

ROMAN CATHOLIC  

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ARCHDIOCESE  
*of* DUBUQUE

**K-2 Religion Curriculum Guide for  
Catholic Schools and  
Parish Faith Formation Programs**



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## GOAL ONE

### Goal 1: Students form a knowledge and appreciation of the sense of the Church and of the fundamentals of Catholic teaching.

**Essential Learning A:** Acknowledge that the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church are set forth in the Creed.

KNOWLEDGE: Students will...	COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...	LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...
1. Know the three persons in one God: a) Name God as Father. b) Name Jesus as God's Son. c) Name the Holy Spirit as our helper.	1. Recite and make the Sign of the Cross.	1. Attend Mass with family and pray the Nicene Creed along with assembly.
2. Acknowledge God (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) is Creator of all things (CCC 316).	2. Name the three persons of the Trinity and relate it to the Sign of the Cross.	2. Share with family their understanding of God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
3. Know that God's very being is truth and love.	3. Describe the role of each of the three persons in one God.	
4. Acknowledge the beauty of God's love through all that He made.	4. Illustrate the three persons of the Trinity using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
5. Know that we belong to God's family, the Church.		
6. Acknowledge that the Creed is a statement of our faith.		
7. Know that Jesus died to give us new life.		

### Curriculum Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### Goal 1: Students form a knowledge and appreciation of the sense of the Church and the fundamentals of Catholic teaching.

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning A: Acknowledge that the fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church are set forth in the Creed.</b>			
1. Recite and make the Sign of the Cross.			
2. Name the three persons of the Trinity and relate it to the Sign of the Cross.			
3. Describe the role of each of the three persons in one God.			
4. Illustrate the three persons of the Trinity using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

# GOAL ONE

**Essential Learning B:** Comprehend the life of Jesus, which is made known through the Scriptures.

KNOWLEDGE: Students will...	COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...	LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...
1. Know that the Bible has two parts (Old and New Testaments).	1. Retell Bible stories in their own words.	1. Be attentive to Gospel at Sunday Mass.
2. Know that the life of Jesus is found in the Bible.	2. Relate particular Bible stories to Baptism, Reconciliation, Eucharist, and to their lives.	2. Talk about Bible stories, including Sunday Gospel, with their family.
3. Understand the stories of the Annunciation and of the birth of Jesus.	3. Illustrate the life of Jesus using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
4. Be familiar with the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus.		
5. Be familiar with particular stories, parables and miracles of Jesus: Prodigal Son, Good Samaritan, Wedding Feast of Cana, Zaccheus, Lost Sheep, loaves and fishes, healing of the man born blind, Last Supper, Raising of Lazarus.		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
			Name _____
<b>Goal 1: Students form a knowledge and appreciation of the sense of the Church and the fundamentals of Catholic teaching.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning B: Comprehend the life of Jesus, which is made known through the Scriptures</b>			
1. Retell Bible Stories in their own words.			
2. Relate particular Bible Stories to Baptism, to Reconciliation, to Eucharist, and to their lives.			
3. Illustrate the life of Jesus using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL ONE

**Essential Learning C:** Understand the significance of the Virgin Mary in Catholic teaching as well as the lives of the saints.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Acknowledge Mary as Mother of Jesus and Mother of us all.	1. Recite the Hail Mary.	1. Begin to develop devotion to Mary and to the saints in their personal prayer life.
2. Know Mary's love and trust in God by her saying "yes" to God.	2. Identify the Rosary as a Marian prayer.	2. Celebrate with family the special days honoring Mary and the saints.
3. Know that Mary was born without Original Sin.	3. Identify All Saints Day as a celebration of all people who have lived holy lives.	
4. Be familiar with days the Church honors Mary and saints.	4. Identify All Souls Day as a celebration of all people who have died.	
5. Know the importance of the Hail Mary.	5. Illustrate how Mary and the saints are models in our call to be holy through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
6. Acknowledge the saints and other holy people.		
7. Understand what it means to be holy.		

### Curriculum Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Goal 1: Students form a knowledge and appreciation of the sense of the Church and the fundamentals of Catholic teaching.**

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning C: Understand the significance of the Virgin Mary in Catholic teaching as well as the lives of the saints.</b>			
1. Recite the Hail Mary.			
2. Identify the Rosary as a Marian prayer.			
3. Identify All Saints Day as a celebration of all people who have lived holy lives.			
4. Identify All Souls Day as a celebration of all people who have died.			
5. Illustrate how Mary and the saints are models in our call to be holy through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL ONE

**Essential Learning D:** Comprehend how the Catholic Church was founded and how spreading the Good News is a primary task of the Church.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know the Bible as the Story of God's love for His people.	1. Tell others about God.	1. Spread the Gospel message by living like Jesus by joyfully loving, sharing, and caring.
2. Begin to understand the "Good News" is that Jesus Christ suffered, died for us, and rose from the dead.	2. Practice helping others.	
3. Understand Jesus established the Church with the apostles as the first lead-	3. Be a good example to family and to friends.	
4. Know that the Pope is the leader of today's Church.	4. Give examples of people who help others.	
5. Comprehend that each baptized person is called to follow Jesus.	5. Illustrate the origin, Tradition and mission of the Church using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
6. Understand the Church is a community of believers called to follow Jesus.		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
Name _____			
<b>Goal 1: Students form a knowledge and appreciation of the sense of the Church and the fundamentals of Catholic teaching.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning D: Comprehend how the Catholic Church was founded and how spreading the Good News is a primary task of the Church.</b>			
1. Tell others about God.			
2. Practice helping others.			
3. Be a good example to family and to friends.			
4. Give examples of people who help others.			
5. Illustrate the origin, Tradition and mission of the Church using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL TWO

### **Goal 2: Students form the beginnings of a spiritual life experienced through the liturgy and sacraments within the Catholic community.**

**Essential Learning A:** Participate in the liturgical life of the Catholic Church including practices, rituals and prayers as a way of becoming closer to Jesus.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know the seasons of the Church year, i.e. Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Ordinary Time.	1. Name the colors of the liturgical seasons.	1. Attend and actively participate with family in weekend liturgy throughout the year.
2. Know that the Sunday Mass is the central focus of the celebration of the liturgical year.	2. Name articles used in worship altar, ambo, Paschal candle, tabernacle, presider's chair, baptismal font, Stations of the Cross, statues, art work, etc.	2. Display proper etiquette and reverence in Church.
3. Know that the Mass is prayer.	3. Participate in a classroom prayer center that reflects the liturgical season.	
4. Know that Catholics celebrate using symbols, actions, gestures, music, etc.	4. Portray the Church year and items used in worship using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
5. Be familiar with items used in Liturgy and begin to understand reverence due them.		

### **Curriculum Checklist**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Goal 2: Students form the beginnings of a spiritual life experienced through the liturgy and sacraments within the Catholic community.**

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning A: Participate in the liturgical life year of the Catholic Church including practices, rituals and prayers as a way of becoming closer to Jesus.</b>			
1. Name the colors of the liturgical seasons.			
2. Name articles used in worship altar, ambo, Paschal candle, tabernacle, presider's chair, baptismal font, Stations of the Cross, statues, art work, etc.			
3. Participate in a classroom prayer center that reflects the liturgical season.			
4. Portray the Church year and items used in worship using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			



## GOAL TWO

**Essential Learning B:** Understand that sacraments are celebrated as visible signs of God's love.

KNOWLEDGE: Students will...	COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...	LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...
1. Know there are seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Matrimony, Holy Orders.	1. Orally pray an Act of Contrition.	1. Attend and participate in the celebration of the sacraments.
2. Learn about Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist.	2. Portray an understanding of how God's love is shown through Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	2. Relate stories about family members' experiences of the sacraments.
3. Know the sacraments are a community celebration.		
4. Know sacraments are signs of God's Love.		
5. Know a ritual action of each of these three sacraments.		
6. Know Baptism welcomes them into the family of God.		
7. Know Reconciliation as the gift of God's forgiveness.		
8. Understand that we need the gift of God's forgiveness.		
9. Know that Jesus is present in the Eucharist.		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
Name _____			
<b>Goal 2: Students form the beginnings of a spiritual life experienced through the liturgy and sacraments within the Catholic community.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning B: Understand that sacraments are celebrated as visible signs of God's love.</b>			
1. Orally pray an Act of Contrition.			
2. Portray an understanding of how God's love is shown through Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL TWO

**Essential Learning C:** Recognize the meaning of the Eucharist and realize that participating in the Eucharist is important as the core belief that unites all Catholics.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Recognize the Eucharist (Mass) as the most important celebration of our Catholic Faith Community.	1. Explain Eucharist in an age-appropriate manner.	1. Attend and actively participate in the Eucharist (Sunday Mass) with family and with community.
2. Know Jesus gave us the Eucharist at the Last Supper.	2. Portray an understanding of the Eucharist using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	2. Demonstrate appreciation for Jesus' gift to us by being kind and generous to others.
3. Know that bread/wine are changed into the Body/Blood of Jesus.		
4. Know that Eucharist means "to give thanks."		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
Name _____			
<b>Goal 2: Students form the beginnings of a spiritual life experienced through the liturgy and sacraments within the Catholic community.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning C: Recognize the meaning of the Eucharist and realize that participating in the Eucharist is important and a core belief that unites all Catholics.</b>			
1. Explain Eucharist in an age-appropriate manner.			
2. Portray an understanding of the Eucharist using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL THREE

### **Goal 3: Students recognize that as Catholics, by virtue of Baptism, they are called to life in Christ.**

**Essential Learning A:** Comprehend the meaning of the Beatitudes and of the Ten Commandments, which serve as a guide to conscience formation.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know that we are all God's Children.	1. Exhibit appropriate behaviors.	1. Do what is good and avoid what is not good (evil).
2. Appreciate the differences among people.	2. Demonstrate their love for God by helping others.	2. Begin to develop a right relationship with God, others and self.
3. Know that there is the need to help others.	3. Mirror how to be a better follower of Jesus (Examine own conscience).	
4. Comprehend that Jesus showed us how to love God and others.	4. Demonstrate how God wants us to live using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
5. Comprehend Jesus' law of love: Love one another as I have loved you.		

### **Curriculum Checklist**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Goal 3: Students recognize that as Catholics, by virtue of Baptism they are called to life in Christ.**

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning A: Comprehend the meaning of the Beatitudes and of the Ten Commandments, which serve as a guide to conscience formation.</b>			
1. Exhibit appropriate behaviors.			
2. Demonstrate their love for God by helping others.			
3. Mirror how to be a better follower of Jesus (Examine own conscience).			
4. Demonstrate how God wants us to live using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL THREE

**Essential Learning B:** Be familiar with Catholic Social Justice Teaching and discern how to apply such teachings to life and serving others.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know that we are all God's Children.	1. Exhibit helpfulness and sharing.	1. Mirror the love of Christ by loving, by caring and by accepting others.
2. Appreciate the differences among people.	2. Join in service projects, examples such as food drives, "Giving Tree", "Rice Bowl", etc.	
3. Know that there is the need to help others.	3. Demonstrate an understanding of helpfulness, of diversity and of respect using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
4. Comprehend that Jesus showed us how to love God and others.		
5. Comprehend Jesus' law of love: Love one another as I have loved you.		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
			Name _____
<b>Goal 3: Students recognize that as Catholics, by virtue of Baptism they are called to life in Christ.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning B: Be familiar with Catholic Social Justice Teachings and discern how to apply such teachings to life and serving others.</b>			
1. Exhibit helpfulness and sharing.			
2. Join in service projects, examples such as food drives, "Giving Tree", "Rice Bowl", etc.			
3. Demonstrate an understanding of helpfulness, of diversity and of respect using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

**Essential Learning C:** Understand how the grace of God is present in everyday life.

## GOAL THREE

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Realize that God is always with us and will never leave us.	1. Describe God's blessings in their lives.	1. Recognize God's grace in their lives and respond to it.
2. Comprehend God is able to make us better people.	2. Demonstrate God's blessings using drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
3. Know that God's presence helps us through difficult times.		
4. Know that grace is the free and undeserved help from God- a gift.		

### Curriculum Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Goal 3: Students recognize that as Catholics, by virtue of Baptism they are called to life in Christ.**

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning C: Understand how the grace of God is present in everyday life.</b>			
1. Describe God's blessings in their lives.			
2. Demonstrate God's blessings using drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL THREE

**Essential Learning D:** Acknowledge that we should be good stewards of the world around us and we are called to spread the Good News of Christ through evangelization.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know that through Baptism, we are called to do God's Work.	1. Communicate how they can take care of God's world, e.g. people, animals, nature.	1. Tell stories about God to others.
2. Know that God asks us to take care of the world.	2. Have reverence for property and environment at school, at home, in the parish and in the community.	2. Demonstrate a Christian model of living.
3. Know that we are called to share the Good News of Jesus with other people.	3. Take part in experiences of environmental stewardship, e.g. recycling, ecological projects.	
	4. Demonstrate stewardship and evangelization through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
Name _____			
<b>Goal 3: Students recognize that as Catholics, by virtue of Baptism they are called to life in Christ.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning D: Acknowledge that we should be good stewards of the world around us and we are called to spread the Good News of Christ through evangelization.</b>			
1. Communicate how they can take care of God's world, e.g. people, animals, nature.			
2. Have reverence for property and environment at school, at home, in the parish and in the community.			
3. Take part in experiences of environmental stewardship, e.g. recycling, ecological projects.			
4. Demonstrate stewardship and evangelization through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL FOUR

**Goal 4: Students participate in all forms of prayer, both personal and communal, and understand how the study of Scripture can impact one's journey of faith.**

**Essential Learning A:** Know how important it is to enter into a personal relationship with Christ.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>		
<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know that prayer is talking to and listening to God (Jesus).	1. Pray spontaneously (in their own words).	1. Make prayer a part of their daily life.
2. Know that we can pray (talk to God) at any time and at any place, about anything.	2. Pray to God in other ways than asking.	2. Pray with family. ("Christian family is first place for education and prayer". CCC #2694)
3. Know various ways to pray, for example song meditation, quiet prayer.	3. Practice ways to enter into prayer.	
4. Know they can pray to God as their best friend and their loving parent.	4. Illustrate expressions of prayer through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	
5. Know that God is always listening, and we too must listen to God.		
6. Know the difference between asking God in prayer and thanking God in prayer.		

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
			Name _____
<b>Goal 4: Students participate in all forms of prayer, both personal and communal, and understand how the study of Scripture can impact one's journey of faith.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning A: Know how important it is to enter into a personal relationship with Christ.</b>			
1. Pray spontaneously (in their own words).			
2. Pray to God in other ways than asking.			
3. Practice ways to enter into prayer.			
4. Illustrate expressions of prayer through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL FOUR

**Essential Learning B:** Understand the significance of prayer and value the traditions of prayer and the many ways of praying.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Understand that we can pray alone or together.	1. Experience the different forms of prayer through a variety of prayer celebrations.	1. Include prayer in daily life.
2. Know there are traditional/vocal prayers, e.g. The Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Act of Contrition.	2. Participate in Mass, in prayers and in responses.	
3. Know that The Lord's Prayer (Our Father) is given to us from Jesus.	3. Pray for special intentions.	
4. Know there are liturgical prayers (Mass) and devotional prayer (Rosary).	4. Utilize prayer partners within school, parish, or community.	
5. Understand that prayer should be a part of each day.	5. Recite the following prayers: The Sign of the Cross, Grace Before a Meal, Grace After a Meal, Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Morning Prayer, and Angel of God.	
	6. Illustrate the experience of prayer through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	



# GOAL FOUR

## Curriculum Checklist

Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Goal 4: Students participate in all forms of prayer, both personal and communal, and understand how the study of Scripture can impact one's journey of faith.**

	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning B: Understand the significance of prayer and value the traditions of prayer and the many ways of praying.</b>			
1. Experience the different forms of prayer through a variety of prayer celebrations.			
2. Participate in Mass, in prayers and in responses.			
3. Pray for special intentions.			
4. Utilize prayer partners within school, parish, or community.			
5. Recite the following prayers:			
The Sign of the Cross			
Grace Before a Meal			
Grace After a Meal			
Our Father			
Hail Mary			
Glory Be			
Morning Prayer			
Angel of God			
6. Illustrate the experience of prayer through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL FOUR

**Essential Learning C:** Comprehend how to read Sacred Scripture and be able to integrate Scripture into one’s prayer life.

KNOWLEDGE: Students will...	COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...	LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...
1. Know the Bible has two parts – The Old Testament and New Testament.	1. Retell Bible Stories.	1. Read or hear Bible Stories.
2. Know some stories from the Bible, e.g. Creation, Birth of Jesus, Last Supper.	2. Relate Bible Stories to their own lives.	
3. Know that the Bible is the story of how much God loves us.	3. Begin to pray together using Scripture and/or readings from Lectionary.	
4. Be aware that they hear readings from the Bible at Mass and know that Jesus learned the Old Testament stories too.	4. Illustrate Bible Stories through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
Name _____			
<b>Goal 4: Students participate in all forms of prayer, both personal and communal, and understand how the study of Scripture can impact one’s journey of faith.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning C: Comprehend how to read sacred Scripture and be able to integrate Scripture into one's prayer life.</b>			
1. Retell Bible stories.			
2. Relate Bible stories to their own lives.			
3. Begin to pray together using Scripture and/or readings from Lectionary.			
4. Illustrate Bible stories through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			

## GOAL FOUR

**Essential Learning D:** Understand how significant Scripture study can be in lifelong faith formation.

<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>		
<b>KNOWLEDGE: Students will...</b>	<b>COMPETENCY: Students will be able to...</b>	<b>LIFE APPLICATION: Students will...</b>
1. Know that we can read the Bible together and talk about it.	1. Discuss the Sunday readings and the Homily.	1. Read or tell Bible stories together as a family.
2. Know that the Homily is one way of sharing the meaning of Scripture.	2. Share thoughts and feelings about Bible stories and Sunday readings with others.	2. Attend Mass and discuss Sunday readings.
	3. Share Scripture stories as a group through drama, art, music, technology, etc.	3. Share their response to Bible stories or Sunday readings as an integral part of their lifelong faith formation.

<b>Curriculum Checklist</b>			
			Name _____
<b>Goal 4: Students participate in all forms of prayer, both personal and communal, and understand how the study of Scripture can impact one's journey of faith.</b>			
	Grade K	Grade 1	Grade 2
<b>Essential Learning D: Understand how significant Scripture study can be in lifelong faith formation.</b>			
1. Discuss the Sunday readings and the Homily.			
2. Share thoughts and feelings about Bible Stories and Sunday readings with others.			
3. Share Scripture Stories as a group through drama, art, music, technology, etc.			