

## **GRADE 6 RELIGION**

The sixth grade religion program continues to educate students in Catholic doctrine and morality while teaching Scripture, prayer, and worship. The sixth grade student will study the roots of our faith found in the Old Testament. God is presented as the one who creates out of love and who cares deeply about the world. The students learn about the promises made to Abraham, Moses, and the prophets. Through the study of Scripture, Jesus is seen as proclaiming a new covenant, the coming of the Kingdom of God. Principles of morality can be seen in the relationship between God and His peoples' faithfulness or unfaithfulness to His covenant. Prayers and precepts of the Church are part of every lesson. A deeper understanding of worship is presented in further study of the Sacraments and the Mass.

### **Doctrine**

Students will:

- learn God is the creator of all things, and creates out of love for us
- know God cares for people, and interacts with them
- learn God is revealed to us in the Bible
- learn God and His goodness prevail over sin and evil
- know God is the Lord of freedom
- learn Jesus is the strongest sign of God's presence in the history of the world
- learn Jesus is the center of God's plan for the world
- learn Jesus is the key that unlocks the meaning of life's mysteries
- learn Jesus proclaims the coming of the Kingdom of God
- learn the Holy Spirit gives us special gifts, guides and helps us to love as Jesus did.
- learn the Holy Spirit is always present and active in the lives of people
- learn the Holy Spirit inspired the authors of the Bible
- learn the Holy Spirit is the breath of life and the fire of love

### **Morality**

Students will:

- learn we receive wisdom and understanding from the Spirit of God to know what is good and bad
- learn we know how to live good lives through the teachings of Scripture
- learn we can explore the mysteries of life through the wisdom literature of the Old Testament

## **Scripture**

Students will:

- learn the Bible is God's Word to us in the human words of those who wrote it centuries ago
- learn the Bible focuses on the theme that God and goodness will prevail over sin and evil
- learn the Bible records the experience of God's people
- learn the Old Testament contains the roots of our faith

## **Prayer and Worship**

Students will:

- be afforded the opportunity to pray vocally using the prayers of the Church or Scripture
- be afforded the opportunity to pray meditatively utilizing guided meditation or music
- learn that the Sacraments are special signs within the life of the Church through which Christ becomes present with us and acts in our lives
- learn that sacramental actions of the Church originated in Jewish rituals found in the Old Testament, for example: anointing with oil, laying on of hands, purifying with water, sharing a meal
- learn about Reconciliation and be given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament
- learn about the Mass and be given the opportunity to attend Mass throughout the school year and prepare the readings for one liturgy
- learn that the early Church was a community of the followers of Jesus
- learn that the Church was born on the Feast of Pentecost

## **Materials**

- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 6, textbook
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 6, resource book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 6, test book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 6, teacher's manual
- St. Mary's Press: HELP for ministry with young teens by Carole Goodwin and Marilyn Kielbasa
- New American Bible and the Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Art and craft materials

## **Instruction**

Methods are employed to maintain interest in and enthusiasm for learning Catholic doctrine. Instruction is given in various ways including reading, discussion, testing, lecture, individual and group research and presentation projects, craft activities, prayer, outreach activities, worship.

Prepared by: Elizabeth E. Gill

## **GRADE 7 RELIGION**

The seventh grade religion program continues to educate students in Catholic doctrine and morality while teaching Scripture, prayer, and worship. The theme of grade seven is Jesus. Students study the life, values, and teachings of Jesus and are challenged to live a Christian lifestyle. Through Scripture, students will learn to appreciate the Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation as signs of hope. Students are encouraged to develop Christian attitudes for themselves and others.

### **Doctrine**

Students will:

- learn God speaks, acts in our lives, and loves us through Jesus
- learn God cares especially for the poor, the hungry, and the suffering
- learn God sent Jesus to be the Savior, bringing good news, healing, and freedom to the poor and the oppressed.
- learn God calls us to share in the ministry of Jesus
- learn God is worthy of our total trust
- learn God promises that those who follow Jesus will enjoy the happiness of everlasting life in heaven
- learn Jesus is God's Son as well as the son of Mary; He is truly God and truly man
- learn Jesus dedicated His life to those who suffer from illness, poverty, or injustice
- learn Jesus rose from death to new life and shares the power of His resurrection with us
- learn Jesus is God's incarnate word who speaks and acts in our lives
- learn Jesus preached and practiced complete obedience to God's will
- learn Jesus established the Church, and trusted His disciples to continue His mission.
- learn Jesus gave Himself to His friends as their food and drink at the Last Supper
- learn the Risen Christ sent the Holy Spirit to be with His friends and followers
- learn the Holy Spirit gives us gifts to help us carry out our ministry
- learn the Holy Spirit helps us to develop virtues in order to make good choices
- learn the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples at Pentecost
- learn the Holy Spirit gave birth to Christ's Church and continues to guide the Church
- learn the Holy Spirit guides each of us to know God's will
- learn the Holy Spirit inspired the Scriptures

## **Morality**

Students will:

- learn all Christians are to live out the corporal and spiritual works of mercy
- learn we should live according to the life and teachings of Jesus and in harmony with the commandments
- learn Christians are called to love and forgive one another
- learn we are to do all that we can to grow in our own love and appreciation for life
- learn we are to join Jesus in the struggle against all that brings suffering, diminishment, and death
- learn we are to live out the attitudes, values, and ideals of Jesus in today's world
- learn we can grow in trust of ourselves because we know how much Jesus trusts us
- learn we can know and do what is good with the help of the theological and cardinal virtues
- learn Christians can make moral choices by reflecting, dialoguing, praying, and choosing

## **Scripture**

Students will:

- learn the Gospels are attributed to the four evangelists
- learn the Gospels give us a record of the parables and miracles of Jesus
- learn the Gospels were inspired by the Holy Spirit
- learn each Gospel presents a different image of Jesus depending on each writer's viewpoint, audience, and reason for writing

## **Prayer and Worship**

Students will

- be afforded the opportunity to pray vocally using the prayers of the Church or Scripture
- be afforded the opportunity to pray meditatively utilizing guided meditation or music
- learn that the Sacraments are signs of Christ's presence with us
- learn that the Eucharist celebrates the eternal presence of the risen Christ
- learn that Reconciliation celebrates Jesus' reconciling presence to sinners, the wounded, and God, and be given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament throughout the school year
- learn that Holy Orders celebrates God's call to special ministry as bishop, priest, or deacon
- learn that Matrimony celebrates God's call to a man and woman to minister to each other, their family, and the world
- learn that Matrimony is a sign of Jesus' love for His Church
- learn that Anointing of the Sick celebrates Jesus' healing and forgiving presence
- learn that Baptism and Confirmation celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit who helps us share in Jesus' ministry and empowers us to form Christ's Mystical Body, the Church

(prayer and worship continued)

- learn about the Mass and be given the opportunity to attend Mass throughout the school year and prepare readings for one Mass
- learn that the Church was born on Pentecost and continues Christ's mission of openness and reconciliation
- learn that the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic
- learn that the Church is Christ's Mystical Body

### **Materials**

- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 7, textbook
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 7, resource book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 7, test book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 7, teacher's manual
- St. Mary's Press: HELP for ministry with young teens by Carole Goodwin and Marilyn Kielbasa
- New American Bible
- Catechism of the Catholic Church
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## **GRADE 8 RELIGION**

The eighth grade religion program continues to educate students in Catholic doctrine and morality while teaching Scripture, prayer, and worship. The theme of Grade 8 is Church. Students survey the major historical periods of the Church in order to come to a deeper understanding and appreciation of their heritage. Students will be encouraged to see how their lives reflect the beliefs and commitment of the Church community by participating in the worshipping life of the Church through personal prayer, Mass and the Sacraments, and living a Christian way of life. Students will learn that Jesus calls His followers to live lives of compassion, care, and concern for their fellow human beings, particularly those in need.

### **Doctrine**

Students will:

- learn God creates all things and expresses love for us through the beauty of created things
- learn God is revealed as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
- learn God is all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-loving
- learn God is intimately involved in our lives
- learn God judges each of us at death and all people at the end of time
- learn Jesus formed a community of disciples to share in His saving presence
- learn Jesus promised to send His Spirit after His death
- learn Jesus is divine as well as human
- learn Jesus is our savior and redeemer
- learn Jesus' life and teachings gave human form to God's compassion
- learn Jesus is the world's liberator
- learn the Holy Spirit helps the Church to adapt creatively to the needs of the times
- learn the Holy Spirit gives individual Christians creative abilities to use to build up and renew the Church
- learn the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles on Pentecost
- learn through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Christian communities grew to become a Church open to the whole world
- learn the Holy Spirit inspires and guides the reform of the Church
- learn the Holy Spirit is our unifier, reconciler, helper, and guide

### **Morality**

The students will:

- learn our Christian values help us to make social, economic, and political choices
- learn we have a conscience that sends us a signal when it is disturbed
- learn some sins are collective; the wrongful acts of a group
- learn the quality of our eternal life depends on how we live now

## **Scripture**

The students will:

- learn the Bible is a collection of books that tells the story of God and God's people
- learn the Bible is divided into two parts: the Old Testament and the New Testament
- learn the Bible is divided into books, chapters, and verses
- learn there are four gospels: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John
- learn the Bible was written by many different people at many different times
- learn when we read the Bible, we listen to God speaking to us right here and now
- learn the word Gospel means "good news"

## **Prayer and Worship**

Students will

- be afforded the opportunity to pray vocally using the prayers of the Church or Scripture
- be afforded the opportunity to pray meditatively utilizing guided meditation or music
- learn that the Sacraments are special signs within the life of the Church of Christ's grace and our faith
- learn that the Eucharist was instituted by Christ and is a remembrance and reenactment of the Last Supper
- learn that the Sacraments are actions of the risen Christ acting through His Church to love, heal, and call us to change
- learn that the Sacraments celebrate the meaning of Christ in our most important life experiences
- learn that the Eucharist has two main parts: the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- learn that the Eucharist is the central celebration of the Church
- learn about Reconciliation and be given the opportunity to receive the Sacrament
- learn about the Mass and be given the opportunity to attend Mass throughout the school year
- learn that the Church began on the Feast of Pentecost
- learn that the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic
- learn that the first Christians were followers of Jesus and formed the Church
- learn that the Church works for compassion, justice, and peace
- learn that the Church is a faith community with a rich liturgy and strong principles
- learn that the Church is continually in need of renewal
- learn that the Church expresses its faith in various ways
- learn that the Church developed creeds to respond to new questions

**Materials**

- Siver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 8, textbook
- Siver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 8, resource book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 8, test book
- Silver, Burdett, Ginn: This is Our Faith 8, teacher's manual
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