## Third Grade

**Theme**: God wants us to love and serve him as His family the Church. The Church, led by the Holy Spirit, continues the work of Jesus. It is connected to Jesus through the successors of the Apostles, the Bishops, and through the sacraments.

<u>Six Tasks of Catechesis</u> Knowledge:	Overview of Grade Level from Curriculum Guide The Church is the family of God, founded by Jesus upon the Apostles. The bishops are the successors of the Apostles. The Pope, the successor of St. Peter, is the head of the Church on earth The teachings of Jesus are guarded by the Church. The Apostles' Creed expresses the teachings of the Church. The "birthday" of the Church was the Holy Spirit coming upon the Apostles on Pentecost. Jesus is in the Church, in His Word and in the Eucharist. The saints are also a part of our family who gone to heaven. Our Church is one, holy, catholic (universal) and apostolic.	
Liturgy and Sacraments:	Our Church joins together every Sunday or Saturday Vigil for our <b>highest worship</b> , the Mass (Eucharist).  Jesus truly shares himself and is <b>truly present</b> with us just as he said and did at the Last Supper before He suffered and died on the cross. We celebrate feast days and seasons to help us remember Jesus life. Sacramentals prepare us for the sacraments and help us to pray and remember our Faith.	
Moral Formation:	Happiness is loving Jesus and living the way he did by loving God and others God's family includes everyone.  All people have dignity from conception until natural death.  God created the world to be good.	
Worship and Prayer:	We should show reverence for the Bible, the word of God. We participate with reverence during all forms of prayer. We know that God is with us where ever two or more are gathered in His name. We know the rosary is a prayer through Mary, our mother. We participate in prayer services celebrating God's creation and His forgiveness. We participate regularly in Mass on Sundays (or the vigil of Sunday Mass on Saturday) and on Holy Days of Obligation. We understand the role of the priest. We should participate in Advent and Lenten activities to become familiar with these liturgical seasons.	
Community:	Be aware of God's gifts and how He shows us love. Recognize ourselves as unique and special and use our gifts to serve the Church.  Appreciate the Sacrament of Matrimony and the holiness of family life and show respect to each member of our family.  Know the names of Church leaders (pope, bishop, pastor).  Develop a sense of belonging to the parish and know about its activities and ministries.	
Missionary Spirit:	Model Jesus as the way we should live, loving all people and performing good acts and giving our best to others.  Value all forms of life and care for all God's creation.  Understand saints are people who lived lives of holiness and service in God's name.  Know that Jesus told us to go out into the world and tell everyone about Him.	