John Paul II	2005	Pope

III. Marian Titles and Apparitions

Our Lady of Guadalupe (Patroness of the Americas and the Unborn)

The Immaculate Conception (Patroness of the United States and the Diocese of Springfield in Illinois)

Black Madonna of Czestochowa

Blessed Virgin

Daughter of Zion

Life-Giving Spring

Mother of the Church

Mother of God

New Eve

Our Lady, Help of Christians

Our Lady, Star of the Sea

Our Lady of Akita

Our Lady of Fatima

Our Lady of Good Help

Our Lady of Hope

Our Lady of Lourdes

Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Lady of Snows

Our Lady of Sorrows

Queen of Peace

Queen of the Universe

Theotokos

VOCABULARY FOR RELIGION STANDARDS

Vocabulary

Absolution – The act of the priest, using the power Christ entrusted to the Church, in the Sacrament of Penance by which he pardons sin(s) of the penitent.

Adultery – Sexual activity between two persons, at least one of whom is married to another. Prohibited by the sixth commandment.

Advent - A period of four weeks prior to Christmas, during which we prepare ourselves spiritually for the celebration of the birth of Jesus.

Actual Grace – God's intervention in our lives, whether at the beginning of conversion or in the course of the work of sanctification.

Ambo – The sacred place (stand) from which the scriptures are proclaimed.

Ambry – The container, often in or on the sanctuary wall and labeled O.S. (Latin: *olea sancta, holy oils*), for the stocks of consecrated oils.

Angel – An intelligent, immortal spiritual creature with free will who acts as God's agent and, with the choirs of angels, gives constant praise and glory to God.

Anointing of the Sick – One of the seven sacraments, sometimes formerly known as “the Sacrament of the dying,” in which a gravely ill, aging or dying person is anointed by the priest and prayed over by him and those present. One need not be dying to receive this sacrament. The sacrament is often given before surgery or for some healing that is needed.

Annulment – A declaration by the Church that a marriage is null and void, that is, it never existed. Catholics who divorce must also have the marriage annulled by the Church to be free to marry again in the Church.

Apostles – Those specially chosen by Jesus to preach the Gospel and to whom he entrusted responsibility for guiding the early Church.

Apostolic – The entire community of Christians received the Apostles' proclamation of the Gospel, and so the Church in her entirety is called “apostolic.” The Church will always remain faithful to the teachings of the Apostles.

Apostle's Creed – A statement of the Christian faith, developed in the early centuries of the Church and used in the Sacrament of Baptism. It expresses the faith passed down to us from the Apostles.

Ascension – The “going up” into heaven of the risen Christ forty days after his Resurrection.

Assumption - Mary was taken into heaven, body and soul, when her earthly life ended.

Baptism – The first of the seven sacraments by which one becomes a member of the Church, is freed from all sin and endowed with the gift of divine life: the first of the three Sacraments of Christian Initiation, the others being Confirmation and Eucharist.

Beatitudes – The teachings of Jesus during the Sermon on the Mount which describe fundamental actions, attitudes and virtues for living as a Christian and a disciple of Jesus.

Benediction – Another name for a blessing prayer. For Catholics, it more often refers to the prayer in which the Blessed Sacrament is used to bless the people.

Bible – The books which contain the truth of God’s Revelation, composed by human authors inspired by the Holy Spirit. The Bible contains forty-six books of the Old Testament and twenty-seven books of the New Testament.

Bishop – The highest of the three degrees of Holy Orders; a bishop is normally ordained to teach, to sanctify and to govern a diocese or local church; a bishop is a successor of the Apostles.

Blasphemy – Speaking, acting or thinking about God, the Virgin Mary and the saints in a way that is irreverent, mocking or offensive. It is a sin against the Second Commandment.

Body of Christ – A name for the Holy Eucharist. It is also a title for the Church, with Christ as her head, sometimes referred to as the Mystical Body of Christ.

Canon Law – The official body of laws for Catholics.

Cardinal Virtues – Four virtues that are viewed as essential for living a Christian life: prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance.

Catechesis – The process of education and formation of Christians of all ages, by which they are taught the essentials of Christian doctrine and are formed as disciples of Jesus. Those who serve as ministers of catechesis are called catechists.

Catechumenate - An extended period of preparation by which persons are prepared for full initiation into the Church. Ritual, prayer, instruction, spiritual and moral support by the parish community are part of this process used for adult converts to Catholicism.

Catholic – The word means “universal.” The Catholic Church has lived and continues to live in a diversity of cultures and languages because she is led by the Spirit of Christ to bring the Gospel to all peoples.

Chalice – A cup that holds the wine. It is consecrated with holy chrism by a bishop; also consecrated by use (contact with Christ’s blood). Eight inches is the traditional and common height.

Chastity – Connected to purity of heart, this is a virtue that moves us to love others with generous regard for them. This virtue requires integration of our sexuality with the whole person – body, mind and spirit. All people are called to pursue and live the virtue of chastity according to one’s state in life. Chastity is one of the fruits of the Holy Spirit. It is one of the vows of the religious life.

Christ – The title given to Jesus meaning “The Anointed One”; it comes from the Latin word *Christus*, which in its Greek root is the word for *Messiah*.

Code of Canon Law – The rules which provide the norms for good order in the Church. Those canon laws that apply universally are contained in the Codes of Canon Law.

Common Good – Concern for the well-being of all people. The social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily.

Communion of Saints – The spiritual union of all those who believe in Christ and have been redeemed, including those living and those who have died and are in either purgatory or heaven.

Confession - Telling one’s sins to a priest. It is an essential element of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Confirmation – This is a Sacrament of Christian Initiation in which the bishop or a delegated priest confers Confirmation through the anointing with chrism on the recipient’s forehead, which is done by the laying on of hands while saying, “Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Confirmation completes the grace of Baptism by a special outpouring of the gifts of the Holy Spirit, which seals and confirms the baptized person’s union with Christ and calls that person to active

participation in the life of the Church.

Consecration – Through the power of the Holy Spirit and the words and actions of the priest, the bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

Consubstantial – A word used in the Nicene Creed meaning Jesus and his Father are one and the same God.

Contrition – Sorrow for sin with a firm purpose of amendment, which is the intention to avoid sin in the future. Contrition is a necessary part of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Covenant – A solemn agreement, a promise of love and partnership, made between people or between God and a person or persons. In the Old Testament, God established covenants with Noah, Abraham and Moses. The prophets prepared people for the new and eternal covenant established by Jesus Christ. Marriage is a covenant of life and love.

Conversion - A change of heart; turning away from sin and toward God.

Creed – This term comes from the Latin word *credo*, meaning “I believe.” It is used to refer to a statement of belief. It is an official profession of faith, usually prepared and presented by a council of the Church and used in the Church’s liturgy. The two most familiar Catholic creeds are the Apostles’ Creed and the Nicene Creed.

Cross – The instrument of execution on which Christ died; a symbol of the unique sacrifice of Jesus as a mediator between God and man.

Crucifix – A cross bearing the figure of the crucified Christ (corpus).

Deacon; Diaconate – The third degree or level of the Sacrament of Holy Orders, after that of bishop and priest. Deacons are ordained to assist priests and bishops in a variety of ministries. Some are ordained deacons as one stage of their preparation for eventual priesthood. Others do not seek priesthood but commit to lifelong ministry to the Church. The latter are known as permanent deacons.

Demon – A fallen angel who has turned from God and rejected his reign.

Deposit of Faith – The heritage of faith contained in Sacred Scripture and Tradition, handed on in the Church from the time of the Apostles, from which the Magisterium draws all that it proposes for belief as being divinely revealed.

Diocese – The people within a geographic area led by a bishop. Sometimes a diocese can be determined on the basis of language or culture.

Disciple – A follower of Jesus. Based on the word for “pupil” or “student.” It is used to designate those who learned from and followed Jesus in the New Testament times (disciples) and those who commit themselves to follow him today.

Easter – The day on which Christians celebrate Jesus’ Resurrection from the dead; considered the climax of the Church’s liturgical year.

Ecumenism – The movement to restore unity among the Christian Churches and, ultimately, of all humans throughout the world.

Efficacious – The power something holds to cause a desired effect. The Sacraments are efficacious in bringing about the spiritual reality they signify.

Episcopacy - The *office* of the bishop.

Epistles – There are twenty-one letters, written by Paul and other early Church leaders, that give teachings and guidance to individuals and the first Christian Churches. These letters in the New Testament include Romans through Jude.

Eucharist— Also called the Mass or Lord’s Supper, and based on a word for “thanksgiving,” the central Christian liturgical celebration established by Jesus at the Last Supper. In the Eucharist, the sacrificial death and Resurrection of Jesus is both remembered (“Do this in memory of me”) and renewed (“This is my body, given for you”). The Sunday celebration of the Eucharist is considered the heart of the Church’s life and worship, and participation in it is expected of all Catholics who have the age and ability to do so.

Eucharist is the third Sacrament of Christian Initiation in which one receives the Body and Blood of Jesus.

Euthanasia— An action, or lack of action, that deliberately causes the death of a handicapped, sick or dying person. Some people attempt to justify it as an act of mercy intended to relieve suffering, but the Catholic Church rejects that position and considers euthanasia a violation of the Fifth Commandment against killing.

Evangelization— Sharing the “Good News” of the Gospel of Jesus Christ with others through word and witness.

Examination of Conscience— Prayerful reflection on one’s own words, attitudes and actions in the light of the Gospel of Jesus; evaluation of one’s life in preparation for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.

Exorcism— A public and authoritative act of the Church by which a person, in the name of Jesus Christ, is protected or liberated from the power of the devil. Minor exorcisms are simple prayers (used as part of the Rite of Baptism) which ask God to overcome Satan and the power of evil.

Faith— The belief in the existence of God; the gift of God by which one freely accepts God’s full Revelation in Jesus Christ. It involves the head and heart, accepting the Church’s teachings and loving God and neighbor. Faith is one of the theological virtues.

Fruits of the Holy Spirit— The characteristics and qualities of those who allow themselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit. They are listed in Paul’s letter to the Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control and chastity.

Gentile— In the Old and New Testament, the term used to describe the nations distinguished from the Jewish people.

Genuflect— A liturgical posture where one kneels on one knee as a sign of reverence for the Blessed Sacrament.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit— Special gifts given to us by the Holy Spirit to help us respond to God’s call to holiness. The traditional list of these gifts is derived from Isaiah 11:1-3: wisdom, understanding, knowledge, counsel, fortitude, reverence (piety) and wonder and awe in God’s presence (fear of the Lord).

Gospel— The “good news” of God’s mercy and love revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. It is this *Gospel* or good news that all disciples are to proclaim to the entire world. It also refers to the four books of the New Testament that focus on the person, life, teachings, death and Resurrection of Jesus. The four Gospels are the books written by the evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Grace— The free and undeserved gift of God’s loving and active presence in the universe and in our lives that helps us to respond to our vocation to become his adopted sons and daughters.

Heaven— A state of eternal life and union with God, in which one experiences full happiness and the satisfaction of the deepest human longings.

Hell— The permanent separation from God, reserved for those who freely and consciously choose to reject God to the very end of their lives.

Holiness— A state of goodness in which a person, with the help of God’s grace, the action of the Holy Spirit and a life of prayer and service is freed from sin and evil. Such a person must still resist temptation, repent of sins that may be

committed and realize that remaining holy is a lifelong journey with many spiritual and moral challenges.

Holy Days of Obligation – Feast days in the liturgical year on which, in addition to Sundays, Catholics have an obligation (duty) to participate in the Eucharist. In the United States, these days are: Mary Mother of God (January 1); Ascension (forty days after Easter or the following Sunday); Assumption of Mary (August 15); All Saints Day (November 1); Immaculate Conception of Mary (December 8); Nativity of our Lord or Christmas (December 25).

Holy Oils – Used in the sacraments which impart a sacramental character (Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders), in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick and in the blessing of various objects.

Holy Orders; Ordination – The sacrament by which members of the Church are ordained for permanent ministry within the Church as bishops, priests or deacons. Through this sacrament, the mission entrusted by Christ to the Apostles continues to be exercised in the Church. This sacrament confers a permanent mark or character on the one who receives it.

Holy Trinity – The central Christian mystery and dogma that there is one God in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Hope – The theological virtue by which we trust in the promises of God and expect from God both eternal life and the grace we need to attain it.

Immaculate Conception – The Catholic dogma that the Blessed Virgin Mary was free from sin from the first moment of her conception.

Incarnation – The mystery by which the Son of God became man, “became flesh” in the womb of the Virgin Mary. Jesus, the Son of God and second Person of the Trinity, is *both* fully God and fully man.

Incense – Frankincense is the main ingredient in the incense used in today’s liturgies. Veneration is shown by incensing the altar, the Book of the Gospels, the gifts of bread and wine, the assembly and/or the body of the deceased during the funeral.

Indelible Character (Sacramental Character) – An indelible spiritual mark that is sealed by the Holy Spirit; the permanent effect of the Sacrament of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Orders. The reception of these Sacraments is never repeated.

Indulgence – The removal of the temporal punishment due to sin which has already been forgiven. Indulgences may be obtained under certain circumstances prescribed by the Church. Partial indulgences remove part of the temporal punishment due to sin; a plenary indulgence removes all of it.

Intercession – A prayer offered on behalf of another person or group.

Justification – The term used to refer to the action of God by which we are freed from our sins, sanctified and renewed by the grace of God.

Kingdom of God – The reign or rule of God over the hearts of people that leads to a community of justice, peace, mercy and love, the seed of which is the Church on earth, and the fulfillment of which is eternity.

Lectionary – The official liturgical book of the Church from which selected scripture passages are proclaimed during the Liturgy of the Word. The person who proclaims the word is called a lector or reader.

Lent – This season prepares us for Easter. This is a penitential season that lasts forty days, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending before the evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper on Holy Thursday. The final week is called Holy Week.

Liturgical Year – The annual cycle of religious feasts and seasons that forms the context of the Church’s worship. It begins

on the First Sunday of Advent and ends with the celebration of the feast of Christ the King. It includes Advent, the Christmas Season, Lent, the Easter Season and Ordinary Times, as well as various Feasts of Mary, the Apostles and many other saints.

Liturgy – Based on a Greek word meaning “public work.” It refers to the public worship of the Church, including the Mass, the heart and high point of which is the Eucharist, and the Liturgy of the Hours.

Liturgy of the Eucharist – The second major part of the Mass. It includes the preparation of gifts, the Eucharistic prayer and the Rite of Holy Communion.

Liturgy of the Hours – The public, non-sacramental daily prayer of the Church. The prayer includes standard prayers, scripture readings and reflections at regular hours throughout the day.

Liturgy of the Word – The first part of the Mass where God’s Word is proclaimed.

Love – Also called charity; it is one of the three theological virtues. The human longing for God and a selfless commitment to supporting the dignity and humanity of all people, because they are created in God’s image.

Magisterium - The name given to the official teaching authority of the Church, whose task is to interpret and preserve the truths of the Church revealed in Sacred Scripture and Tradition.

Marks of the Church – The name given to four characteristics of the true Church of Jesus Christ: the Church is one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic. These marks are recited at Mass as part of the Nicene Creed.

Martyr – A person who voluntarily suffers death because of his or her beliefs. The Church has canonized many martyrs as saints.

Mass – The Mass is a sacred banquet, like the Last Supper, in which bread and wine become Christ’s Body and Blood which we receive in Holy Communion. Through the ministry of the ordained priest, the Holy Spirit makes present at Mass Christ’s Paschal mystery, His dying and rising in which Christ offered to the Father adoration and praise to save us from our sins and bring us divine life.

Matrimony; Marriage – An exclusive, permanent and lifelong contract between a man and a woman in which they commit themselves to care for each other and to procreate and raise children; when the marriage takes place between two baptized persons, it is recognized as the Sacrament of Matrimony.

Miracle – A special manifestation or sign of the presence and power of God active in human history.

Morality – Dealing with the goodness or evil of human acts, attitudes and values; involves matters such as right judgment, decision-making skills, personal freedom and responsibility.

Moral Law – Assists us in determining what is good or bad. Some acts are always wrong, that is, intrinsically evil, and may never be done, no matter what the intention or circumstances.

Mortal Sin – An action contrary to the will of God that results in a complete separation from God and God’s grace. A mortal sin requires three conditions: it must involve grave matter; the person must have full knowledge that the act is evil and the person must give full consent in committing the act.

Mysteries of the Rosary – Used for reflection in praying the rosary. They are the events of Christ’s life that include the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and Luminous Mysteries.

Natural Law – Our God-given instinct to be in right relationship with God, other people, the world and ourselves. The basis for natural law is our participation in God’s wisdom and goodness because we are created in the divine likeness. Natural law is the foundation for both personal morality and civil norms.

New Covenant – The new order established by God in Jesus Christ, to succeed and perfect the Old Covenant. The New Law or Law of the Gospel is the perfection here on earth of the divine law, natural and revealed. In the New Testament, Christ established a new and eternal covenant through his own sacrificial death and Resurrection. This law of the New Covenant is called a law of love, grace and freedom.

Nicene Creed – The formal statement or profession of faith commonly recited during the Eucharist. This creed resulted from the deliberations of the bishops at the Councils of Nicea (AD 325) and the First Constantinople (AD 381). These Councils clarified and defended the ancient teachings of the Church about the humanity and divinity of Christ and the divinity of the Holy Spirit.

Novena – Nine days of prayer, usually invoking the intercession of the Virgin Mary or a saint. The novena traces its development to the scriptural nine days of prayer by Mary, the Apostles and the disciples asking for the gift of the Holy Spirit after the Ascension of Jesus Christ into heaven.

Old Covenant – In the Old Testament, God revealed his law and promises through Moses and prepared his chosen people, the Israelites, for salvation through the prophets.

Original Sin – The sin by which the first human beings disobeyed God and lost their original holiness and became subject to death. Original sin is transmitted to every person born into the world.

Pall – A sacred covering used at a funeral. It is a white cloth placed over the casket which recalls the white garment that the person received at Baptism.

Paschal Candle – The large white candle lit at the Easter Vigil each year. It is a symbol of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, who dispels the darkness of death. The candle is lit for various liturgical celebrations throughout the Church year.

Paschal Mystery – The term given to the process of God’s plan of salvation by which God redeemed humanity from sin in and through Jesus’ life, death, Resurrection and Ascension into glory. Christians enter into the Paschal Mystery through sacramental initiation and participate in it by faithfully living out the process of dying and rising that is a part of all life.

Penance and Reconciliation – This is the sacrament in which sins committed after Baptism are forgiven. It results in reconciliation with God and the Church. Also referred to as confession, reconciliation, conversion and forgiveness.

Pentecost – The biblical event following the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus when the Holy Spirit came down upon the disciples. Pentecost is celebrated, in the liturgical year, fifty days after Easter. The first Pentecost is often referred to as the birthday of the Church, when the apostles publically preached the Good News to others.

Petition – Type of prayer offered for oneself or the needs of others.

Pope – The Vicar of Christ and pastor of the Catholic Church throughout the world. The pope, who serves as the Bishop of Rome, is successor to St. Peter and head of the college of bishops. The pope has the highest authority to teach, govern and sanctify in the Church. Official titles for the pope are “Roman Pontiff” and “Supreme Pontiff.” He is addressed as “Holy Father.”

Precepts of the Church – Laws made by the Church that indicate basic requirements for her members.

Priest – A baptized man ordained through the Sacrament of Holy Orders. A priest is the second of three degrees or “orders” in the Sacrament of Holy Orders, along with bishop and deacon. The priest is called to serve the community of faith by representing and assisting the bishop in teaching, governing and sanctifying the faithful, which he does by administering the sacraments and presiding over the community’s worship. Priests generally minister within a parish, school or other setting within a diocese.

Procreation – The aspect of marriage that requires that a married couple be open to the children that God may send them

and resolve to raise them as true followers of Jesus Christ.

Prophet - One sent by God to form the people of the Old Covenant in the hope of salvation. The prophets are authors of many of the books of the Old Testament. John the Baptist concludes the work of the prophets of the Old Covenant.

Purgatory – A state of final purification or cleansing which one may need to enter following death and before entry into heaven.

Reparation - Making amends for something one did wrong that caused harm or loss to another person.

Resurrection – The passage of Jesus from death to life “on the third day” after his Crucifixion; the Resurrection is the heart of the Paschal Mystery and the basis of our hope in the resurrection of the dead.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – The pastoral process for initiating new members into the Church.

Roman Missal – The liturgical book, combining, mainly, the Sacramentary and the Lectionary. The liturgical restorations of Vatican II involved separating these two books.

Rosary – A popular devotion to Mary, the Mother of God. The recitation of the rosary is connected with meditation on the mysteries of the life of Jesus. These mysteries include the Joyful, Sorrowful, Glorious and the Luminous Mysteries.

Sacramental Signs (Symbol) – External ritual by which a sacrament is performed and through which the distinctive graces of that sacrament are conferred.

Sacramentals – Sacred signs instituted by the Church such as holy water and a crucifix. They bear some resemblance to the sacraments but they do not carry the guarantee of God’s grace associated with the sacraments.

Sacraments – Signs of God’s grace, instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which divine life is dispensed to us. There are seven sacraments.

Sacraments of Healing – The two sacraments that are concerned with the healing of the mind, body and spirit are: Anointing of the Sick and Penance and Reconciliation.

Sacraments of Christian Initiation – The three Sacraments of Christian Initiation by which a non-baptized person becomes a full member of the Church are: Baptism, Confirmation and the Eucharist.

Sacraments of Service – Two sacraments that are directed toward the building up of the People of God: Holy Orders and Matrimony.

Sacred Scripture(s) – For Christians, it is the term used for the sacred writings found in the Old and New Testaments that make up the Bible. It is recognized as the Word of God.

Sacred Tradition – The living transmission of the message of the Gospel in the Church. Tradition began with the oral communication of the Gospel by the Apostles, was written down in the scriptures, is handed down and lived out in the life of the Church and is interpreted by the Magisterium under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Saint – A person who, after having lived a life of virtue, dies in the state of grace and has been granted the reward of eternal life by God. The saints enjoy the beatific vision and intercede for those still in earthly life. They also serve as a model and inspiration to us.

Salvation – Liberation from sin; eternal union with God in heaven. Salvation is accomplished by God alone through the Paschal Mystery – the life, death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.

Sanctifying Grace - A supernatural gift of God by which our sins are forgiven and we are made holy. It restores our

friendship with God.

Sanctuary – The part of the Church set apart for the principal rites of worship.

Sanctuary Lamp – A light indicating the reserved presence of Jesus in the consecrated host.

Satan – The Evil One, also known as the devil, is an angel who rebelled against God. Satan is the Prince of Lies and tempted Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

Sin – Any deliberate offense, in thought, word or deed against God. It is a failure in genuine love for God and neighbor.

Social Sin – The collective effect of sin over time, which corrupts society and its institutions. Examples of social sins are: racism, sexism and institutionalized poverty.

Stations of the Cross – Depiction of Jesus' journey to his crucifixion, death on the cross and his Resurrection. The stations help us reflect on this journey of Jesus.

Stewardship – An attitude that we do not own the gifts God has given us but we are trustees of those gifts. We have an obligation to share our time, talents and material treasures with others.

Tabernacle – A noble repository located in a prominent place in a Catholic church in which the Body and Blood of Christ are reserved for later use. The presence of the Body and Blood of Christ in the tabernacle is often a focus for adoration and prayer.

Ten Commandments – Norms of moral and/or religious actions given by God to Moses. Jesus summarized all the commandments into two: love God and love your neighbor.

Theological Virtues – The Theological Virtues are faith, hope and charity. They relate directly to God and call us to believe in God, hope in Him and love Him.

Transcendent – Supreme in excellence; beyond human knowledge.

Transfiguration – The mysterious event in which Jesus while speaking with Moses and Elijah on the mountain, was transformed in appearance – in the sight of Peter, James and John – as a moment of disclosure of his divine glory.

Transubstantiation – This is the name given, in the Eucharist, to the action of changing the bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. By the consecration, the substance of the bread and wine is changed into the substance of Christ's Body and Blood.

Triduum – The three days of the liturgical year which begin with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday and end with evening prayer on Easter Sunday.

Trinity – Three persons in one God, the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Each person of the Trinity is really and fully God.

Unity – oneness; harmony; state of being one.

Venial Sin – A less serious offense against the will of God, which does not destroy the divine life in the soul, though it diminishes and wounds it.

Vestments – The special clothing that the clergy wear at Mass to show that the Mass is a special celebration. There are various colors of vestments worn to distinguish the seasons of the Church year or the liturgical celebration.

Viaticum – The Holy Eucharist when received by a dying person is the spiritual food for one's passing from this world to the Father.

Vocation – A call to each person from God, received in Baptism, to embrace a life of holiness and eternal life. Specifically, it refers to a call to live a holy life as an ordained minister, as a vowed religious (sister or brother), in Christian marriage or in a single life.

Vow – A free and conscious commitment made to other persons in marriage, to the Church or to God. Religious vows, those taken by members of religious congregations or orders, can include poverty, chastity and obedience.

Worship – Adoration of God, expressed publicly in the Church's official liturgy and in other prayers and devotions.

Additional Information

The Mysteries of the Rosary

The Joyful Mysteries:

- The Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple and the Finding of the Child Jesus after Three Days in the Temple.

The Sorrowful Mysteries:

- The Agony in the Garden, the Scourging at the Pillar, the Crowning with Thorns, the Carrying of the Cross, and the Crucifixion and Death of Jesus.

The Glorious Mysteries:

- The Resurrection, the Ascension into Heaven, the Sending of the Holy Spirit Upon the Apostles at Pentecost, the Assumption of Mary and the Crowning of Mary as Queen of Heaven and Earth.

The Luminous Mysteries:

- The Baptism at the Jordan, the Miracle at Cana, the Proclamation of the Kingdom and the Call to Conversion, the Transfiguration and the Institution of the Eucharist.

Precepts of the Church

1. You shall attend Mass on Sundays and on holy days of obligation and rest from servile labor.
2. You shall confess your sins at least once a year.
3. You shall receive the sacrament of the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
4. You shall observe the days of fasting and abstinence established by the Church.
5. You shall help to provide for the needs of the Church.

Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults – The pastoral process for initiating new members into the Church. This process outlines the steps for the formation of catechumens, bringing their conversion to the faith to a greater maturity. It helps them respond more deeply to God’s gracious initiative in their lives and prepares them for union with the Church community. The Church leads them to knowledge of the truths of faith, to the celebration of the seven sacraments, to commitment to the moral life – including the forming of a social conscience – and to the practice of prayer and life within a community.

Senses of Scripture – There are two senses or aspects of scripture – the literal and the spiritual. The literal meaning is that conveyed by the words of scripture and discovered by exegesis following rules of sound interpretation. The spiritual meaning points to realities beyond the words themselves and is subdivided into three categories. These categories are:

Allegorical – This recognizes the significance of the scriptures in Christ, that is, the way in which images in scripture serve as a type or foreshadowing of Christ and his actions.

Anagogical – This views realities and events in scripture in terms of their eternal significance.

Moral – What is read in scripture inspires or motivates one to live justly.

Catholic Social Teaching Major Themes

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
2. Call to Family, Community and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care for God’s Creation

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