

GRADE 12

I. Knowledge of the Faith

Creation Faith God the Son: Jesus Christ Grace Original Sin Particular Judgment
Pentecost Scripture The Church The Flood The Gospels The Trinity

(12.1.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...expounds upon the “Why” of the Incarnation: 1. To save us and reconcile us with God 2. That we might know the depth of God’s love for us, 3. To be our model in holiness, 4. To make us partakers in the divine nature, 5. To destroy the power of the Devil

Examples: God’s promise to Adam, The binding of Isaac, Melchizedek, Davidic Covenant, Messianic Prophecies, CCC 422-451, 456-478, 525-528

- Explains that all of God’s revelation throughout salvation history points to the person of Jesus Christ

(12.1.2 S, M, T)...identifies The Trinity as the central mystery of our faith

Examples: Nicene Creed, *Hypostasis*/Persons, *Ousia*/Substance, Bible Project Video: God, CCC 202, 232-242, 243-248, 252, 422, 461, 464-469

- Investigates the historical development of the Doctrine of the Trinity, including the writings of Tertullian as the first mention of “Trinity”
- Paraphrases the positions of the heresies of Arianism, Modalism, Tritheism, and the Church’s formal corrections to them

(12.1.3 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...explains that God created everything for man, but man in turn was created to serve and love God and to offer all creation back to him

Examples: Excerpts from *Laudato si’*, Stewardship, Original Harmony, Catholic Social Teaching, Catholic Anthropology, CCC 299, 400, 2415

- States that humans have a responsibility to care for and respect the created world, including the environment and all living creatures
- Points out that Creation is radically dependent upon God at all times, as God is the author and sustainer of all creation
- Explains that even though Original Sin created disorder throughout all of creation – including the original harmony between man and woman – creation retains its goodness

(12.1.4 S, M, T)...explains how the Holy Spirit gives hierarchical and charismatic gifts to the Church, which helps the Church fulfill her mission

Examples: The Holy Spirit is present in: The sacraments, the Eucharist at the Mass, guiding the teaching authority of the magisterium, interceding for us in the heart of every Christian (Cf. Rom. 8:26), Gifts of the Holy Spirit, CCC 737-741, 767-768, 1509

- Identifies places where the Holy Spirit is present throughout the entire Church
 - Reports that Pentecost is sometimes called “the birthday of the Church”
 - Points out that it is the Holy Spirit who manifests, teaches, sanctifies, and guides the Church today
-

(12.1.5 S, M, T)...recognizes that the Gospels hold the pride of place in our study of Scripture as they are the principal source for the life and teachings of Jesus, our Savior

Examples: Apostolic Witness, Spiritual and Literal Senses, Source Criticism, Historical-Critical Method, Multiple Attestation, CCC 109, 125, 132

- Defines the “Q” source theory and uses Source Criticism to compare and contrast the four gospels
 - Explains that in order to interpret Scripture correctly, the reader must be attentive to what the human authors truly wanted to affirm and to what God wanted to reveal to us by their words
-

(12.1.6 S, M, T)...draws typological parallels between the stories of The Flood and Noah's Ark and the concept of Salvation by Baptism

Examples: Noah and his family were saved through the waters of the flood, Baptism as a means of salvation from sin and a new beginning of goodness,

- Explains that God's covenant with Noah after the flood shows His desire to maintain the blessing of fertility, the task of subduing creation, and the inviolability of human life despite the presence of sin (Cf. Gen. 1)
 - Investigates the historical evidence of Noah's Ark & the Global Flood stories
-

(12.1.7 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL...discusses the mutual relationship between Faith and Grace in the life of the Christian disciple

Examples: Grace prepares and disposes us to have faith by enlightening our minds and moving our hearts; Faith, in turn, opens our hearts to receive and cooperate with God's grace; CCC 153, 155, 161, 179, 183, 224, 1996

- Defines and distinguishes between the two main types of grace: sanctifying grace (from the sacraments) and actual grace (help and guidance that God gives us in specific moments and situations)
 - Explains that we cooperate with God's grace by responding to His invitations, opening our hearts to His presence, and actively seeking to live according to His will
-

(12.1.8 S, M, T)...defines the Particular Judgment as a personal and individual judgment, where each person's life is evaluated in light of their response to God's grace and their adherence to His commandments, as well as one's intentions

Examples: 2 Tim. 1:9-10, Lk. 16:22, 22:43, Mt. 16:26, 2 Cor. 5:8, Phil. 1:23, Heb. 9:27, 2:23, Parable of the poor man Lazarus, CCC 1021-1022, 1058-1059

- Provides and discusses Scriptural references to the Particular Judgment
- Explains that God desires all men to be saved and that the Church prays that no one should be lost to Hell (Cf. 1 Tim. 2:4)

II. Liturgy and Sacraments

What is a Sacrament? **Baptism** **The Mass** **Eucharist** **Confirmation**

(12.2.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...explains the Church *is sacramental* in nature, created as Christ's instrument to perfect the unity of humankind with God and one another for the salvation of all

Examples: "Let us prepare to celebrate these sacred mysteries", the Greek word for sacrament is *mysterion*, Liturgy of the Word precedes the Eucharist, Sacrament prep, CCC 774-776, 1132

- Discusses how the Church celebrates the sacraments as a priestly community, structured by the baptismal priesthood and the priesthood of ordained ministers
- Reports that the human heart requires preparation for the sacraments by the Word of God and deepening one's faith

(12.2.2 S, M, T)...discusses the pros and cons of Infant baptism vs Adult baptism

Examples: The Mass, Celebration of Liturgy, Sacrament of Marriage, CCC 1119, 1141, 1231, 1247-1249, 1251

- Investigates the role of Godparents in the Sacrament of Baptism and the life of the Christian
- Illustrates how baptism leads to our adoption by God to receive Christ's inheritance as the Son of God
- Explains how Baptism bestows a priesthood unto the faithful that is shared by all others in the Church and exercised through liturgy and sacrament

(12.2.3 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...defines "tithing" and investigates the scriptural basis for tithing in the Church (Cf. Mal. 3:8-10 and 1 Cor. 16:1-4)

Examples: Tithing is a Precept of the Church, Giving of 10% of your goods to God, Tithe is the offering of our work and "fruit of our hands" to God, Vatican II, CCC 2402, 2404, 2043, 2443, 2449

- Defines “Alms” and discusses Jesus’ and the Apostles’ instruction to give Alms to the poor (Cf. Mt. 5:42, 6:1-4, Lk. 12:33, 18:22, Acts 10:31, 24:17)
-

(12.2.4 S, M, T)...defines the terms “substance” and “accidents” in order to discuss the theology of transubstantiation

Examples: Our senses “accidentally” mistake the substance of the Eucharist to be bread and wine when it is *actually* the body and blood of Christ, Eucharist as sign and sacrament of actual communion, Sign of Peace, CCC 1337-1377, 1396-1400, 1413

- Discusses why other Christian traditions that are not in communion with the Church cannot receive the Eucharist at Mass
 - Explains that the “Sign of Peace” is a sign of mandatory reconciliation to one another before making our sacrifice to God in the Eucharist (Cf. Mt. 5:23-24)
-

(12.2.5 S, M, T)...traces the sign of being sealed on the forehead in Confirmation back to Scripture

Examples: Ez. 9:1-4, Rev. 14:1, 20:4, Taw is the last letter of the Jewish alphabet, CCC 1285-1321, Excerpts from Scott Hahn’s *Signs of Life*

- Reports that the Jewish letter “Taw” drawn on the forehead is the origin of the sign of the cross
 - Explains that if any Christian is near death, and is unconfirmed, they should be given Confirmation
-

III. Life in Christ and Discipleship

Conscience Formation The Church & World Religions Subsidiarity
Solidarity The Magisterium Sin

(12.3.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...explains how the human tendency to rationalize or justify immoral actions based on emotions or external circumstances can mislead our conscience

Examples: “You only live once” (YOLO) culture, Libertarianism, Do the ends justify the means?, trends and fads, social media, CCC 1733, 1783-1785, 1786-1789

- Discusses examples of contemporary struggles to shape one’s conscience and resources available to aid our best efforts
 - Identifies persistent sin, poor formation, or influences by erroneous teachings as other ways one can mislead their conscience
-

(12.3.2 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...defines the Charism of Infallibility (inability to teach in error) possessed by the Magisterium on doctrines regarding faith or morals

Examples: Ex Cathedra statements (from the Chair of Peter) Vatican I, CCC 888, 891-892

- Reports the infallibility of the teachings of the Ecumenical Councils, Nicaea-Vatican II
 - Explains that infallible statements from the Pope are historically rare, for example: Pope Pius IX infallibly declared the Immaculate Conception of Mary in 1854 and Pope Pius XII infallibly declared The Assumption in 1950
-

(12.3.3 S, T)...defines Subsidiarity as the principle that higher levels of authority or larger institutions should not interfere with or take over the functions and responsibilities that can be effectively carried out by lower levels or smaller institutions
Examples: Leadership should delegate authority and intervene only to guide or assist, the autonomy of parishes within a diocese, diocesan autonomy under the college of bishops, Big government vs. small government, CCC 1881-1885

- Emphasizes the Church's recognition of the importance of individual freedom, personal responsibility, and the autonomy of smaller communities, reflected in the hierarchical structure of the Church
 - Discusses examples of how subsidiarity can guide decision-making in areas such as governance, education, healthcare, and economic policies
-

(12.3.4 S, M, T)...defines Solidarity, not as a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress, but as a principle that emphasizes the interconnectedness and mutual responsibility of all members of society

Examples: Solidarity is not virtue signaling, Solidarity seeks a just distribution of goods and also the just reward of human work, Seek first the Kingdom of God (Cf. Mt. 6:33) CCC 686, 689, 1717, 1939-1948, 2013-2014

- Explains that Solidarity is not limited to the sharing of material goods, but even more so to the sharing of spiritual goods of the faith
 - Discusses how the Church's Preferential Option for the Poor means that if we are limited in what we can do, the first group we ought to serve should be the poor
-

(12.3.5 S, M, T)...discusses how admitting our own sinfulness is an act of humility that protects us from treating others with contempt or belittling them for their mistakes (Cf. 1 Jn. 1:8-10, Rom. 3:23, 1 Tim. 1:15)

Examples: Persistent sin develops vice instead of virtue, CCC 1733-1735, 1768, 1865-1868

- Defines "Sins of Omission" as failing to do the good one ought to do (Cf. Jas. 4:17)
 - Describes how conceding our wills to any particular sin makes it easier for us to fall into ever-expanding patterns of that kind of sin
-

(12.3.6 S, M, T)...acknowledges that those who do not know Christ but still strive to know and live in truth and holiness can still be saved by Christ, and at the same time acknowledges Christ's command to bring all peoples to himself through evangelization (Cf. Rom. 11:12, 15, 25)

Examples: The Great Commission, *Lumen Gentium* 16, Trinitarian view of God, Monotheism, Modalism, Polytheism, CCC 846-848

- Investigates and describes fundamental similarities and differences between Catholicism and non-Christian religions such as Muslims, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Mormons
- Emphasizes the need for respect, humility, and patience when engaging in interreligious dialogue as a mutual search for truth and bringing about the ultimate good

IV. Prayer and The Life of Prayer

Expressions of Prayer **Liturgy of the Hours** **What is Prayer?** **The Lord's Prayer**
The Rosary

(12.4.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...defines Prayer as a meeting point between our desire for God and God's desire for us

Examples: Humility in discipleship, Praying as Christ taught us, God desires our salvation at all times, CCC 2560

- Explains that Jesus taught that prayer in secret is preferred, because it invites us to pray for the right reasons, not for attention or affirmation (Cf. Mt. 6:6)
- Discusses prayer "best practices," such as the need to avoid overly brief, apathetic prayer (just checking a box), or wordy, superfluous prayer (Cf. Mt. 6:7)

(12.4.2 S, M, T)...interprets the meaning of the 7 different petitions of the Our Father
Examples: Excerpts of Benedict XVI's *Jesus of Nazareth*, Meditating on the Our Father, "Say the Our Father – but take an hour to say it" Teresa of Avila answering a novice on how to become a contemplative, CCC 2763

- Explains that the order of the 7 petitions is also the order of priority of things for which we should pray
- Writes a journal reflection on the Our Father as an exercise of Contemplative Prayer

(12.4.3 M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...describes the basic structure and format of the Liturgy of the Hours and prays them together as a class

Examples: Contains various prayers, hymns, psalms, and readings that are organized into different "hours" or "times" of prayer, Office of Readings contains Scripture and writings of the Church Fathers, Consecrating time to God, CCC 1174-1178

- Explains that the Liturgy of the Hours is the second highest form of Liturgy in the Church and that clergy, religious, and lay people alike are encouraged to pray the Hours daily, whether privately or in community
- Discusses how in the early Church, the practice of praying the Psalms and other biblical texts at specific hours of the day was adopted as a way to consecrate the entire day to God, to sanctify the passing of time, and to “pray without ceasing” (Cf. 1 Thess. 5:17, Eph. 6:18)

(12.4.4 M, T)...prays and investigates the development of the different Mysteries of The Rosary and why John Paul II added the Luminous Mysteries

Examples: Printouts, Blessed Chalk, C+M+B (Year), Laudate App, Hallow App

- Discusses Spiritual Warfare and prays together as a class The Prayer Against Evil
- Summarizes the elements and steps to perform the annual Epiphany Blessing of the Home and its benefits, ideally blessing the classroom together

V. Community Life and Missionary Initiation

Cardinal Virtues Theological Virtues What is Virtue? Lent Advent Communion of Saints Social Justice Social Sin Liturgical Year Use of Scripture

(12.5.1 S, M, T)...discusses the merits of a Daily Examination of Conscience and seeking spiritual direction in fostering the development of virtue

Examples: Many saints benefitted from a spiritual director, Catholic Social Teaching, Papal and Magisterial critiques of Marxism, Fascism, Socialism, and Capitalism, Excerpts from *Laudato Si*, CCC 1779-1785, 2245, 2402-2403, 2425

- Explains the necessity of using the virtue of prudence to discern what is actual justice vs sensational activism
- Gives examples of how the virtue of fortitude enables us to continue following Christ even in the midst of hardships and spiritual warfare

(12.5.2 S, M, T)...explains that the virtue of Charity/Love means to both will the good of the other and to take actions to live out the pursuit of that good

Examples: “The glory of God is man, fully alive” St. Irenaeus, “The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for Greatness” Benedict XVI, CCC 1803-1805, 1813

- Defines “virtue” as fulfilling God’s design for humanity and living as God created humans to live

- Discusses how chastity is a concrete virtue of love, where we see the other for who God created them to be, not as we would
-

(12.5.3 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL...distinguishes the different levels of reverence: *Dulia*, which we have for the angels, saints, relics, and icons, *Hyperdulia*, which is reserved for Mary, and *Latria* (worship), which is exclusively reserved for God

Examples: Reverencing relics and celebrating feast days are forms of *Dulia*, asking for Mary's intercession and honoring her as Christ's mother is *Hyperdulia*, God alone is worthy of *Latria*, All but one of the apostles were martyred, Sts. Perpetua & Felicity, St. Joan of Arc, St. Thomas More, CCC 954-959, 2129-2132

- Investigates the stories of the martyrs and explains the special recognition we give to those who share in Christ's ultimate sacrifice of love
-

(12.5.4 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL...investigates the dangers of interpreting Scripture without using the traditions of the faith and teachings of the Apostles as a reference point and guide

Examples: Allowing polygamy, Justifying unjust forms of discrimination, Capital Punishment, Apocalyptic Sensationalism, The Congregation for the Causes of Saints, Medical Examination, Theological Examination, CCC 119-123, 547-548

- Discusses how to relate the truths of the faith to science
 - Explains that miracles are categorically unexplainable by science and summarizes the scrutiny the Church utilizes to verify modern miraculous claims
-

(12.5.5 S, M, T)...discusses how time itself is transfigured by God's grace through the Liturgy and the Church's celebration of the Liturgical Year

Examples: The mission of the Church is to consecrate all of creation to God, Fasting as 2 smaller meals and 1 normal sized meal, Retreats, Advent and Lenten customs, CCC 524, 1163-1170

- Describes Lent as a time for self-reflection, repentance, and spiritual renewal, often marked by practices such as fasting, prayer, and almsgiving
 - Explains how Advent calls the faithful to reflect on the first coming of Christ in Bethlehem and to prepare for his second coming at the end of time through reflection, prayer, and penance
 - Gives examples of penance that include: prayer, offerings, works of mercy, service of neighbor, voluntary self-denial, sacrifices, and patient acceptance of our personal crosses
-

(12.5.6 S, M, T)...explains that while religious and ordained have historically taken active roles in living out Social Justice, lay people have an obligation to participate in political action in their countries in pursuit of the common good

Examples: Not everyone is born in a first world country, different heights, different talents, differences in personality, CCC 1913-1928

- Discusses how some inequalities between human beings are willed by God's infinite wisdom and other inequalities are sinful and not willed by God
 - Gives examples of Social Sin in the world today, and discusses how the members of the Church are called to respond
-

VI. Christian Anthropology

(12.6.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...explores the implications of objective truth, highlighting truth's relationship with freedom and love

Examples: If truth is relative, nothing is always true; knowing the truth gives us the freedom to act; "The truth will set you free" (Jn. 8:32); human labor and rest imitate the creative action of God (Cf. Gen. 1-2)

- Explains how the human person is created differently from the animals and is called by God to be more
 - Explores the topic of work through the lens of the Theology of the Body, including the goodness of work, the relationship of work and identity, and the need for rest
-

(12.6.2 S, M, T)...defines sin as rejection and doubt of God's generosity, and explains the ways in which sin impacts every person

Examples: Sin robs man of his resemblance to God, Sin leads to division and injustice, Sin blinds us to our radical dependence upon God, CCC 705, 817,845, 953, 1008

- Examines the connection between original sin and death, while also addressing the redemptive and transformative possibilities of suffering in love
 - Highlights the concept of solidarity, which corresponds to one's inherent relationality
-

(12.6.3 M, T) **ESSENTIAL**...explains the importance of the family as the basic cell of society and the primary place in which one learns love

Examples: Domestic Church, Children and Parents mutually contribute to each other's growth in holiness, Parental responsibility to educate and teach their children to know, love, and serve the Lord, CCC 2204-2213, 2221-2233

- Illustrates the challenges inherent in family life
 - Investigates the concept of subsidiarity in the context of the family
-

(12.6.4 S, M, T)...highlights marriage as a freely given gift-of-self that includes suffering and selflessness and that is fruitful for the couple, their family, and the world

Examples: Gifts require nothing in exchange, Giving and reception, Family is the domestic Church, CCC 1643-1648, 1664

- Explains how responsible parenthood is a response to God's generosity
 - Illustrates how men and women uniquely and reciprocally love their children and educate them in what it means to be human
-

(12.6.5 S, M, T)...explains what it means that the life of every human person is a gift, and explains how a vowed state of life is a response to God, the Giver of the gift

Examples: Monks, Nuns, Lay Religious Orders, "Be fruitful and multiply" (Gen. 1.28)

- Summarizes how consecrated life is a spousal gift-of-self to Christ that bears fruit for the Church and the world
 - Articulates how the priest is *in persona Christi* and is called in his very body to live in union with and to reflect Jesus the Good Shepherd
-

(12.6.6 S, M, T)...reflects on the way in which all of the laity, regardless of whether or not they have entered a vocational state of life, are called to grow in holiness in their everyday lives

Examples: Vocations, Careers, Universal call to holiness, Discernment, Solidarity, CCC 1, 3, 54, 825, 1694

- Articulates what it means to discover the particular way in which God is calling a person to live out the call to love
- Highlights the concepts of givenness and relationality, particularly as they apply to the human person's relationship with the world