

GRADES 11-12

CORE CONCEPT:

I. THE MYSTERY OF GOD, THE CREATOR OF ALL THINGS

STANDARD 1: Demonstrates an understanding of God as creator of all things.

- Identifies the attributes of God: all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving.
- Relates God as personal, involved in human lives.
- Explores images and concepts of God.

STANDARD 2: Understands the human person as imaging God.

- Explains the Christian view of sexuality and intimacy.
- Evaluates relationships in relation to personal integrity.
- Demonstrates life-giving love for others.

STANDARD 3: Recognizes the inter-connectedness of humans with all creation.

- Practices care for the earth.
- Articulates caring for the earth as a dimension of faith.
- Identifies situations in the world that can benefit from human action.

STANDARD 4: Recognizes the call to continuing conversion by further developing the Kingdom of God.

- Recognizes the call to continuing conversion.
- Describes how to live the vision and values of the Kingdom of God.

II. THE MYSTERY OF CHRIST, THE INCARNATE WORD OF GOD

STANDARD 1: Articulates an understanding of the Incarnation: the Word of God, enfleshed in Jesus Christ.

- Evaluates Jesus as the model of a completely faithful person.
- Explores ways of relating to Jesus today.
- Describes Jesus as a person of prayer and action.
- Summarizes Jesus' teachings on prayer in the Gospels.

STANDARD 2: Articulates an understanding of Christ's life, death, and resurrection as the distinctive sign of Christian faith.

- Relates key themes of Jesus' life, mission and message.
- Explains Jesus' death and resurrection and ongoing presence.

STANDARD 3: Recognizes that through Jesus, God established a relationship of particular intimacy with us.

- Explains Jesus' relationship with his Father.
- Describes Jesus' image of God.
- Explains ways to develop further a relationship with Jesus.

III. THE MYSTERY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE LOVING PRESENCE OF GOD

STANDARD 1: Demonstrates an understanding of the Holy Spirit as being the Spirit of God who reveals God and makes Christ known to us.

- Explores multiple images of the Trinity.

STANDARD 2: Articulates an understanding of the Holy Spirit as the one who awakens us to faith.

- Identifies the tools of the process of discernment.
- Traces the movement of the Spirit in one's own life.

STANDARD 3: Demonstrates an understanding of the Holy Spirit as the vibrant presence of God in the Church and the World.

- Identifies the Spirit in the Church throughout history.
- Points out the movement of the Spirit in the world today.

IV. THE MYSTERY OF THE CHURCH, THE PEOPLE OF GOD.

STANDARD 1: Identifies the covenants revealed in the Scriptures as extending to all creation.

- Practices faithfulness to the covenant.
- Interprets the experience of revelation in one's own life.
- Names the covenants found in the relationships of one's life.

STANDARD 2: Demonstrates an understanding of and an appreciation for active participation in a community of faith.

- Reflects on present faith growth and struggles.
- Develops skills for reflection.
- Integrates Catholic Christian beliefs into one's personal identity.
- Describes faith as a personal response to God's call and as leading to active discipleship.

STANDARD 3: Identifies the context of the Scriptures and their role in the development of the Church.

- Recognizes the writing style of the evangelists and the structure of the gospels.
- Explores in depth one particular synoptic gospel.
- Outlines the historical context, writing styles and structure of the Old Testament.
- Explores the major themes and life questions of the Old Testament and their relevance to today.
- Identifies the practical and pastoral problems that Paul addressed.
- Relates the major theological themes of Paul's letters, especially Romans and Galatians.
- Identify the stages of Old Testament and New Testament development.

STANDARD 4: Articulates the nature of Tradition and its role in the development of the Church.

- Explains the basic tenets of the faith as expressed in the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds.

STANDARD 5: Identifies the role of Mary and the Saints in the life of the Church.

- Identifies Marian feast days.
- Paraphrases the lives of important saints.
- Connects experiences of the saints with those of one's own life.

STANDARD 6: Identifies the call to missionary discipleship.

- Recognizes the need for evangelization through word and witness.
- Describes examples of missionary work throughout history.
- Points out the work of missionaries today.
- Identifies ways to evangelize in one's own life.

V. GOD TEACHES US HOW TO LIVE OUT OUR SALVATION

STANDARD 1: Demonstrates an understanding of the Paschal Mystery and the various ways we encounter it in daily living.

- Recognizes that life is a constant process of dying and rising.
- Identifies the New Life of the Resurrection.

STANDARD 2: Demonstrates the ability to apply the commandment of love by making life decisions within the Christian moral framework.

- Explains the value and dangers of dating.
- Traces the development of a sexual identity.
- Identifies Catholic Christian virtues.
- Models Catholic Christian virtues in one's actions and lifestyle.
- Evaluates moral dilemmas and their resolution.

STANDARD 3: Demonstrates the relationship between faith and culture as it is found in the arts, sciences, and technology.

- Develops skills to critically reflect on youth culture and societal values in the light of Catholic Christian moral values.
- Draws religious values from the arts, sciences and technology.

STANDARD 4: Applies Catholic principles to interpersonal relationships as found in the family, the workplace, society and the Church.

- Outlines the themes of Catholic social teachings.
- Applies Catholic social teaching to traditional and contemporary problems, and to one's own personal choices.
- Defines key elements in the Christian moral life: grace, sin, conversion, redemption, freedom, conscience, personal responsibility, and Jesus as norm.
- Evaluates media, social groups, and government on Christian principles.

STANDARD 5: Exercises responsible stewardship toward all creation.

- Applies the concept of stewardship to specific situations.
- Applies scriptural passages on stewardship to contemporary situations.
- Evaluates use of one’s resources to solve personal and social injustice.
- Examines the need for prayer in a life of stewardship.

STANDARD 6: Examines the variety of Christian lifestyles as ways of responding to the baptismal call to a life of service.

- Differentiates the baptismal vocations within the Church.
- Applies one’s baptismal call for ministry to one’s work in the world.

VI. GOD INVITES US INTO RELATIONSHIP THROUGH PERSONAL PRAYER AND THROUGH COMMUNITY WORSHIP.

STANDARD 1: Demonstrates an understanding of and an experience with different ways of relating to God in prayer on a personal level and in community.

- Plans and participates in prayer services and liturgies.
- Develops appropriate ministerial skills: lector, server; musician, etc.
- Plans and participates in retreat experiences.
- Cultivates a personal prayer life.
- Defines and experiences meditation and contemplative prayer.

STANDARD 2: Demonstrates the importance of Sacraments, with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist, in the life of Catholics.

- Relates the communal nature of the Sacraments.
- Explains the role of sign and symbol in society.

STANDARD 3: Demonstrates recognition of the sacredness of time through the celebration of the hours, the liturgical season and special feasts and days.

- Names and describes the seasons and major celebrations of the liturgical calendar.
- Recognizes the significance of the major events of Christ’s life as they apply to daily life.

VII. GOD CALLS US TO LOVE AND SERVE OUR NEIGHBOR.

STANDARD 1: Engages in activities that demonstrate an understanding of and personal witness to Christ’s command to love and serve one another.

- Contrasts acts of service done for others from human motives and acts of service done for love of Christ.
- Describes the Commandments and Beatitudes as acts of love.

STANDARD 2: Engages in service to the community in response to the Gospel call.

- Conforms one’s life to the great commandment.
- Organizes one’s life to include service to the community.

STANDARD 3: Critiques societal structures in the lights of Catholic social justice principles and applies them to social and personal situations.

- Identifies social sin.
- Applies the Church's social teachings to current situations.
- Describes the Church's teachings on life issues, e.g., abortion, capital punishment, war, euthanasia, poverty, etc.
- Identifies the key points of the major social encyclicals.

STANDARD 4: Acknowledges and affirms the diverse cultural expressions of Catholicism.

- Explores expressions of Catholicism unique to certain cultures.
- Celebrates the church as a diverse global village.