

FOURTH GRADE

Theme

Christ calls us “to be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect.” (Matthew 5:48) He loves us so much that He does not ask us to do this without providing everything we need to become perfect. Christ established the Church as a community and environment where we might be taught by the Apostles and their successors. He asks us to live a life of virtue, following the example of His Mother. He gives us the seven sacraments, through which we may experience Him and be transformed by Him.

Knowledge of the Faith

- ✠ Jesus made holiness possible through His life, death and Resurrection. CCC 1987-1997; GDC 115; NDC 28.A.2
- ✠ The Church is God’s presence in the world. CCC 541-550; GDC 85; NDC 32
- ✠ There are five precepts of the Church, guiding our practice of attending Mass on Sundays and on holy days, Confession, reception of the Eucharist, fasting and abstinence, and the support of the Church. CCC 2041-2043
- ✠ The Church was born at Pentecost by the working of the Holy Spirit in the Apostles. CCC 1086-1087; NDC 9
- ✠ Peter was the first head of the Church. CCC 552-553
- ✠ Paul was a great Apostle, living a life of conversion and mission. CCC 639; NDC 17.A
- ✠ Mary was the model disciple, living a life of faith and obedience. CCC 967; NDC 74
- ✠ We are created in the image and likeness of God with special gifts that will help us in our life’s vocation. CCC 356-361; GDC 100

Liturgy and the Sacraments

- ✠ Baptism brings us into the family of God and cleanses us of original sin. CCC 1213; GDC 66 ; NDC 36.A.1
- ✠ Holy Communion strengthens our relationship with God and with each other. CCC 1322; NDC 36.A.3
- ✠ Confirmation increases and deepens our Baptismal grace, strengthens the baptism conferral of the Holy Spirit and the bonds with Church, associates the participant more closely with the Church’s mission, increases the gifts of the Holy Spirit, and helps to bear witness to the Christian faith in words and deeds . CCC 1285; GDC 231; NDC 36.A.2

- ✠ The Sacrament of Matrimony places a man and a woman in union with one another founded in an equal personal dignity which is then expressed in an unreserved mutuality of self-giving. CCC 1601; NDC 36.C.2
- ✠ Holy Orders place a man at the service of the Church. CCC 1536; GDC 224; NDC 36.C.1
- ✠ In the Sacrament of Penance, we express sorrow for and repentance of our sins, and experience God's forgiveness. CCC 1422, 1458; NDC 36.B.1
- ✠ Anointing of the Sick brings healing to the sick among us and rest to their souls. CCC 1499; NDC 36.B.3
- ✠ The Mass is the most important work of the Church - it is where we get our strength and nourishment from the Body and Blood of Christ and our mission to serve others. NDC 36.A.3
- ✠ Through the celebration of the liturgy of the Church, the liturgical year unfolds salvation history. NDC 37.A

Moral Formation

- ✠ We should respond to God in faith and obedience. CCC 143-144, 2087
- ✠ Personal conversion of heart is the beginning of holiness. CCC 1426-1432; GDC 53-55; NDC 17.B
- ✠ We are to follow the greatest commandment: love God and neighbor. CCC 1974; NDC 28.A.2
- ✠ The Ten Commandments, a covenant (promise), guides our actions. CCC 2060; NDC 45
- ✠ The Beatitudes are guides to help us live in holiness. CCC 1723-1724; GDC 85; NDC 45.I
- ✠ Sin breaks our relationship with God and neighbor. CCC 1849-1851
- ✠ Personal sin exists as a result of original sin and our choice not to follow God's laws. CCC 385-387; NDC 41.A
- ✠ We are to take care of our bodies and respect the bodies of others. CCC 1004, 2258

Worship/Prayer: GDC 85; NDC 20, 34

- ✠ Show reverence for the Bible.
- ✠ Participate in prayer at every gathering.

- ✚ Show reverence during all forms of prayer.
- ✚ Know that where two or more are gathered in prayer, God is present.
- ✚ Participate in different forms of prayer, i.e., quiet reflection, guided meditation, song, spontaneous, petition, thanksgiving, praise, and sorrow.
- ✚ Participate in formal prayer, i.e., Our Father, Hail Mary, etc.
- ✚ Recognize the Rosary as a prayer through Mary, our special mother.
- ✚ Participate in prayer services celebrating God's creation and His forgiveness.
- ✚ Participate regularly with all other Catholics in Sunday Mass (or the vigil of Sunday Mass on Saturday) and holy days of obligation.
- ✚ Understand the priest as a person chosen by God to represent Christ in the Church and to God's disciples. The priest leads us in prayer at Mass.
- ✚ Participate in activities for Advent and Lent to appreciate the significance of these liturgical seasons, e.g., the Advent wreath, Stations of the Cross.
- ✚ Memorize required prayers of grade level.

Community: GDC 86, 106; NDC 20

- ✚ Be aware of God's creation, recognizing ourselves as unique and special parts of creation, wanting to be with God eternally.
- ✚ Understand ways that God has shown us love.
- ✚ Know that we are created in community, just as the three Persons of the Trinity are in community.
- ✚ Appreciate the different groups to which we belong: Church, parish, community, family, school.
- ✚ Value our own family and extended family and show love and respect to each member and God.
- ✚ Appreciate the Sacrament of Matrimony and the holiness of family life.
- ✚ Remember that Baptism makes us part of the larger family of God, the Church.
- ✚ Recognize the universality of the Church; it is for all cultures, peoples, times, periods, genders, etc.
- ✚ Develop a sense of belonging to our parish community.
- ✚ Participate in special events with the parish such as the feast of the parish's patron saint, holiday customs, blessings, and social events.
- ✚ Become aware of ministries in the parish; i.e., pastor, deacon, catechist, lector, cantor,

Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, altar server.

Missionary Spirit: CCC 897, 1822-1829; GDC 86; NDC 20, 43.B-D

- ✠ Become aware of the ways people care for us.
- ✠ Be able to perform good acts and give our best to others.
- ✠ Explore ways we can show that we care for all God's creation.
- ✠ Understand that we must love ALL people, even those different from us.
- ✠ Know that belonging to the Church (God's family) brings a responsibility to participate in its work.
- ✠ Use the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy as ways to be of service to others.
- ✠ Value Jesus as a model for the way we should live.
- ✠ Value all forms of life as a sacred gift.
- ✠ Understand saints as people who lived lives of holiness and service in God's name.
- ✠ Participate in Advent and Lenten activities that reach out to the wider community.

Scripture

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Description</u>
Genesis 2 - 3	The Fall
Matthew 5:1-12	The Beatitudes
Matthew 25	The Works of Mercy and Last Judgment
Luke 10:25 - 28	Jesus' Great Commandment
Luke 12:27-34	Lilies of the Field
Luke 15:11-32	Prodigal Son
Luke 23:39-43	The Good Thief
John 4:21-24	Worship
John 7:1-10, 11-17	The Life of Love
John 13:34-35	Love One Another
John 14:1-6	The Way, Truth and Life
John 15:21	Reaction of the World
John 20:1-10, 11-18	The Empty Tomb
John 20:19-23	The Gift of Penance