

Kindergarten

Scripture

By the end of Kindergarten, students will have learned:

1. That the Bible is a special book about God. (81, 101)
2. That the Bible is God's word. (102, 135)
3. That Bible stories tell us about creation, our loving God, and the birth and life of Jesus. (279, 286-290) **Note to Catechist: See Appendix 1e.**
4. That all people are made in the image of God. (31, 299)
5. That everything God made is good. (295, 299, 301)
6. That God made Adam and Eve very good. (355-358)
7. That the Bible teaches us about God's love. (218-222)
8. That we are to show reverence for the Bible. (102-104)

Expressions of Faith:

- Being attentive during the scripture readings at Sunday Mass (or participating in children's Liturgy of the Word).
- Talking in simple terms about their favorite Bible stories with family members, e.g., the creation stories (Adam and Eve), Noah, Abraham and Sarah, Moses, David, Annunciation, Nativity, Jesus and the Children, Last Supper, Death of Jesus, and the Easter Story.
- Referring to themselves as children of God.
- Talking and singing about God's love and their need to love God.

Vocabulary Words:

Abraham	David	Joseph	Moses
Adam	death	Last Supper	Nativity
Annunciation	Eve	likeness of God	Noah
Bible	God	love	reverence
creation	Jesus	Mary	Sarah

Scripture Stories – Kindergarten:

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| 1. Creation | Genesis 1 and 2 |
| 2. Noah and the Flood | Genesis 6:8, 14 – 9:17 |
| 3. The Golden Rule | Matthew 7:12, Luke 6:31 |
| 4. The Annunciation | Luke 1:26-38 |
| 5. The Nativity | Luke 2:1-20, Matthew 1:18-25 |
| 6. Jesus Blesses the Children | Mark 10:13-16, Matthew 19:13-15, Luke 18:15-17 |
| 7. The Easter Story | Matthew 26–28:8, Mark 14–16:20, Luke 22–24:12, John 12:12-15, 13:1-38, 18:1–20:10 |

Creed

By the end of Kindergarten, students will have learned:

1. That one way we can know that God is the creator is through the beauty and order of nature. (47)
2. That we can experience God's love through the love of others such as family and friends.
3. That God loves us more than anyone else can love us. (318-321)
4. That all good things are gifts from God. (299)
5. That there is one God. (200)
6. That there are three Persons in the one God. (253)
7. That God the Father is the First Person of the Holy Trinity. (270)
8. That God the Son is the Second Person of the Holy Trinity. (262)
9. That God the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity. (245)
10. That Jesus Christ is God the Son in human flesh. (458)
11. That Mary is Jesus' mother, and that Joseph is Jesus' foster-father. (437, 495)
12. That we love and honor Mary in a special way because she is the mother of Jesus, and he made her our mother too. (509, 963)
13. That Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus, our Savior. (525)
14. That Easter is the celebration of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. (1169)

Expressions of Faith:

- Sharing with their family their understanding of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- Talking about everything being a creation of God.
- Talking about Jesus, Mary, and Joseph as the Holy Family.
- Talking about Christmas as the birthday of Jesus, and talking about Easter as the resurrection of Jesus (his rising from the dead).

Vocabulary Words:

Christmas	God the Father	God the Son	Trinity
Easter	God the Holy Spirit		

Liturgy and Sacraments

By the end of Kindergarten, students will have learned:

1. That the Church obliges us to go to Mass every Sunday and that going to Sunday Mass is very important and very good for us. (2180-2182) **Note to Catechist: Unfortunately, some children have no one to take them to Mass. In such a case, the children should know that they themselves are not guilty of committing sin. Sin always implies a deliberate act or omission.**
2. That we owe God our worship, and that the greatest and highest form of worship is the Holy Mass. (1324)
3. The two main parts of Mass are the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist. (*GIRM* 28) **Note to Catechist: At this age, the two parts should be presented simply. The Liturgy of the Word includes reading and explaining the stories of our faith found in the Bible. The Liturgy of the Eucharist includes the memorial of the Last Supper and the changing of bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus.**
4. That the church building is a sacred place where we must behave and be reverent. (1198, 1387)
5. That through Baptism we become sons and daughters of God the Father. (1213)
6. That when we bless ourselves with holy water, it helps us to remember our Baptism. (1668)
7. That we must say we are sorry when we have done something wrong, and we must forgive one another. (2839-2843)
8. That Advent is a time to prepare for Christmas — the Birth of Jesus. (524)
9. That Lent is a time to prepare for Easter — the Resurrection of Jesus. (1095)
10. That Holy Thursday is when Jesus celebrated the Last Supper. (1329,1350)
11. That Good Friday is the day that Jesus died on the cross for us. (Tradition)
12. That the Holy Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus. (1353)
13. That the lighted sanctuary lamp indicates that Jesus is present in the tabernacle. (CIC 940) **Note to Catechist: Be sure to take the children into the church and show them the sanctuary lamp and the tabernacle. Point out that there are times when the sanctuary lamp is not lit, which indicates that Jesus is not present in the tabernacle.**
14. That we genuflect toward the tabernacle as a sign of adoration of Jesus present in the tabernacle. (1378 and Glossary of *CCC* under Genuflection) **Note to Catechist: Teach the children where the tabernacle is located in the church and to genuflect on the right knee toward the tabernacle because Jesus is there. If the sanctuary lamp is not lit, they should not genuflect.**

Expressions of Faith:

- Attending Mass each Sunday with family members.
- Being attentive and reverent in church.
- Talking about the Holy Eucharist as being the Body and Blood of Jesus.
- Genuflecting on the right knee toward the tabernacle as a sign of reverence to Jesus.

- Blessing themselves with holy water as they enter and leave the church.
- Exhibiting an awareness that the church is God's house by not running or speaking out of turn.

Vocabulary Words:

holy water	Mass	Sunday	worship
Lord's Day	Sabbath		

Christian Morality

By the end of Kindergarten, students will have learned:

1. That God made us to know, love, and serve him and so to enter heaven. (1721) **Note to Catechist: Heaven is everlasting joy, happiness, and glory with God. Hell is everlasting suffering, the primary pain of which is separation from God. Purgatory is a state after death in which holy souls (those who have died in a state of grace but are not yet perfectly purified) are made free from the effects of sin so as to enter heaven. It is important that the students understand that, since all of those who are in purgatory died in the state of sanctifying grace, they will all be in heaven one day. Minimize the idea of heaven as a place and indicate that it is a spiritual state of being in the presence of God.**
2. That God makes all human beings very good, in that we are made in his image and likeness. (356-361, 374)
3. That the stories Jesus told us (parables), show us that God loves us and that we are to love God and others. (546, 2055)
4. The Golden Rule: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” (Mt 7:12, Tobit 4:15)
5. The importance of following the Fourth Commandment: Honor your father and your mother. (2197-2200)
6. To say, “I’m sorry,” when they have been unkind to others. (1459, 1847)

Expressions of Faith:

- Reciting the Golden Rule and spontaneously putting it into action with peers and siblings; showing love for others.
- Being respectful of parents and obedient to their direction.
- Obeying rules — at home, in school, and in church.
- Saying “I’m sorry” when they hurt or offend someone.

Vocabulary Words:

Golden Rule	justice	image	Likeness
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Prayer

By the end of Kindergarten, students will have learned:

1. That prayer is talking with and listening to God. (2559-61)
2. That as Catholics we begin our prayers with the Sign of the Cross, and they will learn how to make it. (2157)
3. That each of us has an angel who watches over us. (336)
4. To participate in communal prayers such as the Lord’s Prayer, Hail Mary, and Glory Be. (2759-2865, 2676-77, 2680-82, 2639-49)
5. That at anytime we can talk to God who is our friend and who loves us more than anyone else ever could. (218-21, 733)

Note to Catechist: When teaching the formal prayers, *gently and patiently* teach the

children to use the precise words of the prayers. Do not emphasize putting formal prayers into their own words. At young ages, the catechesis needs to be *particularly concrete*.

Expressions of Faith:

- Making the Sign of the Cross correctly.
- Genuflecting toward the tabernacle.
- Praying with the family before meals and saying bedtime prayers.
- Reciting the Angel of God prayer.
- Participating in communal prayers with family and peers, such as the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be.

Vocabulary Words:

communal prayer	prayer		
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Prayers to be Learned—by end of Kindergarten

<i>Angel of God</i>		
<i>Glory Be</i>		
<i>Sign of the Cross</i>		

Expectations of Parents

Kindergarten parents:

1. Attend Sunday Mass and actively participate in Mass responses with your child.
2. Make it a family priority for your son/daughter to attend faith formation classes.
3. Teach and pray with your child these prayers: Sign of the Cross and the Our Father.
4. Demonstrate how to genuflect correctly to Jesus in the tabernacle. (Genuflecting on your *right knee* and making the Sign of the Cross are separate actions. There is no need to make the Sign of the Cross while genuflecting.)
5. Pray with your child as a family at meals and at bedtime.
6. Bless your child—saying a short prayer while tracing the Sign of the Cross on his/her head.
7. Talk about God and the Church in everyday family events and conversation.
8. Read/tell Bible stories to 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 as a family in “whole church” (intergenerational) parish activities when offered.