

Grades 1 through 8

Learning Outcomes for Religious Education

1. The learner will articulate and put into practice the Church teachings and gospel values.
2. The learner will participate in liturgical and sacramental celebrations in the context of the liturgical year.
3. The learner will develop a life of prayer.
4. The learner will know the moral teachings of the Church and be able to apply them to their lives.
5. The learner will demonstrate the skills to live in Christian community.
6. The learner will gain an appreciation for other Christian churches and ecclesial communities.
7. The learner will apply the social teachings of the Church to a life of service.
8. The learner will demonstrate knowledge of Sacred Scripture.

Based on the Tasks of Catechesis which are outlined in the General Directory for Catechesis.

Grades 1 through 8 Textbooks

These guidelines do not replace the approved textbooks but are designed to summarize the scope of instruction for each grade level. Each school religious education program should use an approved textbook series for Grade One through Eight.

We have not included the references from the Catechism for the Catholic Church in the guidelines because they are included in the Catechist Manual of the textbooks however these guidelines are based on the teaching of the Catechism of the Catholic Church.

Children Grades 1 through Grade 8 will receive from 90 to 120 hours of religious education instruction per year depending on the grade level. Lectionary-based Catechetical Materials should be used as supplemental materials to one of the approved textbook series. Liturgy of the Word for Children should not be included in the hours of instruction. Schools should encourage families to participate in parish based whole family programs in addition to the students' school religious education instruction.

Approved Textbook Series June 2008

(S = School, P = Parish)

Title Group/Copyright	Publisher	
<u>Blest Are We</u> (1-6) 2008	Silver Burdett Ginn	S 2004, P
<u>Blest Are We</u> (7-8) 2003		S 2005, P
<u>Call To Faith</u> (K-6) 2009	Harcourt Religion Publishers	S&P 2005,
<u>Call To Faith</u> (7-8)		S/P 2007
<u>Call to Faith Junior High Booklet Series</u>		S/P 2008
<u>Christ Jesus, the Way</u> (K-6)	Benziger	S&P 2003
<u>Christ Jesus, the Way</u> (7-8)		S&P 2004
<u>Finding God</u> (1-6)	Loyola Press	S&P 2005
<u>Finding God</u> (7-8)		S/P 2007
<u>Christ Our Life</u> (K-8)		S/P 2009
<u>Faith First</u> (K-6) 2001	RCL-Resources for Christian Living	S/P 2000,
<u>Faith First</u> (7-8)		S/P 2001
<u>Faith First Legacy Edition Church History</u> (7-8)		S 2007

<u>Faith First Legacy Edition/Parish</u> (K-8)		P 2006, 2007
<u>Faith First Legacy Edition/School</u> (1-8)		S 2007
<u>One Faith, One Lord</u> (7-8) 2009	William H. Sadlier, Inc.	S/P 2003,
<u>Our Catholic Faith</u> (4-6)		S/P 2009
<u>We Believe</u> (K-6)		S&P 2004
<u>We Believe Series, We Live Our Faith</u> (7-8)		S/P 2007

Sacramental Preparation Materials

<u>Call to Celebrate Series</u> 2007, 2008	Harcourt Religion Publishers	S/P
<u>Confirmed in the Spirit</u> (7-9)	Loyola Press	S/P 2007
<u>Eucharist</u>	RCL	S/P 2003
<u>Reconciliation</u>		S/P 2003
<u>Confirmation</u>		S/P 2007
<u>Eucharist: We Give Thanks and Praise</u>	Benziger	S/P 2006
<u>Reconciliation: Pardon and Peace</u>		S/P 2006
<u>First Eucharist</u>	William H. Sadlier, Inc	S/P 2000
<u>First Reconciliation</u>		S/P 2000
<u>We Believe and Celebrate First Communion</u>		S/P 2006
<u>We Believe and Celebrate First Penance</u>		S/P 2006
<u>God's Gift – Eucharist</u>	Loyola Press	S/P 2009
<u>God's Gift – Reconciliation</u>		S/P 2009
<u>Together in Jesus – Eucharist</u>	Pflaum Publishing Group	S 2004
<u>Together in Jesus – Reconciliation</u>		S 2004

Previously Approved Materials:

Publisher	Title	Age Group
Benziger	<u>Come, Follow Me</u> (1998)	K-8
	<u>Share the Joy</u> (1997)	K-6
	<u>Christ Jesus, The Way</u> (2003-2004)	K-8 school K-6 parish
Harcourt	<u>Walking by Faith</u> (1999)	K-6 parish

Sacramental Program:

Celebrating Our Faith: Reconciliation and Eucharist (2000)

Level I and II (2002)

Un Llamado a la Fe

Loyola Press

Knowing Our Catholic Faith: Beliefs and Identity (2000)

1-8

Finding God Our Response to God's Gift (2005)

K-6 parish
K-6 school

Resources for Christian Living

Faith First (2000, 2001)

1-8

Nuestra Identidad Catolica (1998)

1-8

Silver Burdett-Ginn

This is Our Faith (1998)

K-8 school

Blessed Are We (2002)

Sacramental Program

The Gift of the Eucharist (2000)

The Gift of Reconciliation (2000)

William H. Sadlier, Inc.

Coming to Faith (1998-1999)

K-6

Acercandote a La Fe (1999)

K-6

We Believe (2004)

K-6

Curriculum Framework for Grade 4

Emphasis: Christians are called to live as Jesus did by choosing a life of love characterized by the foundations of Christian Morality presented in the Old and New Testaments.

1. Church Teaching and Scripture

- A. The Ten Commandments are part of the covenant made with God.
- B. We respond to God's love by following the commandments.
- C. The Gospel Message is the good news of God's saving love.
- D. The words and life of Jesus contained in the scriptures teach us to live morally good lives.
- E. Jesus taught that God's Kingdom is justice and peace for all people.
- F. The law of the Gospel requires us to make choices based on love.
- G. The Beatitudes teach us how to be happy forever with God.
- H. We are judged by how well we have loved and shown mercy.
- I. Jesus, Mary, the saints and all that live the covenant are examples of how to live in God's Kingdom.
- J. Through God's grace, Mary remains free of original sin and personal sin.

2. Liturgy and Sacraments

- A. Jesus calls us to a spiritual life.
- B. The Eucharist is the central celebration of the Catholic community.
- C. In the Eucharist Jesus makes us one with himself and others. He offers himself for us, feeds us and remains with us.
- D. We recognize the Penitential Rite in the Mass as a form of reconciliation.
- E. In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we celebrate God's forgiveness and mercy. Reconciliation calls us to reflect upon our life, be sorry for our sins and to change our life for the better.
- F. The season of Lent is a time when the Church community focuses on conversion through prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
- G. The Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday) is the holiest season of the Church year.

3. Prayer

- A. Regular examination of conscience helps us to change our lives and grow in holiness.
- B. In places of worship we show reverence and a prayerful attitude.
- C. Prayers to learn and practice:
 - Penitential Rite of the Mass
 - Prayer of Sorrow
 - Act of Faith, Hope, Love
 - Stations of the Cross
 - Rosary
 - Review of Prayers learned in previous years

4. Morality

- A. A Christian moral life is putting our beliefs into action.
- B. We live moral lives by obeying the Ten Commandments and living the Beatitudes
- C. A virtue is a good habit or practice that helps you follow Jesus.
- D. Christians make moral choices; all choices have consequences.
- E. Steps for making good moral choice:
 - Pray for the help of the Holy Spirit.
 - Recall God's law and the Church's teachings.
 - Consider the consequences of the choice.
 - Seek advice when necessary.
 - Remember Jesus is with us and speak with him about the choice.
 - Recall that our decision will affect our relationship with God and others.
- F. God has given us the gifts of grace, free will and conscience.
- G. All people experience temptation but we have a choice whether to sin or not.
- H. Peer pressure influences us to do good or bad.
- I. We sin when we disobey God and his Law, whether by thought, word, action or omission.
- J. Venial is a less serious sin because it weakens our relationship with God and the community but does not completely destroy it.
- K. Mortal sin is a serious sin because we turn away from God completely.
- L. A mistake or accident is not a sin.
- M. When we sin God's mercy and love never leave us.
- N. God forgives us when we are truly sorry for our sins and seek God's forgiveness.

5. Church- The Christian Community

- A. We live the life of Jesus by following the Ten Commandments, the teachings of the Beatitudes, and the Great Commandment of Jesus.
- B. The Church is a community of faith, hope, love and forgiveness.
- C. The Church family teaches and nourishes us on our journey of faith.

6. Ecumenism

- A. We pray as a Church for peace and unity in the world community.
- B. We openly share our faith with others.
- C. We join in prayer and celebration with those of other faiths.

7. Service

- A. All members of the Church are called to carry out Jesus' ministry.
- B. We serve others like Jesus did by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- C. We practice stewardship by caring for God's Creation.

8. Words to know

conscience
conversion
free will
grace
liturgy
morality
reverence
stewardship
Triduum
virtues

Corporal Works of Mercy
covenant
Good News
justice
mercy
mortal sin
Spiritual Works of Mercy
temptation
venial sin