

## **First Grade Religion**

First Graders learn very general concepts of Religion. They are taught that God is the Creator of all that is good. He created us out of love and we strive to serve Him and to be happy with Him in His Kingdom. They also learn that Jesus is the Son of God and His mother is the Blessed Virgin Mary. Jesus was born to lead us to God and rose from the dead to give us eternal life in Heaven. Additionally, in first grade, students learn basic concepts about the foundation, mission and structure of the Church and that the Catholic Church is founded in holiness and is everywhere and for everyone.

## **Second Grade Religion**

Second Grade Religion continues with the basic concepts of first grade but focuses on the Sacraments. They learn that Sacraments are special celebrations that allow us to further serve God. Worship, Liturgy, Prayers, and Sacramentals help second grade students understand the parts of the Mass and that Jesus gives His Body and Blood to us so that we can become one with Him. The importance of symbols such as Crosses, Holy Water, Rosaries, etc. are shown as reminders that God is always with us and offers us grace and forgiveness to help us turn away from sin. Second graders prepare throughout the year for their first Reconciliation and first Holy Communion.

## **Third Grade Religion**

Third Grade Religion explores the Church as a visible society that was founded by Jesus Christ. Students learn that the Church is broken down into levels of authority; the highest of which is the Pope. Each structure within the Church, such as the diocese and the parish have Bishops, priests, brothers, sisters, deacons and lay people. These members are all participants in the evangelization of God's word. Sacraments are studied in greater depth during third grade and along with this study; the concepts of Conscience, Justice, suffering, death and dying are introduced as necessary parts of sharing an eternal life in Heaven.

## **Fourth Grade Religion**

Fourth Grade Religion focuses on the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes as guides for living. Children learn about their obligation as Christians to live like Jesus by loving God and others. They also learn that the first 3 commandments outline how we show love for God and the last seven commandments guide our love of others and ourselves. During fourth grade, an appreciation for life and the gifts of the Earth are developed and that following the Beatitudes will lead to happiness in both this life and the life to come.

## **Fifth Grade Religion**

Fifth Grade Religion is centered on a study of the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and the center of Christian life. As Catholic Christians students will come to a basic understanding and appreciation of Christian worship. They will become more familiar with the Mass and will have opportunities for active participation. Fifth Grade students will come to a better understanding of reconciling love and healing through Jesus' sacraments and that God calls all Christians to holiness through special ways of life. Students will grow also in their respect of others through the fifth thru tenth commandments.

## **Sixth Grade Religion**

Sixth Grade Religion is devoted to the study of God's saving love as it is revealed in Sacred Scripture, particularly the Old Testament. Students will gain a deep understanding of how God's plan of salvation unfolded in the past lives of the patriarchs. They will learn an appreciation that the commandments are a gift to deepen their covenant relationship with God. They will study the importance of the roles and contributions of the people of the Old Testament and will gain an appreciation of God's messages as delivered through the Prophets.

## **Seventh Grade Religion**

Seventh Grade Religion is devoted to the study of God's saving love as revealed through Jesus and the Gospels. Students will learn about the world Jesus lived in and how he lived out his mission. They will gain an understanding of what it means to follow Jesus in daily life by studying parables, miracles and signs that Jesus worked, choosing to accept the challenges of the Beatitudes and Jesus' kingdom of justice, truth and love. They will have in depth lessons on the Eucharist, Jesus' final hours, the victory of Jesus, the living Spirit and the sacraments of Holy Matrimony and Holy Orders.

## **Eighth Grade Religion**

Eighth Grade Religion is designed to help young teens grow in their knowledge and love of the Church. They will take a close look at the Church as a community of disciples and people of prayer. They will also learn that Christians are a People of Service that are one with the Spirit. In addition to Church history, they will identify specific key people within the Church and focus on the challenges and reformations that have occurred over time. Students will realize what it means to lead a Christian life and that living by Christ's moral standards is a way of human dignity.