

GRADE 4

I. Knowledge of the Faith

The Crucifixion

Old Testament

Original Sin

Purgatory

Sin

The Magisterium

(4.1.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...concludes that the Old Testament reveals God's method of teaching his law to humanity and His saving plan

Examples: Creation story from Genesis, family is good, Moses through the major and minor prophets (Major Prophets- Jeremiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Isaiah, vs everyone else), Proverbs, Book of Wisdom, Story of Job, CCC 121, 128-130, 279-280, 286-289

- Reads the Genesis story of creation to identify that God is the giver of all life, and all that God creates is good
 - Traces the teaching of God's will for humanity through the Prophets, the Wisdom books, and the Psalms
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(4.1.2 S, M, T) ...explains that Original Sin was caused by an abuse of Adam and Eve's God-given freedom

Examples: Discussions on free will, CCC 385-390, 397, 416-417, 422-424, 430

- Identifies that Jesus' obedience is the opposite of Adam's rebellion
 - Reports God's promise to Adam and Eve right after the fall (Cf. Gen. 3:15) that their descendant would defeat the serpent is a Messianic prophecy (Scripture that predicts the arrival of Jesus)
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(4.1.3 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...recognizes sin as abuses of our freedom where we choose something less than what God desires for us

Examples: Heaven is the ultimate goal of life, 10 Commandments, Reconciliation, Gossiping is a venial sin, skipping Mass on Sunday or using God's name with a swear word are mortal sins, 10 Commandments, Examination of Conscience CCC 403, 980, 1854-1864, 1452, 1456, 1458

- Defines venial (a small mistake or wrongdoing) and mortal sins (Mortal - a serious sin you freely chose to do, despite knowing how wrong it was)
 - Gives examples of sinful behaviors and explains why they are evils or lesser goods
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(4.1.4 S, M, T) ...summarizes the story of the Crucifixion of Jesus

Examples: Our Father prayer, Beatitudes, Sacrament of Reconciliation; Nicene Creed, Num. 21:4-9, Matthew 18 "seventy times seven times", CCC 312, 457-458

- Connects the Crucifixion of Jesus to the lifting up of the serpent by Moses (Cf. Num. 21:4-9) in the wilderness (cf. John 3:14)

- Recognizes that Jesus came to bring God's forgiveness to everyone
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(4.1.5 S, M, T) ...defines Purgatory and explains how it is entirely different from the experience of Hell (complete separation from God)

Examples: 1 Cor. 3:15, 1 Pet. 1:7, Mt. 12:31, 2 Macc. 12:46, Job 1:5, CCC 1030-1032

- Identifies that Purgatory is a promise of Heaven and not an experience of uncertainty
 - Summarizes that the purpose of Purgatory is to cleanse us of any lingering sins and worldly attachments so that we will be able to fully experience Heaven
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(4.1.6 S, M, T)...reports that The Magisterium (the Pope and the Bishops) is charged with a special teaching office within the Church

Examples: CCC 876-878, 888-892, 894-895, 1142, 1549, 2443-2449

- Identifies the Pope and the whole College of Bishops as members of the Magisterium
 - Explains the responsibility of the Magisterium to faithfully and accurately interpret the Bible and pass on the Sacred Scriptures
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II. Liturgy and Sacraments

Baptism

The Mass

Eucharist

Confession

Marriage

Holy Orders

(4.2.1 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL ...explains how the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life, and that it is essential to the life and mission of the Catholic Church

Examples: Source as the beginning of a river, summit as the highest point, Sacrament of Holy Eucharist, Weekly mass attendance, Manna in the desert (16:4-8.), Proclaiming God's Word in Liturgies, Adoration/Exposition/Benediction, Stewardship, CCC

1324-1327

- Connects the story of the manna in the desert (bread from heaven) to the Eucharist
 - Describes how the Eucharist gives us the strength needed to walk faithfully with God in the "wilderness" of the world today, just as the Manna did the Israelites
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(4.2.2 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL ...recognizes The Mass as a sacrifice made to God and compares this sacrifice to the sacrifices of the Old Testament

Examples: Holocausts, Book of Leviticus, Passover Sacrifice, CCC 1145-1162, 1324-1327, 2502

- Discusses why sacred art and images (E.g. stained glass in Churches, stations of the cross) help us connect with God and understand our faith
 - Discusses components of a Passover meal described in the Book of Exodus
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(4.2.3 S, M, T)...describes the elements and basics of the Rite of Baptism

Examples: Trinitarian Formula, Sprinkling/Immersion, Anointing with Oil, indelible mark, Renunciation of Satan (Minor Exorcism), White gown, Godparents, Jordan River, Jewish Mikvah, CCC 1212, 1226-1228, 1272, 1285, 2340

- Reads and discusses the story of the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan
 - Recalls Jesus' command for Christians to "Go forth and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit" (Mt. 28:19)
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(4.2.4 S, M, T)...explains that in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we receive God's grace and forgiveness and that Christian life is a journey of conversion

Examples: The Sacrament of Reconciliation, Confession is a repeatable sacrament, Act of Contrition, Penance, The 10 Commandments, The Great Commandment, CCC 1440-1445

- Discusses the role that penance plays in our ongoing conversion
 - Identifies God's always-present offer of Confession as a sign of God's extraordinary love for us
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(4.2.5 S, M, T)...explains that God created man and woman to exist in a family and to form a family in the sacrament of Holy Matrimony

Examples: Gen. 1 and 2, Mal 2:16, The Sacrament of Matrimony, Mk. 10:9, Mt. 19:6, cf. Dt. 24:1, CCC 1601-1605, 2331-2336

- Discusses how the Sacrament of Matrimony is a covenant between one man and one woman, sealed by God, a partnership between man and woman for life
 - Concludes that the Catholic Church doesn't have the authority to grant divorces
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(4.2.6 S, M, T)...concludes that the Sacrament of Holy Orders is a participation in the love of the Divine Bridegroom –Christ, for the love of His Bride, the Church

Examples: The Sacrament of Holy Orders, Priesthood, Deacons, Bishops, *In Persona Christi*, Wedding Reception, Banquet, Eucharistic Meal, CCC 772-773, 1536

- Discusses how a priest acts in the person of Christ in the sacraments (The priest doesn't forgive sins or change the bread and wine himself, Jesus does)
 - Discusses how every Mass is a celebration of the wedding between Jesus and his bride, the Church
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III. Life in Christ and Discipleship

Conscience Formation The 10 Commandments Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy
Universal Call to Holiness Love of God & Love of Neighbor The Beatitudes Respect for
the Human Person

(4.3.1 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...identifies God as the designer of the human conscience, where he writes “his law upon our hearts” (cf. Rom. 2:15 and Jer. 31:33)

Examples: Study of Scripture, Choosing right from wrong, Feelings of peace or guilt, morality, personal responsibility, CCC 1776–1789

- Gives examples of ways our conscience can be weakened or strengthened
- Reports that the formation of our conscience is a lifelong task

(4.3.2 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...explains that the first three of the 10 commandments teach us about loving God, and that the last seven teach us about loving others

Examples: Holy Bible, The Great Commandment, 10 Commandments, Our Father, Sunday Obligation, The Beatitudes, Mt. 25:31-46, Individual and communal prayer, love of God and neighbor, CCC 2052, 2055, 2066-2067, 2184-2185

- Identifies ways that they can live out the Great Commandment
- Explains that the commandment to “Keep Holy the Sabbath” is lived out today by attending Mass every Sunday and avoiding to put other work or activities ahead of worship of God and the “joy proper to the Lord’s Day”

(4.3.3 S, T) ...lists the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy

Examples: Holy Bible, Mt. 25:31-46, “What you do for the least of these ...”, Ministry of Charity, Catholic Charities, Catholic Cemeteries, CCC 2443-2447

- Gives examples of ways they can practice the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy
- Relays how when we show love for the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized we show love to Jesus

(4.3.4 S, T) ...lists the eight Beatitudes

Examples: Blessed are...The Poor In Spirit, Those Who Mourn, The Meek, Those Who Hunger & Thirst for Righteousness, The Merciful, The Pure in Heart, The Peacemakers, Those Who are Persecuted..., Lk. 6:20, Mt. 6:25-34, CCC 2546-2547

- Explains in simple terms the meaning of each Beatitude
- Discusses ways they can live out the Beatitudes in their interactions with others and in their own behavior

(4.3.5 S, M, T) ...traces the Universal Call to Holiness back to Mt. 5:48, “Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect”

Examples: Theological Virtue of Love, Sermon on the Mount, Love your enemies, Imitation of Christ, Reception of the Sacraments, CCC 2012-2029

- Connects the Call to Holiness to a call to imitate Jesus
- Summarizes the journey to holiness as a journey towards perfecting the virtue of Love
- Distinguishes between the call to be perfect (holiness) and “perfectionism” (which is not what God calls us to)

(4.3.6 S, M, T)...explains that because every human being is made in the image and likeness of God, they have a dignity that must be respected always

Examples: Saint stories, Lives of the Saints, Isaiah 60:3; Liturgies from different countries, CCC 374, 361, 1700-1704, 1939, 1934-1935

- Reports that God created different personalities, races, and nationalities and why these are all good for the whole human family
- Reads together the parable of the Good Samaritan and discusses why the neighbor that Jesus calls us to love means “everyone”

IV. Prayer and the Life of Prayer

The Battle of Prayer What is Prayer? The Rosary Expressions of Prayer

(4.4.1 S, M, T)...gives a Rote Prayer example of each of the four primary different types of prayer: Petition, Intercession, Thanksgiving, and Praise

Examples: Hail Mary, Our Father, After Meal prayer, Prayer for the Faithfully Departed, Write one prayer per quarter kept in prayer journal; Liturgical Year, Church doctrines, Saints, Adoration time, CCC 2629-2643, 2663-2691

- Writes a prayer on their own about a Catholic theme or doctrine, Liturgical Season, Saint, Thanksgiving, Petition
- Writes or says a heart prayer of each of the four types of prayer

(4.4.2 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...summarizes from personal experience, Old Testament stories, and the examples of Jesus, Mary, and the saints that Prayer is often difficult but necessary

Examples: Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, Adoration, Individual Prayer, Communal Prayer, CCC 1166-1167, 1174-1178, 2559, 2725-2745

- Identifies common objections to prayer, such as, “I’m too busy/I don’t have time”
 - Recognizes the importance of having a prayer plan, and to make a daily/weekly prayer plan
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(4.4.3 S, M, T)...identifies The Rosary as both a devotion (the prayer) and a sacramental (a blessed physical rosary)

Examples: Rosary prayers and order, Mary tells the children at Fatima to add “O my Jesus...” at the end of each decade, CCC 971, 2708

- Participates in the Rosary and knows the order and prayers
 - Recalls the origin of The Fatima prayer (Mary’s miraculous appearance at Fatima (May, 1917, see 2nd example)
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(4.4.4 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...gives examples of personal sacrifices one can make to strengthen ourselves in prayer and resist temptations

Examples: Fasting, abstaining from certain foods, Lent, Sorrowful mysteries of the Rosary, Novenas, Devotions, Sacramentals, CCC 1667-1676

- Gives examples of popular piety (Stations of the Cross, Eucharistic Processions, Relics)
 - Identifies the essential elements of the Stations of the Cross (14 stations, reflections, tells the story of the passion of Jesus)
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V. Community Life and Missionary Initiation

What is Virtue? Theological Virtues Cardinal Virtues
Stewardship Liturgical Year Use of Scripture

(4.5.1 S, M, T)...identifies that the sign of virtuous people is their preference for the good in matters both physical and spiritual

Examples: CCC 1803-1804, 1810

- Summarizes “the good” as the best things God would want for us
 - Reports that the practice of virtue is done through our bodies as well as governing our thoughts
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(4.5.2 S, M, T) **ESSENTIAL** ...recites the three Theological Virtues: Faith, Hope, and Love (Charity); and recognizes that they help us to live good lives

Examples: God’s definitions of good and evil, Heaven is eternal communion with God, “...and the greatest of these is love”, CCC 1812-1829

- Recalls that the Theological Virtues help shape us to live in a relationship with the Holy Trinity
 - Identifies Love (Charity) as the greatest of all virtues (Cf. 1 Cor. 13:13)
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(4.5.3 S, M, T)...lists the four Cardinal Virtues

Examples: Prudence, Justice, Fortitude, Temperance, CCC 1803-1811

- Describes the Cardinal Virtues as the doorway to living out all other virtues

(4.5.4 S, M, T)...identifies Stewardship as part of the dominion God granted humanity and that stewardship calls us to carefully use and cultivate our gifts, personal property, and goods

Examples: Prayer before Meals, Prayer after Meals, Guardian Angel, Prayer of Thanksgiving, Parts of the Mass, CCC 224, 1328, 2402-2404, 2415, 2637-2638

- Recognizes that we as Christians are called to be thankful for the gifts we have been given
- Explains that Stewardship extends beyond personal material possessions and includes the responsible care of creation and the environment

(4.5.5 S, M, T)...explains the Liturgical Year is a means for the faithful to grow in their knowledge of the mystery of Christ, conforming their lives to Him while we await His return

Examples: Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and Ordinary Time; abstaining from meat on Fridays, fasting, giving something up for Lent, Advent Calendars, CCC 524, 1163, 1168-1173

- Identifies all the different seasons of the Liturgical Year
- Gives examples of sacrifices or disciplines undertaken in different Liturgical seasons

(4.5.6 S, M, T) ESSENTIAL...explains that the help of the Holy Spirit is necessary for humankind to make sense of Scripture and to fully draw out the treasures of truth and knowledge that it contains

Examples: Prayerful reading of Scripture and shared reflection in a group (e.g. *Lectio Divina*), the Church defends the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist from Scripture, Scripture is written for all peoples in all times, (Jer. 1:12 -Book. Chapter: Verse)

- Practices the skill of navigating the Bible by way of Book-Chapter-Verse references instead of page numbers
- Reports that the Canon of Scripture includes 46 Books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New

VI. Christian Anthropology

(4.6.1 S, M, T)...interprets the significance of Gen. 2:18 “It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper fit for him”

Examples: TOB 9:2, 10:1; CCC 369-372)

- Compares Adam’s joy at the creation of Eve to his response to the creation of the animals

- Discusses ways in which we celebrate the differences between men and women while also appreciating their sameness
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(4.6.2 M, T)...extrapolates how man is also created in God's image through the communion of persons

Examples: TOB 9:3, 14:6; CCC 355-357

- Compares and contrasts the Trinity with the human family
 - Discusses how the Church experiences communion with its members
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(4.6.3 M, T)...connects how virtues (which have to do with man's inner life) are expressed through the body

Examples: TOB 51:5-6, 53:4, 54:2-55:7; CCC 2516, 2520-2524

- Gives examples of how our bodies reveal our experience of conversion (changing of heart) over time
 - Shares ideas of how our bodies experience the sacraments of the Church and how those experiences affect our spirits
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(4.6.4 S, M, T)...demonstrates how through our work we make a gift of ourselves

Examples: Cf. TOB 6:4, 7:2, CCC 373, 2427-2428

- Relates how work helps us fulfill a mission
 - Explains how Jesus' ministry was a gift of himself and revealed his mission
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(4.6.5 S, M, T)...recognizes that suffering is a result of the Fall and that suffering can make it difficult for us to see the gifts of God

Examples: TOB 26:4-5, 27:1-2; cf. 65:5 CCC 356-357, 385, 400, 402, 404-405, 22ff

- Identifies ways where God is, or was, present in their own life
 - Describes ways in which sin blinds us to God's gifts and to the gifts of each other
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(4.6.6 S, M, T)...relates how Christ nourishes communion through the gift of himself in the Eucharist.

Examples: TOB 68:1-4, 99:1, CCC 1023-1025, 1391, 1392

- Compares and contrasts "communion" with other kinds of partnerships (business partnerships, teams, groups, etc.)
- Discusses how at the Resurrection of the dead we will experience the most perfect communion with God and others