

## Grade Six

### Scripture

*Students should each have individual access to a Bible in their classes. The New American Bible (NAB) translation is preferred, as this is the translation used in the Lectionary read at Mass.*

By the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will have learned:

1. That the Bible is the Word of God because it is inspired by him. That is, God guided the human authors of Scripture to write those truths he wanted to teach. (102, 105-107, 135)  
**Note to Catechist: God inspired human writers with the truth, and the writers expressed that truth in human words and stories. Therefore, although some details of the stories may not be historically accurate according to modern standards, God's truth is in the message conveyed. Scripture must be acknowledged as teaching solidly, faithfully, and without error that truth which God wanted put into sacred writings for the sake of salvation. (DV 11)**
2. That we learn in Sacred Scripture who God is and who we are in relation to him, i.e., he is our Father, we are his sons and daughters, and we are made in his image and likeness. (205-227, 268-271, 2 Cor 6.18)
3. That Sacred Scripture teaches without error God's saving truth. (101-102, 107)
4. That Sacred Scripture must be read and interpreted with its divine authorship in mind. (111-117, DV 12, 3)
5. That the 46 books of the Old Testament are categorized as follows: Pentateuch (5 books), Historical (16 books), Wisdom (7 books), and Prophets (18 books). In the Jewish tradition, the Pentateuch is also known as the Law or the Torah. (702)
6. That God's loving plan for our redemption is revealed through salvation history. Salvation history begins with Adam and Eve, cf. Gn 3:15, in the Old Testament. Throughout the rest of the Old Testament, God prepared the human race for a Savior. God's saving plan is fulfilled in our Savior, Jesus Christ, and carried out in and through the Church today. (430-431, 436, 1103-1107)
7. That the two creation stories in Genesis are not intended to teach scientific fact, but they do teach the truth that God is the source and the creator of everything. (282-289, See Appendix 1e — What Catholics Believe about Creation)
8. That Abraham was called by God to bring all of humanity together, and God made a covenant with him. (59, 72) **Note to Catechist: Abraham means the "father of a multitude of nations." He is the forefather in faith of Christians, Jews, and Muslim people.**
9. That as a Jewish boy Jesus read, studied, and prayed the Old Testament. Knowing this helps us to understand Jesus and his promises (531-534)
10. That our Christian roots are found in Judaism. (128-129, 1094-1096)
11. That a sacred covenant is a solemn agreement God makes with us and to which he is always faithful. (346)
12. That there are six sacred covenants that God made with mankind (56-58, 72, 357, and 992):
  - 1—Adam and Eve (Gn 1:26-2:3; 3:15),



## Creed

By the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will have learned:

1. That there is one God. In the one God are three Divine Persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. Each Divine Person is fully God. This mystery of the three Persons in the one God is called the Holy Trinity. (253)
2. That Jesus is God the Son, our Savior, who came to reveal the Father to us, to teach us how to live, and to open heaven to us. (259, 459, 461)
3. That God the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, sent by God the Father and God the Son, to dwell within us and help us always choose good and avoid evil. (245, 733-736)
4. That the mystery of the Holy Trinity is the central mystery of our faith. It is the mystery of God himself. The Trinity is the source of all that is good and is the source of all other mysteries of faith. (249)
5. That God sent his Son Jesus as our Savior because of his great love for us. (458)
6. That faith is a gift from God, strengthened through the presence of the Holy Spirit in our souls. (153)
7. That we must strive to overcome evil throughout our lives. (407-409)
8. That Jesus is God in the flesh. We call this mystery of God in the flesh the Incarnation. (464)
9. That God has been faithful to us throughout history, even when we have been unfaithful. (2567)
10. That the Nicene Creed and the Apostles' Creed are summary statements of our central beliefs as Christians. (185-197) **Note to Catechist: The Apostles' Creed is a faithful summary of the apostles' faith. (194) The Nicene Creed stems from the first two ecumenical councils at Nicea in the years 325 & 381 A.D. It is common to all the great Churches of the East and West. (195)**
11. That our Christian heritage has its roots in the Old Testament. (128-130)
12. That Mary is the Mother of God and Mother of the Church. (509, 963)
13. That the great figures of the Old Testament are models of holiness and fidelity, e.g., Noah, Abraham, Sarah, Ruth, Moses, Esther, and David. (147) **Note to Catechist: Whenever teaching about the Saints, the Blessed Mother, or Biblical heroes, point out that they responded to God's call (vocation).**

### Expressions of Faith:

- Sharing with family their understanding of one God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Confirming to family and peers that every human being, from the moment of conception, is created by God.
- Accepting Jesus as Savior, sent by the Father because of God's great love for us.
- Talking about faith as a free gift from God, and talking about having a free will to accept or reject God's great gift.
- Showing respect for their bodies and the bodies of others by not fighting, not taking drugs or alcohol, proper nutrition and exercise, promoting the idea that they are a temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Reciting the Nicene Creed aloud at Mass with the assembly.

Vocabulary Words:

Incarnation	Marquette	Nicene Creed	rectory
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**Liturgy and Sacraments**

By the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will have learned:

1. That a sacrament is an outward sign instituted by Christ and entrusted to the Church, by which grace and divine life are given to us. (1131)
2. That the names of the Seven Sacraments are: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance and Reconciliation, Anointing of the Sick, Holy Orders, and Matrimony. (1113, 1210)
3. That Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist are the Sacraments of Initiation; that Penance and Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick are the Sacraments of Healing; and that Holy Orders and Matrimony are the Sacraments of Service. (1212, 1421, 1534)
4. That the parts of the Mass include: the Introductory Rites, Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist, and the Concluding Rites. (GIRM 46-90) **Note to Catechist: The catechist should reiterate (“re-teach”) the subsections of the parts of the Mass. See the learning objectives for Grade 4.**
5. That listening attentively to the words of Scripture and its explanation at Mass, as well as receiving the Holy Eucharist reverently helps us to become more Christ-like. (1101, 1394-1395)
6. That the Holy Eucharist is the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Christ. It is at the center of our Catholic Faith. (1074, 1324-1325, 1374, 1413)
7. The Paschal Mystery is the Passion, Death, Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ, true God and true man. The Paschal Mystery is re-presented at every Mass. That is, we are present at the one, saving Paschal Mystery every time we are at Mass. (1067)
8. That the Mass is a sacrifice because it re-presents (makes present) Christ’s saving and sacrificial death on the cross. (1365-1366)
9. That the Mass is at the same time the sacrificial memorial and a sacred banquet culminating in Holy Communion. (1382)
10. That Jesus instituted the Eucharist on Holy Thursday, “the night when he was betrayed” (1 Cor 11:23), as he celebrated the Last Supper with his apostles. (1323)
11. That during the celebration of the Mass, the bread and wine are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit and the proclamation of Jesus’ words by the priest. This is the consecration. (1353) **Note to Catechist: The words of consecration spoken by the priest are the words spoken by Jesus at the Last Supper: “This is my body which will be given up for you...This is the cup of my blood...” (1412)**
12. That by the consecration, the substance of bread and wine is changed into the substance of Christ’s Body and Blood. This unique change is called transubstantiation. (1376, 1413) **Note to Catechist: Breaking down the word transubstantiation—trans meaning across, change, convert, cross over; substance meaning the substance of bread and wine becomes the substance of the Body and the Blood of Jesus—will assist in the students’ understanding.**
13. That all the members of the Church, those here on earth *and* those in heaven, are united to the offering of Christ in the Mass. (1370)

14. That the Eucharistic sacrifice is also offered for those in purgatory, that they may enter into the glory of heaven. (1371)
15. That at Mass the assembly is called to participate actively and reverently in the celebration of the Mass through proper gestures, verbal responses, and songs. (1141, 1273, 1348)
16. That all who are properly prepared can receive Holy Communion, by which we unite ourselves with Christ so as to be transformed to witness the gospel in the world. (1074, 1384-1385)
17. That anyone who desires to receive Holy Communion must be in a state of grace. Anyone who is aware of having committed mortal sin must receive absolution in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation before receiving Communion. (1385, 1415)
18. That we are to fast from food and drink, excluding water and/or medicine, for at least one hour prior to the reception of Holy Communion. (CIC 919)
19. That sacramentals are sacred signs, objects, actions, or blessings that help people grow in faith and holiness. The students will be able to name several sacramentals. (1668, 1677)  
**Note to Catechist: Some examples of sacramentals are rosary beads, holy water, blessed palms, and a crucifix.**
20. That there is a difference between sacraments and sacramentals and be able to define each. (1131, 1667)
21. That the sacramental life of the Church was prefigured in the Old Testament. The liturgy of the Church has retained and adopted many elements of worship found in the Old Covenant and Jewish faith. (1093) **Note to Catechist: Examples are readings from the Old Testament, including the singing or praying of the Psalms, and recalling the events of salvation history.**
22. That the season of Advent helps us to recall important persons and events in Scripture before the birth of Christ. Students should know some of the symbols and people associated with Advent, e.g., Jesse tree, Advent wreath, John the Baptist, etc. (524)
23. That at the blessing of baptismal water during the Easter Vigil, the Church remembers the great events of salvation history that pointed to Baptism: Water—Source of Life, Noah—Salvation, Red Sea—Liberation and Crossing the Jordan—New Life. (1217-1222)
24. That the Eucharist is prefigured in the annual Jewish remembering of Passover. (1331-1335)
25. That the ordained ministry of priesthood in the Church today is prefigured in the Old Covenant's priesthood of Aaron and the service of the Levites. (1541)
26. That Jesus is the fulfillment of the priesthood of the Old Covenant. Jesus is the mediator between God and humanity. (1544)
27. That the story of creation in Sacred Scripture declares that man and woman were created for each other. (1605)
28. That Easter is the most important Christian feast. Students should know some of the symbols associated with it, e.g., the crucifix, Jesus as the Paschal Lamb, the Paschal candle, and the Easter lily. (1169)
29. That it is a serious obligation for Catholics to attend Mass every Sunday (or Saturday vigil) and Holy Day of Obligation. (2180)
30. The names of the Holy Days of Obligation and the dates they are celebrated. (CIC 1246)  
**Note to Catechist: The bishops of various countries are permitted by Rome to**

establish rules about the observance of Holy Days of Obligation in their particular countries. In the United States, the following is the norm:

- (a) Immaculate Conception (December 8) and Christmas (December 25) are always Holy Days of Obligation, regardless of the day of the week on which they fall;
- (b) Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (January 1), Ascension Thursday (40 days after Easter), Assumption of Mary (August 15), and All Saints Day (November 1) are normally Holy Days of Obligation but not when they fall on a Monday or Saturday, although, attendance at Mass is always to be encouraged;
- (c) In some dioceses including the Diocese of Marquette, the celebration of Ascension Thursday is transferred to the Seventh Sunday of Easter. (2043-2180)

Expressions of Faith:

- Participating in Mass (praying, singing, responding) each Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation and receiving Holy Communion with reverence.
- Regularly participating in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation with the whole family.
- Exhibiting a genuine understanding and belief in the Real Presence.
- Using sacramentals correctly.
- Serving in a liturgical ministry at Mass, e.g., altar server, gift bearer, etc.
- Participating with family in devotions at church.

Vocabulary Words:

confession	Jesse tree	Paschal Lamb	sacramental(s)
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**Christian Morality**

By the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will have learned:

1. That God made us to know, love, and serve him and so to enter heaven. (1721)
2. That we are made in God’s image and likeness, with intellect and will (two powers of the soul), and that God wants us to live in communion with him but does not force us to do so. (1730, 1732, 1834, 1934)
3. That sanctifying grace is how we share in God’s life, and it is what makes us holy. We must be in a state of grace when we die to go to heaven. The only way for a person to go to hell is by dying in un-repented mortal sin. (1033, 2023-2024)
4. That the Old Testament experiences of faithfulness, sin, conversion, and reconciliation are the roots of the Christian moral life today. (1962)
5. That sin is any intentional thought, word, deed, or omission that breaks God’s law. (1849-50) **Note to Catechist: Emphasis must be given to what is implied by “intentional.” Temptation itself is not a sin. Jesus, himself, was tempted. It is only when we allow the temptation to direct our thoughts, words, and actions that we sin. Furthermore, to be guilty of a sin of omission one must intentionally avoid doing something they should have done, e.g., witnessing a friend stealing something and not reporting it. (1868)**
6. That venial sins do not destroy the life of grace in the soul, but that mortal sins do. (1855,

1861-1863) **Note to Catechist: “Deliberate and unrepented venial sin disposes us little by little to commit mortal sin.” (1863)**

7. That there are three conditions for a mortal sin: (1857)
  - a. The sin must be serious. (1858)
  - b. You must know the sin is serious. (1859)
  - c. You must freely choose it anyway. (1859)
8. That the occasions of sin are any person, place, or thing that may easily lead us to sin. (1853)
9. That many aspects of popular culture, including certain magazines, video games, television shows, music, and certain websites, etc. are contrary to the teachings of Christ and that it is sinful to purposely involve oneself with them. (909, 2496, 2512)
10. That conversion is turning away from sin and toward life in Christ. (1439, 1490)
11. That ultimately God and his goodness always prevail over sin and evil. (1432, 1853)
12. That we should call upon the Holy Spirit to help us do what is right, especially in difficult times. (1433)
13. That by our words, actions, and thoughts we must respect life and the basic human rights of all people for the fulfillment of God’s Kingdom. (677, 1931, 2270)
14. That habits of selfishness and moral weakness lead to sin. Students should learn that the remedy is to grow in virtue. (1849, 1876)
15. The meaning of the theological virtues (faith, hope, and charity) and of the cardinal virtues (prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude). (1804-44) **Note to Catechist: A good way to teach the students about these virtues is to share the stories of those who have experienced them in their lives, especially the saints.**
16. That we are to be chaste and pure in thoughts, words, and actions, both with ourselves and with others. (2341, 2344-2345, 2348, 2518) **Note to Catechist: “Formation in Christian Chastity,” as required by the Diocesan Safe Environment Policy, is to be taught in the classroom at this grade level.**

Expressions of Faith:

- Recognizing and avoiding occasions of sin, choosing friends carefully, and making good choices in what they wear.
- Doing acts of kindness for others, showing respect for others, and displaying good manners at all times.
- Regularly participating in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation with the whole family.
- Exhibiting the cardinal and theological virtues in actions with others.
- Taking responsibility for doing good and avoiding evil—choosing good television programs, movies, books, music, computer games, and Internet sites.

Vocabulary Words:

conversion			
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**Prayer**

By the end of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, students will have learned:

1. That the Mass is our greatest prayer and that we need to participate in the Mass on

- Sundays and on all Holy Days of Obligation. (1167, 2043, 2180-2182)
2. The parts of the Mass and all prayer responses, so as to be able to participate in the Mass more fully.
  3. The importance of perseverance in prayer to overcome obstacles. (2725-2745)
  4. To recognize the saints as witnesses of faith whose examples and prayer lives will not only teach us about prayer but invite us to ask for their intercession in prayer. (2683, Heb 12:1)
  5. That the Psalms, rooted in Judaism, were prayed by Christ and are used today as personal and communal prayer. (2585-2589, 2596)
  6. That there are twenty Mysteries of the Rosary. (five Joyful, five Luminous, five Sorrowful, and five Glorious and how they center on Christ and his mother. (2678, 2708, cf 1674)
  7. A deeper appreciation of the Rosary and other Marian devotions. (1674, 2678, 2708, Glossary of CCC)
  8. How to participate in different kinds of prayers and devotions, e.g., prayers to saints, Stations of the Cross, Rosary, etc. (1674)
  9. To pray for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death. (2258-2262)
  10. That in his covenant with every living creature, God always calls us to prayer. We find its origin in the Old Testament, beginning with Abraham. (2569)
  11. That through their prayers to God, the prophets received both their strength and light for their mission. (2584, Gn 18:16-33, Jer 1:4-10)

Expressions of Faith:

- Participating reverently at Mass.
- Telling the stories of various saints; invoking different saints for particular purposes in their lives; understanding that saints can be intercessors for us.
- Praying the Rosary with family members.
- Praying the prayers of Grace before and after Meals.
- Praying morning and bedtime prayers.
- Praying for the protection of all human life from conception to natural death.
- Talking about and avoiding obstacles to prayer.
- Talking about blessings received.
- Making a daily examination of conscience and praying an act of contrition.
- Talking about their relationship with God.
- Praying informally within a group.

Vocabulary Words:

Mysteries of the Rosary			
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**Prayers to be Learned — by end of Grade Six**

Angel of God [K]	Fatima Prayer [2]	Act of Love [4]
Glory Be [K]	Grace after Meals [2]	Litany [4]

Sign of the Cross [K]	Apostle's Creed [3]	Nicene Creed [4]
Grace before Meals [1]	Hail Holy Queen [3]	Angelus [5]
Hail Mary [1]	Novena [3]	Mysteries of the Rosary [5]
Our Father [1]	Act of Faith [4]	
Act of Contrition [2]	Act of Hope [4]	

## Expectations of Parents

Grade Six parents:

1. Attend Sunday Mass and all Holy Days; actively participate with your child in these and other liturgical celebrations of the Church year.
2. Celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation (“go to Confession”) regularly; take the whole family.
3. Pray with your child daily: morning, evening, and prayer before meals. Encourage your child’s private prayer.
4. Make it a family priority for your son/daughter to attend faith formation classes.
5. Pray a family Rosary.
6. Discuss with your child what is good and what is evil, how to choose good, and the need to confess our sins when we fail.
7. Read and discuss Scripture with your child, especially the upcoming Sunday’s readings.
8. Encourage your son/daughter to take a more active role in the parish’s life and ministry, in keeping with the age and abilities of your child.
9. Discuss the content of each religion class and your child’s understanding of it. Make it a family learning experience. Provide feedback to the catechist.
10. Participate with your child in community service projects, or facilitate your child’s participation with his/her peers.
11. Participate as a family in “whole church” (intergenerational) parish activities when offered.
12. Help your son/daughter to appreciate and understand his/her sexuality in light of Church teachings.
13. Encourage listening to Catholic music as part of your child’s involvement in the media of the world.
14. Encourage your child to use Catholic websites, including the diocesan website: [www.dioceseofmarquette.org](http://www.dioceseofmarquette.org).