

Thematic units - First Year

Big Picture: God created me and loves me

The goals of the First Year curriculum are to introduce students to a structured study of their faith. The concentration is on 1) helping them to begin to understand their creation by a loving God; 2) helping them to learn the formal prayers of the church and to begin a life of prayer; 3) to help them to understand their membership in the church.

Notes:

- **SWBAT** means Student Will Be Able To....
- The standards are numbered according to where they are placed in the curriculum as it follows the pillars of the Catechism
- Red indicates review of items taught in previous years
- Green indicates preview of items which will be taught and reinforced in subsequent years.
- Blue indicates strategies and ideas which have worked.
- Resources available for this year are:
Teacher's Edition of Grade One - We Believe
Read and Learn Bible is available in the classroom

A large selection of manipulatives, puzzles, DVDs, visuals, stories of saints, etc. are in the resource room

Prayer Unit - throughout the year

Goals and themes:

Understanding that prayer is talking with a loving God.
Being able to express prayer in a variety of ways.
Knowing by heart the standard devotional prayers of the church.

Standards for this unit:

- IV.A.a.1st SWBAT describe that when we pray, we talk to God. (§ 2559)
- IV.A.b.1st SWBAT demonstrate that we can pray aloud or silently in our hearts. (§ 2700, 2709)
- IV.B.a.1st SWBAT identify that Jesus taught us how to pray in the Our Father. (§ 2759)
- IV.B.1.a.1st SWBAT express their prayer through movement and their senses as well as in words. (§ 2702)
- IV.B.2.a.1st SWBAT recite the following prayers by heart:
- ▶ Our Father
 - ▶ Glory Be
 - ▶ Sign of the Cross
 - ▶ Hail Mary
- SWBAT pray meditatively using the Five Finger prayer.

Unit one - Creation and the Word of God

Goals and themes:

- Learning that Bible is the Word of God and one important way that God communicates with us.
- Understanding that all creation is good, because God is good.
- Discovering one's own place in creation as a beloved son/daughter of God.

Standards for this unit:

- I.B.1.a.1st SWBAT recognize that God speaks to us in many ways.
- I.B.1.b.1st SWBAT describe the Bible as the special word of God. (§ 104)
- I.B.1.c.1st SWBAT describe the Bible as the story of the faith of believers for thousands of years. (§ 201, 105-106)

- I.A.3.a.1st SWBAT articulate that God the Father is the creator of the world. (§ 279, 290-292, 338)
- I.A.3.b.1st SWBAT explain that God made us because God loves us. (§ 27)
- I.A.3.c.1st SWBAT discuss that we are all created by God and that every human being is special. (§ 339)
- I.A.3.d.1st SWBAT discover that God calls each one of us by name. (cf Is. 43:1)
- I.A.3.e.1st SWBAT infer that God wants everyone to know God, because he loves us. (§ 51)
- I.A.3.f.1st SWBAT describe that God's creation is good. (§ 289)
- I.A.3.g.1st SWBAT give examples of how God takes care of all that he has made. (§ 301)

- I.B.1.d.1st SWBAT understand that the Bible is divided into the Old and New Testaments.
- I.B.1.e.1st SWBAT distinguish between the events of the Bible, which happened a long time ago and fairy tales or other forms of fiction.

- I.B.2.a.1st SWBAT retell the stories in the Bible that tell us how God has created and loved the world. (§ 291-292) *(Ultimately, they will know that this story is a myth, written to tell us theological truths and not natural history. At this age, some may take the story literally, others as a fairy tale, others be confused by the overlap between Adam and Eve and the dinosaurs. We should be careful to not totally confuse them, but patient enough to realize that eventually it will make more sense to them. Cf § 337)*

- III.C.3.a.1st SWBAT conclude that because God's creation is good that we should respect it and care for it. (§ 2415)

Unit two - Belonging to the Church

Goals and themes:

- Understanding that we belong to the church through our baptism
- Discovering how and why God calls us to live holy lives
- Learning about saints who have gone before us and who are role models for holiness
- Our choices, actions, and behavior lead us to holiness

Standards for this unit:

- I.A.6.a.1st SWBAT describe "faith" as a gift which helps us to believe. (§ 2609-10)
- I.C.1.a.1st SWBAT identify the church as the family of God. (§ 753)
- I.C.1.b.1st SWBAT define the church as those who believe in Jesus. (§ 764)
- I.C.2.a.1st SWBAT understand that our parish is part of the church throughout the world.
- I.C.4.a.1st SWBAT describe that being part of the church means believing, worshiping and serving. (§ 166-167, 2084, 898)
- I.C.4.b.1st SWBAT understand that we are all called to live lives of holiness, and to become saints. (§ 2013)
- I.C.5.a.1st SWBAT compare how Mary is the Mother of Jesus and our mother. (§ 501)
- I.C.5.b.1st SWBAT to tell the story of the following saints: St. Francis, St. Peter, St. Mary Magdalene, St. Gianna Molla.
- I.C.5.c.1st SWBAT identify their own patron saint.
- II.B.1.a.1st SWBAT categorize baptism as the first sacrament.
- II.B.1.b.1st SWBAT explain that baptism gives us membership in the family of God and in the church. (§ 1213)
- II.B.1.c.1st SWBAT explain that baptism forgives all our sins.
- II.B.1.d.1st SWBAT reenact how baptism is done by pouring water and invoking the Trinity. (§1239)
- II.B.1.e.1st SWBAT identify why holy water fonts are placed at the doors of the church and will be able to make the connection between them and baptism.

Unit three - How Does God Want Us to Live?

Goals and themes:

- Begin to articulate an understanding of the moral life.
- Describe obedience to God as a way to show love of God.
- Begin to understand the idea of sin as deliberate wrongdoing.
- Give concrete examples of everyday moral behavior.

Standards for this unit:

- II.B.2.a.1st SWBAT name in the sacrament of Penance we celebrate the forgiveness of sins. (§ 1422)

- III.A.a.1st SWBAT discuss that God has expectations for our moral life. (§ 2012-2013)
- III.A.b.1st SWBAT identify that we must love God more than anything. (§ 2083)
- III.A.c.1st SWBAT explain that we have the ability to make choices. (§ 1731-33)

- III.A.2.a.1st SWBAT articulate examples of wrong and sin and corresponding examples of good and virtue. (§ 1849)
- III.A.2.b.1st SWBAT describe that God gives us help (God's grace), to live according to God's will. (§ 1996)
- III.A.2.c.1st SWBAT identify that sometimes we sin by disobeying God and hurting others. (§ 1849)

- III.A.3.a.1st SWBAT infer that sometimes we hurt one another and must say we are sorry. (§ 1440, 2631)
- III.A.3.b.1st SWBAT discuss that when we say we are sorry, God our loving Father is always ready to forgive us. (§ 1847)
- III.A.3.c.1st SWBAT indicate that every sin can be forgiven by God. (§ 2839)

- III.B.a.1st SWBAT identify that we have been given Ten Commandments.
- III.B.b.1st SWBAT describe keeping the commandments as a way of keeping a promise made to God.
- III.B.c.1st SWBAT understand that Jesus summed up all of the Law in the Great Commandments. (cf Mt. 22:37-40, Mk 12:28-33, Lk 10:27)
- III.B.d.1st SWBAT give examples of obeying the commandment to honor our father and mother. (§ 2215)
- III.B.e.1st SWBAT identify that it is wrong to take what belongs to someone else. (§ 2401)
- III.B.f.1st SWBAT articulate why we should always tell the truth. (§ 2464)
- III.B.g.1st SWBAT describe why we should not be jealous of one another. (§ 2514)

- III.C.1.a.1st SWBAT give examples of how and why Christians are to be concerned for the poor. (§ 2443-2444)

- III.C.2.a.1st SWBAT identify that God's family includes all people. (§ 1934-35)
- III.C.2.b.1st SWBAT infer that because all life come from God, every human life is holy. (§ 2258)
- III.C.2.c.1st SWBAT describe how God wants us to love and respect other persons. (§ 2331)

Unit four - The Mass

Goals and themes:

- Knowledge of what is in the church and why it is there.
- Ability to participate in some of the prayers of the mass.
- Understanding of why we worship.
- Ability to begin to articulate what Catholics believe about the Eucharist.

Standards for this unit:

- I.C.3.a.1st SWBAT identify the altar, ambo, font, tabernacle, shrine to the Blessed Mother and the Stations of the Cross in our parish church.

- II.A.a.1st SWBAT describe what cantors and lectors do and how a person becomes one.
- II.A.1.a.1st SWBAT identify two main divisions of the mass - Word and Eucharist. (§ 1346)
- II.A.1.b.1st SWBAT recognize that the Liturgy of the Word comes from the Scriptures. (§ 1349)
- II.A.1.c.1st SWBAT use the congregational responses in the Liturgy of the Word.
- II.A.1.d.1st SWBAT give examples of how in the mass we bless and thank God, our Father. (§ 1083)
- II.A.1.e.1st SWBAT infer that we celebrate Jesus' death and resurrection at mass every Sunday. (§ 1168)
- II.A.1.f.1st SWBAT describe the Eucharist as the Body and Blood of Christ. (§ 1374)
- II.A.1.g.1st SWBAT join in with and respond to the following parts of the mass:
- ▶ Refrain to a simple *Gloria*
 - ▶ Lord have mercy
 - ▶ Alleluia
 - ▶ Holy
 - ▶ Amen
- II.A.1.h.1st SWBAT sing the Latin phrase *Gloria in excelsis Deo* and know what it means.
- II.A.1.i.1st SWBAT define the word "Amen." (§ 1062-1064)
- II.A.1.j.1st SWBAT offer and to respond to the Sign of Peace.
- II.A.1.k.1st SWBAT recognize that we go to Mass on Sunday to keep Sunday holy. (§ 2192)

Unit five - The seasons of the year

The themes from this unit should not be taught by themselves, but woven into the year during the liturgical seasons.

Goals and themes:

Ability to recognize the different liturgical seasons.

Understanding of how the seasons relate to the life of Christ.

Identifying how we celebrate these seasons and recognizing their symbols.

Standards for this unit:

- II.A.3.a.1st SWBAT understand that the church has a calendar celebrating Jesus' life, death, and resurrection. (§ 1171)
- II.A.3.b.1st SWBAT describe what events in the life of Jesus are celebrated during Christmas and Easter.
- II.A.3.c.1st SWBAT recall when we observe Advent and be able to describe two traditions connected to that season.
- II.A.3.d.1st SWBAT recall when we observe Lent and that it begins on Ash Wednesday.
- II.A.3.e.1st SWBAT describe Lent as a time of fasting, good deeds and greater prayer.
- II.A.3.f.1st SWBAT describe what we celebrate on the Feast of All Saints.

Unit six - The life of Jesus and his relationship to God

Goals and themes:

Beginning to be able to retell the story of Jesus.

Understand that Jesus is both God and a human who lived a life like ours.

Identify that the stories of Jesus are told in the Gospels.

Beginning of an understanding that we are called to love and follow Jesus in our everyday lives.

Standards for this unit:

- I.A.2.a.1st SWBAT articulate that we have three names for God - Father, Son and Spirit. (§ 232-234)
- I.A.4.a.1st SWBAT describe that Jesus was a human being and the son of God. (§ 457, 464)
- I.A.5.a.1st SWBAT understand that God is still with the church in the form of the Spirit. (§ 737-738)
- I.B.3.a.1st SWBAT the books in the Bible where we find the story of Jesus as the Gospels.
- I.B.3.b.1st SWBAT retell in their own words the infancy stories from Matthew and Luke.
- I.B.3.c.1st SWBAT identify Mary as Jesus' mother. (§ 486,494)
- I.B.3.d.1st SWBAT identify Mary as someone who believed strongly in God's promises.(§ 484,489)
- I.B.3.e.1st SWBAT describe how Jesus was baptized by John the Baptist.
- I.B.3.f.1st SWBAT retell the story of the temptations in the desert and relate this story to the season of Lent.
- I.B.3.g.1st SWBAT give examples of how Jesus' mission was to preach and to heal.
- I.B.3.h.1st SWBAT show familiarity with the image of the Good Shepherd and describe how Jesus cares for us.
- I.B.3.i.1st SWBAT identify Jesus' concern for the poor and relate it to our mission to care for the poor.
- I.B.3.j.1st SWBAT retell the events of the Passion and Resurrection in their own words.
- III.A.1.a.1st SWBAT infer that Jesus shows us how to live. (§ 459)