

# SECOND GRADE

## FROM THE CURRICULUM GUIDELINES FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION, DIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

### OVERALL THEME:

The Church is a Community of God's people. We become members by the celebration of Baptism, and Eucharist and are reconciled through the Sacrament of Penance.

### OVERALL MESSAGE:

- ◆ To strengthen the student's love for Father, Son, and Holy Spirit (CCC 240)
  - by teaching the story of Jesus (CCC 240)
  - by teaching that grace is God's life within us (CCC 2000)
- ◆ To reinforce the concept of Church as Community
  - by discovering the Church as a praying, worshiping and serving community (CCC 748-838)

## IMMEDIATE PREPARATION FOR FIRST COMMUNION

(Core Catechetical Content)

### THEME:

We come to the table of the Eucharist in a spirit of self-offering with Christ where we participate in the universal sacrifice which is eating and drinking the body and blood of the Lord.

### REVIEW PREVIOUS UNDERSTANDINGS:

- Recall the Sacrament of Baptism as one of the sacraments of initiation
- Recall the Blessed Trinity and name the three persons

### MESSAGE:

- We bless food for our families (CCC 1669, 1671)
- Jesus blessed food before He gave it to people (CCC 1334-1335)
- On **Holy Thursday**, at the **Last Supper**, Jesus changed bread and wine into His **Body and Blood** (CCC 1323)
- We call the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus the **Eucharist** (CCC 1328)
- When we receive the Eucharist we receive Jesus, even though the appearance and taste of bread and wine remains.
- **The Mass** is the most important prayer of the Catholic Church (CCC 1324)
- In celebrating the Mass, Jesus shows his care about the entire people of God (CCC 1358)
- The Eucharist is our celebration of unity, reconciliation, and peace (CCC 1325-26, 1393)
- In the **Liturgy of the Word**, we hear the Gospel stories about Jesus (CCC 1349)
- In the Scriptures, Jesus teaches us that he is the **Bread of Life** (John 6, CCC 1338)

- In the **Liturgy of the Eucharist**, we remember and give thanks for Jesus' death and resurrection (CCC 1328-1337)
- At Mass, Jesus is present in the Word of God and the Eucharist (CCC 1373)
- The bread and wine of the Eucharist are **consecrated** by the **priest**; through the power of the Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine truly become the body and blood of Jesus (CCC 1333, 1353, 1357, 1375)
- The priest repeats Jesus' words and actions in the Eucharistic prayer when he says, “**This is my Body**” and “**This is my Blood**” (1341)
- The Mass commemorates Jesus' sacrifice (CCC 1341)
- The Eucharist is both **meal** and **sacrifice** (CCC 1330, 1382)
- At Mass, we remember the Last Supper; we share the body and blood of Jesus in **Holy Communion** (CCC 1323, 1329)
- Jesus gives Himself to us as food at every Mass (CCC 1392)
- We should receive Communion often and worthily (CCC 1384, 1387-1389)
- Jesus is truly present in the **Blessed Sacrament** (1374, 1378)
- The parts of the Mass are (1346)
  - ⇒ *the **gathering** in which we come together to pray as one family (CCC 1348)*
  - ⇒ *the **readings** through which we listen to God's Word (CCC 1349)*
  - ⇒ *the **presentation and preparation of the gifts** in which we get ready to thank God and offer ourselves with Jesus to the Father (CCC 1350)*
  - ⇒ *the **Eucharistic Prayer** in which, at the consecration the bread and wine become the body and blood of Jesus (CCC 1352-1353)*
  - ⇒ *the **reception of Communion** in which we receive Jesus (CCC 1331, 1335)*
  - ⇒ *the **dismissal** in which we are blessed to go out and help others (CCC 1332, 1397)*
  - ⇒ *our Church celebrates advent, Christmas, lent, holy week, Easter and special holy days and honors Mary, the Mother of God and saints (CCC 1163, 1171-73)*

## COMMUNITY:

### The Student:

- understands that it is important to participate in the Eucharistic liturgy with our family
- realizes God wants us to welcome ALL people of whatever ability and culture to our faith community
- participates in the singing, responses, and listening with the parish community at Sunday liturgies each week
- participates in parish worship and social activities for liturgical seasons and feasts

**WORSHIP:**

- prays the following prayers: Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Prayer Act of Contrition, Prayer of the Faithful, Prayer after Communion, Prayers and responses of the Mass
- participates in gestures and postures for the various parts of the Liturgy
- understands the different ways to receive Communion
- visits the church to discover the meaning of the different areas and objects used at Mass
- experiences spontaneous prayer
- understands the Bible as God's Word

**SERVICE/WITNESS:**

- understands the role of the laity, religious, and priests as one of service
- understands that God is present to us through every person and "thing" (creation)
- becomes aware that God calls us to be responsible for others, especially people in need
- understands that we are sent forth to love and serve the Lord, strengthened by the Eucharist to use the gifts and talents God gave us
- becomes aware that we can nourish others by being kind and helping as Jesus did
- understands that as Jesus gives himself to us in Eucharist, we are called to serve others