

# CURRICULUM GUIDE

The Curriculum Guidelines for Parish Religious Education Programs was written for grades K-12 in an effort to provide parishes with a list of criteria that could be achieved in a parish program that meets for approximately 24 hours per year. Our parish program has a requirement of 30 sessions per year.

**Most major textbook publishers** deal with the topics identified. However, no single textbook series follows the curriculum precisely. Therefore, to provide consistency and continuity in scope and sequence, it is best to use the same major textbook series with related support materials for each grade. In this way most of the curriculum will be covered.

The Curriculum Guidelines are also cross-referenced with the Catechism of the Catholic Church (CCC) indicated by a number in parenthesis.

**The textbook is not the sole source of catechesis.** When a child is baptized, he/she enters a relationship with Jesus and becomes a member of the church community. At the same time, parents and the parish community including the parish catechists assume the responsibility to nurture the child's growth in faith. This shared responsibility continues until the child is ready to enter fully into the Church's life and mission at Confirmation.

The guidelines are divided into five segments:

- 1) the goal,
- 2) the children/youth will learn to,
- 3) will understand that,
- 4) have the opportunity to and
- 5) parents are asked to.

If you have any questions about the curriculum at St. John the Baptist, please contact Chris Wibbenmeyer.

## KINDERGARTEN

**GOAL:** The children will discover that each person is special, and that all life is a gift from God.

### **The children will learn to:**

- Pray, using spontaneous prayers and the Sign of the Cross (2659-60, 2700ff, 2157)
- Show reverence for the Bible (101-4, 131-3)
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons of Advent and Christmas (1163ff)
- Pray and worship with others (2623ff)
- Show gratitude to and love and care for others (2546)
- Show respect and care for all living things (2415-8, 2456, 299)
- Show respect for parish worship space (752, 756)

### **The children will understand that:**

- Creation is a gift from God (290ff)
- We need to care for all Creation (2415-8,2456,299)
- Jesus is much like us; he was born to Mary and grew up in a family (470, 2599)
- We are members of God's family (959,759)
- God tells us to love each other (1823-5, 953)
- God will help us be loving, fair and kind. (2658, 1996,2013)

### **The children will have the opportunity to:**

- Pray and worship with others. (1140, 2623ff, 1136)
- Hear and enjoy Scripture Stories, to include: (131-3, 104-5, 108)
  - Creation, Gen. 1:1-31;
  - Annunciation. Lk 1: 26-38;
  - Christmas, Lk. 1:1-18:
  - Presentation, Lk. 2:22 33:
  - Jesus and his friends, Mk 1: 14-20:
  - Jesus blesses the children. Lk 18: 15-17:
  - Jesus, the Good Shepherd. In. 10: 1-6, 14

### **Parents are asked to:** (2221-31)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with child by worshipping with parish community. (2042, 1656,2180)
- Pray with child at home. (2599, 2590)
- Share with child bible stories, stories of their family, its faith and its ethnic and religious traditions (2599, 1652-7, '533,2204-6)
- Model forgiveness in the family setting. (1439, 1434-5)
- Take a walk with child and point out the wonders of God's creation.(290-4, 299)

## Grade 1

**GOAL:** The children will discover that through Baptism each person is called to be a disciple of Jesus and a member of God's family.

### **The children will learn to:**

- Celebrate Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter using various prayer forms. (1163ft)
- Show reverence for the Bible, prayer and worship space, rituals and sacramentals (101-4, 131-3)
- Name and describe the purpose of these sacraments:
  - Baptism as welcoming and belonging (1267-70, 1997, 804)
  - Reconciliation as forgiving (1424, 1449)
  - Eucharist as sharing a meal (1325, 1402)
- Tell Bible stories in the child's own words, to include: (131-3, 104-5)
  - Creation; Jesus' Baptism by John, Lk 3:21-22;
  - The call of the disciples, Mt. 4: 18-22;
  - The parable of the lost sheep, Lk. 15:3-6;
  - Christmas stories in Mt and Lk including the Annunciation;
  - The Great Commandment, Lk 10: 25-28;
  - Good Samaritan, Lk 10:229-39;
  - Blessing of the children, Mt 19:13-15, Mk 9: 13-16, Lk: 15-17
- Describe God as a Trinity of Persons: Father, Jesus the Son and Holy Spirit. (232ft)
- Show love for God and others in practical ways. (1724, 1717,2447)
- Pray for others, individually and in community. (2634-7,2744-5)

### **The children will understand that:**

- Baptism makes us disciples of Jesus/children of God/members of Jesus' Church.(759)
- As disciples we care for each other. (2822,952-3,959,2196)
- The Eucharist calls us to share with and care for others.  
(2447, 1071, 1109, 1327, 1397-8)
- All Creation is a gift from God for which we must be grateful and caring.  
(354, 339, 290ff, 315)
- Mary is the Mother of Jesus to whom we can turn for help. (484ff, 2675, 2679)
- The Church is God's family. (959,759)
- God is Love and loves each of us completely. (218-21,214,303)

### **The children will have the opportunity to:**

- Pray with others. (2623-5,342)
- Pray for others. (2634-7)
- Care for others in need. (2447)
- Tour the parish church building. (1181-6, 2691)

### **Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31, 1655-8)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with your child by worshipping with parish community. (2177-82, 1342, 1389)
- Teach child these prayers by praying them together in the home. (2685,2688)

- The Sign of the Cross (2157, 232-4, 1066)
- The Hail Mary (2676-7)
- The Our Father (2777ff)
- The Glory Be (2639)
- Common Mass responses (2688, 1073, 1342)
- Prayer before meals (2834)
- Read Bible stories with child. (13.1-2)
- Bring child to witness a Baptism in your parish. (2226, 2179, 1267-9)
- Pray spontaneously in the family with your child at meals and bedtime. (2685,2650)

## GRADE 2

**GOAL:** The children will discover that as disciples of Jesus each person is called to love, forgive and serve others and share in the community's celebrations of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

### **The children will be able to:**

- Tell Bible stories in the child's own words to include: (1424, 1449)
  - God sending manna to the Israelites, Ex 16:2-5, 9-15;
  - The call of Samuel, 1 Sam 3:1-21;
  - The wedding feast at Cana, In 2:1-11;
  - The miracle of the loaves and fishes, In. 6:1-13;
  - Forgiving seventy times seven, Mt 18:21-22;
  - The story of Zaccheus, Lk. 19:1-10;
  - The Last Supper, including the washing of the feet of the Apostles, Mt 26:17-26, In 17:1-26, Lk 22:13-20, In 13; 1-17;
  - The Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Mt 27: 32-56, Lk 24:13-35;
  - The Prodigal Son, Lk 15:11-24;
  - Loaves and fishes, In 6:1-13
- Connect these Scripture stories with words and actions in daily life (141,131-3)
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons using both formal and spontaneous prayer (1163-4,2688)
- Pray using simple verses from Scripture (2653-4)
- Name and describe the two main parts of the Mass: Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of Eucharist (1349ff)
- Recognize and express thanks for the goodness of God's Creation (354, 339)
- Treat all life with respect and responsibility (229,225-6)
- Describe Baptism, Eucharist and Confirmation as the Church's Sacraments of Initiation/belonging (1229, 1212)
- Examine his/her conscience (1454, 1779)

### **The children will understand that:**

- Mary is the Mother of Jesus and our example of how to be a good disciple (963, 2030, 829)
- Jesus is the fullest expression we have of how much God loves us (1065, 604)
- There is a special, loving relationship between God: Father, Jesus, and Holy Spirit (232,218, 1822)
- The Church is a family made up of the disciples of Jesus (959, 759, 1655-8)
- The priest and other liturgical minister and parish community have special roles at the Eucharist (1140-4)
- The bread and wine at Mass become the body and blood of Jesus Christ (1375,1382)
- Forgiveness and reconciliation are important parts of the life of the Church (2838-95)
- There is a difference between sin and accidents or mistakes (1849, 1870-6)

### **The children will have the opportunity to:**

- Celebrate the liturgical seasons using different kinds of prayers, rituals and traditions (1145-62)
- Experience ritual celebrations of forgiveness and reconciliation (1480, 1434-9)

- Celebrate the Sacrament of First Reconciliation (1439, 1474)
- Celebrate the Sacrament of First Communion (1388, 1407, 1417)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (1655, 2221-31)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with child by worshipping with parish community (1140, 2177-82)
- Review with child the traditional prayers learned in Grade One (2685)
- Teach child an Act of Contrition (1451, 2685)
- Involve child in preparing and serving family meals (2221-31)
- Celebrate family rituals involving the sharing of bread (2221-31)
- Involve child in baking bread (2221-31)
- Participate with child in some parish "meals" - picnic, festival, etc. (2221-31)
- Allow child to accompany parent when doing a work of charity like bringing a meal to sick person (2221-31)
- Cooperate in the parish's First Reconciliation and First Communion preparation programs if available. (1655,2221-31)
- Model forgiveness in the family setting (2221-31)

## GRADE 3

**GOAL:** The children will discover that a disciple lives, celebrates and serves within the Church.

### **The children will learn to:**

- Tell New Testament stories in a child's own words to include: (131-3, 104-5)
  - Jesus and his disciples, Mt. 10:5-12, Lk 10:1-12;
  - Sermon on the Mount, Mt 5-7;
  - The Ascension, Acts 1:6- 11;
  - Pentecost, Acts 2:43-47;
  - The life of the early Church, Acts 2:43-47
- Connect New Testament Scripture stories with daily life (101-4)
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons using personal, formal, and communal prayer (1163-4, 2688)
- Pray with the Scriptures (2653-4,2205,2688)
- Describe by means of simple words or Symbols these special roles of each of the Persons in the Trinity: God the Father - Creator of all life; God the Son - Savior and Redeemer of all people; God the Holy Spirit - Helper, Sanctifier, Guide to making good choices (240,290,422,436, 1742,686, 749, 705, 714)
- Describe what the word creed means (186-7)
- List the four marks of the Church and briefly explain their meaning (811-3, 823, 830, 857)
- Name and briefly describe the seven sacraments (1084,1113, 1145ff)

### **The children will understand that:**

- There is a difference between the Old Testament and New Testament (120-7)
- The Church is the People of God (781-2)
- We are to use our gifts and talents in service to the church and world (786, 2826)
- The Church celebrates as community through the sacraments (1068, III, II18)
- Prayer is our way of talking with God and is necessary in a Christian life (2744-5, 2565)
- The Church helps us learn right from wrong (888,2037-8)
- Mary and the saints are part of our Church community through the community of saints (946-8)

### **The children will have the opportunity to:**

- Treat all life with respect and good stewardship (225-6, 299, 1929)
- Apply the two great Commandments of love to situations in daily life (1889,2196)
- Recognize and describe the vestments, vessels and other items used for communal worship (1181-5)
- Identify their personal gifts and talents and use them to help in the parish and beyond (2238-9,2427-8)
- Retell stories of saints and heroes and apply their example to life today (946-8, 956)

### **Parent(s) are asked to :** (2221-31)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with child by worshipping with parish community (II40, 2177)
- Celebrate church holy days and seasons in the home with special decorations, family traditions and rituals (2204, 2226-8)
- Read Bible stories and lives of the saints with child (1084, III3, II45ff)

- Help child experience, contact, and observe the work of parish lay ministers and community volunteers (2232-2)
- Involve child/family in some form of parish/ community service along with family (2224-8)
- Show forgiveness to each other in the family (2227)
- Help child learn the Nicene Creed (2221,186,194,197)
- Pray with child, using communal and spontaneous prayer (2685)



## GRADE 4

**GOAL:** The children will discover that God's Word in Scripture gives us the guidelines needed to live as disciples of Jesus.

### The children will learn to:

- Locate passages in Scripture by finding the correct book, chapter and verse (103, 132,2688)
- Tell Scripture stories in the child's own words, to include: (131-3, 1698)
  - The Ten Commandments, Ex 20:1-17, Dt. 5:1-21;
  - The daughter of Jairus and the woman with the hemorrhage, Mt.20:29-34;
  - The Beatitudes, Mt. 5: 1-12;
  - Zaccheus meeting Jesus, Lk 19:1-10;
  - The paralyzed man at Capernaum, Mk 2:1-17;
  - The raising of Lazarus, In 11:17-43;
  - The Rich Young Man, Lk 10:17-29;
  - The Good Samaritan, Lk 10:25-37;
  - The Prodigal Son, Lk 15:11-31;
  - The Temptations of Jesus, Mt 4:1-17;
  - The Good Shepherd, Lk 15:1-7
- Create a prayer service using passages from Scripture (2688)
- Pray using the Scriptures, especially the psalms (2653, 2597)
- Begin to do simple meditation prayer and journaling (2705-8)
- Make an examination of conscience (1454, 1480)
- Apply the principles of fairness and justice to family and peer relationships, to sports and other games and to care for the earth (1807,2415-7)
- Use the corporal and spiritual works of mercy as practical guidelines for Christian living in the family, parish, school and neighborhood (2447,1970-1)

### The children will understand:

- The Eucharist calls us to serve and sacrifice for the good of others (1324-7, 1397)
- The following truths about Jesus:
  - Jesus is both God and human (464-9)
  - Jesus is the visible sign of God's love for us (1823,1065)
  - Jesus came to teach us to love one another (846, 1823)
  - Jesus is the Messiah/Redeemer (436-40, 571, 1067)
  - The Risen Jesus is with us today (788, 2743)
- Grace as God's help in living good lives (1997)
- The difference between sin as a free choice to turn away from God and as mistakes/accidents (1731-4)
- That all choices have responsibilities and consequences and are to be made in light of Gospel values (1734, 1848, 783-9)
- How sin affects the communities in which we live (953)
- How forgiving, peacemaking and works of justice enrich the communities in which we live (953, 1878fi)
- How saints and heroes provide us with examples of discipleship to inspire us and help us (957, 828, 1173)

- Evil came into the world as a result or effect of original sin (401)

**The children will have opportunity to:**

- Create a prayer service using passages from Scripture (2705, 2653)
- Apply the Ten Commandments to life today (1724, 1962, 2053)
- Apply the Beatitudes to life today (1720-4)
- Pray the Stations of the Cross (2669, 1674)
- Celebrate Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter in stories, symbols and song (1163-5,1667)
- Experience ritual celebrations of forgiveness and reconciliation (1480, 1434-9)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with child by worshipping with parish community (2177-82)
- Help child memorize the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes (1722, pg. 496-7)
- Participate with child in planning and carrying out a service project (2208)
- Invite child to lead family meal prayers and other prayers of the Church (1720, 1724)
- Participate in parish reconciliation services with child (1480, 1434-9)
- Encourage child to read Scripture stories/lives of the Saints (1045, 1113, 1145f)

## GRADE 5

**GOAL:** The children will discover that all Life is sacred and that the seven sacraments help us experience *Christ and celebrate life's passages within the Catholic community.*

### **The children will learn to:**

- Identify the meaning, signs and symbols of each of the seven sacraments (1084, 1113, 1145ff)
- Find and describe passages in Scripture which deal with:
  - Jesus' ministry as teacher and healer; Jesus enjoying meals with others; (517, 1507)
  - Jesus forgiving sinners; Jesus' friendship with his disciples and others (542, 2839ff)
  - The community life of the early Church as described in Acts and Paul's letter to the Romans (including Pentecost and the Emmaus story) (949-53)
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons using a variety of prayer forms (1163-5, 2839ff)
- Resolve conflicts peaceably (2303-4)
- Practice forgiveness and reconciliation in daily life (2830-45)
- Use positive, affirming words and actions in relations with family and schoolmates (225, 357, 1823)
- Identify and avoid selfish and harmful words or actions (2469, 2477)
- Use critical thinking skills to examine the various values and behaviors promoted in society, especially in the media (1779-88)

### **The children will understand that:**

- Each of the Sacraments use special (symbolic) words and actions to convey their meaning and purpose (1145-62)
- All life is sacred (2258, 293)
- All members of the Church community have a special role in the celebration of each of the Sacraments (1136, 1140, 1144)
- The Church has a special mission to build the Kingdom of God (2044-6)
- The meaning of vocation: the call to religious life, ordained ministry, marriage, single life (871-3)
- Peace and justice are signs of the Kingdom of God (2046, 1829)
- Original sin has affected all humanity and all human history (403-9, 953)
- There is a difference between personal sin and social or communal sin (1849-76)
- Personal sin is always the result of our free choice (1732)
- Jesus is our best example or revelation of God's love and care for us (457-8)
- Jesus is present today in various ways: Sacraments, the Church, Scripture, each other (1088, 776)
- The Holy Spirit is present and active in many ways in the church and daily life (688, 735-6)
- Jesus continues to heal and forgive through the Church (668-9, 1420-21)

### **The children will have the opportunity to:**

- Model and share faith in involvement with peers and younger children (1905-12)
- Tell stories of saints and heroes and apply their example to life today (946-8, 956)
- Celebrate the liturgical seasons using a variety of prayer forms (1163-4, 2688)
- Pray, especially by creating prayer services with classmates (2590-1, 2653)

- Explore the symbolic words and actions used in the Sacraments (1145-55)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31, 1655-8)

- Celebrate Sundays and holy days with child by worshipping with parish community (2177-82)
- Help child identify ways he/she can use personal talents and gifts to help the family, the parish community and the needy (1657)
- Participate in parish reconciliation services with child (1480, 1434-9)
- Encourage child to read Scripture stories and the lives of the saints (1045,1113, 1145f)

## GRADE 6

**GOAL:** The youth will become familiar with the Old Testament and its importance in the life of discipleship and in the life of the community of disciples, the Church.

### **The youth will learn to:**

- Find passages in Scripture using standard scripture citations (131-3)
- Recount the main events in the history of the Hebrew people: (131-3, 101-8,54-67)
  - The Genesis stories of the Creation and Fall;
  - The story of Noah,
  - The story of Abraham and Sara;
  - The story of Isaac, Jacob and Joseph,
  - The story of Moses,
  - The Passover, Exodus and Covenant,
  - The story of establishment of the kingdom: Samuel, Saul, David and Solomon,
  - The story of division and decline of the Kingdom,
  - The story and the preaching of the main prophets: Jeremiah, Hosea, Amos, Isaiah, Ezekiel;
  - The defeat, capture and exile of the Kingdom of Israel;
  - The restoration under Ezra and Nehemiah
- Define covenant as a special loving relationship between God and God's people (308, 707-10)
- Pray using the Old Testament, especially the Psalms (2653-4,2597)
- Relate the message and moral values proclaimed by the Hebrew prophets with the message and moral values proclaimed by Jesus: justice, compassion for the poor and helpless, fidelity to God's Law, mercy and forgiveness (1961-70,1749)
- Identify the forces of violence, oppression and injustice present in today's society (388-9, 1852-3)
- Apply the message of the Hebrew prophets regarding justice and peace to circumstances in their own lives (1961-70,1749)
- List and describe the fruits and gifts of the Holy Spirit (1830-32)

### **The youth will understand:**

- The main images and qualities of God as revealed in the Old Testament: God as Creator, Lord of Lords, King, Father/Mother/Spouse; God as ever faithful, merciful, compassionate, patient, just; God as protector of the widow, the orphan, the poor, the oppressed, the alien (239,269,203-21)
- The relationship that exists among the Passover event in the Old Testament, the Passion story and the Church's celebration of Eucharist (571, 1067, 1076)
- The various symbols from the Old Testament that are now used by the Church in its liturgical celebrations: Lamb, water, fire, oil, unleavened bread (1150-2, 1145)
- The relationship of the Bible, Tradition and the role of church authority (80-87)

### **The youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Participate in a Seder Meal and/or a retreat or evening of reflection 24, 2568-89)
- Celebrate a communal reconciliation service during Advent and/or Lent (1434-9, 1480, 1482)
- Plan and carry out a service project (2208-9,2239)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31, 1655-8)

- Participate in the celebration of Eucharist with youth on weekends (2225-6,2177-82)
- Help youth identify the possible forces of violence, oppression and injustice in the local community and discuss ways the family can help oppose them (2224,2207)
- Read or pray the Scripture occasionally in a family setting with youth (2223-5)
- Participate with youth in a parish reconciliation service (1480, 1434-9)

## GRADE 7

**GOAL:** The youth will become familiar with the origins, nature and content of the New Testament and its role in the life of discipleship and the life of the community of disciples, the Church.

### **The youth will learn to:**

- Recount the main events in the life of Jesus as told in the Gospels: his birth, childhood, baptism, public life, Last Supper, Passion, Death and Resurrection, Ascension and sending of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost (131-3,65-7, 101-4)
- Pray in various ways by using Gospel passages as an aid (2653-4, 2665, 1100)
- Pray using a simple journaling technique (2660, 2700-3)
- Apply the teachings of Jesus about God the Father to their own relationship with God (1693-4, 1877)
- Apply the moral teachings of Jesus to their own life decisions using the Scriptures including the corporal and spiritual works of mercy (1698,1706,1721,2030-1,2447)
- Use their own good example as a means to evangelize and promote God's reign (1789,1972, 1888, 905)
- Trace the origins of the Eucharist to the Last Supper (1153, 1166, 1343. 1347)
- Take a more active part in the parish's life and ministry, in keeping with their age and abilities (781-6, 791)

### **The youth will understand:**

- The Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist
- The following terms as they apply to the development of the New Testament:
  - oral tradition; literary forms; intent of author; final editing; literal vs. Theological interpretation; synoptic gospels (101-33)
- The following key themes in the parables and other teachings of Jesus:
  - The need to approach God as children of a loving, compassionate, all-merciful parent;
  - The nature of the Kingdom of God: its importance above all else, our duty to strive for it, love of neighbor, forgiveness of enemies, avoidance of violence, and compassion for the poor, the helpless and less fortunate (541-50,556)
- The key message contained in the following parables:
  - The Good Samaritan, Lk 16:25-37;
  - The prodigal son, Lk 15:11-31;
  - The use of the talents, Matt 25: 15-22 (545-6, 2839, 1439, 799-8(0)
- The nature and purpose of evangelization (905, 849-56)
- The role and importance of good example in promoting the Kingdom of God (2472, 2044)
- The Church as a sign of the Kingdom of God (763-6, 738, 932)
- That the mission and ministry of the Church is a continuation of the mission and ministry of Jesus (849, 737-8, 863-5)
- Pentecost as the birthday of the Church (1076)

### **The youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Plan and execute a group service project during Advent and/or Lent (2208-9, 2239)
- Participate in a retreat or evening of recollection (2599-2614,2623-42)
- Help plan and participate in liturgy for the parish (2177,2179)

- Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation (1434-9, 1480-2)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31, 1665-8)

- Participate in the celebration of Eucharist with youth on weekends (2225-6, 2177-82)
- Encourage youth to take a more active part in the parish's life and ministry, in keeping with child's age and abilities (2223-6)
- Help youth identify opportunities for doing "good works" in the local community (2207-8)
- Participate with youth in the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation (1422ff)



## GRADE 8

**GOAL:** The youth will become more familiar with the nature of the Church, its sacraments and its history and with their responsibility as today's disciples to participate in the Church's life of worship and mission.

### **The youth will learn to:**

- Give a definition of the following: liturgy, sacrament, each of the Seven Sacraments (1069, 1116, 121ff)
- Explain the role each of the Seven Sacraments has in the life of discipleship, with special emphasis on the Eucharist (1210ff)
- Name and describe the key theme of each of the liturgical seasons (1168-73)
- Participate in the Eucharist in a more prayerful way (1322ff, 1345-72)
- Recognize the sacramental presence of the Risen Lord, not just in the Eucharist but also in others, especially in the community of disciples (901-13,783-6)
- Recognize one's sexuality as a gift from God and respect the sexuality of others (355, 369-73,2331-6)
- Identify ways they can participate in Jesus' threefold mission (teach, sanctify, serve) in their own daily life (901-13, 783-6)
- Name and describe the four marks of the Church (813-65)
- Give a simple description of the main persons and chief events in each of these periods in Church's history:
  - Apostolic Church,
  - Age of Persecution,
  - Age of the Great Heresies,
  - Rise of Monasticism,
  - Middle Ages, Age of Reformation,
  - Vatican II to present (770, 7689, 50ff, 168-9, 172, 702-32)

### **The youth will understand**

- The nature and purpose of human sexuality as contained in Scripture and taught by the Church (355, 369ff, 2331-6)
- The nature of Jesus' threefold mission as prophet/teacher, priest/sanctifier, and shepherd/servant (783-6)
- The relationship between Jesus' threefold mission (teach, sanctify, serve) and the work of the Church throughout history and continuing today including social justice (901-13)
- Their relationship to the Communion of Saints (946-59)

### **The youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Take a more active role in the parish's threefold mission, in keeping with their age and abilities (2223-6)
- Assume appropriate roles in the parish liturgy (2177, 2179)
- Participate in a retreat or evening of recollection (2599-614,2623-42)
- Participate with adults in a parish service project (2207-9, 2239)
- Study and name heroes and heroines of the Church both from yesterday and today (9468, 956)

**Parent(s) are asked to:** (2221-31, 1655-8)

- Participate in the celebration of Eucharist with youth on weekends (2225-6,2177-82)
- Encourage youth to assume various roles in the parish liturgy (2223-4)
- Help youth appreciate and understand his/her gift of sexuality (2339-40, 2362)
- Pray with youth (2685, 2650)
- Encourage youth in reading Scripture and lives of the Saints (50, 102, 957)

## GRADES 9-12

**GOAL:** That the youth prepare to be confirmed as a disciple of Jesus and are equipped to assume the responsibilities that flow from their Confirmation

### **Youth will learn to:**

- Name and describe the key elements of the Paschal Mystery as first revealed in the Hebrew Scripture and as fully revealed in the events of the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Pentecost {GDC#91, 98} [CCC: 122, 124, 128-130, 571- 573, 638, 731, 1067, 1164, 1169]
- Relate the key elements of the Paschal Mystery to the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and First Eucharist {GDC#66, 85} [CCC: 1213, 1225, 1227, 1288, 1303, 1322-1327]
- Explain the meaning that the Sacraments of Initiation have for them personally in becoming and growing as disciples {GDC# 183} [CCC: 1285-1321]
- Identify both the gifts and baptismal responsibilities they possess for participating in the Church's service ministries {GDC# 183} [CCC: 1266-69, 1830-1832, 1965-1972]
- Recognize and challenge injustice and violence in today's society, personally and with others {GDC# 183} [CC: 2407- 2449, 2536, 2820, 2831]
- Name the four forms of vocation within the Church and describe the special contribution each make to the overall life of the Church: Marriage, Holy Orders, Religious Life, Single Life {GDC # 194, 224} [CCC: 871-873, 917, 925-927, 934, 940-945, 1590-1600, 1660, 2253]
- Do peer ministry {GDC#86, 231} [CCC: 871-873, 925-927, 1590-1600, 1618-1620, 1659-1666, 2204-2206]
- Take a more active role in the celebration of the Eucharist [CCC: 1140-1144]

### **The youth will understand:**

- What it means to be a friend and disciple of Jesus [CCC: 222-227, 520, 618, 738, 2087]
- The nature of the Sacrament of Confirmation and the role it plays in the life of the disciple {GDC #231} [CCC: 1286-1289, 1302-1305]
- The nature and meaning of the Sacrament of Marriage and its importance for the Church [CCC: 1612-1617]
- The importance of marriage and the domestic church as a ministerial vocation [CCC: 1655-1658]
- The meaning of the realities of evil, suffering and death in human existence in light of the Paschal Mystery [CCC: 571-573]
- The nature of service ministry in the Church {GDC #55} [CCC: 1534, 1886, 1889, 1905-1912, 1913-1917, 2443-2449]
- The nature and purpose of evangelization {GDC # 46-49} [CCC: 425-429, 849-856]
- The basic responsibilities as members of the community of disciples: participation in the community's worship, hospitality, fellowship, stewardship and ministry {GDC # 55} [CCC: 782, 897-913]

### **Youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Participate in a youth retreat
- Work with his/her sponsor in preparing for Confirmation
- Participate with members of the parish in various social and service projects

- Celebrate the Sacrament of Confirmation
- Assume the various roles in the parish liturgy: servers, readers, ushers, hospitality, music and planning the environment
- Participate in parish structures such as councils and committees

**Parents/Guardians are asked to:**

- Participate in the celebration of Eucharist with you son/daughter on weekends and holy days of obligation
- Participate in the parent sessions associated with Confirmation preparation
- Assist your son/daughter in selecting a Confirmation sponsor
- Encourage and support your son/daughter in the Confirmation project(s) he/she undertakes as part of Confirmation preparation
- Discern with your son/daughter the decision to be confirmed

**GOAL:** That the youth grow in their understanding of Jesus as the Jesus of history and as Lord of faith. (GDC #87, 98)

**The youth will learn to:**

- Recognize the presence of the Risen Lord in the persons and events encountered in daily life {GDC # 16, 116, 117} [CCC: 533, 542, 947, 953, 2790-2792, 2820]
- Name and describe the following main qualities and virtues of Jesus as revealed by His words and actions recorded in the gospels {GDC #98, 140} [CCC: 561]
  - His total obedience to the Father's will for him {GDC #99, 100, 123} [CCC: 566, 569, 606, 609-612, 615]
  - His friendship, love and fidelity to his disciples {GDC #137} [CCC: 551-552, 9983, 1506]
  - His humility and meekness, compassion and mercy {GDC #86} [CCC: 565, 1503-1509]
  - His availability, concern and sensitivity for the needs of the poor, the sick, the oppressed, and the sinner {GDC #102, 103, 104} [CCC: 1503-1509]
  - His courage and self-sacrifice as revealed in the way he approached his passion and death [CCC: 478, 607, 616]
- Give a simple explanation of the creedal statement that Jesus is both fully human and fully divine {GDC #99} [CCC: 423, 426, 469, 469-470]
- Give a simple explanation of Jesus' relation to the Father as God's Son and God's Eternal Word {GDC #99} [CCC: 65, 456-460]
- Apply the example of Jesus to their own efforts to be more responsive to the needs of those around them {GDC #80, 108, 109} [CCC: 2443-2449]
- Explain the petitions of the Lord's Prayer {GDC #115} [CCC: 2857-2865]
- Pray using various forms of prayer: journaling, meditation, scripture, silence, mantra, etc. {GDC #85} [CCC: 2663-2679]

**The youth will understand:**

- The nature of faith as a personal relationship of friendship with God the Father, with Jesus, The Risen Lord and with the Holy Spirit (Trinity) {GDC# 55} [CCC: 142, 154, 160]
- That their baptism has established them as disciples of Jesus {GDC# 65} [CCC: 520, 1213, 1227, 1276, 1279]

- The nature of discipleship and the responsibilities to walk, learn, and work with Jesus {GDC# 34, 41, 85} [CCC: 794, 1506-1507, 1691- 1698]
- The nature of the Church as a community of disciples of Jesus {GDC# 80, 253} [CCC: 781-782]
- The meaning contained in the following title of Jesus: Messiah/Christ; Rabbi/Prophet; High Priest; Lamb of God; Son of Man [CCC: 430-455, 464]
- Assume the responsibility of stewardship and hospitality within the parish {GDC# 86} [CCC: 1309]
- The nature and goals of the Church's ecumenical efforts {GDC# 86, 197, 200} [CCC: 820-821]
- The relationship of the Roman Catholic Church to the other Christian and non-Christian traditions {GDC#86} [CCC: 820-821]

**Youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Plan and carry out peer ministry, with the guidance of adults
- Assume various roles in the parish liturgy: servers, readers, ushers, hospitality, music, planning the environment
- Participate in a retreat or evening of recollection with the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation

**Parents/Guardians are asked to:**

- Encourage your son/daughter to assume various roles in the parish liturgy; servers, readers, ushers, music, hospitality and planning the environment
- Participate in the celebration of the Eucharist with your son/daughter on weekends and holy days of obligation
- Participate with your son/daughter in a parish Reconciliation Service
- Identify ways you and your son/daughter can fulfill the obligation to be good stewards in the parish and in society

**GOAL:** That the youth understand and integrate Jesus' moral vision into their lives as his disciples

**The youth will learn how to:**

- Examine personal decisions and behavior in the light of the moral norms taught by Jesus and the Church GDC #85} [CCC: 1454]
- Apply the parable of the Prodigal Son to their own lives and relationship to God [CCC: 1439]
- Enter into the celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in a more mature way and identify personal practices of penance [CCC: 1450-1460]
- Explain the Beatitudes and their key moral implications (Matthew 5:3-10) (Luke 6:20-26) {GDC #103} [CCC: 1726-1729]
- Evaluate and form the personal choices faced in daily life according to the moral norms taught by Jesus and the Church {GDC #104} [CC: 1804-1809]
- Identify forms of injustice, oppression and violence in today's society and take practical steps to address them {GDC #104} [CCC: 1965-1974]
- Promote forgiveness and healing in one's family and among peers [CCC: 1430, 1435]
- Name and explain the following traditional penitential practices and devotions of the Church: Fasting, Abstinence, Stations of the Cross, Almsgiving [CCC: 1434-1439, 1969, 2669]
- Take a more active role in the parish's efforts to care for the poor, the sick, the needy {GDC # 183} [CCC: 1965-1974]
- Exercise and promote a greater spirit of hospitality in the parish, especially to those who are often ignored, discriminated against or marginalized in our society today {GDC # 183} [CCC: 1971]

- Participate in the Church's celebrations of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil (Triduum) [CCC: 619-623, 1323]
- Continue to develop various forms of prayer {GDC # 85} [CCC: 2686-2690]
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**The youth will understand:**

- The dignity of the human person [CCC: 1, 219, 458, 1934]
- The nature and need for ongoing conversion {GDC #53-57} [CCC: 1428, 1432, 1439]
- The nature and role of the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the life of the disciple and relationship to ongoing conversion [CCC: 1425-1460]
- The moral implications of the passages from the Sermon on the Mount: Matthew 5:13-16 [CCC: 782]; Matthew 5:21-24 [CCC: 2262, 2302 -2303]; Matthew 5:27-30 [CCC: 2336, 2380, 2382]; Matthew 5:38 -42 [CCC: 2443-2449]; Matthew 5:43-48 [CCC: 1933, 2053-2055]; Matthew 6:19-21 [CCC: 2729]; Matthew 6:24-34 [CCC: 2113, 2547, 2830-2831]; Matthew 7:1-5 [CCC: 678]
- The moral implications contained in the story of the Last Judgment found in Matthew 25:31-46 [CCC: 544, 1033, 1470, 2447-2449, 2843]
- The nature of personal or social or collective sin in the light of the moral teaching of Jesus and the Church {GDC #85} [CCC: 386-387, 408, 598, 953, 1869, 1886-1889]
- The moral examples of the saints and contemporary people of faith {GDC #109} [CCC: 828, 945, 2030]
- The meaning and purpose of human sexuality as revealed in scripture and Church teaching [CCC: 2331-2336, 2360-2367]
- That aspect of the Church's mission which promotes God's reign through works of justice and peace {GDC # 85} [CCC: 849-858, 1805-1809, 2044 -2046, 2419-2425]
- The meaning, value and traditional symbols of the Lenten season as a time set aside by the Church for personal and communal conversion [CCC: 1163, 1169]

**Youth will have the opportunity to:**

- Participate with adult mentors of the parish in various social and service projects
- Participate in a youth retreat
- Experience various forms of the celebration of reconciliation, personal and communal
- Continue to assume various roles on the parish liturgy: servers, readers, ushers, hospitality, music, planning the environment
- Address social injustices in society such as poverty, sexism, racism, and unfair labor practices

**Parents/Guardians are asked to:**

- Participate with your son/daughter in the Church's celebrations of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Vigil
- Participate in the celebration of the Eucharist with your son/daughter on weekends and holy days of obligation
- Participate with your son/daughter in a parish reconciliation service
- Encourage participation in individual and family Lenten practices

# THEOLOGY OF THE BODY

## HIGH SCHOOL EDITION

The world is a challenging place for teens. It has become increasingly difficult for parents and educators to help them discover the truth about their bodies, sexuality, and unique call to love.

In an age of “selfies,” *YOU: Life, Love, and the Theology of the Body* cuts through the noise with an authentic view of the human person.

*YOU* introduces teens to the truth that life is not all about them; it is about going out of themselves to be a sincere gift for others.

Theology of the Body as it relates to teens.

- Teens will learn the Theology of the Body and how to live in authentic freedom, love, and happiness.
- *YOU* provides the tools to navigate teens through challenging topics, including gender, pornography, and same-sex “marriage.”
- Teens will learn what healthy relationships look like and how to live a life of sacrifice and discipleship.