GRADE 4 CONDENSED CURRICULUM

God, Creator
  Sanctus – prayer praising God for His goodness
Creation
  Reflection of God’s goodness
  Respect for creation acknowledges God’s goodness

The Human Person
  God’s image: ability to think, choose freely, love
  Gen. 1:27, 31; 2:4b – 25

Lent
  – season of renewal leading to Easter
  Prayer, penance & fasting ways to be renewed

Conscience Formation
  Called to know the good & love unselfishly

Steps for making a good moral choice:
  Prayer to Holy Spirit
  God’s law and Church teachings
  Consequences of choice (outcome)
  Seeking advice
  Prayer to Jesus
  Effect on relationships with God and other people

Deut. 30:16 (choose good)

Teach: Stations of the Cross

Conscience – judgement about whether an action is right or wrong
  Scripture
  Church’s interpretation of Scripture
  Catholic teaching
  Example of good people

Temptation – attraction to selfish choices, not sin

Feelings don’t necessarily determine right or wrong

Development of conscience enables a person to take responsibility for choices

Teach practice of examination of conscience

Habits and attitudes of Prayer:
  Gratitude for blessings, assistance
  Petition for forgiveness

Sin – disobeying God and His law by thought, word, action or omission
  Mortal sin – serious harm to relationship with God and/or other people
  Venial sin – that which weakens one’s relationship with God and/or other people

Choice of Evil – Gen. 3:1-24, Gen. 4:1-16

Covenant
  God revealed Himself through His action in human history
  Covenant with the Chosen People: God wishes to make people His own
    Abraham Gen. 12:1-3
    Covenant Promise Exodus 19:3-6

Prayer: Act of Faith

Covenant – how to live; how to find happiness
  Two Great Commandments (Lk. 10:27)
  MEMORIZE THE TWO GREAT COMMANDMENTS
10 Commandments (Ex. 20:1-17) – obliged to live by them always & everywhere
MEMORIZE THE 10 COMMANDMENTS
Jesus, the revelation of God (Jn. 1:17-18)

Teach about the season of Advent (Advent Wreath, Jesse Tree)

The New Commandment (Jn. 15:12)
MEMORIZE THE NEW COMMANDMENT
Freedom – following Jesus’ law of love
The more one does good, the freer one becomes
Gal. 5:1 Jn. 8:32

Final Judgement (Mt. 25: 31-46) – emphasizes response to the needs of one’s brothers and sisters as the standard by which one will be judged

Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy
MEMORIZE
Sermon on the Mount – God’s plan for our happiness
Beatitudes (Matt. 5:1-12)
Communal practices of works of mercy – collection at Mass
Lenten almsgiving

Holy Spirit
Enables us to enter into covenant with God by helping us to live as Jesus did
Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Rom. 5:5b, Gal. 5:25)

Catholic Christian Community
Guided by the Holy Spirit
Imp. of community: where we are taught God’s commandments by word and action
Teach students about patron saints, Jesus, Mary, those who suffered
Holy Days or Church Feasts
All Saints – Nov. 1
All Souls – Nov. 2
Apostles Creed – teach the communion of saints

Eucharist
the Eucharist as an ever-present renewal of God’s covenant with us
Eph. 5:1
1 Cor. 11:23-26

Provide for the opportunity for students to experience a communal Penance Service

WORDS TO BE TAUGHT
Absolution Contrition Old Testament Beatitudes Corporal Works of Mercy
Saint Commandment Covenant Sanctus Communion of Saints

LITURGICAL SYMBOLS AND GESTURES TO BE TAUGHT
Give Sacred Scripture a special place in the classroom.
Encourage a reverent and prayerful attitude in the place of worship.
Foster the children's participation in the prayer and worship of the parish community.

PRAYERS TO BE TAUGHT PRAYERS TO BE ENCOURAGED
Joyful Mysteries of the Rosary Sanctus Act of Faith Stations of the Cross

REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE PREVIOUS GRADES
Sign of the Cross Our Father Hail Mary Glory to the Father (Doxology) Act of Contrition Simple Responses at Mass
Morning and Evening Prayer Grace at Meals Spontaneous Prayer Prayer Before the Blessed Sacrament