



Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>TRINITY:</b>  <b>God the Creator;</b>  <b>Jesus the Redeemer; and Holy Spirit as Sanctifier</b>  <b>[249-324, 683-701, 727-730]</b></p>	<p>State that the <b>Trinity</b> is God the Father, God the Son and the Holy Spirit.</p> <p>Identify God the Father as the First Person of the <b>Trinity</b> in the <b>Sign of the Cross</b>.</p> <p>Identify <b>Jesus</b>, God the Son, as the Second Person of the <b>Trinity</b>.</p> <p>Identify that God the <b>Holy Spirit</b> is the Third Person of the <b>Trinity</b>.</p> <p>Identify the <b>Holy Spirit</b> as the helper and guide, who lives within us, and helps us to follow Jesus.</p> <p>Begin to associate that the three Persons of the <b>Trinity</b> act together, by recognizing that <b>God the Father</b>, sent His Son, <b>Jesus</b> as our Savior and that Jesus was filled with the <b>Holy Spirit</b>.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>THE CREED: A Statement of Our Belief</b>  <b>[185-1065]</b></p>	<p>Listen to the Profession of the <b>Creed</b> and recognize that it helps us to know what we believe as members of the Church.</p> <p>Identify key phrases in the <b>Creed</b>: <i>the Father Almighty, Jesus, His only Son; and in the Holy Spirit</i>.</p> <p>Recognize that the <b>Church</b> believes in one God.</p>

**TASK OF CATECHESIS 2 – LITURGICAL EDUCATION:** *Students recognize the presence of Christ and enter into communion with Him through active, full, and conscious participation in the Liturgical celebrations and Sacraments of the Church.*

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>EUCCHARIST:</b>  <b>Who, How, When, and Where the Mass is Celebrated</b>                      [1135-1167, 1322-1419]</p>	<p>Experience <b>Mass</b> as where we come together in community worship and thank God in Church.</p> <p>Identify Sunday as the Lord's Day when we go to Mass to <b>worship</b> God and thank Him for all his gifts.</p> <p>Describe the <b>priest</b> as the person who leads the Mass celebration (<b>liturgy</b>).</p> <p>Demonstrate reverential gestures during Mass and for the presence of Jesus in the <b>Eucharist</b>, e.g., bowing, kneeling and genuflecting.</p> <p>Participate in the <b>liturgy</b> by recalling key responses in the Mass and singing liturgical <b>hymns</b>.</p> <p>Recognize we pray the <b>Our Father</b> at Mass as the entire Church community.</p> <p>Begin to associate the terms <b>sacrificial meal</b> and <b>Lamb of God</b> with <b>Mass</b> and stories of Jesus' passion.</p> <p>Identify the <b>consecration</b> as the moment in the Mass when the priest recites Christ's words from the <b>Last Supper</b> and the Holy Spirit turns the bread and wine into the <b>Body and Blood of Christ</b>.</p> <p>Know when and how to bow, genuflect, and kneel during Mass and to cross their arms to receive a blessing during <b>Holy Communion</b>.</p> <p>Identify the <b>ambo, altar, chalice, paten, tabernacle, ciborium, priest's vestments, crucifix, presider's chair</b> and <b>sanctuary lamp</b> in pictures and/or visits to the Church.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENTS</b>                      [1210-1666]:</p> <p><b>Sacraments of Initiation</b>                      [966-977, 1212-1419]</p>	<p>Recognize that <b>Sacraments</b> are seven ways we encounter God's love and grace.</p> <p>Recognize that Christ instituted the Sacraments as outward signs of <b>grace</b> and gave them to the Church.</p> <p>Identify the three Sacraments of <b>Christian Initiation: Baptism; Eucharist; and Confirmation.</b></p> <p>Identify the <b>Baptismal font</b> and <b>Easter (Paschal) candle</b> in their Church and associate it with the Sacrament of Baptism.</p> <p>Recognize that we receive the <b>Holy Spirit</b> at <b>Baptism</b> and become followers of Jesus Christ (<b>disciples</b>).</p> <p>Describe the <b>Sacrament of Eucharist</b> as a sign of Jesus sharing Himself with us in a special meal called the <b>Mass</b>.</p>

<p><b>Sacraments of Healing</b> [979-987,1420-1484]</p>	<p>Identify the two <b>Sacraments of Healing</b>: <b>Reconciliation (Penance)</b> and <b>Anointing of the Sick</b>.</p> <p>Identify <b>Reconciliation</b> as a sacrament where the priest helps us experience God's saving love for us (<b>mercy</b>).</p>
<p><b>Sacraments at the Service of Communion</b> [1533-1666]</p>	<p>Identify the two <b>Sacraments at the Service of Communion</b>: <b>Holy Matrimony/Marriage</b> and <b>Holy Orders</b>.</p> <p>Distinguish between the sacraments of married couples and Parish priests, and how each is called to share God's love and to serve others.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>LITURGICAL RESOURCES:</b></p> <p><b>Liturgical Calendar</b> [1163-1173]</p> <p><b>Liturgical Symbols and Sacramentals</b> [1179-1199, 1667-1679]</p> <p><b>Divine Office/Liturgy of the Hours</b> [1174-1175]</p> <p><b>Liturgical Rites: Weddings [1621-1637]; Funerals [988-1029, 1680-1690]; and Blessings [1671-1673]</b></p>	<p>Identify <b>Advent</b> as preparing for the birth of Jesus and <b>Christmas</b> as the celebration of His birth.</p> <p>Identify <b>Holy Week</b> and <b>Easter</b> as the holiest times of the year as they celebrate the Passion, Death, and <b>Resurrection</b> of Jesus.</p> <p>Recognize the names of other important days in the <b>Easter Season</b>: <b>Ascension</b> and <b>Pentecost</b>.</p> <p>Identify colors for the seasons of the <b>Liturgical Calendar</b>.</p> <p>Know that the Church has special days honoring Mary and the <b>Saints (Feast Days and Memorials)</b>.</p> <p>Recognize and reverentially engage with <b>sacramentals</b>: in the classroom, at Church and at home, such as holy water, crucifix, candles, blessed medals, and rosary, cross, tabernacle, sanctuary light, Paschal Candle, baptismal font, statues of <b>Saints</b>, images of Mary, holy water fonts, Stations of the Cross.</p> <p>Prayerfully listen to and/or <b>antiphonally</b> recite <b>Psalm 100*</b>.</p> <p>Experience blessings as special times asking for God's <b>grace</b>, power, and care, and know we can ask for God's blessings for each other.</p>

**TASK OF CATECHESIS 3 – MORAL FORMATION:** *Students develop a moral conscience that is informed by Church teachings and conformed to Christ, as modeled in a personal life of virtue, and demonstrated in service of the Gospel's demands for society.*

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>THE HUMAN PERSON:</b> [26-48, 1691-1876, 1928-1948]:</p> <p><b>Made in the Image of God: – Foundation of Human Dignity</b> [355-368, 703-706, 1004, 1700-1876]</p> <p><b>Made for Happiness with God, Beatitudes</b> [1218-1229, 1716-1717, 2284-2291]</p> <p><b>Human Freedom and Conscience Formation</b> [1030-1037, 1730-1802]</p> <p><b>Covenant and Ten Commandments</b> [2052-2557]</p> <p><b>Virtues: Cardinal and Theological</b> [1803-1845, 2656-2662]</p>	<p>Know that God created us to know, love, and serve Him and others.</p> <p>Recognize that God loves us so much that human beings are made in God's image with body and <u>soul</u>.</p> <p>Recognize that because God makes everyone in His image and likeness, people are to be respected and appreciated for their gifts of culture, ancestry, and language.</p> <p>Begin to associate being made in the image and likeness of God with the concept of <u>human dignity</u>.</p> <p>Know that God created us to be happy with Him forever.</p> <p>Begin to understand that following wise rules and obeying our parents and teachers helps us stay happy, healthy, and holy.</p> <p>Describe how serving/taking care of others helps us feel happy, <u>holy</u>, and close to God.</p> <p>Recognize that we make choices (<u>free will</u>) to love God and others.</p> <p>Know that God and our parents help us to know what is right and wrong.</p> <p>Distinguish between right and wrong thoughts and actions; give examples of how our actions have <u>consequences</u>.</p> <p>Explain the importance for us to be sorry for our wrongful thoughts and actions.</p> <p>Describe the Bible story of the Ten Commandments, and reflect on both what it means to follow and trust God, and the importance of these rules in our lives.</p> <p>Recall the word <u>virtue</u> as a gift from God to do good things and to form good habits.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>THE HUMAN COMMUNITY</b> [1877-1948, 2204-2213]:</p>	<p>Demonstrate respect with parents, Pastor, teacher and other students.</p> <p>Know that God created humans to live in communities with others and describe some of our communities (families, school, Parish, sports, etc.).</p> <p>Discuss ways we help each other to do good things when we work together in our families, our classroom and in our Parish.</p>



**TASK OF CATECHESIS 4 – LEARNING TO PRAY:** *Students experience and engage in Catholic expressions of prayer to deepen their relationship with God and the Church.*

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
THE UNIVERSAL CALL TO PRAYER, IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER [2558-2758]	<p>Develop the practice of <b>prayer</b>—talking, listening, and forming a relationship with God.</p> <p>Explain how prayer helps us know God and to know how to choose to love and serve Him.</p> <p>Recite with others the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary and Glory Be and Grace Before Meals.</p>

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
FORMS OF PRAYER:  (Blessing/Adoration; Petition; Intercession; Thanksgiving; and Praise) [2623-2649]	<p>Participate in the five different forms of prayer: blessing/adoration; petition; intercession; thanksgiving; and praise.</p> <p>Practice asking God, Mary, angels, and the <b>Saints</b> to help others and ourselves during times of need (<b>intercession</b>).</p>

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
EXPRESSIONS OF PRAYER, PROCESS          Personal and Shared; Vocal; Singing; and Meditation [2700-2724]	<p>Exhibit understanding that we can be quietly aware of God at all times.</p> <p>Demonstrate ways to show <b>reverence</b> when we pray at home, in our classroom, and in Church.</p> <p>Experience a variety of expressions of Christian prayer, e.g., liturgy, short meditation on Scripture (<b>Lectio Divina</b>), group recitation, reflection, singing, and vocal.</p>

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
OUR FATHER: SUMMARY OF THE GOSPEL [2746-2865]	<p>Recite the Our Father with other students.</p> <p>Read in the New Testament how Jesus prayed and taught his friends to pray—the perfect prayer—the Lord’s Prayer (Our Father).</p>

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
DEVOTIONAL PRACTICES (e.g., Rosary, Stations of the Cross, Novenas, Simbang Gabi, etc.) [1200-1209, 1674-1679, 2683-2696]	<p>Identify the fourteen <b>Stations of the Cross</b> and associate how the Stations represent events from Jesus’ suffering and death.</p> <p>Recognize some Gospel stories that we hear when we pray the <b>Rosary</b> and its <b>Mysteries</b>.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>PRAYERS WE KNOW BY HEART, EXPERIENCE AND SHARE AT MASS</b></p>	<p><b>Prayers By Heart</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our Father</li> <li>• Hail Mary</li> <li>• Glory Be (Doxology)</li> </ul> <p><b>Prayers to Experience</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayers of blessing/adoration, praise, intercession, thanksgiving, petition</li> <li>• Silent prayer</li> <li>• Prayer with music and gestures</li> <li>• Rosary</li> <li>• <a href="#">Psalm 100</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Shared at Mass—Mass Responses</b></p> <p><b><i>The Introductory Rite</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sign of the Cross</li> <li>• Amen</li> <li>• And with your spirit</li> </ul> <p><b><i>The Liturgy of the Word</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Alleluia</li> <li>• Sign of Peace</li> <li>• Thanks be to God</li> <li>• Responses after Lectionary reading and before the Gospel</li> </ul> <p><b><i>The Liturgy of the Eucharist</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preface Dialogue</li> <li>• The Mystery of Faith</li> <li>• Sanctus</li> <li>• Agnus Dei/Lamb of God</li> </ul> <p><b><i>The Concluding Rite</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thanks be to God</li> </ul>



**TASK OF CATECHESIS 5 – EDUCATION FOR COMMUNITY LIFE:** *Students study and participate in the life and mission of the Church—the Body of Christ and the community of believers—as expressed in the Church’s origin, history, ecclesiology, the Communion of Saints, and their family, the Domestic Church.*

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>THE CHURCH IN GOD’S PLAN [731-780]</b></p> <p>Church History [464, 758-780]</p>	<p>Find on a map the locations where Jesus was born, lived, and shared his ministry of teaching and healing.</p> <p>Recognize that our <u>Parish</u> is part of the <u>Roman Catholic Church</u>.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>MODELS OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH: [781-810]:</b></p> <p>People of God [781-786]</p> <p>Body of Christ [787-796]</p> <p>Temple of the Holy Spirit [733-747, 797-801]</p>	<p>Understand Church is both a building and the people in the building, who come together to worship, thank and serve God and others.</p> <p>Identify ourselves as <u>Catholics</u> and as God’s people.</p> <p>Share stories of our Baptisms, when we became members of God’s family—the <u>People of God</u>.</p> <p>Recognize that Jesus is present with us at Mass, and we are asked to be the <u>Body of Christ</u> when we pray for and serve others.</p> <p>Recognize that the <u>Holy Spirit</u> lives in each of us and also in the Church, which helps us to be close to God.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>THE MYSTERY AND MARKS OF THE CHURCH: One; Holy; Catholic; and Apostolic [811-870]</b></p>	<p>Begin to recognize that the term <u>catholic</u> means universal and that the Roman Catholic Church invites people everywhere to join us.</p> <p>Recognize that Jesus Christ <u>established</u> the Church and sent the <u>Apostles</u> to share Jesus’ story and God’s love.</p>

Essential Concepts	First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church
<p><b>CHRIST’S FAITHFUL—HIERARCHY, LAITY, CONSECRATED LIFE [871-945]</b></p> <p>Church Order: The Hierarchy and Magisterium and Infallibility [874-896]</p> <p>The Laity: Rights and Responsibilities [897-913, 2041]</p> <p>The Domestic Church [1655-1658, 1666, 2204-2257, 2685]</p>	<p>Recall the names and roles of the <u>Pastor</u> (the faith leader in our Parish) and the <u>Archbishop</u> (the faith leaders in our Archdiocese).</p> <p>Name and recognize the <u>Pope</u> as the visible head of the Church on earth.</p> <p>Know that the <u>Church</u>/our <u>Parish</u> is the community where we come together to <u>worship</u> God and to learn more about Him and how to serve others.</p> <p>Recognize that families are also called to pray together and are a community of faith like their Parish, (the <u>domestic Church</u>).</p>



**TASK OF CATECHESIS 6 – MISSIONARY DISCIPLESHIP AND SERVICE:** *Students acquire and demonstrate skills to recognize their gifts from God and their vocation to share the Good News of Jesus Christ in word and deed in the world.*

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
<b>BAPTISMAL CALL AND DISCIPLESHIP (the mandate to go forth)</b> [816, 849]	Begin to recognize that through <b>Baptism</b> we are all followers of Jesus ( <b>disciples</b> ) and part of Jesus' <b>mission</b> to share the " <b>Good News.</b> "

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
<b>CALL TO STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE: Catholic Social Teaching about the common good</b> [1905-1948, 2419-2422]	Share stories about how their family members and/or classmates have used gifts from God to follow Jesus and serve others.  Reflect on how we can be good <b>stewards</b> and to serve God by sharing our gifts, at every age in life.

<b>Essential Concepts</b>	<b>First Grade: Creation, Jesus, and the Church</b>
<b>CALL TO ECUMENISM, INTERRELIGIOUS DIALOGUE, AND THE NEW EVANGELIZATION</b> [848-860, 927-933, 905, 2044,2472]	Understand that God loves everyone and that some people <b>worship</b> God in churches different than ours.  Recognize that our <b>faith</b> is a gift from God that we can share with others through loving words and actions.