

Grade 6 - Lesson 1

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

God provides ways for us to prepare for eternal life. Out of love God gives us the Ten Commandments so that we can love him and our neighbor. He also gives us the Holy Mass in order that we will receive the grace necessary for our salvation.



Catechetical Points

- Salvation History is the story of God’s plan to save each of us from the consequences of sin.
- God made us to know him, to love him, and to serve him in this world, and to be happy with him forever in heaven.
- Each of us is made in the image and likeness of God.
- At baptism, we are called to follow Christ as priest, prophet, and king.
- God showed us how to live in relationship with him and with each other by giving Moses the Ten Commandments.
- There are two types of sin: mortal and venial.

Materials

- Blank paper
- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348

Catechist Prayer before the lesson:

“Lord, thank you for calling me to the ministry of catechesis. It is a great privilege and an awesome responsibility to echo your Word to others. Draw me closer to you, so that I may teach by word and example. Amen.”

Before class starts:

- If there any any new students in your class, be sure to introduce yourself and the other students to each other.
- Hand out textbooks and activity books. Have the students write their names on the front cover of their activity book. The activity books are theirs to keep, but they can store them in the cabinet each week if they prefer not to take them home after each lesson.
- Let students who arrive early work on **page 4** in their Activity Book: **Your Conscience**. Answers are on page 10 of the Teacher’s Manual.

[5 min] **Opening Prayer**

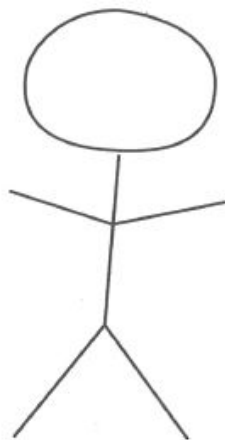
- Have the students open their books to **page 13**. Read the Scripture from Deuteronomy 28:1 (Found on Page 1 of the Teacher's Manual).
- This passage reminds us that God promises many blessings to those who follow his commandments.
- As we start the new school year, ask the students if there is anything they would like to pray for. Pray an **Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be** together. (Student text page 147)
- Recite the prayer on page 1 of the Teacher's Manual under the heading: **Prayer with Children**.

[5 min] **Icebreaker**

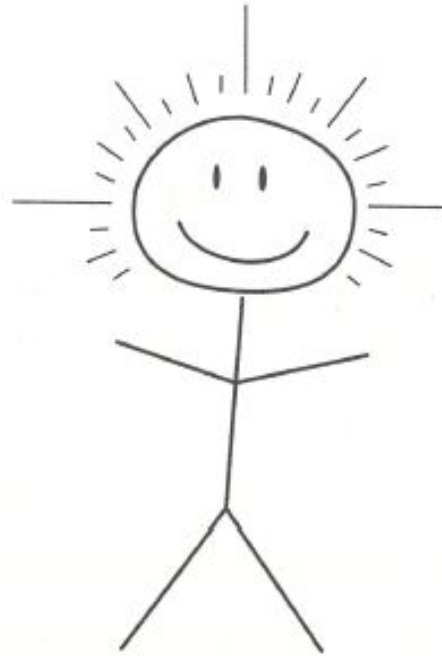
- Divide the class into groups of 2 or 3 students. Give each group a piece of paper and have them write a list of all the things they have in common. After a few minutes, have each group share with the class.

[15 min] **The Image and Likeness of God**

- Ask: **We often hear that each of us is created in the image and likeness of God, but what does this mean?**
- Unlike the animals, we can understand through reason, and we have free will. Because we are made in the image of God, God created us to know, love and serve him.
- Adam was the first human created. Because he was created in the image and likeness of God, we can say that he was a child of God.
- Ask: **What do you think the purpose of Adam's life was?**
- To learn more about Adam's role in creation, let's draw a picture. Use pencils so you can erase as we do each step. Hand out blank paper to the class.
- First draw Adam:



- To indicate that Adam is God's son, show him smiling and make his face shining with God's glory:



- God put Adam in charge of “serving and guarding” the Garden of Eden. The ancient Jewish people saw Eden as the first temple in the world, which means that Adam's first role was to be a priest. Draw a stole on Adam to show that he was a priest:



- God gave Adam another job besides being a priest. God gave Adam “dominion” over all other creatures on earth. This means that Adam was king over all living things. To show that Adam was a king, draw a crown on him:



- God gave Adam a third job: to name all the creatures on earth. A person who speaks on behalf of God is called a prophet. To show that Adam was a prophet, draw him with an open mouth, speaking God's Word:



- Our finished drawing shows that Adam was priest, prophet, and king. This was the meaning of Adam's life, and it is also the meaning of each of our lives. Jesus also lived as a priest, prophet, and king, and we adopted these roles at our baptism.
- Being a king means that we have power over ourselves, over sin, and over Satan.
- Being a priest means that we are children of God and we are called to make sacrifices, such as offering our time, talents, and treasure to others and the Church. Laypeople are called *common* priests, while ordained men in the priesthood are called *ministerial* priests, who are given the additional graces to administer the Sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist.

- Being a prophet means that we are called to speak the truth to others in our lives and speak God's Word to the world.
- Each of us is called to live out these roles of priest, prophet, and king, but we often mess up because of sin. But Jesus lived out these roles perfectly, which is why he is called the "last Adam" or the "Second Man".

[15 min] **The Story of Salvation History**

- God made everything in the universe good, including all the angels in heaven. But Lucifer (Satan) disobeyed God and many angels followed him. They became evil spirits, who tempt all humans to sin.
- God gave Adam and Eve the choice to follow him (free will), but they chose to disobey when they were tempted by the devil. This is called Original Sin, because it was the first sin humans ever committed.
- When Adam and Eve sinned, death and suffering entered the world, and they were separated from God. But God had a plan to make things better again by sending his Son, Jesus, to save us from sin and open the gates of heaven for us.
- The Bible tells the history of God's plan to save us. God's loving plan for all creation is called Providence.
- Watch the YouTube video **Salvation History** by Allison Low (Please bring your own laptop or tablet).
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jnm5wPdy_m4
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
Password: 6084375348
- Pause the video at **0:50** after the introduction on sin and salvation.
 - Ask: **What is sin?** *When we freely choose to do, think, or say something that disobeys God's laws, and we turn away from God's love.*
 - Ask: **What is salvation?** *God's forgiveness of sins and the restoration of friendship with him. Jesus' sacrifice on the cross is our salvation which opened the gates of heaven to us.*
- Pause the video at **2:20** after Adam and Eve.
 - Ask: **What happened because of Adam and Eve's sin?** *Death, pain, and suffering entered the world, and they were expelled from paradise.*
- Pause the video at **3:45** after Noah.
 - Ask: **Why does God flood the earth?** *To destroy the wickedness in the world.*
- Pause the video at **4:55** after Abraham.
 - Ask: **Who does God ask Abraham to sacrifice?** *His only son, Isaac.*

- Ask: **Why does God ask him to do this?** *To test Abraham's faith, trust and obedience to God.*
- Pause the video at **6:20** after Moses.
 - Ask: **Who led the Jewish people out of slavery in Egypt into the Promised Land?** *Moses.*
 - Ask: **What did God give Moses on Mt. Sinai?** *The Ten Commandments.*
- Pause the video at **7:33** after David
 - Ask: **David was a shepherd from Bethlehem. What did he become for the Jewish people?** *Their king.*
 - Ask: **Why did David keep the Ark of the Covenant in the capital city of Jerusalem?** *To help keep God at the center of the people's lives.*
- Pause the video at **8:15** after Solomon.
 - Ask: **What important building did Solomon build?** *The Temple of Jerusalem.*
- Pause the video at **9:03** after the prophets.
 - Ask: **What did the prophets tell the people?** *That the Messiah would come soon.*
- Pause the video at **10:55** after Jesus
 - Ask: **At the Last Supper, Jesus establishes the New and Everlasting _____.** *Covenant.*
- Ask: **What does the story of Salvation History have to do with your life?**

[15 min] **The Ten Commandments** (p. 13-14)

- When Adam and Eve disobeyed, God made a covenant with them to save them by sending his Son.
- In the Old Testament, who else did God make covenant promises to? *Noah, Abraham, Moses, and David.*
- With the New Covenant, Jesus opened the gates of heaven, but does that mean that everyone will automatically go to heaven when they die? *No, because we have to have faith and live in friendship with God. We do not earn heaven by our good works, but if we are in friendship with God, then we will avoid sin and show love for God and others.*
- To help guide humanity towards salvation, God gave us the Ten Commandments. Another word for these is the Decalogue, which means "10 words".
- Have the students read the last paragraph on page 13 and the first 2 paragraphs on page 14 of their textbook.
- Ask: **Why did God give us the Ten Commandments?**
- Have the students complete **page 2** in their **Activity Book**. Answers are on page 10 of the Teacher's Manual.

[15 min] **Conscience** (p. 15-16)

- Read about **Conscience** on pages 15 and 16.
- **Mortal sin** breaks a person's relationship with God.
- For a sin to be mortal these 3 conditions have to be met:
 1. It is a serious sin.
 2. You know it is wrong.
 3. You freely choose to do it.
- You should not receive communion while in a state of mortal sin. When a person commits a mortal sin, they should go to confession as soon as possible. God forgives any sin, no matter how serious it is, as long as the person is truly sorry and tries to be a better person. If a person dies while in a state of mortal sin, they cannot enter heaven. The word "mortal" means "death". Our soul "dies" when it is a state of mortal sin, but God's forgiveness restores us to life. If a person dies in the state of mortal sin, their soul goes to hell because they refused God's mercy and chose eternal separation from God through sin.
- Anyone over the age of seven (the "age of reason") can commit a mortal sin, which is why the Sacrament of Reconciliation is first offered for kids in second grade. Here are some examples of sins that can be mortal depending on the situation: skipping Mass on Sunday or on a Holy Day of Obligation (when you're not sick or can't get a ride to church), not telling a priest all of your sins in confession, viewing inappropriate movies or websites, feeling strong hatred for someone, bullying, telling a serious lie, stealing something valuable, gossiping about others, hating God, saying God's name in vain, disrespecting sacred things (especially the Eucharist).
- **Venial sin** is a sin that weakens a person's relationship with God, but does not destroy it. We have to purify ourselves of venial sin either here on earth or in purgatory before we can enter heaven.
- **Discuss:**
 - Why do people sin, even though they know it's wrong?
 - How could a venial sin lead to a more serious sin?
 - How often do you go to confession? Why?

[5 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Hand out Bibles and read **Psalm 1**.
- Recite the prayer on page 8 of the Teacher's Manual.