

## Religion Curriculum

### GRADE FIVE

#### **Expectation #1**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture and its meaning for life today.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that the Bible is the inspired Word of God and that it has two parts: Hebrew (Old) and Christian (New) scriptures.

A knowledge of the four accounts of the Gospel that were written by Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

#### **Expectation #2**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the Church.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the teachings of Jesus and how the formation of the early Church was effected.

An understanding that Catholic Christians have distinctive objects, prayers, gestures, and beliefs different from other religions that come from the history and traditions of the Church.

An appreciation of Mary as the Mother of the Church.

A knowledge of the saints as Christian heroes and role models.

#### **Expectation #3**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that each person is drawn to God who, in creating them, has placed a desire for happiness in their hearts.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding and appreciation of Jesus as the redeemer of humanity.

A knowledge that God is everywhere.

An understanding that grace is God's presence within each person.

#### **Expectation #4**

The student will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma found in the Creedal statements.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that God created all things.

A knowledge that Jesus took flesh and became human, like us, in all things but sin and this is called the Incarnation.

A knowledge that Jesus is called Messiah and Savior.

An understanding of the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.

An understanding of life everlasting.

An understanding of the Communion of Saints.

**Expectation #5**

The student will develop an appreciation of the Trinity as revealed to all people in the person, word, and works of Jesus.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that God created all things and made each person in the image and likeness of God.

A knowledge that Jesus, God the Son, became human in all things but sin.

A knowledge that the Holy Spirit lives within each person who is baptized.

**Expectation #6**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as People of God, Body of Christ and Community of Faith.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Church is a community of saints, past, present and future.

An understanding that the Church continues to be Christ's presence on earth and carries on His work.

An understanding that Jesus calls all people to share in bringing about the Kingdom of God.

An awareness that the Catholic Church is a global community of persons whose cultural traditions enrich the experience of faith.

An understanding that each Christian, single, married, cleric or religious is called by Baptism to follow Christ and minister to others.

An understanding that lay women and men contribute to their Faith community through their parish community as well as their daily witness to Gospel values.

An understanding that ordained priesthood, diaconate and religious life are specific responses to the Baptismal call to minister in a special way to God's People.

**Expectation #7**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Sacraments as important moments in the life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the sacraments are actions of the Church that mediate God's grace.

A knowledge of the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist.

A knowledge that through the Sacraments of Healing (Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick) all are strengthened as members of the Church.

A knowledge that through the Sacraments of Service (Holy Orders and Matrimony) covenants are made with the Church and each other.

**Expectation #8**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy (the Mass) is the communal celebration of the Paschal Mystery in which each is called to full and active participation.

**The student shall demonstrate:**

A knowledge of the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine offered at the Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy is the central prayer of the Catholic community.

A knowledge that the Eucharistic celebration is divided into two main parts, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as well as two smaller rites, the Introductory Rite and the Concluding Rite.

A knowledge of the importance of song, silence, response, gesture and movement in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

A knowledge that Christ is present in the person of the minister, in the Eucharistic elements, in the Word and in the gathered assembly.

A knowledge that the primary liturgical symbols are the altar, the ambo, the assembly, the presider's chair, and the baptismal font.

**Expectation #9**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to show our appreciation for the Word of God by attentive listening and responding to it in life.

An ability to participate in all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation and communal.

An understanding of community prayer by praying in a group, attending prayer services or liturgies and visiting the church.

An ability to compose prayers such as blessings, psalms, petitions and contemporary reflections on the Mysteries of the Rosary.

An ability to learn the responses of the liturgy as prayer.

An appreciation of the Mass as the highest form of worship and prayer.

An ability to recite the traditional prayers of the Church:

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Grace Before and After Meals
- Doxology (Glory to the Father...)
- Act of Contrition
- Apostles' Creed
- Nicene Creed

A knowledge and appreciation of the traditional prayers of the Church:

- The Rosary
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Acts of Faith, Hope and Love
- Prayer of the Holy Spirit
- Stations of the Cross

**Expectation #10**

The students will demonstrate an understanding of moral teaching, an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Holy Spirit enables each person to grow and act in a Christian manner.

A knowledge that one's conscience is the ability each person has to know what is right and wrong.

An understanding that the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and God's Law of Love are guidelines in the formation of conscience.

An understanding of the need to examine choices in the light of Gospel values.

**Expectation #11**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the Catholic Social Principles and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

**a. Life and Dignity of the Human Person****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that because each person is made in the image and likeness of God, they are to be treated fairly and respectfully.

An understanding of the need to promote positive relationships with others.

An understanding of the need to defend the dignity of others and show respect for all people as children of God.

**b. Call to Family, Community and Participation****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that family is the basic unit of society.

An understanding that each person has the responsibility to be involved in the community, one's larger family.

**c. Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of basic human rights and responsibilities.

An understanding that each person is responsible for respecting other's rights.

**d. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that each person needs to contribute from personal resources in order to ensure that all have the basic requirements for life with dignity.

An understanding of the need to distinguish between "I want" and "I need".

An understanding that each person needs to give time to help those who are less fortunate.

**e. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers****The student will demonstrate:**

An appreciation of the work and workers who contribute to society.

An understanding that one's work is being a student.

An appreciation for the many jobs that are essential to the community.

#### **f. Solidarity of the Human Family**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that each person is created by God and called to be responsible for one another.

An awareness of how each person can help alleviate world problems such as hunger, poverty and disease.

An ability to participate in stewardship and service activities.

#### **g. Care for God's Creation**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that God has given this world to all people and each person is responsible to preserve its beauty and resources.

An understanding of the effects of pollution on the earth and what will result if steps are not taken to preserve all creation.

#### **Expectation #12**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of the basic principles of Catholic teaching on the family.

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge of the human reproductive system.

An understanding of the responsibility to care for one's body.

A knowledge of the many stages of the human life cycle.

An understanding of personal responsibility over one's body and the right to say "no".

An understanding of the rights and duties of belonging to a family community.

An awareness of the process of reconciliation within the family.

An understanding of the nature and importance of sexuality as a divine gift, a fundamental component of personality, and an enrichment of the whole person - body, emotions, soul - whose deepest meaning is to lead the person to the gift of self in love.

An appreciation of chastity as a virtue that develops a person's authentic maturity and makes him or her capable of guiding the sexual instinct in the service of love and integrating it into his or her psychological and spiritual development.

An appreciation of the human and Christian values that sexuality is intended to express.

A knowledge of, and respect for, the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.

## **GRADE SIX**

### **Expectation #1.**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture and the meaning for life today.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that the authors of the Bible used many different literary forms to convey God's message.

A knowledge of the major figures in the development of God's relationship with the chosen people.

A knowledge of the Exodus as the central saving event of the Hebrew Scriptures.

A knowledge that the Hebrew Scriptures are fulfilled in Jesus Christ as revealed in the Christian Scriptures (New Testament).

An understanding that the Christian Scriptures encompass the life of Christians in the early days of the Church.

An understanding that the Bible is the Word of God, which tells the story of God's people.

An understanding that the Bible defines God's chosen people.

An understanding that Jesus is the fulfillment of the Hebrew Scriptures.

A knowledge that God is revealed through the Sacred Scriptures.

### **Expectation #2**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the Church.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the role of the Catholic Church in world history.

A knowledge that throughout the Church's history there have been periods of needed reform.

A knowledge that there have been many saints in the Church throughout the ages and that many holy people are living within society today.

An understanding of Mary and her role in the life of the Church.

### **Expectation #3.**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that each person is drawn to God who, in creating them, has placed a desire for happiness in their hearts.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that faith is a gift from God.

A belief that Jesus is the foundation of the Christian Catholic faith.

**Expectation #4**

The student will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma found in the Creedal statements.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Paschal Mystery is the heart of the Catholic faith.

An understanding that the Church is one, holy, catholic and apostolic.

**Expectation #5**

The student will develop an appreciation of the Trinity as revealed to all people in the person, word, and works of Jesus.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that God is the Supreme Being, who always was and always will be.

A knowledge that Jesus took flesh and became human in all things but sin which is called the Incarnation.

An understanding that the Holy Spirit sanctifies, or makes holy, one's mind and heart.

**Expectation #6**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as People of God, Body of Christ and Community of Faith.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that the Church is a sign of God's presence in the world today.

An awareness that the Catholic Church is a global community of persons whose cultural traditions enrich the experience of faith.

An understanding that each Christian, single, married, cleric or religious is called by Baptism to follow Christ and minister to others.

An understanding that lay women and men contribute to their Faith community through their parish community as well as their daily witness to Gospel values.

An understanding that ordained priesthood, and religious life are specific responses to the Baptismal call to minister in a special way to God's people.

**Expectation #7**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Sacraments as important moments in the life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Sacraments are actions of the risen Christ working through His church to love, heal and call each person to change.

A knowledge that the seven sacraments express and enrich one's faith.

An understanding that the sacramental actions of the Church originated in Jewish rituals (laying on of hands, anointing with oil, purifying with water, sharing a meal).

An understanding of the seven sacraments, their signs and symbols and how they mediate God's grace.

**Expectation #8**

The student will understand that the Eucharistic Liturgy (Mass) is the communal celebration of the Paschal Mystery in which each is called to full and active participation.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the faithful worship as a community at the Eucharistic Liturgy.

A knowledge of the responses used at the Eucharistic Liturgy.

A knowledge that the Church gathers at the Eucharistic Liturgy to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

An understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy is the central prayer of the Catholic community.

An understanding that all of the Eucharistic Liturgy is prayer.

An understanding of one's responsibility to fully and actively participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

**Expectation #9**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to show our appreciation for the Word of God by attentive listening and responding to it in life.

An ability to participate in all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation and communal.

An understanding of community prayer by praying in a group, attending prayer services or liturgies and visiting the church.

An ability to compose prayers such as blessings, psalms, petitions and contemporary reflections on the Mysteries of the Rosary.

An ability to learn the responses of the liturgy as prayer.

A knowledge of the Stations of the Cross as a devotional tradition of the Church.

An appreciation of the Mass as the highest form of worship and prayer.

A knowledge that the Psalms are prayers Jesus prayed while on earth and remain an important part of Catholic worship today.

An ability to recite and explain the traditional prayers of the Church:

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Grace Before and After Meals
- Doxology (Glory to the Father...)
- Act of Contrition
- Apostles' Creed
- Nicene Creed

A knowledge and appreciation of the traditional prayers of the Church:

- The Rosary
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Acts of Faith, Hope and Love
- Prayer of the Holy Spirit
- Hail Holy Queen
- Stations of the Cross

### **Expectation #10**

The students will demonstrate an understanding of moral teaching, with an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An ability to make moral decisions and evaluate the consequences of one's actions.

An understanding that the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and God's Law of Love are guidelines in the formation of conscience.

An understanding of the meaning of freedom and how to exercise freedom responsibly.

### **Expectation #11**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the Catholic Social Principles and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

### **a. Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that each person possesses a basic dignity that comes from God, not from any human quality or accomplishment.

An understanding of God's teachings on human dignity in the Bible.

An understanding of the need to experience the value and wisdom of elders in the community.

An understanding of the need to recognize when a classmate's dignity has not been valued.

### **b. Call to Family, Community and Participation**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the positive values that are exemplified within the family.

An understanding that family contributes to society through participation in community, church and state.

### **c. Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that people have an obligation to respect the rights of others and to work for the common good.

An understanding of one's basic human rights and responsibilities.

### **d. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that as followers of Jesus each person is called to develop and enhance the skills of the less fortunate.

An understanding that as Christians each person is called to respond to the needs of all members of society.

An understanding of the ways that Christians aid the vulnerable.

### **e. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that work is an expression of dignity and people have the right to decent and productive work.

An awareness of the differing work conditions connected to jobs.

An understanding that work at home and school is a means of participating in God's creation.

An understanding that by virtue of Baptism, every Christian is called to service and this call is fulfilled through a variety of lifestyles and ministries.

### **f. Solidarity of the Human Family**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that as one human family each person is responsible to defend the dignity and rights of people everywhere.

An awareness of the problems and burdens that people face in all cultures.

An understanding that everyone hurts when injustice exists within the human race.

### **g. Care for God's Creation**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of what actions each person can take to become better stewards of God's earth.

An understanding that God entrusted each person to be caretakers of the created world and to conserve and preserve it for future generations.

### **Expectation #12**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of the basic principles of Catholic teaching on the family.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the gift of human life begins at the moment of conception.

An understanding of the nature and importance of sexuality as a divine gift, a fundamental component of personality, and an enrichment of the whole person - body, emotions, soul - whose deepest meaning is to lead the person to the gift of self in love.

An appreciation of chastity as a virtue that develops a person's authentic maturity and makes him or her capable of guiding the sexual instinct in the service of love and integrating it into his or her psychological and spiritual development.

An appreciation of the human and Christian values that sexuality is intended to express.

A knowledge of, and respect for, the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.

An awareness of the nature of aging and the Christian meaning of death and new life.

## **GRADE SEVEN**

### **Expectation #1**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture and its meaning for life today.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that Jesus teaches about God, prayer, justice, peace, service and moral life in the New Testament.

An awareness that Scripture teaches about the person of Jesus and what following Jesus and living the Good News means.

An understanding that the Gospels tell how Jesus dedicated His life to the marginalized of society.

### **Expectation #2**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the Church.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An awareness of the major historical events of the Church.

An understanding of the role of the Catholic Church in world history.

A knowledge that Rome historically became and remains the governing center of the Roman Catholic Church.

A knowledge of the significance and impact of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II).

An understanding of the ways the Church, as institution, communicates and teaches with the faithful through councils and encyclicals.

An understanding of the role of the prophets, martyrs, and saints in the history of the Church.

An understanding of the canonization process.

### **Expectation #3**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that each person is drawn to God who, in creating them, has placed a desire for happiness in their hearts.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An awareness that a deep relationship with Jesus requires a personal faith commitment.

An awareness and respect for those people who profess other faiths.

**Expectation #4**

The student will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma found in the Creedal statements.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that there is only one true God, who is revealed as three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

A knowledge that Jesus is the Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one sent by God.

An understanding that the Resurrection is God's victory over sin and death and a source of life.

A knowledge that Jesus' passion, death, resurrection and glorification is called the Paschal Mystery.

**Expectation #5**

The student will develop an appreciation of the Trinity as revealed to all people in the person, word, and works of Jesus.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that God is revealed in the life of Jesus Christ, in the Sacred Scriptures, in tradition, and in the life of the Church.

A knowledge that the Holy Spirit is at work in the Church today guiding and inspiring the people of God to carry on the mission of Jesus.

**Expectation #6**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as People of God, Body of Christ and Community of Faith.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the history, work and role of religious orders and the call to religious life today.

An understanding that through Baptism each person is called to be active participants in the community of faith.

An understanding that the Catholic Church is a global community.

An understanding of how the heritage of various cultures enrich the experience and tradition of the Church.

An understanding that each Christian, single, married, cleric or religious is called by Baptism to follow Christ and minister to others.

An understanding that lay women and men contribute to their faith community through their parish community as well as their daily witness to Gospel values.

An understanding that ordained priesthood, diaconate and religious life are specific responses to the Baptismal call to minister in a special way to God's People.

**Expectation #7**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Sacraments as important moments in the life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Sacraments are visible signs of God's grace.

An appreciation that the Sacraments are community celebrations that call each person to share the love of God with others.

A knowledge that the purpose of the Sacraments is to give each person a share in the life of Christ.

An understanding that the Eucharist celebrates the eternal presence of the risen Christ.

An appreciation of the central place Sacraments have in one's Christian life.

**Expectation #8**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy (the Mass) is the communal celebration of the Paschal Mystery in which each is called to full and active participation.

**The student shall demonstrate:**

A knowledge that the Church gathers at the Eucharistic Liturgy to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

A knowledge of the liturgical ministries (acolyte, lector, Eucharistic minister, greeter...)

A knowledge that the Eucharistic celebration is divided into two main parts, the Liturgy of the Word, the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as well as two smaller rites, the Introductory Rite and the Concluding Rite.

A knowledge of the importance of song, silence, response, gesture and movement in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

A knowledge that Christ is present in the person of the minister, in the Eucharistic elements, in the Word and in the gathered assembly.

An understanding of one's responsibility to fully and actively participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding of the liturgical seasons and how the scripture and environment reflect the season.

A knowledge that the lectionary contains the readings for the three year cycle of the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding of ritual.

**Expectation #9**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to show our appreciation for the Word of God by attentive listening and responding to it in life.

An ability to participate in all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation and communal.

An understanding of community prayer by praying in a group, attending prayer services or liturgies and visiting the church.

An ability to compose prayers for specific events, celebrations, and prayer services.

An ability to learn the responses of the liturgy as prayer.

An appreciation of prayer as central in a Catholic Christian life, particularly in celebration of the liturgy.

A knowledge that the Psalms are prayers Jesus prayed while on earth and remain an important part of Catholic worship today.

An understanding that each person develops a relationship with God through personal prayer.

An ability to recite and explain the traditional prayers of the Church:

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Grace Before and After Meals
- Doxology (Glory to the Father...)
- Act of Contrition
- Apostles' Creed
- Nicene Creed

A knowledge and appreciation of the traditional prayers of the Church:

- The Rosary
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Acts of Faith, Hope and Love
- Prayer of the Holy Spirit
- Hail Holy Queen
- Psalm 23
- Stations of the Cross

**Expectation #10**

The students will demonstrate an understanding of moral teaching, an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that each person makes good moral decisions by reflection, talking to others who can help us, and praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.

An ability to respond to moral dilemmas using the life of Jesus and the teachings of the Church.

An awareness that the Ten Commandments, Jesus' Great Commandment of Love, the Beatitudes and Jesus' teachings are the foundation to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.

An understanding that conscience formation is an on-going, life-long process.

An understanding that conscience is a gift from God that helps each person discern right from wrong.

**Expectation #11**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the Catholic Social Principles and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

**a. Life and Dignity of the Human Person****The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that each person is a gift from God.

A knowledge that as followers of Jesus, each person is called to act with compassion and justice.

An ability to respond to the needs of others.

**b. Call to Family, Community and Participation****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the family is the basic unit where each person learns and acts on learned values.

An understanding that each person has a right and responsibility to participate in and contribute to the diverse communities in society.

**c. Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person****The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that followers of Jesus are Church, and thus called to reach out with Christ to others, especially those who suffer.

An understanding of the need to respect people of other cultures.

#### **d. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that as followers of Jesus each person is called to develop and enhance the skills of the less fortunate.

An understanding of Jesus' teachings of the basic principles of life.

An understanding that all persons can make a difference, even though they are young.

An understanding of the need to actively participate in helping the less fortunate.

#### **e. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of one's own talents and how to put them to work.

An understanding of the major ministries of the Church.

An understanding of the need to use one's talents to serve a person or group.

#### **f. Solidarity of the Human Family**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that each person is a member of one body of people in the world.

An awareness of what one's life is like compared to the life of another.

#### **g. Care for God's Creation**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the importance of caring for creation and how to participate in activities that promote stewardship of the earth.

#### **Expectation #12**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of the basic principles of Catholic teaching on the family.

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

A recognition that through communication all family members develop in mind, body and spirit.

An understanding that life within the Catholic Christian family is the responsibility of each member.

An understanding of and respect for the reproductive function of the human body.

An understanding of the nature and importance of sexuality as a divine gift, a fundamental component of personality, and an enrichment of the whole person - body, emotions, soul - whose deepest meaning is to lead the person to the gift of self in love.

An appreciation of chastity as a virtue that develops a person's authentic maturity and makes him or her capable of guiding the sexual instinct in the service of love and integrating it into his or her psychological and spiritual development.

An appreciation of the human and Christian values that sexuality is intended to express.

A knowledge of, and respect for, the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.

## **GRADE EIGHT**

### **Expectation #1**

The student will demonstrate the ability to read and reflect on Scripture and its meaning for life today.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Bible was inspired by God and contains many different literary styles.

An ability to use Scripture for prayer and liturgy.

An ability to transfer ideas from Scripture to daily life.

### **Expectation #2**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the history of the Church.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An awareness of the major historical events of the Church.

An understanding that the most current teachings of the Church are set out during the most recent council gathering - Vatican Council II.

An understanding that knowledge of the history of the Church is essential to a proper understanding of the faith.

An appreciation of the history of the Church in the United States.

An understanding that tradition is ongoing and yet evolving.

A knowledge of the lives of modern day saints.

### **Expectation #3**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that each person is drawn to God who, in creating them, has placed a desire for happiness in their hearts.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that God calls each person by name.

An ability to articulate and examine reasons for believing in God.

### **Expectation #4**

The student will demonstrate an understanding and appreciation of doctrine and dogma found in the Creedal statements.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that there is only one true God, who is revealed as three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.

A knowledge that Jesus is Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one sent by God.

An understanding that the Resurrection is God's victory over sin and death and a source of life.

A knowledge that Jesus' passion, death, resurrection and glorification is called the Paschal Mystery.

**Expectation #5**

The student will develop an appreciation of the Trinity as revealed to all people in the person, word, and works of Jesus.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that by the grace of Baptism, each person is called to share in the life of the Blessed Trinity, here on earth and after death in eternal light.

An understanding that God created the world to show His glory.

A knowledge that the Incarnation is the mystery of the union of the divine and human natures in the person of Jesus, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

An understanding that through the power of the Holy Spirit, God gave the world, Jesus, through Mary.

**Expectation #6**

The student will demonstrate knowledge of the Church as People of God, Body of Christ and Community of Faith.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the history, work and role of religious orders and the call to religious life today.

An understanding that through baptism each person is called to be active participants in the community of faith.

An understanding that the Catholic Church is a global community.

An understanding of how the heritage of various cultures enrich the experience and tradition of the Church.

An understanding that each Christian, single, married, cleric or religious is called by Baptism to follow Christ and minister to others.

An understanding that lay women and men contribute to their Faith community through their parish community as well as their daily witness to Gospel values.

An understanding that ordained priesthood, diaconate and religious life are specific responses to the Baptismal call to minister in a special way to God's people.

**Expectation #7**

The student will demonstrate an understanding of the Sacraments as important moments in the life of the community with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist.

**The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that the Sacraments are actions of the risen Christ acting through His Church to love, heal and call each person to change.

An understanding that through the Sacrament of Baptism each person is called to serve, witness and proclaim the Good News.

A knowledge that the Eucharist was instituted by Christ, at the Last Supper and is the real presence of Christ among the faithful.

**Expectation #8**

The student will demonstrate an understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy (the Mass) is the communal celebration of the Paschal Mystery in which each is called to full and active participation.

**The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that the Church gathers at the Eucharistic Liturgy to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

An understanding that the Eucharistic Liturgy is the central prayer of the Catholic community.

An understanding of the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine offered at the Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding of the liturgical seasons, feasts and solemnities of the Church year.

An understanding of the liturgical ministries (acolyte, lector, Eucharistic minister, greeter...)

An understanding that the Eucharistic celebration is divided into two main parts, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as well as two smaller rites, the Introductory Rite and the Concluding Rite.

An understanding of the importance of song, silence, response, gesture and movement in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding that Christ is present in the person of the minister, in the Eucharistic elements, in the Word and in the gathered assembly.

An understanding that the primary liturgical symbols are the altar, the ambo, the assembly, the presider's chair, and the baptismal font.

An understanding of ritual.

An understanding of one's responsibility to fully and actively participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding of the liturgical seasons and how the scripture and environment reflect the season.

An understanding that the lectionary contains the readings for the three year cycle of the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy.

An understanding of the importance of environment and art and how it relates to liturgical seasons and enhances worship.

An understanding of the seasons of the Church year: Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter, and Ordinary Time

A knowledge that Eucharistic Liturgy prepares the faithful for how to be in the world; a people of welcome, service and prayer.

### **Expectation #9**

The student will demonstrate a knowledge of and ability to participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to show our appreciation for the Word of God by attentive listening and responding to it in life.

An understanding of the need for active and conscious participation in liturgy and other prayer experiences.

An ability to participate in all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation and communal.

An understanding of community prayer by praying in a group, attending prayer services or liturgies and visiting the church.

An ability to locate and use a variety of liturgy planning resources for liturgies and other prayer experiences.

An ability to compose prayers for specific events, celebrations and prayer services.

An ability to learn the responses of the liturgy as prayer.

An appreciation of prayer as central in a Catholic Christian life, particularly in celebration of the liturgy.

A knowledge that the Psalms are prayers Jesus prayed while on earth and remain an important part of Catholic worship today.

An ability to articulate the practical role of prayer in sustaining a God-centered life.

An understanding that each person develops a relationship with God through personal prayer.

An ability to recite and explain the meaning of the traditional prayers of the Church.

- Sign of the Cross
- Our Father
- Hail Mary
- Grace Before and After Meals
- Doxology (Glory to the Father . . .)
- Act of Contrition
- Apostles' Creed
- Nicene Creed

A knowledge and appreciation of the traditional prayers of the Church:

- The Rosary
- Prayer of St. Francis
- Acts of Faith, Hope and Love
- Prayer of the Holy Spirit
- Hail Holy Queen
- Psalm 23
- Stations of the Cross

### **Expectation #10**

The students will demonstrate an understanding of moral teaching, an ability to make good moral decisions and to act in a responsible, Christian manner.

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that moral values come from the teachings of Jesus.

A knowledge of the communal aspect of sin.

An understanding that the Ten Commandments, Jesus' Great Commandment of Love, the Beatitudes and Jesus' teachings are the foundation to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.

An understanding of how Christian values help each person make social, economic, and political choices that build the kingdom of God.

### **Expectation #11**

The student will demonstrate comprehension of the Catholic Social Principles and have the ability to apply them to personal and societal situations.

#### **a. Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

A knowledge that as a Christian, each person is called by Jesus to act with acceptance and respect.

An understanding of how Jesus faced prejudice during His life on earth and His response as a model for Christians today.

An understanding that Jesus models respect and reverence for human life.

### **b. Call to Family, Community and Participation**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of qualities needed for family happiness.

An understanding of the importance of participating in society and contributing to the common good.

### **c. Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to advance the common good in society.

An understanding of how the Church has addressed social justice issues and how much more needs to be done.

### **d. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that as Christians, each person needs to put the poor first.

An understanding that the Beatitudes are a blueprint for a Christian life.

An understanding of what it means to be a sign of contradiction to society's values.

An understanding of the need to follow the teachings of Jesus by sharing one's material wealth.

An understanding that Jesus devoted His life to freeing people from every form of slavery.

### **e. Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

#### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding that by virtue of Baptism and Confirmation, every Christian is called to service and this call is fulfilled through a variety of lifestyles and ministries.

An understanding of how being a Christian influences our values and priorities.

An understanding of the underlying issues of labor disputes and legislation in place to protect workers.

#### **f. Solidarity of the Human Family**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of the need to be committed to world peace and how to work for it.

An ability to observe culture in light of Catholic values.

#### **g. Care for God's Creation**

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

An understanding of how one can use personal talents to care for the earth.

An awareness of how consumer culture impacts each person and the earth.

#### **Expectation #12**

The student will demonstrate an appreciation for and understanding of the basic principles of Catholic teaching on the family.

##### **The student will demonstrate:**

A recognition that through communication all family members develop in mind, body and spirit.

An understanding that life within the Catholic Christian family is the responsibility of each member.

An understanding of and respect for the reproductive function of the human body.

An understanding of the nature and importance of sexuality as a divine gift, a fundamental component of personality, and an enrichment of the whole person - body, emotions, soul - whose deepest meaning is to lead the person to the gift of self in love.

An appreciation of chastity as a virtue that develops a person's authentic maturity and makes him or her capable of guiding the sexual instinct in the service of love and integrating it into his or her psychological and spiritual development.

An appreciation of the human and Christian values that sexuality is intended to express.

A knowledge of, and respect for, the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.