

RELIGION

PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

Annunciation School is a Catholic parish school committed to learning based on Christian values. We seek to nurture the whole child, providing a Christian environment for learning, and the opportunity to learn about the Catholic Faith. We follow the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis Religion Standards:

- Promoting Knowledge of the Faith
- Liturgical Education
- Moral Formation
- Teaching to Pray
- Education for Community Life
- Missionary Initiative

These standards are addressed in a daily religion classes. They also permeate the entire school curriculum.

Kindergarten RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Recognize that God is the Creator of all things.
- Know that the Trinity is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Know that "life" is the greatest gift from God.
- Know and appreciate that God is present in all of Creation.
- Know what Jesus is both truly God and Man.
- Identify angels as special messengers of God.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word.

Students Can:

- Know and respect that the Bible is the Book of God's Word.
- Know that we read from the Bible at Mass.
- Tell some Bible stories that show us that God loves us.

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism.

Students Can:

- Recognize the Great Commandment and the Ten Commandments

Standard: Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church history.

Students Can:

- Know that Jesus came to save all people.

Standard: Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, bishop, Vatican congregations and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Students Can:

- Identify the roles of family, laity, deacon, priest, bishop and pope as leaders in our church.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

Students Can:

- Recognize the saints as holy people.
- Describe how grace is God's life in us.
- Give examples of how we live a Christian life.

Standard: Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments.

Students Can:

- Identify that Jesus gave us the sacraments as a way to celebrate and remember God's love for us, and through which Jesus became truly present.

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students Can:

- Show reverence while being in Church.
- Relate the Sunday Scripture readings to daily life.
- Recognize the Liturgical Seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time.

Standard: Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism.

Students Can:

- Know that through the Sacrament of Baptism we become members of the Catholic Church, are consecrated to God and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- Give examples of how we respect one another.

Standard: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations.

Students Can:

- Experience various celebrations of prayer.
- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations: praying, singing, choir, readings, petitions, gift bearers.
- Know the roles of the priest, deacon, choir, lectors, and the community in our Eucharistic Celebration.

Standard: Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms.

Students Can:

- Listen to and understand the children's translation of Psalm 23, the Good Shepherd.
- Explain how we praise God in morning prayers and evening prayers. Bedtime is the time to pray trusting God's care as we sleep.
- Show the sign of the cross and bowing in reverence.

Strand 3: Moral Formation

Standard: Understand the "Great Commandment" of Jesus.

Students Can:

- Recite the "Great Commandment" and know it is one of our guides for living.

Standard: Understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them.

Students Can:

- Recognize that the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes are guides for moral living.
- Show respect for those in authority.

Standard: Understand the dignity, freedom, and responsibility of each person.

Students Can:

- Develop a relationship with Jesus.
- Understand that actions affect others.
- Demonstrate respect for all living things.
- Understand that each person is made in God's image.

Standard: Understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it.

Students Can:

- Understand that having a change of heart takes time.
- Distinguish between accidents, mistakes, and sin.
- Understand the relationship between sin, God's forgiveness and mercy.

Standard: Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience.

Students Can:

- Practice simple forms of guided reflection.
- Pray for God's help in knowing right from wrong.

Standard: Promote the Gospel of Life, respecting all life from conception through death.

Students Can:

- Show respect and responsibility for all life.
- Pray in thanksgiving for the gift of life.

Standard: Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values.

Students Can:

- Demonstrate ways to live the Great Commandment.
- Volunteer at your parish and school.

Strand 4: Teaching to Pray

Standard: Become familiar with the diverse forms of prayer, with special attention to the Our Father.

Students Can:

- Develop a personal relationship with Jesus.
- Understand that the family is the primary setting for learning how to pray.
- Recite the following prayers: The Sign of the Cross, Hail Mary, Prayers Before Meals
- Practice spontaneous prayers.

Standard: Experience and appreciate Guided Meditation as a form of prayer.

Students Can:

- Practice Guided Meditation.

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection.

Students Can:

- Demonstrate a sense of wonder and curiosity into their relationship with God.

Standard: Engage in shared prayers with others.

Students Can:

- Create prayers of petition and intercession.

- Participate in prayers of petition and intercession with others.

Standard: Recognize and encourage practices that strengthen their faith in Jesus.

Students Can:

- Participate in a blessing.
- Give and receive daily blessings.

Strand 5: Education for Community Life

Standard: Foster spiritual growth in community

Students Can:

- Be aware, that through Baptism, that they are God's special child and a member of the Christian Community.

Standard: Cultivate human and Christian values that foster growth in relationships and civic responsibility.

Students Can:

- Know and practice the Golden Rule.
- Understand the relationship between trusting God and one's well-being.
- Care for themselves, others, and the environment.
- Adopt Christian values and virtues.

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life.

Students Can:

- Experience family life as the domestic church.
- Know that Jesus lived as member of a human family.
- Understand the roles of adults and children within a family.

Standard: Share actively in the life and work of the parish.

Students Can:

- Practice works of charity with their family and class.
- Develop relationships beyond their family or class in which they are able to share faith.

Standard: Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church.

Students Can:

- Identify oneself as Catholic.
- Retell the story of their baptism and name ways to live as a member of Christ's body.

Standard: Support the ecumenical movement.

Students Can:

- Identify all followers of Jesus as our brothers and sisters.

Strand 6: Missionary Initiation

Standard: Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful.

Students Can:

- Identify that life is our greatest gift from God.
- Plan ways to share faith with others.
- Appreciate that many diverse cultures make up the Catholic Church.
- Relate how the Sunday Mass asks us to help others.

Standard: Respond to God's call.

Students can:

- Give examples of saints, heroes and holy people.
- Identify how members of the parish are living their Baptismal call.
- Recognize that the "People of God" are the Church.

Standard: Encourage, motivate and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the church.

Students Can:

- Share their favorite Bible stories with others.
- Apply knowledge of faith to daily life.

Standard: Explore and promote Church's moral and social teachings.

Students Can:

- Explore ways to share one's gifts.
- Take actions that show their love of God's creation.

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need and promoting the common good.

Students Can:

- Explain how to imitate Jesus by welcoming, sharing, and forgiving.
- Identify different service ministries in the parish.
- Name ways to practice peace making.

Standard: Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts.

Students Can:

- Know that the Our Father is a Christian prayer.
- Know that all major religions have holy spaces.
- Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions.
- Know that Jesus, Mary and Joseph were Jewish.

Grade 1 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting Knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ

Students Can:

- Recognize God is the Creator of all things.
- Identify that God is Trinity: One God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Recognize and appreciate God's presence in all of creation.
- Identify angels as special messengers of God.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word

Students Can:

- Know that the Bible is a special Book of God's Word and demonstrate how we show respect for it.
- Know that we read from the Bible at Eucharist (Mass).
- Demonstrate how the Bible is divided into two main sections: Old and the New Testament.
- Give examples of how Bible stories tell us about God's love for us.

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism

Students Can:

- Recognize the Great Commandment.
- Name and explain the Sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist.

Standard: Know the Church's teaching on dignity of the human person

Students Can:

- Show respect for all of creation.
- Respect that each person is created in God's image.

Standard: Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church History

Students Can:

- Recognize the Jesus came to save all people.
- Name 3 holy men or women who believed in Jesus.
- Name 3 holy people who lived at the time of Jesus.
- Name people who believe in Jesus now.

Standard: Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current Church teachings as presented by the pope and other Church leaders

Students Can:

- Identify leaders in our Church.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church

Students Can:

- Recognize the saints as holy people.
- Describe how grace is God's life in us.
- Give examples of how we live a Christian life.

Standard: Understand Church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments

Students Can:

- Identify that Jesus gave us the sacraments to celebrate and remember God's love for us.
- Retell the story of the Last Supper.

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy

Students Can:

- Show reverence while being in Church.

Standard: Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian Baptism

Students Can:

- Identify that we become members of the Church through Baptism.
- Give examples of how we respect one another.

Standard: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations

Students Can:

- Experience celebrations of prayer and identify the leader.
- Participate in liturgical celebrations.
- Identify the roles of priest, deacon, choir, lectors, etc. at Mass.

Standard: Understand and participate in daily prayer

- Recognize that bedtime is a time to pray.
- Show prayer gestures (sign of cross, bowing).

Strand 3: Moral Formation

Standard: Understand the Great Commandment of Jesus

Students Can:

- Recite the Great Commandment and know it is a guide for living.

Standard: Understand the Ten Commandments and moral teachings of the Church and live by them

Students Can:

- Recognize that the Ten Commandments are guides for moral living.
- Show respect for those in authority.

Standard: Understand the dignity, destiny, freedom and responsibility of each person

Students Can:

- Seek to develop a relationship with Jesus.
- Understand that actions affect others.
- Demonstrate respect for all living things.
- Acknowledge that the body is sacred because each person is made in the image of God.

Standard: Understand the meaning and nature of sin and power of God's grace to overcome it

Students Can:

- Distinguish between accidents, mistakes and sin.
- Know God's unconditional love and mercy.

Standard: Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience

Students Can:

- Pray for God's help in knowing right from wrong.

Standard: Promote the Gospel of Life

Students Can:

- Show respect and responsibility for all life.
- Pray in thanksgiving for the gift of life.

Standard: Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values

Students Can:

- Demonstrate ways to live the Great Commandment.
- Recognize ways to volunteer at school or parish.
- Know that because of Baptism we are Christ's disciples.

Strand 4: Teaching to Pray

Standard: Become familiar with Christian prayer

Students Can:

- Develop a relationship with Jesus.
- Understand that family is one setting to pray and learn to pray.
- Recite: The sign of the cross, Angel of God, The Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Prayer Before Meals.
- Formulate spontaneous prayer.

Standard: Experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic traditions of mysticism and contemplation

Students Can:

- Identify guided meditation as a form of prayer.
- Participate in breathing exercises as ways to enter prayer.

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of prayer

Students Can:

- Demonstrate a sense of wonder and curiosity in their relationship with God.

Standard: Strengthen faith in Jesus

Students Can:

- Participate in blessings.
- Give and receive blessings.

Strand 5: Education for Community Life

Standard: Foster spiritual growth in community

Students Can:

- Acknowledge that Sunday Mass is a central part of the life of the Church.
- Acknowledge that through Baptism, they are a member of the Christian community.

Standard: Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and civic responsibility

Students Can:

- Know and practice the Golden Rule.
- Identify as a disciple of Christ and a member of the Church.
- Associate trust in God with their own well-being and happiness.
- Understand their responsibility to care for themselves, others and the environment.
- Adopt Christian values and virtues to guide their life.

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life

Students Can:

- Experience family life as the domestic Church.
- Know that Jesus lived as a member of a human family.
- Understand the roles of parents as authority and acknowledge the roles and responsibilities of children within the family structure.

Standard: Share actively in the life and work of the parish

Students Can:

- Participate in works of charity with their class.

Standard: Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church

- Name ways to live as members of the Church.

Standard: Support the ecumenical movement and promote unity of God's people

Students Can:

- Identify all followers of Jesus as brothers and sisters.

Strand 6: Missionary Initiation

Standard: Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful

Students Can:

- Identify that life is our greatest gift from God.
- Plan ways to share faith with others.
- Appreciate that many diverse cultures make up the Catholic Church.

Standard: Respond to God's call

Students Can:

- Give examples of saints, heroes and holy people.
- Recognize that "People of God" are the Church.

Standard: Encourage, motivate and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the Church

Students Can:

- Share favorite Bible stories with others.
- Apply their knowledge of faith to daily life.

Standard: Explore and promote the applications of the Church's moral and social teachings

Students Can:

- Explore ways to share one's gifts.
- Take actions that show their love of God's creation.

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action

Students Can:

- Tell how to imitate Jesus by welcoming others, sharing with those in need and by forgiving others.
- Name ways to practice peace making.

Standard: Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts

Students Can:

- Know that the Lord's Prayer is a Christian prayer.
- Know that all major religions have "holy spaces" like a church.
- Demonstrate respect for all religions.

Grade 2 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in a relationship with Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Recognize that God is the Creator of all things.
- Know that the Trinity is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- Know that "life" is the greatest gift from God.
- Explain that we receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in Eucharist, remembering his life, death and resurrection.
- Know and appreciate that God is present in all of Creation.
- Know what Jesus is both truly God and Man.
- Identify angels as special messengers of God.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word.

Students Can:

- Know and respect that the Bible is the Book of God's Word.
- Know that we read from the Bible at Mass.
- Know that the Psalms are a book of the Old Testament and prayed at Mass.
- Demonstrate that the Bible is divided into the Old and New Testament.
- Tell some Bible stories that show us that God loves us.

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism.

Students Can:

- Recognize the Great Commandment and the Ten Commandments
- Identify the seven Sacraments
- Tell about the Sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Reconciliation.

Standard: Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church history.

Students Can:

- Know that Jesus came to save all people.
- Name 3 holy men or women who believed in God.
- Know 3 holy men or women who lived at the time of Jesus.
- Name 3 holy men or women living now who follow Jesus' teachings.

Standard: Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, bishop, Vatican congregations and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Students Can:

- Identify the roles of family, laity, deacon, priest, bishop and pope as leaders in our church.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

Students Can:

- Recognize the saints as holy people.
- Identify the different parts of the church: Baptismal font, altar, tabernacle, etc.
- Describe how grace is God's life in us.
- Give examples of how we live a Christian life.

Standard: Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments.

Students Can:

- Identify that Jesus gave us the sacraments as a way to celebrate and remember God's love for us, and through which Jesus became truly present.
- Tell the story of the Last Supper.
- Tell about the sacrament of Reconciliation—it's purpose and how we celebrate it.
- Explain the Sacrament of Eucharist where we give thanks, praise and receive Jesus.
- Explain the Sacrament of the Eucharist as the way we remember Jesus' life, death and resurrection and are sent to be Christ to others.
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist (Mass) on what we see, hear, and what touches us.

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students Can:

- Identify the parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- Show reverence while being in Church.
- Relate the Sunday Scripture readings to daily life.

- Recognize the Liturgical Seasons: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time.

Standard: Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism.

Students Can:

- Know that through the Sacrament of Baptism we become members of the Catholic Church, are consecrated to God and receive the gift the Holy Spirit.
- Give examples of how we respect on another.

Standard: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations.

Students Can:

- Experience various celebrations of prayer.
- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations: praying, singing, choir, readings, petitions, gift bearers.
- Know the roles of the priest, deacon, choir, lectors, and the community in our Eucharistic Celebration.

Standard: Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms.

Students Can:

- Listen to and understand the children's translation of Psalm 23, the Good Shepherd.
- Know where the Psalms are found in the Bible.
- Explain how we praise God in morning prayers and evening prayers. Bedtime is the time to pray trusting God's care as we sleep.
- Show the sign of the cross and bowing in reverence.

Grade 3 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Helping children to know, understand, and integrate Catholic beliefs.

Students can:

- Recognizing that Jesus is the visible sign of God's love.
- Knowing that Mary was Jesus' mother and Joseph his foster father.
- Recognizing that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live lovingly, justly, humbly, and prayerfully.
- Recognizing that the church is the visible sign of Jesus.
- Identifying and explain that the "People of God" (the Church) help one another because we are disciples of Jesus.
- Explaining that the purpose of the Christian life is to know, love, and serve God and to live forever with Him in heaven.
- Recognizing and explain that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost and continues to guide us.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the word.

Students Can:

- Explaining a few parables and how they relate to our lives.
- Demonstrating the ability to find scripture passages.
- Knowing and retelling the "Creation Story" (Gen. 1:1-31)

Standard: Students understand the major teachings of Catholicism.

Students Can:

- Identifying the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing and Service and how they are celebrated.
- Listing the Holy Days.
- Explaining the role of Mary and the saints in the life of the church.
- Knowing that Jesus lives, died, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven.

Standard: Students know the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person in tis social doctrine, including respect-life teaching.

Students Can:

- Recognizing the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and how they are lived out in our daily lives.
- Recognizing the Catholic Social Teachings.

Standard: Students can learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church History by.

Students Can:

- Understanding that God calls each person to be holy and that through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus all are saved.
- Naming holy men and women who believed in God and lived before the time of Jesus.
- Naming men and women who lived at the time of Jesus and those living now who follow Jesus' teachings.

Standard: Students can learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, diocesan bishop, Vatican congregations, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Students Can:

- Describing the roles of the laity, vowed religious and ordained.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Helping Children to know how the church worships through full, active, and conscience participation in liturgy. Students can understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the church.

Students Can:

- Showing respect for the sacred time and places, including proper behavior in church and with religious objects while praying together.
- Giving examples of how we live a Christian life.
- Understanding that sacraments are signs that come from Jesus and give grace.
- Learning of the seven sacraments.

Standard: Students can understand the church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments.

Students Can:

- Reflecting on the experience of Eucharist (mass) (what you see/hear/smell/touch)
- Acknowledging the sacrament of the Eucharist as an action in which we give thanks, receive Jesus and remember His life, death and resurrection, and sent to be Christ to others.
- Summarizing why the Eucharist has a special place in the life of the Church.

Standard: Students can acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students Can:

- Explaining the meaning and significance of the church seasons/feasts: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, and Easter.
- Learning the names and purpose of the altar, tabernacle, baptismal font, sanctuary light, paschal candle, lectionary, Book of the Gospels, Stations of the Cross.

Standard: Students can value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism.

Students Can:

- Explaining how Baptism calls us to be disciples of Jesus.
- Understanding that Baptism calls us to live as responsible stewards of God's gift to us.

Standard: Students can understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations.

Students Can:

- Explaining the roles of various ministers in our liturgical celebrations (priest, lector, Eucharistic Minister, greeters, etc.)
- Actively participating in various liturgical celebrations (e.g. singing, choir, gift bearers, readers, etc.)

Standard: Students can understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the hours, and learn to pray the Psalms.

Students Can:

- Locating the Psalms in the Bible.
- Composing and praying intercessions for the world, the church and personal needs.

Strand: Moral Formation

Standard: Helping children to recognize, understand, and express that each person is called as a disciple of Jesus to love, forgive, and serve others. Students can understand the "Great Commandment" of Jesus.

Students Can:

- Applying the Great Commandment to daily life.

Standard: Students can understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them.

Students Can:

- Identifying the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes.
- Acknowledging how the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes guide us (e.g. telling the truth, avoiding bad language, respecting the good name of others).
- Learning about the Works of Mercy and the Catholic Social Teachings.

Standard: Students can understand the dignity, destiny, freedom and responsibility of each person.

Students Can:

- Choosing to treat others with respect as Children of God.
- Learning how each person is responsible for one's own decisions.

Standard: Students can understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it.

Students Can:

- Giving examples of virtue and vices.
- Learning and retelling stories from the Bible about God's forgiveness (e.g. Lost Son, Lost Sheep).

Standard: Students can learn how to acquire and follow a well formed conscience.

Students Can:

- Describing the role of the teaching church in knowing right from wrong.

Standard: Students can promote the Gospel of Life so that respecting life from conception until natural death is honored in personal behavior, public policy, and in the expressed values and attitudes of our society.

Students Can:

- Learning how peacemaking and working for justice enrich us.
- Applying the principles of fairness to family, peer relationships, sports and other activities.
- Read and relate some Bible stories that demonstrate Jesus' respect for all persons (e.g. leper, person born blind).

Standard: Students can live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values.

Students Can:

- Participating in responsible stewardship (e.g. care for all property, financial contributions, involvement in the parish ministry).
- Practice mercy, compassion and justice as essential components of Christian life.
- Volunteer time and talents for the parish community.

Strand 3: Teaching to Pray – Helping children to pray the way Jesus did: adoration, praise, thanksgiving, filial confidence, supplications, and awe.

Standard: Become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples, and which is the model for all Christian prayer.

Students Can:

- Know that the Our Father is an integral part of the public prayer of the Church.
- Recite the following prayers: The Apostle's Creed and the Rosary.
- Create spontaneous prayers, including intercessions.

Standard: Experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic tradition of mysticism and contemplation.

Students Can:

- Use Old and New Testament stories for guided discussions
- Engage in contemplative prayer for 3-5 minutes.
- Demonstrate reverence for and through this type of prayer.

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the love of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Invite God into their everyday experiences, needs and relationships at different times of the day.

Standard: Engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith.

Students Can:

- Formulate prayers which reflect their growing understanding of the world and its needs.

- Understanding the importance of learning to pray for enemies.

Standard: Recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Understand that blessings include both praise of God for ordinary gifts and intercessions for the appropriate use of these gifts.

Strand 4: Education for Community Life – Children experience community life as an apprenticeship of faith which cultivates values, relationships, and ecumenical dialogue.

Standard: Foster spiritual growth in community.

Students Can:

- Recognize that the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy is central to the life of the Church.
- Name models and heroes of our faith and retell their stories.
- Identify their God-given gifts and explore ways to share them for the common good.

Standard: Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility.

Students Can:

- Demonstrate a sense of compassion toward their peers that grows out of their deepening awareness of God's love for them.
- Interpret stories of saints or biblical figures who demonstrate God's faithfulness.

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life.

Students Can:

- Know that the Fourth Commandment teaches us to respect and obey our parents and to work for harmony in their families.
- Relate strong family relationships with mutual respect and understanding of the different roles of family members.
- Identify strategies for maintaining personal respect and boundaries with family and friends.

Standard: Share actively in the life and work of the parish, and foster the potential of small communities to deepen the faith relationships of members, to strengthen the bonds of communion with the parish, and to serve the Church's mission in society.

Students Can:

- Distinguish between acts of charity and acts of justice.
- Practice acts of charity and justice.

Standard: Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church, including an understanding of the Church's authority and structures and of the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful.

Students Can:

- Read and discuss the Feast of Pentecost.
- Explain how laity and the ordained share in the mission of the Church.

Standard: Support the ecumenical movement and promote the unity of God's people as an important dimension of fidelity to the Gospel.

Students Can:

- Choose respectful language and behavior toward others' religious beliefs and practices.
- Express that Christ is the source of unity of all Christians by their Baptism.

Strand: Missionary Initiation – Assist children to become disciples of Christ, present in society and able to witness their faith.

Standard: Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful.

Students Can:

- Identify personal gifts/talents and use them for good stewardship.
- Demonstrate ways to share the Gospel with others.

Standard: Respond to God's call whether as a lay person, ordained, or vowed religious.

Students Can:

- Explain how the 'People of God' help one another to live as disciples.
- Identify ways in which giving service can be a lifestyle and a career.
- Identify ways saints, heroes, and holy people model Christian life.
- Identify ways the ordained serve the Church.

Standard: Encourage, motivate, and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, traditions, and teachings of the church.

Students Can:

- Apply the Beatitudes to their life.

- Demonstrate how to live faith at home, school, and other places.

Standard: Explore and promote the applications of the Church's moral and social teachings.

Students Can:

- Relate how the Eucharist calls all to serve because we are all made in the image and likeness of God.
- Practice mercy and justice as essential components of Christian life.
- Participate in a service activity.

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social actions.

Students Can:

- Explain how forgiving, peacemaking, and working for justice enrich our communities.
- Treat all life with respect and care for it with good stewardship.
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice in all relationships and activities (e.g.) family and peer relationships, sports, other activities.
- Differentiate between need and want.
- Give examples of loving and unselfish behavior or heroism.

Standard: Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts.

Students Can:

- Identify ways they experience belonging to the Church, the 'Body of Christ'.
- Identify some of the major religions of the world.
- Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions.

Grade 4 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting Knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ

Students can:

- Recognize that Jesus is the visible sign of God's love.
- Know that Mary was Jesus' mother and Joseph his foster father.
- Recognize that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live lovingly, justly, humbly, and prayerfully.
- Recognize and explain that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost and continues to guide us.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word

Students can:

- Explain a few parables and how they relate to our lives.
- Demonstrate the ability to find scripture passages.
- Know and retell the "Creation Story"

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism

Students can:

- Retell the Beatitudes and explain how they relate to our lives.
- Explain the role of the saints in the life of the church.
- Know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven.
- Recite the Great Commandment and Ten Commandments and explain how they relate to our life.

Standard: Know the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person in its social doctrine, including respect-life teaching.

Students can:

- Recognize the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and how they are lived out in our daily lives.
- Know that life begins at conception.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

Students can:

- Describe how the sacraments begin with Jesus; Jesus is the original Sacrament
- List the Seven Sacraments
- Show respect for sacred time and places, including proper behavior in church and with religious objects while praying together

Standard: Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments

Students can:

- Identify and explain the meaning the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist; the Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation, Anointing; the Sacraments of Service: Marriage, Ordination
- Summarize why the Eucharist has a special place in the life of the Church
- Explain the purpose of sacramental
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist (Mass) (what you see/hear/images/smell/what touched you)

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students can:

- Name, locate, and state the purpose of the sanctuary, altar, ambo, tabernacle, baptismal font, sanctuary light, paschal candle, lectionary, Book of the Gospels, Stations of the Cross, chalice, Reconciliation Room, chapel.
- Explain the meaning and significance of the church seasons/feasts: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time

Standard: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations

Students can:

- Explain the roles of various ministers in our liturgical celebrations (priest, lector, Eucharistic Ministers, greeters, etc.)
- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations (e.g. praying with the community (assembly), singing, choir, gift bearers, readers, greeters, etc)

Standard: Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms

Students can:

- Pray short selections from the Psalms
- Compose and pray intercessions for the world, the Church and personal needs

Strand 3: Moral Formation

Strand 1: Understand the "Great Commandment of Jesus"

Students can:

- Apply the "Great Commandment" to daily life

Standard: Understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them

Students can:

- Identify the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes
- Recognize the Works of Mercy and the Catholic Social Teachings

Standard: Understand the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of each person

Students can:

- Choose to treat others with respect as Children of God
- Determine ways to make moral decisions (e.g. critical reflection process)

Standard: Understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it

Students can:

- Describe how to use critical reflection when encountering a moral problem
- Explain personal, venial, mortal and social sin

Standard: Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience

Students can:

- Choose critical reflection to examine various values and behaviors promoted by society and the media

Standard: Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values

Students can:

- Practice mercy, compassion and justice as essential components of a Christian life
- Volunteer time and talent for the parish community

Strand 4: Teaching to Pray

Standard: Become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model for all Christian prayer

Students can:

- Know that the Our Father is an integral part of the public prayer of the Church
- Recite the prayers of the Rosary
- Formulate spontaneous, prayers, including intercessions

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ

Students can:

- Invite God into their everyday experiences, needs and relationships at different times of the day

Standard: Engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith

Students can:

- Formulate prayers which reflect their growing understanding of the world and its needs
- Understand the importance of learning to pray for enemies

Standard: Recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ

Students can:

- Understand that blessings include both praise of God for ordinary gifts and intercessions for the appropriate use of these gifts

Strand 5: Education for Community Life

Standard: Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility

Students can:

- Demonstrate a sense of compassion toward their peers that grows out of their deepening awareness of God's love for them
- Interpret stories of saints or biblical figures who demonstrate God's faithfulness

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life

Students can:

- Understand that from the moment of conception, a child has the right to life
- Know that the Fourth Commandment teaches us to respect and obey our parents and to work for harmony in their families
- Know that the Sacrament of Matrimony supports parents throughout their life

Strand 6: Missionary Initiation

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action

Students can:

- Apply the principles of fairness and justice in all relationships and activities (e.g.) family and peer relationships, sports, activities
- Differentiate between need and want

Grade 5 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting Knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ

Students Can:

- Recognize that Jesus is the visible sign of God's love
- Know that Mary was Jesus' mother and Joseph his foster father
- Recognize that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live lovingly, justly, humbly, and prayerfully
- Recognize that the Church is the visible sign of Jesus
- Identify and explain that the "People of God" help one another because we are disciples of Jesus
- Explain that the purpose of the Christian life is to know, love, and serve God and to live forever with Him in Heaven
- Recognize and explain that the Holy Spirit came to the disciples at Pentecost and continues to guide us

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word

Students Can:

- Explain a few parables and how they relate to our lives
- Demonstrate the ability to find scripture passages
- Explain how the Old Testament expresses the faith of the Israelite people and the New Testament expresses the faith of Christians as followers of Christ
- Know and retell the "Creation Story"

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism

Students Can:

- Retell the Beatitudes and explain how they relate to our lives
- Identify the Sacraments of Initiation, Healing, and Service and how they are celebrated
- List the Holy Days
- Explain the role of Mary and the saints in the life of the Church
- Know that Jesus lived, died, and rose from the dead and ascended into Heaven
- Recite the Great Commandment and Ten Commandments and explain how they relate to our life

Standard: Know the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person in its social doctrine, including respect-life teaching

Students Can:

- Recognize the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and how they are lived out in our daily lives
- Recognize the Catholic Social Teachings
- Know that life begins at conception

Standard: Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understanding Church history

Students Can:

- Understand that God calls each person to be holy and that through the life, death and resurrection of Jesus all are saved
- Name six holy men or women who believed in God and lived before the time of Jesus
- Name six holy men or women who lived at the time of Jesus and those living now who follow Jesus' teachings
- Know that the universal church consists of those both living and dead
- Recall some history of your parish

Standard: Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, diocesan bishop, Vatican congregations, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops

Students Can:

- Explain how a pope is chosen
- Describe the roles of the laity, vowed religious and ordained

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

Students Can:

- Understand the meaning of grace as a sharing in God's life
- Describe how the sacraments begin with Jesus; Jesus is the original Sacrament
- List the Seven Sacraments
- Give examples of how we live a Christian life
- Explain why Sunday is the main day for celebrating Eucharist

- Show respect for sacred time and places, including proper behavior in church and with religious objects while praying together

Standard: Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments

Students Can:

- Identify and explain the meaning the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist; the Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation, Anointing; the Sacraments of Service: Marriage, Ordination
- Summarize why the Eucharist has a special place in the life of the Church
- Acknowledge the Sacrament of the Eucharist as an action in which we give thanks, receive Jesus and remember His life, death and resurrection, and are sent to be Christ to others
- Explain the purpose of sacramental
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students Can:

- Explain the significance of the two major parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Name, locate, and state the purpose of the sanctuary, altar, ambo, tabernacle, baptismal font, sanctuary light, paschal candle, lectionary, Book of the Gospels, Stations of the Cross, chalice, Reconciliation Room, chapel
- Explain the meaning and significance of the church seasons/feasts: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Triduum, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time
- Identify and explain the Holy Days of Obligation
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist
- Experience a Word/Communion service

Standard: Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism

Students Can:

- Explain how Baptism calls us to be disciples of Jesus
- Understand that Baptism calls us to live as responsible stewards of God's gifts to us

Standard: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations

Students Can:

- Explain the roles of various ministers in our liturgical celebrations

- Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations

Standard: Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms

Students Can:

- Locate the Psalms in the Bible
- Know that the Psalms are used in both the Liturgy of the Hours and at Eucharist
- Pray short selections from the Psalms
- Compose and pray intercessions for the world, the Church and personal needs

Strand 3: Moral Formation

Standard: Understand the "Great Commandment of Jesus"

Students Can:

- Apply the "Great Commandment" to daily life

Standard: Understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them

Students Can:

- Identify the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes
- Acknowledge how they guide us
- Recognize the Works of Mercy and the Catholic Social Teachings

Standard: Understand the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of each person

Students Can:

- Choose to treat others with respect as Children of God
- Express how each person is responsible for one's own life and decisions
- Determine ways to make moral decisions

Standard: Understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it

Students Can:

- Describe how to use critical reflection when encountering a moral problem
- Explain personal, venial, mortal and social sin
- Give examples of some virtues and vices
- Retell stories from the Bible about God's forgiveness

- Describe an examination of conscience

Standard: Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience

Students Can:

- Choose critical reflection to examine various values and behaviors promoted by society and the media
- Describe the role of the reaching church in knowing right from wrong

Standard: Promote the Gospel of Life so that respecting life from conception until natural death is honored in personal behavior, public policy, and in the expressed values and attitudes of our society

Students Can:

- Explain how peacemaking and working for justice enriches us
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice to family and peer relationships, to sports and other activities
- Relate some Bible stories that demonstrate Jesus' respect for all persons
- Name ways to defend those whose dignity or life is threatened

Standard: Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values

Students Can:

- Demonstrate responsible stewardship
- Practice mercy, compassion and justice as essential components of a Christian life
- Volunteer time and talent for the parish community

Strand 4: Teaching to Pray

Standard: Become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model for all Christian prayer

Students Can:

- Know that the Our Father is an integral part of the public prayer of the Church
- Recite the prayers of the Rosary
- Formulate spontaneous, prayers, including intercessions

Standard: Experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic tradition of mysticism and contemplation

Students Can:

- Use Old and New Testament stories for Guided Meditation
- Engage in contemplative prayer for longer time periods
- Demonstrate reverence for and through this type of prayer

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ

Students Can:

- Invite God into their everyday experiences, needs and relationships at different times of the day

Standard: Engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith

Students Can:

- Formulate prayers which reflect their growing understanding of the world and its needs
- Understand the importance of learning to pray for enemies

Standard: Recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ

Students Can:

- Understand that blessings include both praise of God for ordinary gifts and intercessions for the appropriate use of these gifts

Strand 5: Education for Community Life

Standard: Foster spiritual growth in community

Students Can:

- Recognize that the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy is central to the life of the Church
- Name models and heroes of our faith and retells their stories
- Identify their God-giving gifts and explores ways to share them for the common good.

Standard: Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility

Students Can:

- Demonstrate a sense of compassion toward their peers that grows out of their deepening awareness of God's love for them
- Exemplify awareness and responsibility for the common good
- Interpret stories of saints or biblical figures who demonstrate God's faithfulness
- Give examples of the cardinal and theological virtues

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life

Students Can:

- Know that the Fourth Commandment teaches us to respect and obey our parents and to work for harmony in their families
- Relate strong family relationships with mutual respect and understanding of the different roles of family members
- Know that the Sacrament of Matrimony supports parents throughout their life
- Identify strategies for maintaining personal respect and boundaries with family and friends
- Understand that from the moment of conception, a child has the right to life

Standard: Share actively in the life and work of the parish, and foster the potential of small communities to deepen the faith relationships of members, to strengthen the bonds of communion with the parish, and to serve the Church's mission in society

Students Can:

- Distinguish between acts of charity and acts of justice
- Relate works of charity to principles of Catholic Social Teaching
- Practice acts of charity and service

Standard: Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church, including an understanding of the Church's authority and structures and the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful

Students Can:

- Name the four marks of the Church
- Understand the importance of the Feast of Pentecost
- Explain how laity and the ordained share in the mission of the Church

Standard: Support the ecumenical movement and promote the unity of God's people as an important dimension of fidelity to the Gospel

Students Can:

- Choose respectful language and behavior toward others' religious beliefs and practices

- Express that Christ is the source of unity of all Christians by their Baptism

Strand 6: Missionary Initiation

Standard: Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful

Students Can:

- Identify personal gifts/talents and use them for good stewardship
- Demonstrate ways to share the Gospel with others
- Know that the term 'Catholic' means universal

Standard: Respond to God's call whether as a lay person, ordained, or vowed religious

Students Can:

- Explain how the 'People of God' help one another to live as disciples
- Identify ways in which giving service can be a lifestyle and a career
- Identify ways saints, heroes and holy people model Christian life
- Identify ways the ordained serve the Church

Standard: Encourage, motivate, and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the Church

Students Can:

- Apply the Beatitudes to their life
- Demonstrate how to live faith at home, school, and other places

Standard: Explore and promote the applications of the Church's moral and social teachings

Students Can:

- Relate how the Eucharist calls all to serve because we are all made in the image and likeness of God
- Explain that the Reign of God is a time and place of peace and justice
- Practice mercy and justice as essential components of Christian life
- Plan, participate in and evaluate a service activity
- Apply the Catholic Social Teachings to daily life
- Examine the various values and behaviors promoted in society –especially the media

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action

Students Can:

- Explain how forgiving, peacemaking, and working for justice enrich our communities
- Treat all life with respect and care for it with good stewardship
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice in all relationships and activities
- Differentiate between need and want
- Give examples of loving and unselfish behavior or heroism

Standard: Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts

Students Can:

- Identify ways they experience belonging to the Church, the 'Body of Christ'
- Identify some of the major religions of the world
- Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions

Grade 6 – Grade 8 RELIGION

Strand 1: Promoting Knowledge of the Faith

Standard: Know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ

Students Can:

- Explain various titles of Jesus (Priest, Messiah, Teacher, Lamb of God, Prophet, Son of God).
- Explain that "faith" is our lifetime response to God who reveals himself to us (CCC, 26).
- Discuss the implications for how belief in Jesus affects our life.

Standard: Explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word.

Students Can:

- Recognize the list of Old and New Testament books found in the index of a Catholic Bible.
- Define oral tradition, literary forms and synoptic gospels.
- Explain the Hebrew Covenant.
- Describe the historical and social world of Jesus.
- Recognize that the Scripture (Bible) is the primary way God reveals Himself.
- Know that the Scripture (Bible) is the inspired Word of God and not a book of historical or scientific facts.
- Know and retell important stories found in the Bible.

Standard: Understand the major teachings of Catholicism

Students Can:

- Define the meaning of creed.
- Explain the elements of the Catholic faith contained in the Creed.
- Know that salvation is a gift from God that requires our response of both faith and good works.
- Know that the Trinity is the central mystery of our Christian faith and life.
- Name the marks of the church.
- Explain the communion of saints.

Standard: Know the Church's teaching on the dignity of the human person in its social doctrine, including respect-life teaching.

Students Can:

- Name the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy and know the meaning of each.
- Give examples of how we show respect for all life.
- Give examples of Catholic Social Teachings and how they relate to our life.

Standard: Learn the richness of the Church's tradition and understand Church history

Students Can:

- Recall major events, themes and people from salvation history: Creation, Adam and Eve, Abraham, Moses, Exodus, Covenant, Joshua, David, Ruth, Isaiah, Prophets, Kingdoms, Exile, Deborah, Gospel Writers, Mary, Apostles, Paul, and the Paschal Mystery.
- Recognize the importance of ecumenical dialogue in furthering Christianity.
- Recognize the value of different cultural expressions of Catholicism.
- Explain the "Kingdom" or "Reign of God".
- Recognize some significant development in church history after the time of Jesus (e.g. Vatican II).
- Name three holy men or women who live now and follow the teachings of Jesus.
- Explain some important historical facts about your parish.

Standard: Learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, diocesan bishop, Vatican congregations, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

Students Can:

- Identify that the unique origin of the Roman Catholic Church is rooted in Jesus commissioning of Peter to be the head of the apostles and unifier of the Church.
- Describe the role of the magisterium of the Church (teaching authority).
- Describe the hierarchical structure of the Catholic Church; the relationship of the local pastor to the bishop, to the USCCB and to Rome.
- Give examples of how the bishop uses his public role to promote the common good and Catholic Social Teachings.
- Explain the role of infallibility

- Explain the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience and how they are lived in a 'vowed religious life'.
- Describe the process of canonization.

Strand 2: Liturgical Education

Standard: Understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

Students Can:

- Describe the process of canonization.
- Give examples of how we witness to Jesus' life, death and resurrection.
- Explain how the sacraments strengthen us to witness to Jesus' life.
- Understand the Christian meaning of death and afterlife and explain the funeral rituals.

Standard: Understand church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments

Students Can:

- Identify and explain the signs and symbols for each Sacrament and describe what each Sacrament celebrates.
- Understand the nature and purpose of ritual.
- Understand the centrality of Eucharist in the Christian life.
- Describe the importance of the Eucharistic Prayer in the Mass.
- Describe the main responsibilities of priesthood and permanent diaconate.
- Explain the importance of the vocation of Christian marriage.
- Name the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist (Mass) (what you see/hear/images/smell/what touched you).

Standard: Acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

Students Can:

- Explain how liturgy is the work of the Christian community (assembly).
- Appreciate the importance of symbolic actions in ritual.
- Explain the Lenten fasting regulations.
- Reflect on the experience of Sunday Eucharist (Mass) and how it connects one to family, parish and daily life.

- Know the difference between the Sunday Eucharist (Mass) and a Word/Communion service.
- Describe how the Christian mystery is celebrated over the cycle of time: the Liturgical Year, symbols associated with each season and the liturgical color for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost and Ordinary Time.

Standard: Value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism

Students Can:

- Recognize the importance of the Sacrament of Baptism and our Baptismal vows for living as disciples of Jesus Christ and as members of the Catholic community.
- Discuss how our Baptismal vows relate to the Creed and are prayed at the Sacraments of Initiation.
- Exhibit ways to be evangelizers
- Explain the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) process.

Standards: Understand the roles of the laity and ordained in liturgical celebrations

Students Can:

- Help plan, implement, participate and/or lead several different prayer experiences.
- Understand the role of the assembled community in our liturgical celebrations.
- Participate in various liturgical ministries.

Standards: Understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the Psalms

Students Can:

- Pray the canticles: Zechariah, Mary and Simeon (Morning, Evening, and Bedtime).
- Pray the Liturgy of the Hours during main liturgical seasons and feasts.
- Lead a younger grade in Liturgy of the Hours.

Strand 3: Moral formation

Standard: Understand the 'Great Commandment' and know it is one of our guides for living

Students Can:

- Explain how the 'Great Commandment' guides us in moral decision making.
- Explain the relationship between the 'Great Commandment' and free will.

Standard: Understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them.

Students Can:

- Apply the Ten Commandments, Catholic Social Teachings, Beatitudes and Works of Mercy to daily living
- Understand that living a moral life is a lifelong process of conversion.
- Understand and act on moral norms concerning speech (e.g. tell the truth, avoid "bad language")
- Show respect for the property of others and make restitution for damage or theft of another's property.

Standard: Understand the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of each person.

Students Can:

- Exhibit the use of critical reflection process in daily life.
- Choose to respect the human body as a Temple of the Holy Spirit (e.g. virtue of purity).
- Apply principles of Catholic moral teachings to daily living.
- Show respect for the property of others and make restitution for damage or theft of other's property.

Standard: Understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it.

Students Can:

- Know different forms of celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
- Interpret different Bible stories about Jesus and forgiveness.
- Know the precepts of the church.
- Understand that with the grace of God, one overcomes sin.

Standard: Learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience.

Students Can:

- Adopt the use of scripture, doctrine, and church teachings in making moral decisions.
- Distinguish between object, intention and circumstances as sources of the morality of human acts.
- Acknowledge that people should have a well formed conscience and live according to it.
- Show continuing desires to live a moral life.

Standard: Promote the Gospel of Life so that respecting life from conception until natural death is honored in personal behavior, public policy, and in the expressed values and attitudes of our society.

Students Can:

- Demonstrate how moral virtues strengthen our lives.
- Relate sources of violence, oppression and injustice and how they impact today's society.
- Give examples of ways to influence public policy.
- Show ways to respect life at all stages.

Standard: Live a lifestyle reflecting scriptural values.

Students Can:

- Seek ways to be disciples of Jesus.
- Display respect for others, in all areas, including sexuality.
- Distinguish charity from justice.

Strand 4: Teaching to Pray

Standard: Become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to the Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model for all Christian prayer.

Students Can:

- Understand that the Our Father is a summary of the gospels.
- Recite the following prayers: Apostles' Creed, Prayer for the Dead (Eternal Rest..), Acts of Faith, Hope and Charity, Stations of the Cross.

Standard: Experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic tradition of mysticism and contemplation.

Students Can:

- Engage in as much as 15 minutes a time in Guided Meditation.

- Experience and practice other forms of meditation (e.g. Lectio Divina, Mantras).

Standard: Develop a regular pattern of personal prayer and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Experience the freedom to approach God with their deepest needs, concerns and struggles.

Standard: Engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith.

Students Can:

- Lead others in prayers of petition and intercession.
- Reflect their awareness of the complexity of world situations through different prayer forms.
- Recognize, appreciate and understand a variety of ways God answers prayers.

Standard: Recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ.

Students Can:

- Demonstrate an understanding that every Baptized person is called to be a blessing and to bless.
- Foster intergenerational prayer with others.
- Experience Eucharistic Adoration, Stations of the Cross and the Rosary.

Strand 5: Education for Community Life

Standard: Foster spiritual growth in community

Students Can:

- Explain the centrality of the Sunday Eucharist in the life of the church.
- Name the gifts of the Holy Spirit and give examples of how they help form us in community

Standard: Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility.

Students Can:

- Display compassion for all
- Identify ways to know and do God's will
- Distinguish between the long lasting happiness that comes from hope in God and the temporary happiness that comes from the world and things.
- Apply the cardinal and theological virtues and give examples of how they are guides for our daily living.
- Identify and interpret our duty to work with religion and civic leaders to build a world based on justice and the common good for all.

Standard: Nurture marriage and family life

Students Can:

- Understand the value of sexuality and chastity.
- Exhibit increased responsibilities within the family unit.
- Practice and apply conflict resolution strategies to their relationships.
- Understand the value of the Sacrament of Matrimony.
- Understand that when adults freely enter into the covenant of marriage it entails faithful love and is indissoluble.
- Understand that every human life, from conception until death, is sacred.

Standard: Share actively in the life and work of the parish, and foster the potential of small communities to deepen the faith relationships of members, to strengthen the bonds of communion with the parish, and to serve the Church's mission in society.

Students Can:

- Participate in the ministries of the parish.
- Describe the relationship between charity and justice.
- Advocate for justice.

Standard: Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church, including an understanding of the Church's authority and structures and of the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful.

Students Can:

- Summarize the four marks of the Church.
- Understand the mission of the Church as herald, prophet, servant and community.
- Apply the baptismal call to holiness (priest, prophet, and king) to all areas of their life.
- Identify the roles and responsibilities of the laity and ordained in carrying out the mission of the Church.

Standard: Support the ecumenical movement and promote the unity of God's people as an important dimension of fidelity to the Gospel.

Students Can:

- Distinguish between uniquely Catholic beliefs and practices and those shared by other Christian religions.
- Dialogue about faith with persons of other religious traditions.

Strand 6: Missionary Initiation

Standard: Cultivate an evangelizing spirit among all the faithful.

Students Can:

- Participate in a retreat or evening of reflection.
- Explain the nature and purpose of evangelization.
- Demonstrate how their good works can be a means to evangelize
- Invite others to learn more about or participate in the parish community

Standard: Respond to God's call whether as a lay person, ordained, or vowed religious.

Students Can:

- Describe the mission of the laity in the world.
- Discuss the contributions of various religious orders in the United States.
- Discuss ways the vocations of single life, married, vowed religious and ordained give service to others.
- Give examples of saints, heroes and holy people.
- Apply the virtues to daily life.
- Identify founders of major religious communities and how their followers serve the Church today (e.g. Dominicans, Franciscans, Notre Dame and St. Joseph Sisters.)

Standard: Encourage, motivate, and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the Church.

Students Can:

- Understand that the main teachings of the faith are contained in the Creed.
- Participate and recall personal faith sharing.

Standard: Explore and promote the applications of the Church's moral and social teachings.

Students Can:

- Identify forces of violence, oppression and injustice present in today's society.

- Apply the Gospel message regarding justice and peace to circumstances in life.
- Evaluate the issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty and illiteracy found in the larger community in light of the Church's social teachings.

Standard: Understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and working for the transformation of society through personal and social action.

Students Can:

- Identify opportunities to perform the Works of Mercy.
- Evaluate what participation in service teaches oneself.
- Evaluate wants and needs in light of the common good.
- Assume responsibility for changes in behavior and/or attitude (e.g. recycle, clean up after self.)

Standard: Appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contact.

Students Can:

- Determine key areas where the Catholic Church and other Christian denominations are similar and different.
- Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions.
- Show an awareness of the special place Jewish people have in salvation history.