

SEVENTH GRADE

Theme

Jesus became man and shared our human experience while remaining God. The Church looks upon Jesus' life, values and teachings as the fullest revelation of God, His Father. Our moral life is a lived response to God's covenant love. A Catholic, prompted by the Holy Spirit, makes choices by asking, "What does the mind and heart of Jesus and the Church tell us about this situation?"

Knowledge of the Faith

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| † Understand the Incarnation: Jesus as true God and true man, conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit. | CCC 464, 469, 480-482, 484; GDC 40, 98-100, 143; NDC 28.A.2 |
| † Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God. | CCC 444,454; GDC 40, 98-100; NDC 16.A |
| † Jesus Christ possesses two natures, one divine and the other human, not confused, but united in the one person of God's Son. | CCC 481; GDC 98-100; 28A-2, 25H, 28.A.2 |
| † Jesus is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. | CCC 240-242, 253-255; GDC 99-100 |
| † Mary is the Mother of God and model of faith and charity. | CCC 721-726, 963-971; GDC 55,78, 291; NDC 16.A |
| † Mary, from conception, was free from original sin, and remained pure throughout her life. | CCC 508; NDC 29.B |
| † God the Father sent Jesus to be the Messiah, bringing good news, healing, and freedom to the poor and oppressed. | CCC 713, 714; GDC 41; NDC 4.B |
| † All aspects of Christ's public life, from His Baptism to His Ascension, are important. | CCC 535-560, 565-570; GDC 98; NDC 16.A |
| † Jesus' mission was to save people from sin and to lead them to the kingdom. | CCC 608; GDC 101,102; NDC 16.A |
| † Jesus' miracles are dramatic signs of God's power and love. Words are not enough; deeds are required. | .CCC 546-550; NDC 16.A, 28.A.2 |
| † Jesus died and rose from the dead. Through His death and Resurrection, he conquered sin and death and redeemed the world. | CCC 601-603, 635-636; GDC 102-103; NDC 28.A.2 |
| † The Church is a community of believers in the Risen Lord. | GDC 43, 105-108, 240; NDC 16.A |
| † God is personally involved in the story of salvation. | GDC 105-108; NDC 29.B |

- ✠ The Gospel was handed on in two ways - orally and written. CCC 76; NDC 16.B
- ✠ The Gospels are divinely inspired written descriptions of the life of Christ. CCC 76, 124-127, 515, 573; GDC 43, 44, 46; NDC 1
- ✠ The followers of Christ came to believe in Christ's Resurrection through the empty tomb, and the appearances of the Risen Christ. CCC 640-642, 657
- ✠ Judaism is the root of Christianity since Jesus himself was Jewish. NDC 51.D

Liturgy and the Sacraments

- ✠ Through the power of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is present in the Church, in the sacraments, and in the Christian community. CCC 1084-1088, 1107-1109; NDC 4.B
- ✠ Christ is the heavenly high priest, always interceding for us. CCC 662-667
- ✠ Sacraments are sacred rites giving expression to initiation, healing, and service. GDC 80, 83, 85, 231; NDC 35.A, B
- ✠ Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are the Sacraments of Initiation. Penance and Anointing of the Sick are the Sacraments of Healing. Matrimony and Holy Orders are the Sacraments of Commitment and Service. GDC 65, 224, 227, 231; NDC 36.A.1-3, 36.B.1,3

Moral Formation

- ✠ The first and last point of reference of moral decisions is Jesus Christ himself. CCC 1698; GDC 37, 85, 101, 102; NDC 42
- ✠ Because of the hope for heaven and eternal happiness, we live a moral life. CCC 1817-1821, 1965-1974; GDC 23; NDC 42.A, 42.C, 44
- ✠ There is a relationship between choices and consequences and between rights and responsibilities. CCC 1731-1739; NDC 42.B
- ✠ In order for an act to be good, its object and circumstances must all be good. CCC 1755, 1760; NDC 42.D
- ✠ True freedom is the choice to embrace God's laws. CCC 1731-1733; NDC 42.E
- ✠ The conscience of God speaks in the depths of our hearts, helps us to recognize the moral quality of a human action, and calls us to conversion. CCC 1776, 1778, 1795 1796, 1797; NDC 42.C
- ✠ The formation of our conscience is a life-long task requiring prayer, fidelity to the Church's teachings and the guidance of her Magisterium. CCC 1779, 1784; NDC 42.C

† The Beatitudes are a guide to the values of God's Kingdom.	CCC 1716-1717; GDC 115; NDC 25.H, 44, 45.I
† There are moral absolutes (objective right and objective wrong).	CCC 311;1756; NDC 41, 42.C,D,E
† The moral and natural laws find their permanent expressions in the Ten Commandments.	CCC 2061-2064, 2070: GDC 115; NDC 45
First Commandment: I am the LORD your God; you shall not have strange Gods before me.	NDC 45.A
† The first commandment binds us to hope in God. Sins opposed to it include despair, presumption, and tempting God.	CCC 2092, 2119
† The first commandment calls us to worship God alone. Opposed to true worship are idolatry, sacrilege, and simony.	CCC 2099-2100, 2120-2121, 2136, 2139
† Idolatry means to worship false gods, putting anything or anyone in the place of God.	CCC 2112-2114
Second Commandment: You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain.	NDC 45.B
† God's name is dishonored in especially grave ways by false oaths, perjury, and cursing.	CCC 2150-2152, 2163
† Blasphemy is the use of the name of God, of Jesus Christ, of the Virgin Mary, or of the saints in an offensive way.	CCC 2162
Third Commandment: Remember to keep holy the LORD'S Day	NDC 45.C
† Sunday fulfills the Sabbath; it is the day of the Resurrection.	CCC 2174-2176, 2190-2191
† The Mass is the heart of the Church's life; by participating, we show ourselves to be members of the Catholic community.	CCC 2177-2178, 2182
† Catholics have the privilege and obligation of attending Sunday Mass (or the vigil of Sunday Mass on Saturday).	CCC 2180-2181, 2192
Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother.	NDC 45.C
† The family is based on marriage, which exists for the good of the spouses and the procreation and education of children.	CCC 2201, 2249.

- † The family is a man and woman united in marriage with children. It is a sign and image of the communion of the Father and the Son in the Holy Spirit. CCC 2202, 2205
- † Children must always show respect for their parents and support them in old age. CCC 2218
- † It is the duty of a citizen to actively participate within his/her government. CCC 2239-2240, 2255

Fifth Commandment: You shall not kill.

NDC 45.E

- † Concern for human rights, from conception to natural death, is a basic Gospel value. CCC 2258, 2273, 2297
- † Every child has the right to life. Abortion is gravely contrary to the moral law. CCC 2322
- † The death penalty, under almost every circumstance, is contrary to the moral law. CCC 2266-2267, 2306
- † Euthanasia (putting an end to the lives of handicapped, sick, or dying) is contrary to the moral law. CCC 2276-2279
- † Our lives belong to God, so suicide is contrary to His law. CCC 2280-2283, 2325
- † Wrongful use of drugs inflicts grave damage on human life and is in direct cooperation with evil. CCC 2291
- † Unjust war is contrary to moral law; we should work to avoid war. CCC 2304, 2317

Sixth Commandment: You shall not commit adultery.

NDC 45.G

- † Human sexuality is a gift from God to establish an intimate and life-giving family bond, within a life-long marriage between a man and a woman. This excludes masturbation, fornication, "living together", homosexual acts, and adultery. CCC 2331-2333, 2350-2353, 2360, 2380-2381, 2390-2391, 2396, 2400
- † Pornography, prostitution, and rape degrade human sexuality. CCC 2354, 2382-2385, 2396, 2400
- † Chastity is the appropriate expression of our human sexuality. CCC 2337
- † Every marriage must be open to having children; this excludes the use of artificial contraception. CCC 2366, 2398-2399

Seventh Commandment: You shall not steal.

NDC 45.H

- † The Seventh Commandment calls us respect the property of others and to be good caretakers of the world God gave to us. CCC 2415, 2456
- † All nations must aid the development of poor nations. CCC 2437-2441
- † The Catholic laity has the role to work for the common good in economics and politics. CCC 2442

Eighth Commandment: You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

NDC 45.H

- † Reputation and honor are aspects of a person's human dignity. These are injured by rash judgment, detraction, calumny, and gossip. CCC 2477-2479, 2507

Ninth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's wife.

NDC 45.F

- † Purity requires modesty, which recognizes and protects the dignity of the person. CCC 2521-2522, 2533

Tenth Commandment: You shall not covet your neighbor's goods.

NDC 45.G

- † True Christians set their hearts on the Kingdom of Heaven; this makes them detached from all material things. CCC 2544-47, 2551, 2556

Worship/Prayer: GDC 85; NDC 20, 34

- † Show reverence for the Bible.
- † Participate in prayer at every gathering.
- † Recognize prayer as an experience to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus.
- † Show reverence during all forms of prayer.
- † 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.
- † Participate in prayer services celebrating God's creation and His forgiveness.
- † Participate 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.
- † Appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the Sacraments of Penance and Eucharist as ways to deepen one's relationship with Christ and participate in the worship of the Church.
- † 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 shows us love.
- † Recognize that we are called to continue Christ's mission of forgiving, healing, and reconciliation.
- † View each person as a unique being and treat them with justice.
- † 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.
- † Become aware that Baptism makes us part of the larger family of God, the Church.
- † Identify traditional Catholic saints whose lives were dedicated to service.
- † Understand the Catholic response to social issues such as poverty, environmental abuse, violence, and racism.
- † Develop a sense of belonging to our parish community.
- † Follow the practice of the corporal and spiritual works of mercy.
- † Participate in special events with the parish such as the feast of the parish's patron saint, holiday customs, blessings and social events.
- † Participate in service outreach projects, clothing and food collections, and fund raising drives.
- † 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.
- † 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.
- † Develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern one's vocation.

Scripture

Passage

Description

Jesus

Luke 2:22-40	Presentation in the Temple
Luke 19:9-10; 4; 16-21	Purpose of Jesus' Coming
John 10:10	Purpose of Jesus' Coming
Mark 1:23-28	Jesus' power over evil
Mark 1: 40-45	Jesus' compassion for others - cure of lepers
Mark 6:34-44	Feeding the hungry
Mark 10:13-16	Blessing the children
Mark 3:13-19	The call of the Twelve Apostles - vocations
Luke 5:1-11; 6:12-16	The call of the Twelve Apostles - vocations
Matthew 5:1-12	Jesus' Sermon on the Mount
Luke 9:28-36	Transfiguration of Jesus
John 6:26-69	Foreshadowing of the Real Presence in the Eucharist
Matthew 16:15-20	Peter acknowledges Jesus as Messiah
Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Corinthians 12:4-11	Service through the use of personal talents
Matthew 25:31-46	Jesus' teaching on the Last Judgment
John 14:26; 20:19-23; Matthew 28:17-20	Jesus sends the Spirit
Matthew 26 - 28:1-15	Jesus' death and resurrection
Mark 14-16:1-13	Jesus' death and resurrection