

# RELIGION CURRICULUM

## FIFTH GRADE

*Do this in remembrance of Me. (1 Co 11:24)*

**Focus: Sacraments** – God shares His life and His love with us in the sacraments. Through Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist, we are initiated as members of God’s family. Through Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick, we are healed and strengthened. Through the sacraments of service, Holy Orders, and Matrimony, we celebrate God’s call to live our lives in loving service to others.

### **Faith Background**

Children of this age have generally experienced an affiliation in the family and are now eager to expand that sense into clubs, groups, and organizations. Fifth grade students are naturally ready for the development of Christian community. They are able to understand forgiveness and reconciliation as responses to hurt and unfairness. Belonging to a faith group become more meaningful. Because of their strong appreciation of justice and fairness, children should have opportunities that introduce them to social justice and action.

Faith at this age is largely unquestioned. Children will conform to the experiences, values, and understandings of the faith group to which they belong.

### **Creed**

- 1. God – The student will grow in his or her understanding of the Trinity.**
  - a. Recognize that the mystery of the Trinity is at the core of our faith.
  - b. Determine that there is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
  - c. Explain how God is with us everywhere, especially through other people and the Church.
  
- 2. Jesus – The student will understand that Jesus is a visible sign of God’s love.**
  - a. Recognize that Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is true God and true Human.
  - b. Recognize that God came into our world to save us.

3. **Holy Spirit – The student will understand that Christ’s saving power is continued through the Holy Spirit.**
  - a. Understand that the Holy Spirit gives us courage and hope, directs good judgment and prompts good works.
  - b. Recognize the Gifts and the Fruits of the Holy Spirit.
  
4. **Blessed Virgin Mary – The student will grow in his or her understanding of Mary, the Mother of Jesus.**
  - a. Recall facts of the Annunciation and Visitation.
  - b. Recall what is meant by Immaculate Conception.
  - c. Describe what is meant by the Assumption.
  - d. Experience May devotions to Mary.
  - e. Recognize the origin of the rosary. Experience saying the rosary.
  
5. **Saints – The student will grow in his or her understanding of the saints.**
  - a. Explain the communion of saints.
  - b. Describe the canonization process.
  
5. **Sacred Scripture – The student will understand that God speaks to us through the Bible.**
  - a. Understand that God is present in the Bible, the inspired Word of God.
  - b. Find the Book, Chapter, and Verse for biblical quotes.
  - c. Explain the Bible as revelation and literature.
  - d. Explain how the Bible is written by various authors.
  - e. Describe the literary forms used in the Bible.
  - f. Recognize that the Book of Psalms is a collection of songs, which have been used as prayers for centuries by Jews and Christians.
  - g. Understand that the Gospels were written by the evangelists Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. Describe the intentions of each Gospel writer.
  - h. Explain how the New Testament tells us about the life of Jesus, both as God and as man.
  - i. Read the Acts of the Apostles.
  
7. **Church – The student will recognize that the Church is one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic, and is the People of God, called together by the Holy Spirit.**
  - a. Understand that the Church is founded by Christ.
  - b. Recognize that the Church is the Body of Christ.
  - c. Explain how the Church is called to serve and build the Kingdom of God.
  - d. Explain how the Church is a pilgrim people.
  - e. Explain how the Church, as servant, ministers to all.
  - f. Participate actively in Mass.
  - g. Plan a Mass.

- h. Name and explain the 4 Marks of the Church. Identify the way these Marks are visible.
- i. Describe how we have a Catholic identity and that we are united in the Holy Spirit through the same faith, the same sacraments, and the same government and hierarchy.

## **Sacraments**

- 1. Sacraments – The student will describe the nature and purpose of each sacrament while exploring the symbolic words and actions used with them.**
  - a. Define sacraments as holy actions giving strength.
  - b. Describe the sacraments as unique ways of meeting Christ, who makes God's grace present to us.
- 2. Baptism – The student will understand that Baptism creates a permanent relationship to Christ.**
  - a. Memorize the baptismal promises.
  - b. Explain how Baptism breaks the power of evil and strengthens against its effects.
- 3. Confirmation – The student will understand that Confirmation renews our baptismal call to bear witness to Christ by living the Gospel.**
  - a. Determine that Confirmation is a sacrament celebrating God's gift of the Holy Spirit and our Christian response to the faith community.
  - b. Retell the story of Pentecost.
  - c. Explain when Confirmation is usually received.
  - d. Define Holy Chrism and explain its use.
- 4. Reconciliation – The student will understand that the sacrament of Reconciliation continues Jesus' work of forgiveness, healing, and Reconciliation.**
  - a. Celebrate reconciliation with the community, individuals within the community, and with our loving God.
  - b. Experience a formal examination of conscience.
  - c. Explain why people confess to a priest.
- 5. Eucharist – The student will understand that Eucharist is a sacrament of Jesus' real presence in the Christian community.**
  - a. Explain how Eucharist recalls the Last Supper and the sacrifice of Christ.
  - b. Explain why we kneel and genuflect in Church.

- 6. Anointing of the Sick – The student will understand that Anointing of the Sick is a sacrament of Christ’s healing presence.**
  - a. Explain who may receive this sacrament.
  - b. Recognize that, whenever possible, anointing should be celebrated in community.
  - c. Define and explain viaticum.
  
- 7. Matrimony – The student will understand that Matrimony celebrates the grace-filled covenant between a man and a woman.**
  - a. Describe marriage as a sacramental, life-long love between a man and a woman.
  - b. Define marriage as the sacrament of the family.
  - c. Recognize that marriage is a call and a vocation.
  
- 8. Holy Orders – The student will understand that the sacrament of Holy Orders celebrates the call to serve God’s people through the ordained ministry.**
  - a. Explain the concept of a call.
  - b. Explain the structure of the priesthood and the orders.

## **Christian Living**

- 1. Christian Response – The student will recognize that all followers of Jesus are called to the ministry of service through baptism.**
  - a. Explain our responsibility to others.
  - b. Choose to be helpful.
  
- 2. Morality – The student will describe sin as a broken relationship to God.**
  - a. Retell the story of original sin in Genesis.
  - b. Describe how original sin affects each life.
  - c. Describe greater and lesser offenses.
  - d. Explain the effects of sin.
  
- 3. Social Justice – The student will recognize that Jesus heals others through us.**
  - a. Describe and contrast just and unjust situations.
  - b. Affirm the equality of races and sexes. Define prejudice and discrimination.
  - c. Describe actions people can take for the poor and hungry.
  
- 4. Human Life – The student will show respect and reverence for the gift of life.**
  - a. Recognize that life, beginning at conception, is a gift from God.
  - b. Appreciate our unique gifts and talents.

- c. Understand some of the changes that take place during puberty.
- d. Understand the male and female reproductive systems.
- e. Understand different ways in which people show love for each other.
- f. Understand that sexual intercourse, within a marriage, is an expression of love between husband and wife and is a way for new life to be created.
- g. Recognize the dangers of alcohol and drugs.

## **Prayer**

### **1. Prayer – The student will experience different forms of prayer: shared prayer, spontaneous prayer, reflective prayer, and praying with scripture.**

- a. Make the sign of the cross reverently.
- b. Pray together as a class, school community, family and church.
- c. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
- d. Pray the Hail Mary.
- e. Pray the Blessing Before Meals.
- f. Pray the Glory Be.
- g. Pray the Act of Contrition.
- h. Pray the Apostles' Creed. Recognize the Nicene Creed.
- i. Offer God thanks and praise.
- j. Pray for personal needs and the needs of others.
- k. Pray for the forgiveness of sins.
- l. Recognize the Spiritual Works of Mercy and the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- m. Recognize the Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love.
- n. Recognize the Magnificat.
- o. Pray the Morning Offering.
- p. Recognize some Psalms.