

WORD OF LIFE GRADE 4 PARISH SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

The Creed: Truth and Our Response of Faith

Unit 1	We Believe: United in Faith and Truth
Chapter 1	God's Loving Plan
Proclamation	We find our true happiness and perfect fulfillment in God alone.
Focus 1	True and perfect happiness are found only in communion with God (see Jeremiah 29:11–14).
Focus 2	We desire to know the truth, which is found in God.
Focus 3	God makes Himself known and calls us to communion with Him.
Focus 4	When we respond to God by following His plan for our lives, we are truly happy and fulfilled.
Chapter 2	Faith, Reason, and the Eternal Law
Proclamation	God creates everything with a purpose and order so that we can know and understand the truth.
Focus 1	God's plan for all things is the eternal law (see Genesis 1:1).
Focus 2	Our free will gives us the opportunity to cooperate with God's eternal law.
Focus 3	We can know God's moral laws through reason.
Focus 4	God reveals moral laws that we accept with faith.
Chapter 3	The Life of Virtue
Proclamation	We can become virtuous by obeying God's laws.
Focus 1	The natural law leads us to natural happiness, while the revealed law leads us to Heaven (see John 3:31–34).
Focus 2	A person must educate his conscience in order to be a person of character.
Focus 3	The theological virtues are the foundation of the rest of the virtues.
Focus 4	The moral life hinges on the cardinal virtues.
Chapter 4	Fortitude to Live the Truth
Proclamation	With God's help, we can overcome fear and pursue what is good.
Focus 1	Moses told Joshua and the Chosen People to be courageous because God was with them (see Deuteronomy 31:2, 6–8).
Focus 2	There are three virtues, including perseverance, that are parts of the virtue of fortitude.
Focus 3	Through the virtue of patience, we can endure hardships calmly and peacefully.
Focus 4	A magnanimous person is confident that God can do great things through him.
Unit 2	I Believe in God
Chapter 5	There Is One God
Proclamation	
Focus 1	God reveals that He is the one true God (see Isaiah 43:8, 10–11).
Focus 2	We become witnesses of the one true God by professing the truths of the faith expressed in the Creed.
Focus 3	There is one God, not many different gods.
Focus 4	We are witnesses to a world that denies the one true God.

Chapter 6	God the Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth
Proclamation	God the Father created us in the image and likeness of the Blessed Trinity.
Focus 1	God is almighty, all-good, all-knowing, and all present (see Psalm 8:1, 3–6).
Focus 2	Men and women are made in God’s image and likeness (see Genesis 1:26).
Focus 3	The human person is made in the image and likeness of God. God created us as male or female to reflect the love of the Blessed Trinity.
Focus 4	Humans rejected God and damaged their relationship with one another and their ability to reason well and choose freely.
Chapter 7	God Makes Promises to His People
Proclamation	God is always faithful. He asks us to be faithful too.
Focus 1	God promised a new covenant (see Jeremiah 31:31–34).
Focus 2	After the Fall of man, God promised to send a Savior (see Genesis 3:15).
Focus 3	God made a covenant with Noah and all living creatures on the earth (see Genesis 6:8–11; 7:17–19; 8:4; 9:8–17).
Focus 4	God made a covenant with Abram (see Genesis 17:1–5, 15–16).
Chapter 8	God Reveals His Name
Proclamation	God has revealed His name to show His love for us.
Focus 1	God revealed Himself to Moses in the burning bush (see Exodus 3:1–2, 5–7, 10–15; 4:10, 13–14).
Focus 2	God is I AM WHO I AM.
Focus 3	God made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites (see Exodus 19:3–8; 20; 24:3, 12–18).
Focus 4	God’s moral teaching is given in both natural law and revealed law.
Unit 3	I Believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God
Chapter 9	The Prophets Speak
Proclamation	God sent prophets to prepare His people for the Messiah.
Focus 1	What God spoke in part through the prophets, He has now spoken all at once through His Son (see Hebrews 1:1–3).
Focus 2	The prophet Elijah was courageous in calling people to worship the one true God (see 1 Kings 16:29–34; 17:1).
Focus 3	The prophet Elijah performed miracles through God’s power (see 1 Kings 17:8–24).
Focus 4	Prophets told of the Messiah’s life and mission (see Micah 5:2; Isaiah 11:2; 29:18; 53:4–5).
Chapter 10	The Word Became Flesh
Proclamation	Jesus, the Word of God, became man so we can become like God.
Focus 1	The Angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would bear a Son, and “the Word became flesh” (see John 1:1–2, 14, 17).
Focus 2	Jesus has two natures—human and divine.
Focus 3	Jesus Christ became human to save us and elevate us to be like God.
Focus 4	Jesus took on flesh and became man to show us the dignity of the whole human person.
Chapter 11	Jesus Leads Us to Our Supernatural End
Proclamation	God created us for a lasting fulfillment with Him.
Focus 1	We find natural fulfillment in the things of this world (see Ecclesiastes 3:10–13).
Focus 2	The world offers us only natural fulfillment that is limited and temporal (see Ecclesiastes 3:11; 19–20).
Focus 3	We have a supernatural end: union with God. Jesus gives us the grace to lift us up to make us capable of this end.
Focus 4	God infuses the supernatural virtues in us to direct us to our supernatural end.

Chapter 12	The Mission of Jesus, the Messiah, Is to Transform Us
Proclamation	All things are possible with God.
Focus 1	Jesus called the rich young man not only to keep the commandments but also to give away everything to follow Him (see Mark 10:17–22).
Focus 2	Grace does not destroy or cover our nature but heals and elevates it (see Mark 10:24–27).
Focus 3	The Beatitudes are given to us to show us what true happiness is.
Focus 4	The Transfiguration of Jesus reveals His central role in salvation (see Matthew 17:1–3, 5).
Chapter 13	We Celebrate the Paschal Mystery of Christ
Proclamation	We offer our whole selves in union with Jesus.
Focus 1	Jesus tells His followers they must deny themselves, take up their crosses, and follow Him (see Mark 8:31, 33–35).
Focus 2	Jesus' Paschal Mystery is made present to us in the Mass.
Focus 3	Our faith is strengthened when we offer ourselves with Jesus at the Mass.
Focus 4	At Mass, Jesus sends us to glorify God with our lives.
Chapter 14	Jesus Continued His Mission after His Death
Proclamation	Jesus shows us the way and leads us to eternal life with God in Heaven.
Focus 1	Jesus is “the way, and the truth, and the life” (see John 14:1–11).
Focus 2	Jesus descended into Hell to save righteous souls of the Old Testament.
Focus 3	Jesus rose from the dead on the third day.
Focus 4	After forty days on earth, Jesus ascended into Heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
Unit 4	I Believe in the Holy Spirit and the Holy Catholic Church
Chapter 15	I Believe in the Holy Spirit
Proclamation	The Holy Spirit comes to teach us and guide us in the truth.
Focus 1	The Holy Spirit is sent to teach us (see John 14:15–16, 23).
Focus 2	The Holy Spirit is the third Divine Person of the Blessed Trinity, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
Focus 3	The Holy Spirit has spoken through the prophets.
Focus 4	The Holy Spirit has many names and symbols.
Chapter 16	The Holy Spirit's Mission Is to Make Us like God
Proclamation	The Holy Spirit comes to dwell inside us to make us holy and like God.
Focus 1	God promises to put His Spirit within us to make us holy (see Ezekiel 36:24–28).
Focus 2	The Holy Spirit infuses sanctifying grace into our souls to sanctify us and make us like God.
Focus 3	The Holy Spirit moves us to conversion through actual grace.
Focus 4	The Holy Spirit also infuses unique graces in us when we receive the sacraments.
Chapter 17	The Holy Spirit Dwells in the Catholic Church
Proclamation	The Church is a plan born from God's own heart.
Focus 1	The Holy Spirit works with Christ to make the truth known to all people (see John 16:7, 13–15).
Focus 2	The Church is a “plan born in the Father's heart” (CCC 759).
Focus 3	Inspired by the Holy Spirit, the Church continues Jesus' mission.
Focus 4	Jesus gave His authority to the Church (see Matthew 16:18–19).

Chapter 18	The Four Marks of the True Church
Proclamation	Jesus founded the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.
Focus 1	Jesus prays that all the faithful would be one (see John 17:1–11).
Focus 2	The one true Church is holy.
Focus 3	The one true Church is catholic.
Focus 4	The one true Church is apostolic.
Chapter 19	The Communion of Saints
Proclamation	Jesus unites us to Himself and to one another in the Church.
Focus 1	The Church is the Body of Christ (see Colossians 1:15–20).
Focus 2	The Church is united between Heaven and earth as the Communion of Saints.
Focus 3	We are in communion with the saints in Heaven.
Focus 4	Mary, the Mother of Jesus, is the Mother of the Church and our Mother.
Unit 5	I Believe in the Forgiveness of Sins and Life Everlasting
Chapter 20	Suffering and Death and the Resurrection of the Body
Proclamation	God brings good out of the sufferings we experience.
Focus 1	Jesus raised his friend Lazarus from the dead (see John 11:1–4, 17–28, 32–44).
Focus 2	God allows suffering and death to make His glory known.
Focus 3	Christ gives our suffering meaning.
Focus 4	Our souls will be reunited with our bodies for all eternity (see John 5:25, 28–29).
Chapter 21	I Believe in Life Everlasting
Proclamation	Jesus will lead the faithful into the kingdom that God has prepared for them.
Focus 1	At the end of time, Jesus will separate the faithful from the unfaithful (see Matthew 25:31–32, 34–36, 41, 46).
Focus 2	Heaven is our true and ultimate home.
Focus 3	Purgatory is for souls who are in need of final purification before entering Heaven.
Focus 4	Hell is eternal punishment and separation from God.
Chapter 22	Jesus Will Judge the Living and the Dead
Proclamation	At the end of time, we will know and love God, and know His truth, for all eternity.
Focus 1	Jesus teaches us to prepare for our deaths (see Luke 16:19–27, 29–31).
Focus 2	Jesus will judge our lives immediately after our death.
Focus 3	We will be judged in the presence of all at the end of time.
Focus 4	God will establish a “new heaven and a new earth” (see Revelation 21:1–5).
	Liturgical Year: Advent
Proclamation	In Advent, we prepare the way of the Lord.
Focus 1	John the Baptist prepared the way of the Lord (see Matthew 3:1–3).
Focus 2	During Advent, we wait and prepare for the Lord’s coming (see Matthew 3:4).

Liturgical Year: Christmas	
Proclamation	Jesus, God Himself, became man to save us from sin and death.
Focus 1	The angels announced Jesus' coming to the shepherds (see Luke 2:8–20).
Focus 2	In the Christmas season, we celebrate the Birth of the Lamb of God.
Liturgical Year: Lent	
Proclamation	God strengthens those who are humble and contrite against temptation and sin.
Focus 1	Jesus teaches us to pray, fast, and give alms with humble and contrite hearts (see Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18).
Focus 2	In Lent, we unite our sufferings and penances with Christ and are strengthened to overcome temptation.
Liturgical Year: Easter	
Proclamation	Jesus has conquered sin and death. We no longer need to be afraid.
Focus 1	Jesus rose from the dead and brought peace to His fearful disciples (see John 20:19–22).
Focus 2	During the Easter Triduum, we experience the darkness and fear of death and the peace of the Resurrection.