

GRADES 9-10

CORE CONCEPT:

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

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

- Defines God as revealing through word and action.
- Identifies examples of good and evil in the world.
- Recognizes God's trust in humankind to care for all creation.
- Identifies God's full revelation in the person of Jesus.

STANDARD 2: Understands the human person as imaging God.

- Explains masculinity and femininity as images of God.
- Examines sexuality from a Christian perspective.
- Demonstrates respect for the dignity of the human person.
- Identifies the source of human emotions and their intrinsic value.
- Identifies human differences as gifts.

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

- Identifies ways of responsible use and reuse of resources.
- Names ways to care for the earth.

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

- Explains how Jesus proclaims the Kingdom of God.
- Identifies their solidarity with Jesus developing the Kingdom.

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.

- Describes the historical and social world of Jesus.
- Explores Jesus as fulfillment of the Old Testament.
- Explores Jesus' life mission and message.

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

- Demonstrates how Jesus' life and teaching gave human form to God's compassion.
- Examines how Jesus preached and practiced obedience to God's will.
- Explains that Jesus shares the power of his Resurrection with us by sending the Spirit.

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

- Identifies Jesus as the perfect sign of God's presence.
- Identifies Jesus as the center of God's plan for the world, the mediator between God and his church and the world's liberator.

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.

- Explains the Trinity as a community of three persons.
- Traces the movement of the Holy Spirit in one's own life.

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

- Traces the movement of the Holy Spirit in one's own life.
- Lists the gifts and fruits of the Spirit for living a life of faith.
- Explains the role of the Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation.

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

- Identifies the influence of the Holy Spirit throughout the Church's history.
- Identifies specific signs of the presence of the Spirit in the Church and the world.
- Names the different ministries in the church and in the world as a response to a call from the Spirit.

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

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

- Identifies the Hebrew and Christian covenants revealed in Scripture.
- Relates how God's covenants extend to all creation.
- Names ways God is faithful in one's life.

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

- Names ways people actively participate in a community of faith.
- Explains the marks of the Church as one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
- Identifies one's own personal gift for active participation in a community of faith.
- Identifies Church as a group of people sharing their talents in various roles to achieve a common goal.

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

- Lists the characteristics of the early Christian communities using the Acts of the Apostles.
- Lists the New Testament passages which the Church uses to describe

herself.

- Describes the context and setting of Paul's letters to the early Church communities.
- Identifies the need for unity among Christian Churches as ecumenism.

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

- Distinguishes the roles of Scripture and Tradition in the life of the Church.
- Examines the tradition of the Catholic faith as outlined in the Apostles/Nicene Creeds.
- Names the four signs of God's presence: natural, liturgical, Scriptural and ecclesial.
- Begins to identify the elements of a personal creed.
- Acknowledges an identity rooted in church community and tradition.

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

- Recognizes Mary as a perfect model of a Christian.
- Explains the feast days of Mary as celebrated throughout the year.
- Develops knowledge of how the Church identifies a Saint.

STANDARD 6: Identifies the call to missionary discipleship.

- Describes faith as a personal response to God's call, leading to active discipleship.
- Demonstrates the application of the elements of evangelization.

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.

- Relates the virtue of hope to the suffering of daily living.
- Relates that God judges each of us at death and all people at the end of time.
- Identifies the cycle of dying and new life in personal experience.

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

- Identifies signs of grace and sin in our culture.
- Utilizes a specific process for making decisions that reflect Jesus' commandment of love.
- Identifies the role of the Spirit in decision-making.

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

- Recognizes that though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason.
- Identifies spiritual themes in different novels, movies and music.

- Assesses the messages in the media in the light of Gospel values.
- Relates aspects of Gospel values to our culture.

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

- Names the precepts of the Church.
- Identifies how people today can relate to the Holy Family.
- Applies the Works of Mercy to present problems.

STANDARD 5: Exercises responsible stewardship toward all creation.

- Examines the concept of stewardship.
- Identifies scriptural passages referring to stewardship.
- Determines one's talents for Christian ministry.

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

- Explains how Jesus calls disciples today to continue his mission.
- Explains how people today live the spirit of the Beatitudes.
- Traces the service aspect of various vocations identified in family, friends, and well known figures.

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.

- Distinguishes forms of prayer as blessing/adoration, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, praise and contrition.
- Composes prayers in different prayer forms.
- Distinguishes between vocal, meditative and contemplative prayer.

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

- Summarizes the ritual and rite for each sacrament.
- Explains how the Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life.

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

- Describes the seasons and major celebrations of the liturgical year.

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.

- Employs acts of service to demonstrate love for others.

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

- Identifies practical acts of service in family, community and Church.
- Practices acts of service.

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

- Identifies the seven principles of Catholic Social teaching.
- Applies the principles of Catholic social teaching to govern one's actions within the groups to which one belongs.

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

- Names the various rites within the Catholic Church.
- Explores the concept that different cultural expressions of Catholicism are good.
- Identifies the gifts of different cultural expressions of Catholicism.