

Diocese of Allentown, PA
Religion Curriculum Guidelines

GRADE 1

Priority Topics:

God the Creator

Grace

Eternal Life

N.B. Numbers in parentheses are citations from **The Catechism of the Catholic Church** unless otherwise noted as Scriptural references.

Words that appear in bold italics within the curriculum objectives are terms introduced for the first time at this level.

STANDARD: CREED

Subtopic: Revelation

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that God made everything **(282-315) (Gn. 1,2)**
- Identify **creation** as what God made
- Know that **angels** are messengers from God **(332-33) (Lk. 1:28; Gn. 22:15)**
- Recognize the **Bible** as God's Word **(104-105, 136)**

Affective

Children will:

- Recognize that everything is good because God made it **(Gn. 1:31) (299)**
- Experience gratitude for creation
- Evidence desire to listen to Bible stories

Behavioral

Children will:

- Demonstrate care for creation **(e.g., picking up litter)**
- Be able to tell the basic creation story **(Gn. 1:8-9, 21-32)**
- Be familiar with the **Angel of God** prayer
- Explore and relate details of Scripture passages for this grade level

Subtopic: Trinity

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that God loves everyone **(1604) (Jn. 3:16)**

Affective

Children will:

- Experience the desire to accept and respond to God's love

Behavioral

Children will:

- Develop loving communication with God **(Gn. 22)**
- Pray the ***Doxology (Glory Be)*** from memory
- Be able to make the ***Sign of the Cross*** reverently

Subtopic: God the Father

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know God made us (**Gn. 2:7**)
- Understand that we are good (**Gn. 1:27**)

Affective

Children will:

- Desire to respect themselves and others
- Recognize God as a loving Creator (**1604**)
- Appreciate the wonder and awe of creation, especially human beings

Behavioral

Children will:

- Show respect for others and themselves
- Be able to name gifts of God's creation (**330, 341**)
- Thank God for creation
- Pray the ***Our Father*** from memory (**Mt. 6:9-13; Lk 11: 2-4**)

Subtopic: Jesus, the Son of God who became man

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are the ***Holy Family*** (*Mt. 2:20-23*)
- Know that Jesus is the Son of God (*443, 724*) (*Mt. 11:27*)
- Know that Jesus is our brother
- Know that Jesus Christ was crucified, suffered, (*Mt. 27:29-31; Mk. 15:17-20; Jn. 19:1-3*) died, (*Mt. 27:35; Mk. 15:37; Lk. 23:46; Jn. 19:30*) and rose from the dead (*662-645-646*) (*Mt. 28:5-6; Mk. 16:6; Lk. 24:5-7; Jn. 20:17*)

Affective

Children will:

- Appreciate the Holy Family as a model for their families

Behavioral

Children will:

- Love and care for their families the way Jesus would
- Pray to the Holy Family for their families
- Relate the details of ***Christmas (The Nativity)*** (*Lk.2*) the ***Annunciation***, (*Lk. 1:26-38*) and ***Easter*** (*Lk. 24*)

Subtopic: Holy Spirit

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that the Holy Spirit is God who helps us (685, 689) (Jn. 16:26, 14:16-17)

Affective

Children will:

- Understand that we cannot do everything ourselves and need help

Behavioral

Children will:

- Pray to the Holy Spirit for help (741, 2652)

Subtopic: The Church

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that the **Church** is God's family (1)

Affective

Children will:

- Desire to care for others because everyone is a child of God (Lk. 18: 15-17)

Behavioral

Children will:

- Take care of all God's children through participation in the missionary activity of the Church (i.e., supporting the missions through prayer, sacrifices, good deeds and donations) (854, 1942), (Mt. 25:31-46; Mt 28:18-20)
- Show reverence for holy objects (e.g., crucifix, **Bible**, **rosary**, etc.)

Subtopic: The Communion of Saints

Cognitive

Children will:

- Identify the Blessed Mother and St. Joseph as saints **(966)**
- Know that ***saints*** are followers of Jesus who now live in heaven **(956), (Mt. 13:43)**

Affective

Children will:

- Desire to be a follower of Jesus

Behavioral

Children will:

- Listen to stories about and retell facts about the lives of various saints
- Pray the ***Hail Mary*** from memory **(Lk. 1:26, 42)**

Subtopic: Grace, Sin and Forgiveness

Cognitive

Children will:

- Identify ***grace*** as God's life in us **(1997)**
- Know that God's grace helps them to say, "I'm sorry"

Affective

Children will:

- Begin to appreciate God's grace at work in their lives

Behavioral

Children will:

- Ask for God to give them grace to help them
- Give simple examples of God's grace at work in their lives (e.g. "God helped me to be kind to my brother.")

Subtopic: Life Everlasting

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that God wants us to be happy in *heaven* (991) (Mt. 5:12; Jn. 14:3)

Affective

Children will:

- Begin to appreciate that heaven is our final destination

Behavioral

Children will:

- Pray for those who have died, that they may be happy with God in heaven

STANDARD: SACRAMENTS

Cognitive

Children will:

- Know that God shares His love with us and with others **(219-221) (1 Jn. 4:7-9)**
- Develop knowledge of how to care for ourselves and others
- Know that family life is a gift from God **(2220, 2232) (Mt. 12:47-50)**
- Recognize that family members share and help one another **(1655-58), 2208, 2219)**
- Know God's healing love **(1502) (Ps. 40:2-4, 9-10)**
- Know that we join the family of God, the Church, through **Baptism (1267, 1271, 1996) (Mt. 28:19-20; 1 Cor. 12:13; Jn. 1:12-13; Rm. 8:14-16)**
- Know that God gives us grace in Baptism **(1997, 1266)**

Affective

Children will:

- Understand and appreciate that family is a gift from God
- Desire to be good family members
- Demonstrate joy in forgiveness **(2842-2844)**

Behavioral

Children will:

- Express the love of God within the family
- Learn to live as a family **(1655-58)**
- Experience and demonstrate care and compassion **(Mt. 12:16-21)**
- Demonstrate the essential elements of the rite of Baptism (i.e., pouring of water and words) **(1239-1240)**
- Demonstrate belonging to the family of God by attending Mass

STANDARD: MORALITY

Cognitive

Children will:

- Understand that a **commandment** is a law God made **(2055, 2063) (Ex. 20:6-17)**
- Understand that following God's commandments, draws us closer to God and helps us live as His children. **(1828-1829)**
- Begin to know the difference between right and wrong
- Begin to know that a **sin** is turning away from Him. We do this when we break the commandments. **(398, 1487)**

Affective

Children will:

- Value the love that is present in all that God is and does **(220-221)**
- Begin to appreciate that God gives us grace to follow the Commandments of God
- Experience happiness in saying "yes" to God who loves us.

Behavioral

Children will:

- Live the Greatest Commandment: to love God above all others, and to love others as they love themselves **(2055) (Mt. 22:36-40; Mk. 12:28-31)**
- Demonstrate love, care, and help to others
- Show respect for God's creation
- Serve God and others
- Make right choices
- Begin to say, "I'm sorry" when they've done wrong
- Begin to offer forgiveness to others **(Lk. 11:4)**

STANDARD: PRAYER

Cognitive

Children will:

- Define **prayer** as listening to God, thinking about God, and talking to God. (2598, 2616, 2743-44) (Jn. 17:9-26)
- Know that the **Our Father** is the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray (2759, 2765-66, 2770, 2771) (Mt. 6:9-13; Lk. 11:2-4)
- Know that the **Mass** is a prayer of thanks that the Church prays each day and especially on Sunday (1341-1344)
- Recognize that praise and thanks are forms of prayer (2644) (Ps. 5,6)

Affective

Children will:

- Realize that the Our Father reminds us that we are God's children and we need to pray for others (2634-36)
- Grow in devotion to Mary, the Mother of God and our mother (971, 2682, 1172)
- Appreciate the Mass as Christians gathering as a community to visit with God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and celebrate Eucharist in God's house (1348) (Mt. 26:26-28; Mk. 14:22-24; Lk. 22:14-20)
- Appreciate the value of intercessory prayer and become comfortable in vocalizing their prayers
- Grow in appreciation for prayer as an essential way of developing a relationship with God

Behavioral

Children will:

- Recite from memory the prayers for this grade level
- Honor Mary during her months of May and October by praying the rosary (usually a decade at a time) (971, 2678)
- Recognize that we pray with our hearts, minds, and bodies, being mindful of our actions whenever we pray (e.g., reverent **genuflections**, quiet, still posture) (2708) (Ps. 18:1-4, 25)
- Experience a variety of prayer forms, including but not limited to: silence, listening, song, gestures, spontaneous petitions, prayers of thanksgiving (2700, 2704, 2709-19, 2721-24) (Ps. 10, 12, 28, 31, 34)
- Pray for their needs and the needs of others

VOCABULARY

Angel	Family	Holy Water
Baptism	Forgiveness	Jesus
Baptismal Font	Genuflection	Mass
Bible	Glory Be	Our Father
Blessed Mother: Mary		
Child of God	God the Father	Prayer
Christmas	Good Friday	Rosary
Church (as God's family)	Good Shepherd	Saint
Commandment	Grace	Sign of the Cross
Creation	Hail Mary	Sin
Easter	Heaven	Soul
	Holy Family	Trinity
	Holy Spirit	

PERSONS OF FAITH

Adam and Eve	Joseph
Mary	John the Baptist
Elizabeth	Noah
Archangel Gabriel	Moses
Guardian Angel	Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES / STORIES (with which children should become familiar)

Genesis 1

(Creation)

Genesis 6-9

(Noah)

Luke 1:26-38

(The Annunciation)

Luke 2:1-20; Matthew 1:18-2:1-2; Mark 14-16

(and the other Gospel accounts of the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus)

Matthew 22:36-40

(The Greatest Commandment)

Matthew 6:9-13

(The Our Father)

Matthew 28:19

(Formula for Baptism)

PRAYERS TO KNOW

Sign of the Cross
Our Father
Hail Mary
Doxology (Glory Be)

Grace before Meals
Grace after Meals
Angel of God Prayer

MEMORIZATION

Persons in the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph