

God Gives Us Life

God Made Us Wonderful

The children know that God is their special friend.
The children appreciate God's friendship for them.
The children recognize that God wants us all to be friends.

We Can Do Wonderful Things

The children understand that their senses are gifts from God.
The children appreciate the uniqueness of this gift of the senses.
The children recognize that they enjoy the world through their senses.

God Made Us with Feelings

The children know that feelings are a gift from God.
The children appreciate the wonder of human feelings.
The children recognize how important feelings are for them.

God Made All People Good

The children understand that God made all people good.
The children appreciate differences and similarities in people.
The children recognize that we are called to treat everyone well.

God Made People to Love

The children know that God made us to live together in a loving way.
The children appreciate God's love for them and for all people.
The children recognize the importance of loving one another.

The Bible

The children know that the Bible is God's holy word.
The children appreciate that God speaks to us.
The children recognize the importance of hearing God's word and living by it.

God Gives Us Many Gifts

Everything Comes From God

The children know that God made the world and everything in it.
The children appreciate the wonder of our world.
The children recognize that everything God made is good.

God Gives Us Light and Water

The children know about the creation of day and night, earth and water.
The children recognize the importance of these elements.
The children appreciate God's goodness in creating these things for us.

God Gives Us the Earth

The children know that the earth is God's gift to us.
The children appreciate the wonder and beauty of our world.
The children recognize their need to care for our world.

Kindergarten Benchmarks

God Gives Us Animals

The children know that God made animals.
The children appreciate God's goodness in giving us animals.
The children recognize that we should care for animals.

We Care for God's World

The children know that we are responsible for taking care of creation.
The children appreciate the world God has given us.
The children recognize ways to care for the earth.

Saint Nicholas (Advent)

The children know that God wants us to share.
The children appreciate Advent as a time to prepare for Jesus' coming.
The children recognize that they are God's helpers.

We Celebrate the Birth of Jesus (Christmas)

The children know the real meaning of Christmas.
The children appreciate Jesus' coming.
The children recognize their call to share the good news of Jesus' coming.

God's Gift of Jesus to Us

Mary is the Mother of Jesus

The children know Mary as the mother of Jesus and our mother.
The children appreciate Mary's love and care for them.
The children recognize that they, too, are called to say yes to God.

God Gives Us Jesus

The children know that Jesus is God's best gift to us.
The children appreciate God's love in giving Jesus to us.
The children recognize that we are called to return God's love.

The Holy Family Helps Us

The children know about Jesus' family and how they lived.
The children appreciate the example of love given by the Holy Family.
The children recognize that their families can live and love in this way.

Jesus Is Our Teacher

The children know that Jesus came to teach us how to live.
The children appreciate the lessons Jesus came to teach us.
The children realize that we are called to love God, others, and ourselves.

Jesus Is Our Friend

The children know that Jesus is our friend.
The children appreciate Jesus' friendship.
The children realize the importance of living as Jesus' friend.

We Welcome Jesus (Palm Sunday)

The children know the story of Palm Sunday.
The children appreciate the need for welcoming.
The children recognize that they are called to praise and welcome Jesus.

We Celebrate New Life (Easter)

The children know the meaning of Easter.
The children appreciate the gift of new life.
The children recognize the need to grow in Jesus' life.

We Grow in God's Family

We Belong to Our Family

The children know the importance of belonging to a family.
The children appreciate the love and support of family.
The children recognize their part in creating a loving family.

We Belong to God's Family

The children know the Church as God's family.
The children appreciate being part of the Church.
The children recognize that Baptism made them a part of the Church.

God's Family Prays Together

The children know the Mass as the Church's special way of praising God.
The children appreciate the gift of the Mass.
The children recognize the importance of taking part.

God's Family Helps One Another

The children know that Jesus wants us to help people as He did.
The children appreciate Jesus' great love for all people.
The children recognize the importance of loving one another.

Jesus Is with Us Always

The children know that Jesus is with us always.
The children appreciate the gift of Jesus' presence.
The children recognize what joy Jesus brings to us.

God Blesses Us with Holy Water

The children know the meaning of holy water.
The children appreciate the gift of water.
The children recognize how special they are.

God Gives Us the World

God Made the World

The children explore and appreciate the world God made.
The children appreciate God's goodness in giving us the animals.
The children verbalize that God made all things good.
The children appreciate all creation as a gift from God.
The children will thank God for making our wonderful world.

God Made People

The children explore and appreciate God's gift of the senses.
The children appreciate that God made all kinds of people.
The children value their own uniqueness.
The children know that God made us to be like God.
The children will celebrate how wonderful God made us.

God Gives Us Life

The children explore and rejoice in the gift of life.
The children value all living things as gifts from God.
The children know that human life is a precious gift from God.
The children appreciate the special gift of God's grace in us.
The children will thank God for the gifts of life and grace.

God Knows and Loves Us

The children explore ways to become better friends.
The children verbalize that God knows and loves us.
The children understand that God made us to be friends.
The children respond to God's love by taking care of His world.
The children will celebrate and respond to God's great love for us.

God's Promise

The children explore the meaning of promises.
The children know that we respond to God's love through the choices we make.
The children know that God never stops loving us, no matter what we do.
The children know that Jesus is the fulfillment of God's promises of love.
The children will remember and give thanks for God's promises of love.

The Bible

The children sense the importance of listening to God's word.
The children know that the Bible is the story of God's love for us.
The children know that listening to the Bible helps us to love God.
The children will prepare for a Bible enthronement ceremony.
The children will celebrate God's word.

All Saints

The children explore ways to honor the special people in their lives.
The children know that we honor the saints for living lives of love.
The children learn about some of God's saints.
The children will prepare for a parade in honor of the saints.
The children will celebrate the saints.

God Gives Us Jesus

The Story of Jesus

To lay a foundation for understanding that Jesus was truly human.
The children know that God's Son, Jesus, was born into a human family.
The children know that Jesus grew up in a loving family.
The children value Jesus' presence in their families.
The children will ask Jesus and His family to be with our families always.

Jesus Is God's Own Son

The children appreciate that love is the best gift we can give or receive.
The children understand why Jesus is God's greatest gift to us.
The children verbalize that Jesus is the Son of God.
The children know that Jesus showed us what God is like.
The children will celebrate the good news that Jesus is God's own Son.

Jesus Is Our Friend

The children appreciate the importance of good friends.
The children know that Jesus is the best friend we can have.
The children appreciate what it means to believe in Jesus.
The children trust that Jesus always listens to their prayers.
The children will reflect on and celebrate the gift of our friendship with Jesus.

Jesus Is Our Teacher

The children realize that learning results from sharing what we know with one another.
The children know that Jesus taught us to call God "Father."
The children understand what Jesus taught us about the Law of Love.
The children appreciate the depth of God's love for them.
The children will encourage others to live the Law of Love.

Jesus Gives Us Himself

The children share ways to remember people they love.
The children know that Jesus gave us the gift of Himself in Holy Communion.
The children appreciate that Jesus died and rose from the dead for us.
The children know that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help His friends.
The children will reflect on and thank Jesus for the gift of Himself.

Advent

The children explore their feelings about waiting for special events.
The children know that Advent is our time of waiting before Christmas.
The children realize that Advent is a time to get ready for the coming of Jesus.
The children will prepare for an Advent celebration.
The children will celebrate our time of waiting for the coming of Jesus.

Christmas

The children enter into the spirit of the Christmas story.
The children learn the Christmas story.
The children will celebrate Jesus' birth by acting out the Christmas story.
The children will prepare for a Christmas prayer service.
The children will celebrate the coming of Jesus on the first Christmas.

First Grade Benchmarks

Jesus Christ Gives Us the Church

The Holy Spirit

The children value the importance of helping one another.
To introduce the children to the story of the first Pentecost.
The children know that the Holy Spirit helps us to love one another.
The children know that the Holy Spirit is with the Church.
The children will show appreciation for the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives.

The Church Is for Everyone

The children explore what it means to work together as friends.
The children understand how the Church grew.
The children explore what it means to be members of the Church.
The children know that everyone in the Church is important.
The children will choose ways to live as loving members of the Church.

The Church Celebrates Baptism

The children appreciate Baptism as a great sign of God's love for us.
The children rejoice in their Baptism.
The children are introduced to the celebration of the sacrament of Baptism.
The children know that the Holy Spirit helps them to live their Baptism.
The children will celebrate our Baptism and choose ways to live as God's children.

The Church Celebrates (The Mass Begins)

The children explore ways we help make celebrations joyous occasions.
The children know that Jesus gave us the Mass at the Last Supper.
The children appreciate what makes the Mass a special celebration.
The children will be familiar with the Introductory Rites of the Mass.
The children will participate in the Mass with their parish family.

The Church Celebrates (The Mass Continues)

The children explore ways we celebrate together at Mass.
The children know that we listen to God's word at Mass.
The children understand that our gifts of bread and wine become Jesus.
The children appreciate that Jesus comes to us in Holy Communion.
The children will participate in the celebration of the Mass.

Lent

The children appreciate the importance of quiet time.
The children value quiet time to pray during Lent.
The children share Jesus' love with others during Lent.
The children will prepare for a Lenten reflection.
The children will spend quiet time with Jesus.

Easter

The children enter into the spirit of the Easter event.
The children understand the meaning of the Easter story.
The children will celebrate Jesus' resurrection by acting out the Easter story.
The children will prepare for an Easter celebration.
The children will celebrate the good news of Easter.

Our Catholic Church and Us

Our Parish Church

The children explore why we need special places to be together.
The children value the parish as a special place to be with Jesus' friends.
The children realize that everyone in their parish is important.
The children know that they belong to the Catholic Church.
The children will be encouraged to help in their parish.

Our Catholic Church

The children reflect on God's presence in their lives.
The children value prayer as an expression of our faith in God's loving care.
The children know that Catholics celebrate special signs of God's presence.
The children know that the Catholic Church helps us to be holy.
The children will be encouraged to pray to God and to celebrate God's loving presence.

The Church Helps People

The children express their understanding of fairness.
The children appreciate that in the Church we learn to be fair to others.
The children value their role as peacemakers in the world.
The children know how the Church shares the good news that God loves us all.
The children will be encouraged to practice fairness and peacemaking.

God Forgives Us

The children recognize their need to forgive and to be forgiven.
The children know that we need to show God and others we are sorry.
The children appreciate God's constant forgiveness.
The children know that the Church forgives us in God's name.
The children will be encouraged to practice forgiveness.

Living with God Forever

The children realize that God's love for us never changes.
The children appreciate that Jesus wants them to be with God forever.
The children share the good news of God's love for us.
The children explore ways to grow in faith during the summer.
The children will be encouraged to grow in their faith during summer vacation.

A Prayer Service for Forgiveness

The children know that Jesus forgives us and gives us peace.
The children will prepare for a prayer service to ask for forgiveness and peace.
The children will deepen their understanding of prayer.
The children will celebrate God's gifts of forgiveness and peace.

Our Catholic Faith

We Believe in God

The children experience the wonder of God's creation.
The children appreciate that God created everyone and everything good.
The children realize that Jesus Christ is God's greatest gift to us.
The children understand that God the Holy Spirit is our special Helper.
The children become aware of the loving action of the Blessed Trinity in their lives.

Jesus Christ Is God's Son

To motivate the children to want to follow Jesus.
The children know that Jesus is truly the Son of God.
The children understand Jesus' Law of Love.
The children understand that Jesus is always with us.
To deepen the children's understanding of the importance of Jesus in their lives.

The Holy Spirit Is Our Helper

The children talk about and share experiences of being afraid.
The children appreciate how the Holy Spirit helped the friends of Jesus.
The children understand the meaning of Baptism.
The children understand the work of the Holy Spirit in the Church.
The children recall and celebrate what they have learned about the Holy Spirit.

We Belong to the Catholic Church

The children appreciate the feeling of being welcomed into a group.
To develop in the children the concept of the Church as a community.
The children understand that we are called to serve one another.
The children appreciate the Mass as our greatest prayer.
To strengthen the children in their desire to live as followers of Jesus.

We Belong to Our Parish

To guide the children toward a better appreciation of belonging to a family.
To introduce the parish as our special home in the Catholic Church.
To introduce ways in which the parish carries on Jesus' mission today.
To demonstrate ways in which our parish prays and works together.
To reinforce for the children what they have learned about the life of their parish.

Prayer

To recall experiences of communicating with those we love.
The children understand the meaning of prayer and how to pray.
To deepen the children's understanding of prayer.
The children prepare for a prayer service.
The children will experience a prayer service.

The Bible

To demonstrate our need for others to help us learn.
The children know the meaning of the Bible.
To deepen the children's understanding of the Bible.
The children prepare for a Bible prayer service.
The children will experience a Bible prayer service.

Second Grade Benchmarks

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

God Loves Us Always

The children recognize signs of love.
The children understand God's great love for them.
The children understand that Jesus showed us how to live the Law of Love.
The children are motivated to pray to the Holy Spirit when making difficult choices.
The children are motivated to love other people and treat them fairly.

We Makes Choices

The children make good choices in their lives.
To present the meaning of sin and the importance of making right choices.
The children understand and appreciate the Ten Commandments.
The children understand that Jesus shows us how to do what God wants.
The children choose ways to live the Ten Commandments.

God Forgives Us

The children understand the need to be sorry when we have done wrong.
The children understand the meaning of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
The children are taught and explained the Act of Contrition.
The children know that in the sacrament of Reconciliation we celebrate God's love and forgiveness.
The children's understanding of the meaning of Reconciliation will be deepened.

We Prepare for Reconciliation

The children understand Reconciliation in their own lives.
The children learn and use a sample examination of conscience.
The children are prepared to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation.
The children realize that as God forgives us, we must forgive others.
The children are motivated to share God's peace and forgiveness with others.

We Celebrate Reconciliation

To present Jesus' words about forgiveness and share reasons for forgiving.
The children understand the individual rite of Reconciliation.
The children understand that we can also celebrate Reconciliation with others in our parish.
The children review the essential parts of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
The children learned about Reconciliation and to celebrate forgiveness.

Advent

The children appreciate the importance of preparing for special times.
The children know that Advent is our time of special preparation for Jesus' coming.
The children think of ways they can prepare well to celebrate Christmas.
The children prepare for an Advent celebration.
The children will have an Advent prayer celebration.

Christmas

The children know the story of Jesus' birth.
The children understand some symbols of Jesus used at Christmas.
The children focus more deeply on the real meaning of Christmas.
The children prepare for a Christmas prayer service.
The children will celebrate what they have learned about the birth of Jesus.

The Sacrament of the Eucharist

Jesus Gives Us the Mass

The children are introduced the story of Jesus feeding the people.
The children know that the Mass is our celebration of Jesus' Last Supper.
The children understand Mass as a remembrance of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection.
The children appreciate Jesus' great gift of Himself in Holy Communion.
The children's understanding of the Mass as sacred meal and sacrifice will be deepened.

We Prepare for Eucharist

The children appreciate the importance of thankfulness in our lives.
The children understand that the Mass is our great thanksgiving prayer.
The children understand how all the ministers of worship help in our celebration of Mass.
The children realize that the Mass is our greatest prayer to God.
The children deepen their understanding of the Mass.

The Liturgy of the Word

The children experience the importance of listening.
The children understand what happens at Mass in the Liturgy of the Word.
The children understand the gospel, homily, and Creed of the Mass.
The children understand the Prayer of the Faithful.
The children understand what happens at Mass during the Liturgy of the Word.

The Liturgy of the Eucharist

To explain the feelings associated with giving and receiving gifts.
The children understand the meaning of the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
The children understand what happens during the Consecration of the Mass.
The children understand the Communion of the Mass.
The children's understanding of the Liturgy of the Eucharist will be deepened.

We Are Sent to Love and Serve

The children understand how we can show our love for God.
The children know that at the end of Mass we are sent forth to love and serve others.
The children will be Jesus' peacemakers.
The children understand that as friends of Jesus, we are called to love and serve others.
Review and enhance what the children have learned about the Mass and Holy Communion.

Lent

The children understand the importance of change and growth.
The children realize that Lent is a special time before Easter.
The children's understanding of Lent will be deepened.
The children prepare for a Lenten prayer service.
The children will review and celebrate a Lenten prayer service.

Easter

The children understand the importance of springtime.
The children realize that Easter is a time of new life in the Church.
The children's understanding of the meaning of Easter will be deepened.
The children prepare for the dramatization of an Easter play.
To review what the children learned about Easter and to celebrate an Easter play.

We Celebrate the Eucharist

We Celebrate First Holy Communion

To lead the children to appreciate the help they receive in preparing for First Holy Communion.
To develop the children's readiness for receiving Jesus in Holy Communion.
The children prepare themselves to be worthy of receiving Holy Communion.
The children will be introduced to the practice of giving thanks after Communion.
The children's understanding of how to prepare for and receive Jesus will be deepened.

We Celebrate Our Life with Jesus

The children appreciate the presence of loved ones, even when we are separated from them.
The children understand that Jesus is always with us.
The children understand that Jesus is with us in the Mass in many ways.
The children understand Jesus' presence in our lives.
The children's understanding of the many ways Jesus is present with us today is deepened.

Jesus Christ Is with Our Community

The children realize their need for help from others.
The children understand how Jesus is present in His Church.
The children know how Jesus is present in their parish.
The children recognize that Jesus is present with us in our families.
The children's understanding of how Jesus is present with us will be deepened.

Mary, Our Mother

The children will be introduced to the concept of praying to Mary.
The children understand Mary's part in God's plan for the world.
The children understand that Mary is the mother of Jesus.
The children know that Mary is our mother and loves each one of us.
The children's knowledge and appreciation of why we honor Mary will be deepened.

Jesus Christ Is with Us Forever

The children appreciate their growth during the past year.
The children appreciate the gift of Jesus in Holy Communion.
The children remember that Jesus is with us in many ways.
The children remember that Jesus shows us how to love God and others.
The children will be provided with an opportunity to express their love for Jesus.

A Reconciliation Celebration

Jesus Christ Gives Us His Church

Parish, Family and Me

- The children appreciate their families.
- The children understand that Jesus is their friend.
- The children realize that Jesus is with them in their families.
- The children understand that Jesus invites us to become a community.
- The children are loving members of their families and communities.

Jesus Calls His Followers

- The children understand that Jesus invited people to be His Followers.
- The children understand that Jesus needs helpers for His great mission.
- Jesus teaches us the greatest lesson, the Law of Love.
- The children understand that Jesus rose from the dead to give us new life.
- The children experience what it means to follow Jesus.

The Church Begins

- The children explore a disciple of Jesus' need for courage.
- The children appreciate that Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to give us courage.
- The children understand that the Holy Spirit helped the early Church and helps us, too.
- The children appreciate what happened after the Holy Spirit came to the disciples.
- The children respond to the Holy Spirit's presence in their lives.

The Church Today

- The children understand the importance of working together.
- The children understand that the Church is the body of Jesus Christ.
- The children realize their part in carrying on Jesus' mission today.
- The children understand how the teachers in our Church help us.
- The children appreciate the missions of Jesus, the Church, and themselves.

Our Parish Church

- The children appreciate the parish community and its church.
- To encourage the children to want to make the parish a loving community.
- To acquaint the children with some of the important objects in their parish church.
- The children understand ways in which we pray and worship in our parish churches.
- To motivate the children to work in building a loving parish community.

Reconciliation

- The children appreciate the experience of forgiveness.
- The children review the steps for celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- To practice the procedure for celebrating the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- To prepare for a celebration of forgiveness.
- To celebrate a forgiveness service together.

Eucharist

- The children reflect on Jesus' promise to be with us always.
- The children prepare for the celebration of the Eucharist.
- The children decide on the details of their celebration of the Eucharist.

- To practice the celebration of the Eucharist.
- To review the lessons of the week and celebrate the Eucharist.

We Live the Way of Jesus Christ in Our Parish

Our Parish Prays

- The children understand the importance of listening in prayer.
- The children understand the importance of praying alone and with others.
- The children appreciate the place of Mary and the saints in the Church.
- The children appreciate their unity through Baptism with all members of the Church.
- To encourage the children to enrich their prayer life.

Our Parish Worships

- The children appreciate the use of signs.
- The children understand that we share God's life and love through the sacraments.
- The children understand that the sacraments of initiation welcome us into the Church.
- The children understand the meaning of the sacraments of healing and service.
- To motivate the children to be "living signs" of God's love.

Our Parish Celebrates Forgiveness

- The children appreciate God's forgiving love.
- The children understand sin.
- The children understand the Individual and Communal Rites of Reconciliation.
- To motivate the children to become people of forgiveness and peace.
- To instill in the children a desire to forgive and to ask for forgiveness.

Our Parish Prepares for Mass

- The children prepare to celebrate the Mass.
- The children understand the meaning and importance of the Mass.
- The children appreciate that many people help us to celebrate the Mass.
- The children understand how they can take part in the celebration of the Eucharist.
- The children choose to take an active part in the Mass.

Our Parish Celebrates the Mass

- The children understand the introductory Rites and the Liturgy of the Word.
- The children understand the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- To motivate the children to live the Mass by being peacemakers.
- The children to choose to participate in and live the Mass.

Advent

- The children enter into the Advent experience.
- The children understand the true meaning of Advent.
- To deepen the children's understanding of Advent as a time of preparation.
- To prepare to celebrate an Advent prayer service.
- To celebrate an Advent prayer service.

Third Grade Benchmarks

Christmas

The children recognize the gift of themselves.
The children understand ways of celebrating Christmas.
The children share their ideas about Christmas customs.
The children prepare for a Christmas celebration.
To celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth.

Our Church and Our Parish

Our Church and the Bible

The children explore spoken stories.
The children understand that the Bible is the word of God.
The children understand how the gospels originated and what they tell us.
The children are introduced to the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles.
The children decide to listen to and live by God's word.

Our Church Shares the Good News

The children decide on ways to be Jesus' disciples.
The children learn how early Christians spread the good news.
The children appreciate the work of missionaries.
The children are encouraged to be missionaries of the good news of Jesus.
The children are motivated to be missionaries of Jesus' good news.

Our Church as a Community

The children understand that a parish works together.
The children understand the roles of those who lead and serve the Catholic Community.
The children understand the meaning of vocations.
The children understand the importance of the family in the Church.
The children are motivated to prepare for their vocations.

Our Church Works for Justice and Peace

The children appreciate the need for justice and peace in our world.
The children realize that the Church welcomes everyone.
The children are acquainted with the ways the Church promotes justice and peace.
The children recognize that our parishes promote peace.
The children become peacemakers.

Our Church and the Kingdom

The children describe the kingdom of God.
The children understand the meaning of God's kingdom.
The children hear the true message of God's kingdom.
The children will live as signs of God's kingdom.
The children choose ways to build up God's kingdom.

Lent

The children appreciate the importance of Baptism.
The children understand how Lent prepares them for Easter.
The children understand the meaning of Lent.
The children prepare to enact a "living" stations of the cross.
The children understand the meaning of Lent and enact a "living" stations of the cross.

Easter

The children appreciate the joy of new life.
The children understand the joy of Jesus' resurrection.
The children discover signs of new life and joy.
The children prepare for an Easter celebration.
The children celebrate Jesus' resurrection.

United in Our Catholic Church

The Church Is One and Holy

The children understand that we are all united in love in the Church.
The children understand the marks of the Church.
The children understand that the Church is one.
The children understand that the Church is holy.
The children practice unity and holiness.

The Church is Catholic and Apostolic

The children appreciate the cultural diversity of Catholics.
The children understand that the Church is catholic.
The children understand that the Church is apostolic.
The children live the four marks of the Church.
The children will live as catholic and apostolic people.

We Are All God's People.

The children understand that they should respect the religious beliefs of others.
The children are encouraged to love and respect for our Jewish brothers and sisters.
The children contribute to Christian unity.
The children work for unity.

Mary, Mother of the Church

To encourage the children in devotion to Mary.
The children recognize Mary as mother of all Christians.
The children are familiar with Mary's feast days.
The children appreciate the Hail Mary and the rosary.
The children honor Mary.

We Are the Church

The children review how they have grown in faith.
The children name the people of God in the Church.
The children review how the sacraments help us grow in faith.
The children realize that God is with us always.
The children continue to grow in faith during the summer.

Prayer

The children explore prayer.
The children understand the many ways we can pray.
The children identify traditional prayers.
The children prepare for a blessing ceremony.
The children celebrate a blessing ceremony.

The Saints

Living as a Catholic Christian

Living for God's Kingdom

- The students understand that Jesus asks us to try to make our world a better place.
- The students understand that Jesus came to proclaim the kingdom of God.
- The students understand that the kingdom of God means living in a new way.
- The students understand that they can choose to work for the kingdom of God.
- The students understand to select things that they will do to help God's kingdom to come.

The Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Love

- The students see the virtues of faith, hope, and love at work.
- The students understand the meaning of faith and hope as parts of Christian living.
- The students understand that God asks us to live the Law of Love.
- The students learn that we can work for God's kingdom by practicing faith, hope, and love.
- The students understand the theological virtues through reflection and prayer.

The Church, Jesus' Community

- The students understand that Jesus calls us to follow Him.
- The students understand that Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit to us.
- The students understand the work of the Church today.
- The students understand what it means to be part of the Church.
- The students realize that they are an important part of the Church.

The Beatitudes

- The students understand that the choices we make each day influence our happiness.
- The students understand that doing God's will is the source of true happiness.
- The students understand that living the Beatitudes brings peace.
- The students review what they have learned this week about the Beatitudes.
- The students understand ways they can live the Beatitudes.

Living as Our Best Selves

- The students understand that Jesus asks us to treat others as we would treat Him.
- The students understand and appreciate the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- The students understand and appreciate the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- The students realize that the Works of Mercy help us to be just and merciful.
- The students decide to practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

Celebrating Reconciliation

- The students understand that God always forgives us when we are sorry.
- The students realize that God will always forgive us when we are sorry.
- The students prepare for the sacrament of Reconciliation by examining their consciences.
- The students prepare to receive the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- The students celebrate a prayer service for forgiveness.

Celebrating Eucharist

- The students understand that Jesus shares His life with us in the Eucharist.
- The students understand that in the Eucharist we celebrate Jesus' presence with us today.
- The students understand what happens at Mass.

- The students prepare a Mass.
- The students celebrate a class Mass.

Invited to Be Disciples

Living as God's People

- The students understand how rules and laws help us.
- The students understand the Old Testament story of God's covenant with God's own people.
- The students understand that God makes a covenant with us at our Baptism.
- The students live the commandments out of love.
- The students make a "group covenant" with God.

Living as Free People

- The students understand that we are called to make responsible choices.
- The students learn how to make difficult choices.
- The students understand the meaning of sin and learn to distinguish sin from temptation.
- The students understand that we can also sin by failing to do what we should.
- The students help others become more loving.

God Is First in Our Lives

- The students recognize the presence of God in their lives.
- The students understand what it means to put God first in their lives.
- The students understand that Jesus showed us how to put God first.
- The students understand how to put God first in their lives.
- The students choose ways to live the first commandment.

God's Name Is Holy

- The students understand the importance of names.
- The students understand the meaning of the second commandment.
- The students understand that Jesus' name is holy.
- The students understand how they can live the second commandment.
- The students are encouraged to live the second commandment.

We Worship God

- The students understand the importance of keeping Sunday holy.
- To help us understand the ways the Israelites celebrated the Sabbath.
- The students understand the meaning of the Christian Sabbath.
- The students understand that we keep holy the Sabbath and holy days.
- The students plan how they will keep holy the Sabbath.

Celebrating Advent

- The students appreciate that Mary prepared for Jesus' birth.
- The students understand that Advent is a time of preparation.
- The students understand to pray the Magnificat and the Angelus.
- The students prepare for an Advent prayer service.
- The students celebrate an advent prayer service to honor Mary.

The Christmas Season

- The students appreciate how Jesus, Mary, and Joseph lived as a family.
- The students understand that Christmas is a season with many feasts.
- The students understand other feasts of the Christmas season.
- The students prepare to celebrate a Christmas prayer service.
- The students celebrate a Christmas prayer service with the students.

Fourth Grade Benchmarks

Sacraments of Healing and Service

Jesus Christ Forgives Us

- The students appreciate the importance of forgiveness in our lives.
- The students understand God's great forgiveness and what sin is.
- The students understand how the Church celebrates Reconciliation.
- The students understand how to be thankful for God's forgiveness.
- The students' understanding and appreciation of Reconciliation is deepened.

Jesus Christ Helps Us in Sickness and Death

- The students appreciate the value of prayer and communal support in illness.
- The students understand Jesus' loving care for the sick and the dying.
- The students understand the purpose and the rite of Anointing of the Sick.
- The students respect and care for their bodies.
- The students understand how to help people in the parish who are in need of loving care.

Jesus Christ Helps Us to Love

- The students understand that a good marriage takes work.
- The students see that the marriage covenant is a promise to serve with love.
- The students understand how the Church celebrates Matrimony.
- The students learn how to prepare for marriage by learning how to be good friends.
- The students have a deeper understanding of Matrimony and to encourage prayer for married couples.

Jesus Christ Calls Us to Serve

- The students value the ways in which priests serve us.
- The students understand that Jesus gave leaders to His Church.
- The students understand the sacrament of Holy Orders.
- The students are encouraged to support the ordained ministers in their parish.
- The students understand how priests serve us and how the students can help them in their ministry.

We Share Jesus Christ's Priesthood

- The students value the importance of being responsible members of the parish.
- The students know that they have a vocation to carry on Jesus' priestly mission.
- The students value the different vocations by which they can serve the Church.
- The students begin preparing now for their future vocation in life.
- The students decide how to minister to others.

Celebrating Lent

- The students increase their awareness of the need to share our possessions with others.
- To present how Jesus was tempted in the desert as He prepared for His mission.
- The students see Lent as a special time to prepare to carry on Jesus' mission.
- The students prepare for Lent and for a Lenten prayer service.
- The students celebrate a Lenten prayer service.

Celebrating Easter

- The students appreciate the joy of new life.
- The students understand the meaning of Palm Sunday.
- The students understand the significance of the Easter Triduum.
- The students understand the Easter Triduum and prepare for an Easter celebration.
- The students participate in an Easter celebration.

A Community of Faith, Hope, and Love

Becoming a Catholic

- The students appreciate the marks that identify our Church.
- The students understand that the Church shows it is one and holy.
- The students understand that the Church shows it is catholic and apostolic.
- The students live the marks of the Church.
- The students celebrate what the students have learned about the marks of the Church.

All People Are God's People

- The students recognize the meaning and consequences of prejudice in our lives.
- The students understand our equality and the sinfulness of prejudice.
- The students respect the faith of others and the way in which they worship God.
- The students understand how they can work against prejudice.
- The students are motivated to combat prejudice in all its forms.

The Gift of Faith

- The students value our faith in God and others.
- The students are given a better understanding of the virtue of faith.
- The students know that the Apostles' Creed summarizes the truths of our faith.
- The students appreciate how living our Christian faith makes our lives better.
- The students renew their faith by reviewing and praying the Apostles' Creed.

God Fills Us with Hope

- The students value the virtue of hope.
- The students understand that the virtue of hope enables us to trust in God.
- The students appreciate that Mary is a sign of hope for us.
- The students are motivated to believe they can make a difference in the world.
- The students decide how they can be signs of hope in the world.

The Gift of God's Love

- The students value Jesus' way of love.
- The students understand what the virtue of love enables us to do.
- The students are introduced to Saint Paul's definition of love as the greatest virtue.
- The students understand the Corporal and the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- The students are encouraged to make a personal choice about how they will love.

Sacramentals

- The students recognize and value reminders of our faith.
- The students understand the meaning and purpose of sacramentals.
- The students realize how the rosary helps us recall the lives of Jesus and Mary.
- The students decide how they can live some saint-like qualities.
- The students review the meaning of sacramentals and to celebrate God's presence in our lives.

Celebrations for The Year

- The students plan and celebrate a Mass of the Holy Spirit.
- The students prepare and celebrate a procession in Mary's honor.
- The students prepare for and celebrate the stations of the cross.

Jesus Christ Blesses Our Lives

Jesus Christ Reveals God

- The students consider how Jesus reveals God to us.
- The students understand that Jesus is both human and divine.
- The students understand that Jesus shows us who God is.
- The students find the many signs of God's love in their lives.
- The students have an understanding of who Jesus is and how to follow Him.

Jesus Christ and the Kingdom of God

- The students recognize the value of good news in our lives.
- The students know how Jesus announced the good news of God's love.
- The students understand that Jesus brings the kingdom, or reign, of God.
- The students are encouraged to live for the reign of God by living the Law of Love.
- The students decide to do their part to bring about God's reign.

Jesus Christ Blesses Our Lives

- The students value the importance of making others feel welcome.
- The students understand and appreciate how Jesus welcomed everyone.
- The students understand that Jesus healed and forgave others.
- The students are shown that Jesus served those in need and asks us to do the same.
- The students decide how to be welcomers, healers, and forgivers.

The Church Carries on Jesus' Mission

- The students know how important it is for disciples to work together.
- The students realize that Jesus' work is continued today in the Church.
- The students understand the Church's mission to heal and forgive.
- The students appreciate the Church's mission to serve others.
- The students have a deeper understanding of the Church's mission to serve and of how young people can help.

The Sacraments and the Church

- The students appreciate how we communicate through signs.
- The students understand the sacraments and the many signs of God's love.
- The students know that the Church and the sacraments are signs of Jesus.
- The students understand the sacraments of initiation, healing, and service.
- The students have a deeper understanding of the sacraments and how we can be signs of God's love.

Celebrating Reconciliation

- The students understand ways of expressing forgiveness.
- The students understand that Jesus brought God's forgiveness.
- The students have confidence in their ability to overcome sin.
- The students prepare for a prayer service of forgiveness.
- The students celebrate a prayer service of forgiveness.

Celebrating Eucharist

- The students value the "special food" Jesus gives us.
- The students appreciate the meaning of the Eucharist.
- The students' have a deeper appreciation for Jesus' gift of Himself in the Eucharist.
- The students prepare for a Eucharistic celebration.
- The students have a Eucharistic celebration.

Fifth Grade Benchmarks

Sacraments of Initiation

Jesus Christ Brings Us Life

- The students appreciate the gift of life.
- The students understand that we share God's life in Baptism.
- The students understand the liturgical rite and the effects of Baptism.
- The students understand and value how we are to live our Baptism.
- The students' understanding of Baptism and how to live it is deepened.

Jesus Christ Strengthens Us

- The students realize our need for the Holy Spirit's help to witness to our faith.
- The students understand that the Holy Spirit helps us to live our faith.
- The students understand the meaning of Confirmation and how it is celebrated.
- The students appreciate the many ways we can be witnesses to our faith.
- The student's have a deeper understanding of Confirmation and how to witness to their faith.

Jesus Christ Feeds Us

- The students realize the necessity and importance of feeding the hungry.
- The students understand that Jesus is our Bread of Life.
- The students appreciate the Holy Eucharist as a sacrifice and a meal.
- The students explore ways to express gratitude for the gift of the Eucharistic.
- The students decide how they can put their belief in the Eucharist into action.

Our Church Celebrates the Eucharist

- The students value the memories of those who made a difference in their lives.
- The students understand that at Mass we listen to God's word.
- The students understand and appreciate the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- The students appreciate their call to live the Mass daily.
- The students decide how they can live as the Body of Christ in the world.

The Church Remembers

- The students appreciate the seasons and times of change in our lives.
- The students understand and appreciate the Church's liturgical year.
- The students understand how and why we honor Mary and the saints during the Church year.
- The students are encouraged to live the Church year, remembering God's presence with them.
- The students review the liturgical year and celebrate it in prayer.

Celebrating Advent

- The students appreciate that Jesus comes to us in many different ways.
- The students are familiar with some of the prophecies of Isaiah about the Messiah.
- The students prepare for an Advent celebration.
- The students celebrate an Advent prayer service.

Celebrating Christmas

- The students understand and appreciate how to prepare well for Christmas.
- The students understand the meaning of Jesus' name and why He came.
- The students understand what we truly celebrate at Christmas.
- The students prepare to celebrate a Christmas dramatization.
- The students commemorate the birth of Jesus.

We Bring Fullness of Life to Others

Loving Our Parents

- The students understand that Jesus honored His parents.
- The students respect those who care for us, older people, and those in authority.
- The students understand the fourth commandment.
- The students understand ways to live the fourth commandment.
- The students make decisions about living the fourth commandment.

Living for Life

- The students understand to respect all life because it is sacred.
- The students understand the meaning of the fifth commandment.
- The students understand that Jesus calls us to live as caring people.
- The students appreciate that all living things are united.
- The students live the fifth commandment.

Faithful in Love

- The students reflect on their faithfulness in friendships.
- The students appreciate faithfulness in marriage.
- The students understand their responsibilities to family and self.
- The students live the sixth and ninth commandments.
- The students reflect on their faithfulness as friends.

Sharing Our Things

- The students understand that it is wrong to steal.
- The students understand that the seventh and tenth commandments call us to share.
- The students respect the rights of others.
- The students understand how to live the seventh and tenth commandments.
- The students live the seventh and tenth commandments.

Living and Telling the Truth

- The students understand the importance of truth and honesty.
- The students understand that God asks us to live in truth.
- The students understand some of the ways people sin against the eighth commandment.
- The students choose to be truthful.
- The students prepare to be more truthful.

Preparing for Lent

- The students think about how they may need to change.
- The students understand that Lent is a time of change and growth.
- The students understand that Lent is a period of preparation for Easter.
- The students prepare for a Lenten prayer service.
- The students celebrate a Lenten prayer service.

Celebrating Easter

- The students dramatize an Easter story with the students.
- The students understand the Easter Triduum.
- The students understand the meaning of the Easter season.
- The students prepare for an Easter prayer service.
- The students celebrate an Easter prayer service.

We Live as Christians

The Spirit Gives Us Life

- The students understand the power we receive to do difficult things.
- The students understand the power of the Holy Spirit.
- The students appreciate the seven gifts given them by the Holy Spirit.
- The students appreciate how the Holy Spirit helps us.
- The students recognize the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

The Church Guides Us

- The students understand how to work for God's kingdom as members of the Church.
- The students understand how the Church guides us.
- The students understand the Laws of the Church.
- The students understand why we celebrate the sacraments.
- The students choose ways to live their Catholic faith.

Examining Our Conscience

- The students understand the importance of making good decisions.
- Each student understands how to form a good conscience.
- The students learn how to examine their consciences.
- The students are reminded how to prepare for the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- The students examine their consciences regularly.

We Celebrate Reconciliation

- The students understand the need for reconciliation.
- The students understand the importance of forgiving and of being forgiven.
- The students understand the Communal Rite of Reconciliation.
- The students understand how to be reconcilers.
- The students understand Reconciliation.

We Celebrate the Eucharist

- The students recognize Jesus' presence among us.
- The students understand the Introductory Rites and the Liturgy of the Word.
- The students understand the Liturgy of the Eucharist.
- The students understand the Concluding Rite of the Mass.
- The students participate more fully in the Mass.

We Honor the Saints

- The students understand that saints are ordinary people who do God's will.
- The students understand how the Church names and honors saints.
- The students learn about other patron saints.
- The students deepen their appreciation of the saints.
- The students celebrate a prayer service for the saints.

Mary and the Rosary

- The students explore memory.
- The students learn how to pray the rosary.
- The students understand the mysteries of the rosary.
- The students prepare for a May crowning ceremony.
- The students celebrate a May Crowning.

The Bible and Us

Knowing the Bible

- The students understand that the Bible is a source for answering life's questions today.
- The students understand that revelation is God making known to us who God is.
- The students understand that the Bible was written under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- The students learn the major divisions of the Bible.
- The students make God's word their own.

Understanding the Bible

- The students understand the importance of communicating God's message.
- The students appreciate the different forms of communicating God's word.
- The students learn several literary forms used in the Bible.
- The students develop reverence for the Bible.
- The students practice praying with the Bible.

Created to Be Like God

- The students understand God as creator, and to express their faith in Him.
- The students understand the message of the first creation story.
- The students believe that human beings are the high point of God's creation.
- The students understand that we all have a part in creation.
- The students understand the importance of being guardians of God's world.

Created For God

- The students understand that we are partners with God and with one another.
- The students understand the importance of a loving relationship with God and others.
- The students recognize and know symbols used to teach religious truths.
- The students understand that we are called to bring about fullness of life for everyone.
- The students understand that their talents can make the world a better place.

Finding God's Mercy

- To help students understand how God wants us to respond to violence and evil.
- The students understand that sin and evil are the result of free choice.
- The students understand that we must use our freedom responsibly.
- The students understand that all people have an everlasting covenant with God.
- The students understand that we are called to be merciful to others.

Celebrating Reconciliation

- The students understand the meaning of mercy.
- The students understand that sin hurts us all, but that Jesus brings forgiveness.
- The students understand that Reconciliation offers healing, comfort, and reunion.
- The students prepare for a Reconciliation Prayer Service.
- The students review and then celebrate with a Reconciliation Prayer Service.

Celebrating Eucharist

- The students understand that we honor God by offering up sacrifices.
- The students understand sacrifice as a way of thanking God.
- The students understand that the Mass is our great sacrifice of praise.
- The students prepare a Mass celebration.
- The students celebrate the Mass and review.

Living by a Covenant

Seeking the Promised Land

- The students understand the importance of knowing our roots.
- The students understand that Abram and Sarah were called to be parents of a new people.
- The students understand that God always fulfills His promises.
- The students understand that we must strive to put God first in our lives.
- The students develop pride as Catholic Christians.

Pioneering the Promised Land

- The students understand that we must work with God to bring His grace to others.
- The students understand that we are all called to be channels of God's grace.
- The students understand that God is present in all the events of our lives.
- The students understand that God sometimes enters our lives in surprising ways.
- The students reflect on ways to become channels of God's grace.

Longing for the Promised Land

- The students understand that freedom is a God-given right.
- The students understand that God called Moses to lead the Israelites to freedom.
- The students appreciate that the Israelites believed God was more powerful than their oppressors.
- The students understand that Passover and Easter are celebrations of freedom.
- The students are guided toward finding ways to help those suffering from injustice.

Returning to the Promised Land

- The students understand that our religious beliefs require us to be responsible to God and others.
- The students understand God's covenant with the Israelites of Sinai.
- The students know the Ten Commandments and understand our responsibility in living them.
- The students understand that obeying and living the commandments bring true freedom.
- The students reflect on the Ten Commandments as guidelines to real freedom.

Settling the Promised Land

- The students explore examples of strength and understand God as a source of our strength.
- The students understand that God gives ordinary people strength to carry out His will.
- The students learn of a biblical character who is a source of strength to others.
- The students learn about a biblical loyalty.
- The students find ways of using their personal gifts to help others.

Celebrating Advent

- The students understand how to pass along their Christian "language" to others.
- The students understand what we remember during Advent
- The students make symbols representing some of our ancestors in faith.
- The students prepare an Advent prayer service.
- The students review, and then celebrate a Jesse Tree Prayer Service.

Celebrating Christmas

- The students understand that Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.
- The students understand how the Church celebrates the Christmas season.
- The students decide how to exhibit that Jesus is the Light of the World.
- The students prepare for a Christmas play.

Sixth Grade Benchmarks

Living by Faith

A Golden Age for Israel

- The students discover leadership qualities.
- The students discover some of the great leaders of the Israelite community.
- The students understand David's story and the importance of keeping God's covenant.
- The students understand that the story of David shows God's mercy and forgiveness.
- The students express how Saul and David lived God's covenant.

End of Israel's Golden Age

- The students understand the value of gaining wisdom.
- The students understand Solomon's story and his prayer for wisdom.
- The students recognize Solomon's failure to live according to God's covenant.
- The students understand that Solomon's sinfulness led to the dissolution of his kingdom.
- The students explore ways of working against injustice.

Learning from the Prophets

- The students discover what it means to do the right, love goodness, and walk humbly with God.
- The students know Elijah's story and that prophets come to tell us God's truth.
- The students understand that God speaks to us in our hearts when we are quiet.
- The students understand the consequences of Israel's faithlessness.
- The students choose and try to live a prophetic message.

Preachers of the Faith

- The students realize that they are capable of speaking out for peace.
- The students understand Isaiah's call and our own call to be prophets.
- The students understand that God was with Jeremiah as he spoke out and is with us also.
- The students will recognize Ezekiel as the great prophet of the Exile.
- The students understand what it means to speak out on something in which they believe.

Servants of God's People

- The students understand that everyone deserves a second chance.
- The students understand the end of the Exile as a time of hope and new beginnings.
- The students know the stories of two Biblical heroines, Esther and Judith.
- The students understand that God works in history through people like us.
- The students pray for the strength and courage to live God's covenant.

Celebrating Lent

- The students understand that Lent should be a time of prayer and sacrifice for others.
- The students understand that Lent is a time of examining and changing our lives.
- The students learn the meaning and practices of Lent.
- The students follow Jesus during Lent and prepare a prayer service.
- The students find ways to carry their crosses and join in a Lenten Prayer Service.

Celebrating Easter

- The students understand the power of the energies of love.
- The students understand the "new passover" and introduce the Easter Triduum.
- The students explore further the celebration of the Easter Triduum.
- The students prepare for an Easter Prayer Service.
- The students will celebrate an Easter Prayer Service.

Living in Jesus Christ

New Testament Times

- The students explore how Jesus has spoken through the ages.
- The students understand the land, people, and prejudices of Jesus' time.
- The students understand the main groups of the Jewish religion at the time of Jesus.
- The students understand Jewish and Catholic observances of the Sabbath and other feasts.
- The students choose ways of showing discipleship.

Jesus of Nazareth

- The students focus on good news about young people.
- The students understand Jesus as the Messiah and Savior.
- The students see that the parable of the Good Samaritan teaches the Law of Love.
- The students understand that miracles were signs of God's power working through Jesus.
- The students will choose ways to live for the reign of God and deliver Jesus' message of hope.

Jesus and His Disciples

- The students understand that we can share in Jesus' mission to bring God's kingdom to all.
- The students understand how Jesus prepared for His public life.
- The students understand the Beatitudes as guidelines for true happiness.
- The students understand Jesus' death, resurrection, and ascension and the evangelical counsels.
- The students decide how to become more active disciples of Jesus.

The Early Church and Us

- The students understand how the early Christians teach us to give witness to our faith.
- The students understand the early Christians and the conversion of Saint Paul.
- The students understand Saint Paul the missionary and the Age of Martyrdom.
- The students understand the challenge of living as Catholic Christians.
- The students choose ways to show courage in living their faith.

Prayer and Practice

- The students understand that it takes practice to become an outstanding Christian.
- The students understand that the New Testament challenges us to live as holy people.
- The students understand the importance of prayer in their daily lives.
- The students understand that the Works of Mercy challenge us to turn our words into deeds.
- The students choose ways of putting the Works of Mercy into action.

Remembering the Saints

- The students honor the saints and realize that we are all saints in the making.
- The students honor a special saint in their lives.
- The students appreciate the feast of All Souls.
- The students learn more about Mary and prepare a Marian celebration.
- The students have a Marian Celebration.

Living as Disciples

- The students understand that disciples must live in peace.
- The students plan and celebrate a Mass for world peace.
- The students understand vocations and celebrate our vocations.

Junior High Church History Benchmarks

Ever Ancient, Ever New

- The students discover the value of studying Church history.
- The students explore the ways people, places, events, ideas, and buildings make up history.
- The students recognize the tools we use for studying Church history.
- The students explore the ways the Church shows it is both a human and a divine institution.
- The students recall why and with what tools we study Church history.

Centuries of Amazing Growth

- The students discover the conditions that enabled Christianity to grow.
- The students explore how Christ's followers spread the faith.
- The students understand how and why the early Christians were persecuted.
- The students discover how the Church met opposition from within.
- The students recall how the early Church spread the faith despite opposition.

Faith of an Empire

- The students discover why the year A.D. 313 was a turning point in Church history.
- The students explore the good and bad consequences of official approval for the Church.
- The students explore the ways the Church Fathers contributed to our understanding of Catholicism.
- The students explore the ways four early Church councils clarified Catholic teachings.
- The students recall the many changes in and for the Church in the fourth century.

Trials and New Beginnings

- The students appreciate how the Church survived the barbarian invasions.
- The students explore the beginnings of the monastic movement.
- The students explore how the early monks evangelized Europe.
- The students explore the establishment of a Christian empire and the causes of the Schism of 1054.
- The students recall the growth and changes in the Church during the Early Middle Ages.

A Remarkable Age of Renewal

- The students understand the need for Church reform in the High Middle Ages.
- The students explore how the Crusades failed to achieve their objectives.
- The students explore how the friars improved the Church.
- The students appreciate various expressions of faith in the High Middle Ages.
- The students recall how the Church was renewed and reformed during the High Middle Ages.

Time of Crisis and Challenge

- The students discover that the period of the Late Middle Ages was a time of trial for the Church.
- The students explore the effects that the Great Schism had on the Church.
- The students explore the impact of the Renaissance on the Church.
- The students understand the failures of Renaissance Church leadership.
- The students express the ways the Church of the Renaissance survived despite crises and challenges.

The Protestant Reformation

- The students discover the beginnings of the Protestant Reformation.
- The students explore the expansion of the Protestant Reformation.
- The students explore Calvin's influence on the Protestant Reformation.
- The students explore the causes and effects of the English Reformation.
- The students recall and understand the causes and consequences of the Protestant Reformation.

The Counter-Reformation

- The students discover the ways the Council of Trent responded to the Protestant Reformation.
- The students explore the ways the popes dealt with the Counter-Reformation.
- The students explore the ways new religious orders and saints enriched the Counter-Reformation Church.
- The students explore the reasons why the reign of Elizabeth I was the golden age of the Priesthood in England.
- The students deepen understanding of the Church of the Counter-Reformation.

Between Reformation and Revolution

- The students discover the ways in which the European monarchs threatened the Church's freedom.
- The students examine the forces that denied civil rights to Catholics.
- The students explore the spread of Catholicism throughout the world.
- The students explore the effects of the scientific revolution and the Enlightenment on the Church.
- The students recall how the Church responded to the age of kings, the scientific revolution, and the Enlightenment.

A World of Turmoil

- The students discover the background of the French Revolution and its effects in the Church.
- The students explore the causes of the French Revolution and the resulting schism in the Church.
- The students understand the consequences of the Reign of Terror.
- The students explore the relationship between the Church and Napoleon.
- The students recall and discuss the ways in which the French Revolution changed the Church and the world.

The Dawn of a New Age

- The students discover the Church's response to liberalism and nationalism.
- The students explain the Church's growth during this age of faith.
- The students understand and appreciate the nineteenth century as a missionary age.
- The students examine the ways in which Pope Pius IX and Pope Pius X changed the Church.
- The students recall the ways the Church changed and grew during the nineteenth century.

Catholicism in the United States

- The students discover the roots of Catholicism in the United States.
- The students appreciate the contributions of Catholics on the American frontier.
- The students explore the ways the Church took root in the colonies.
- The students explore the development of the Immigrant Church in America.
- The students deepen understanding and appreciation of the contributions of the Church in the United States.

The Church in Modern America

- The students discover the effects of the Civil War and immigration on the Church.
- The students explore what it meant to be Catholic and American in the late 1800s.
- The students explore the growth of the Church in America during the early 1900s.
- The students examine the crisis affecting the Church in the 1960s and 1970s.
- The students understand and appreciate the growth of the Church in America.

The Twentieth Century and Beyond

- The students discover the church's role prior to World War II.
- The students explore the effects on the Church of World War II and its aftermath.
- The students examine the growth of the Church in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.
- The students explore the significance of Vatican II.
- The students reflect on the Church in the twentieth century.

A Story in Art

- The students discover the story of the Church as it is reflected in architecture.
- The students explore Church architecture from the Gothic to the contemporary.
- The students explore the contributions of the Renaissance, the Baroque period, and the twentieth century to religious art.
- The students experience and appreciate Gregorian chant and the origins of religious drama.
- The students review and enjoy the Church's story in art, music, and drama.

The Amazing Search for God

- The students explore the desire for the holy in human beings.
- The students examine the religious beliefs of ancient Greece and Rome.
- The students explore the religious beliefs of the ancient Egyptians and the roots and beliefs of Hinduism.
- The students examine the sources and beliefs of Buddhism and Islam and to learn what the Catholic Church teaches about other religions.
- The students deepen awareness of the holy in our lives.

A Divine and Awesome Invitation

- The students learn that God shows us who He is through His creation, in His relationship with His people, and most fully in Jesus.
- The students become aware that divine revelation happens over a long period of time, in history, between God and people, and in community.
- The students appreciate that revelation is handed on from generation to generation through the interaction of the living tradition of the Church and Scripture.
- The students learn that the deposit of faith contains all the truths entrusted by Jesus to the Church.
- The students internalize the truth that God's deepest Self is revealed in Jesus Christ.

Divine Gift and Human Response

- The students understand that believing or having faith in something or someone means putting our trust in our past experiences or in someone else.
- The students learn that faith is a supernatural gift that we receive through our free cooperation with God's grace.
- The students explore the characteristics of faith.
- The students discover that our gift of faith must be nourished and practiced.
- The students internalize God's call to be persons of faith.

The God Who Reveals

- The students explore three convincing arguments for the existence of God.
- The students explore God's revelation of himself to us as a living, personal God; to know the meaning of God's name, Yahweh.
- The students discover that the Genesis account of creation shows that God created, know how He created.
- The students discover that God is eternal, almighty, all-knowing, and all-present.
- The students strengthen faith through understanding that belief in God is not in conflict with reason or scientific knowledge.

The God Who Is

- The students discover and acknowledge God's transcendence.
- The students explore and celebrate God's transcendence and God's imminence.
- The students explore the mystery of the Blessed Trinity.
- The students discover that the whole life of the Church revolves around the Blessed Trinity.
- The students reexamine and reflect on the doctrine of the Blessed Trinity as the central teaching of the Christian religion.

An Unfinished Image

- The students explore the most basic truths that God revealed about human beings.
- The students explore the Church's teaching about evolution and other matters of science and faith.
- The students explore the effects of original sin.
- The students discover God's promise of hope.
- The students internalize and celebrate the truth that even though we are flawed by original sin, we are created good.

The Perfect Image

- The students discover Jesus of Nazareth and the state of the world at the time of His birth.
- The students explore the Church's teaching about the mystery of the incarnation.
- The students explore a few of the ancient historical records that support the existence of Jesus; to appreciate that Jesus lived a normal human life.
- The students explore the ways the gospel accounts portray Jesus' life and the kind of individual he was.
- The students internalize the ways we can identify with Jesus our friend and brother.

Messiah, Lord, and Savior

- The students discover that Jesus is Messiah, Lord, and Savior; to explore the meaning and significance of these titles.
- The students explore the ways that Jesus showed us his divinity.
- The students explore the significance of Jesus' sacrifice on the cross.
- The students explore humanity's whole new relationship with God, made possible by Jesus' death and resurrection.
- The students internalize and celebrate the reality that Jesus Christ is our Savior, our Paschal Lamb offered in sacrifice to the Father.

The Good News of Jesus Christ

- The students discover that through his passion, death, resurrection, and ascension, Jesus Christ brought salvation to the whole world.
- The students explore why the gospels and the rest of the New Testament were written.
- The students explore Jesus' teaching about the providence of God.
- The students explore what Jesus meant by the phrase kingdom of God; to discover the truths Jesus stressed to emphasize the necessity of being united with Him.
- The students review the main ideas of the chapter; to share in working for God's kingdom.

The Lord and Giver of Life

- The students know the Holy Spirit as the third Person of the Blessed Trinity and as Lord and Giver of Life.
- The students explore the revelation of the Holy Spirit in Scripture; to understand the Old Testament meaning of spirit; to appreciate that God's Spirit gives life.
- The students explore the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Jesus; to understand the meaning of advocate and paraclite; to know that the coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost completed the paschal mystery.
- The students explore the difference the Holy Spirit made in the lives of Jesus' disciples; to recognize that through Baptism we become temples of the Holy Spirit.
- The students grow in appreciation of the role of the Holy Spirit; to respond to the call of the Holy Spirit to build up the Church and to renew the world.

Junior High Creed Benchmarks

The Mystery of the Church

- The students discover that the Church is the people of God.
- The students explore Saint Paul's teaching that the Church is the body of Christ; to examine other New Testament images of the Church.
- The students explore the human and divine dimensions of the Church; to appreciate that the Church is the family of God.
- The students explore the four essential features of the Church: one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.
- The students internalize and respond in action to the call to deepen our bonds among the members of the Church and to bring the risen Christ into the world.

The Church of Jesus Christ

- The students trace the roots of Church leadership to Jesus and the apostles.
- The students explore the ways the bishops succeed the apostles in their office of teaching, governing, and sanctifying in the name of Christ.
- The students explore the visible and the invisible elements of the Church.
- The students explore a description of the Catholic Church, in which the key elements of the Church of Christ are summarized.
- The students review the ideas of the week; to strengthen understanding of the visible and invisible elements of the Church.

Catholicism: A Way of Life

- The students discover that in recent times the Holy Spirit has renewed understanding of the dignity and importance of the laity in the Church.
- The students explore religious community life, especially the ways religious live the evangelical counsels.
- The students explore the ways the clergy (bishops, priests, and deacons) are empowered by God to exercise authority in the Church; to explore the meaning of infallibility.
- The students explore the rich diversity of the Catholic Church; to discover that the Church is really like a sacrament.
- The students internalize the ideas of this chapter and to decide ways to make our Catholic faith a way of life.

The Church on Its Way

- The students discover that the pilgrim Church is moving toward the last day when Christ will come in glory.
- The students explore the Church's teaching about an individual's personal last day and about the resurrection of the dead.
- The students explore the ways Mary is a true model for the Church.
- The students explore the significance of the communion of saints and the process of canonization.
- The students internalize that we are members of the communion of saints.

Bringing the World to Christ

- The students discover that as baptized members of the body of Christ, we have a responsibility to carry on Christ's mission to the whole world.
- The students explore the need to evangelize ourselves and to live the good news first in our families.
- The students explore the ways friends can be evangelizers to one another.
- The students recognize that the work of evangelization and mission is the work of all Church members, not just the clergy and religious.
- To internalize and celebrate the importance of preparing ourselves to bring Christ to the world and the world to Christ.

More Than Meets the Eye

- The students discover that humans have the power and the imagination to think symbolically.
- The students explore the ways that we humans use symbols to communicate our belief in the sacred.
- The students explore three of the most important characteristics of ritual.
- The students explore ways our cultural experiences and our maturity help us to be aware of symbolic meanings.
- The students deepen understanding of the importance of symbolism and ritual in our lives.

The Power of the Church

- The students discover that when we Catholics pray together, we celebrate in and through symbolic activity.
- The students explore the characteristics of liturgy in which we proclaim and celebrate the mystery of Christ.
- The students discover what we mean by the paschal mystery; to explore ways we lived the paschal mystery.
- The students discover the ways in which our liturgical history has helped to shape our liturgical life.
- The students explore the words, feelings, or images the word Catholic brings to mind; to review the ideas presented in this chapter.

God's Masterpieces

- The students discover that in Jesus we see and come to know the invisible God.
- The students explore the four essential qualities that are always present in the celebration of each sacrament.
- The students understand the prominent role that the proclamation of Scripture has in every liturgical celebration.
- The students discover that remembering, knowing Christ is present with us, giving glory to God, calling upon the Holy Spirit, and saying a prayer of blessing are part of the celebration of the sacraments.
- The students affirm the belief that in Jesus we see and come to know the invisible God; to recall that Jesus has given the Church seven sacraments through which we share in his saving work.

The Sacrament of Sacraments

- The students discover in a deeper way that the Eucharist is “the source and summit of the Christian life.”
- The students explore the meaning of liturgical time; to develop an understanding of sacrifice.
- The students study the eucharistic prayer of the Mass; to understand the Eucharist as both meal and sacrifice.
- The students understand more fully that in the Eucharist we become one body in Christ and that Christ is totally identified with us, his Church.
- The students deepen their understanding of and appreciation for the gift and graces of the Eucharist.

Celebrating Eucharist

- The students discover that the celebration of the Eucharist has a fourfold structure: gathering, storytelling, meal sharing, and commissioning.
- The students explore the parts of the Liturgy of the Word.
- The students explore the meaning of the words and actions of the eucharistic prayer.

- The students understand the words and gestures of the communion rite and commissioning of the Mass.
- The students discuss the need for everyone's full participation in the Mass.

The Sacraments of Initiation

- The students discover that Baptism is our first act of conversion, the process of coming to believe that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world.
- The students explore how the Church prepares catechumens for the reception of the sacraments of initiation.
- The students explore the meaning of the symbols and images of Baptism.
- The students explore the ways the sacrament of Confirmation strengthens and continues Baptism.
- The students deepen their understanding and appreciation of the sacraments of initiation.

Our House of Prayer

- The students understand the history of sacred space in the Christian tradition; to appreciate the parish church as a sign of Christ's presence among His people.
- The students explore the ways in which the design of a church helps us participate in each of the four parts of the celebration of the Eucharist.
- The students become more familiar with the parish church as a place of prayer and worship.
- The students understand the reasons for different styles, arrangements, and decorations of churches; to realize where the principal beauty of a church is found.
- The students deepen their appreciation of the parish church building as a symbol of Catholic life and worship.

Seasons of Praise

- The students appreciate the ways in which the liturgical year helps us to enter into the paschal mystery.
- The students explore the meaning of the Lord's Day.
- The students explore Baptism as the key to understanding the season of Lent.
- The students understand the Triduum and ways we prepare for Easter.
- The students recall the meaning of the liturgical year, the Lord's Day, and the Triduum.

A Year of Glory

- The students appreciate the “great fifty days” of the Easter season.
- The students explore the meaning of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- The students understand that Advent and Christmas express our longing for God's reign.
- The students explore the relationship between Ordinary Time and our spiritual growth.
- The students recall and appreciate the seasons of the Church year and our participation in them.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation

- The students discover that through the sacrament of Reconciliation our relationship with God and with the Church is restored.
- The students explore the development of the rites of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
- The students examine the communal rite of Reconciliation.
- The students understand the need for continual conversion of heart; to examine the individual rite of Reconciliation.
- The students recall and apply the main ideas of the chapter.

Junior High Liturgy and Worship Benchmarks

The Anointing of the Sick

- The students discover that Jesus and His Church are signs of God's healing.
- The students explore the historical development of the rites that the Church uses to continue the healing ministry of Jesus.
- The students understand the changes suggested by the Second Vatican Council and the celebration of the Anointing of the Sick during Sunday liturgy.
- The students explore the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick as a ritual that makes present the Church as a community of healing and support.
- The students deepen their understanding of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.

The Sacrament of Holy Orders

- The students discover that in Holy Orders a man shares in the priesthood in three essential ways: ministry, divine worship, and authority.
- The students explore the role of the bishop in the Church; to appreciate the liturgical rite of the ordination of a bishop.
- The students explore the connection between the roles of bishop and priest; to appreciate the liturgical rite of the ordination of a priest.
- The students explore the role of the deacon in the Church; to appreciate the liturgical rite of the ordination of a deacon.
- The students increase awareness of Holy Orders as the sacrament through which the mission and authority Christ gave his apostles continues in the Church.

The Sacrament of Matrimony

- The students discover the meaning and importance of the sacrament of Matrimony.
- The students explore the sign of Matrimony and the process of preparation.
- The students explore the characteristics of real love; to deepen understanding of the celebration of Matrimony.
- The students explore needed skills for marriage readiness.
- The students deepen their appreciation for the sacrament of Matrimony.

Mary and the Saints

- The students discover our connection with the communion of saints.
- The students explore the three types of liturgical celebrations of the life of Mary and the lives of the saints; to explore the process of canonization.
- The students explore the role that Mary, as mother of Jesus and his first disciple, plays in our salvation and our devotion.
- The students explore the meaning and richness of the Hail Mary and the rosary.
- The students deepen their understanding of and appreciation for Mary and the saints.

Paths of Prayer

- The students discover stained-glass windows as aids on the path of prayer.
- The students explore ways of praying with Scripture.
- The students experience meditation and contemplation.
- The students consider ways different prayers and using sacramentals can enrich our lives of prayer.
- The students give praise to God by praying Morning Praise of the Liturgy of the Hours

Junior High Morality Benchmarks

Getting It Right

- The students begin to understand the connection between faith and moral decision making.
- The students understand that morality is a matter of becoming the human beings God created us to be.
- The students examine the purpose and value of morality and its relationship to happiness.
- The students reflect on the reality of God's friendship with us.
- The students internalize and apply the characteristics that help us to be the living presence of God in our world today.

The Key to Happiness

- The students discover the truth that happiness must be learned.
- The students critique society's messages to us regarding happiness.
- The students discover that Jesus gave us the Beatitudes as guidelines for true happiness.
- The students realize that living out God's covenant brings us true happiness.
- The students recall the ways we can find true happiness.

A Life of Discipleship

- The students envision our lives in the near and distant future.
- The students explore the challenges we face in following Jesus.
- The students realize that Jesus gives each of us the mission to bring Him to each person we meet.
- The students understand that our greatest moral responsibility is to love as Christ's loves.
- The students internalize and apply the characteristics of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

Sin and Forgiveness

- The students realize the effects of sin in the world and in our lives.
- The students explore the negative effects sin has on shalom.
- The students learn about the effects of original sin in our society and the weakness caused by personal sin.
- The students realize that Jesus calls us to continue His ministry of forgiveness.
- The students increase awareness of the ways sin weakens our faith community and the ways forgiveness strengthens it.

Finding True Freedom

- The students discover that our greatest freedom is found in living for God.
- The students explore the importance of our conscience.
- The students explore ways in which we responsibly form and follow our conscience.
- The students explore ways God shows His love for us and ways we show our love for God.
- The students internalize the concept that a well-formed conscience is key to true freedom.

Finding the Sacred

- The students discover that prayer and the Christian life are inseparable.
- The students explore the power of words and the ways we keep or break the second commandment.

- The students explore the ways Catholics observe Sunday, the Lord's Day.
- The students discover that our participation in the Mass helps us to grow as followers of Jesus.
- The students internalize ways we keep the second and third commandments.

Learning to Love

- The students discover that God gives us our families to help us know him better and realize his great love for us.
- The students explore the ways good family life is crucial to the well-being of the whole human family.
- The students explore the ways we keep the fourth commandment.
- The students discover that the fourth commandment calls us to obey all those who have legitimate authority.
- The students internalize and apply the fourth commandment, which calls us to honor and respect our parents and all those who have legitimate authority.

Choosing Life

- The students discover what Jesus meant when He said, "Blessed are the peacemakers."
- The students explore the Church's teaching about stewardship, abortion, euthanasia, and preserving human life.
- The students discover what it means to have a healthy love of self.
- The students explore the Church's teaching about anger, hatred, war, and capital punishment.
- The students explore the ways we can live empowered by forgiveness and peace.

Loving for Life

- The students discover that our sexuality is a gift and a blessing from God.
- The students discover the effects that having sex without faithful, mature love has on ourselves and others.
- The students explore the ways that true friendship prepares us for real love.
- The students discover the meanings of purity, modesty, abstinence, and chastity and how practicing these virtues will help us be responsible in our relationships.
- The students discover ways we can overcome pressure from peers and others in society and lead loving, chaste lives.

Called to Justice

- The students discover that working for justice is a requirement for living the Catholic moral life.
- The students explore the ways of just people, especially the ways they try to eliminate racism, ageism, and sexism.
- The students explore the ways we keep the seventh commandment.
- The students explore the Church's teaching about the right to work.
- The students discover ways we can reach out to the poor; to internalize the concepts presented in this chapter.

Called to Truth

- The students discover that the fullness of God's truth has been revealed to us in Jesus Christ.
- The students explore the reasons truth is essential to our lives as Catholics.
- The students discover the sinfulness of gossip and other offenses against the eighth commandment.
- The students discover that we cannot be truthful in our actions unless we have a truthful vision of life.
- The students consider the ways Christians live in truth.

The Virtues: Skills for Life's Journey

- The students discover that virtuous people are powerful and successful in life.
- The students discover that virtues are qualities of character and skills that require practice.
- The students explore the importance of practicing the four cardinal virtues.
- The students explore the ways the theological virtues make it possible to share God's life right now.
- The students explore the importance of leading a virtuous life.

The Power of the Moral Life

- The students explore the challenges involved in living the moral life.
- The students explore the purpose and content of Church laws.
- The students explore the ways we practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- The students recognize that everything we do has consequences for others.
- The students explore the ways we can train ourselves for reaching our spiritual goals.

Making Moral Decisions

- The students appreciate how our moral decisions affect our identity.
- The students explore the first two steps in the moral decision-making process.
- The students explore the third and fourth steps in the moral decision-making process.
- The students explore the fifth and sixth steps in the moral decision-making process.
- The students recall the purpose and process of making moral decisions.

Something Worth Living For

- The students discover that each person has a particular vocation from God.
- The students recognize how the priest carries on the work of Christ among us.
- The students understand the vowed life of active religious communities.
- The students appreciate the ministry of contemplative religious.
- The students internalize the importance of discerning our vocations.

Unlike Any Other

The students discover the value of deepening our relationship with Jesus.
The students explore “outside” sources of evidence about Jesus.
The students examine how the New Testament came out of the lived experiences of the Church and was written under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
The students discover why we say that the Bible is a book “unlike any other.”
The students recall that Scripture and tradition make up our “single sacred deposit” of the Word of God.

The Divine Word

The students discover the meaning of divine inspiration.
The students explore mistaken notions about inspiration.
The students explore the Church’s teaching about divine revelation.
The students discover that the Bible does not contain any errors about the truths of faith; to learn why it is the Church’s book.
The students recall that Scripture is inspired by God, written by human authors, and interpreted by the Church in light of its tradition.

More Than History

The students clarify the difference between historical fact and religious truth in the Bible.
The students discover that biblical writers depended primarily on oral tradition for the passing on of information in the faith community.
The students explore the basic literary forms of prose and poetry; to discover the literary form of the gospel.
The students explore other literary forms of the New Testament.
The students recall the reasons we say that the Bible is more than history.

Jesus and His People

The students discover that Jesus was a Jew and belonged to a people with a rich history and religious heritage.
The students explore the meaning of the covenant God made with his people on Mount Sinai and the new covenant that was sealed in the Blood of Jesus.
The students discover the importance of the Temple, the priesthood, and sacrifice to Jewish life and worship.
The students explore the belief of Jesus and the other Jews that God was present in His people, in the Temple, and in God’s law.
The students strengthen understanding of the beliefs and religious practices of Jesus and the Jews.

Jesus and His World

The students discover the reasons Israel was considered the crossroads of the world at the time of Jesus.
The students explore the culture of and languages spoke in the lower part of Galilee.
The students discover basic aspects of Jesus’ daily life in Nazareth.
The students explore the ways in which Jesus was prepared for life.
The students recall that the land and customs of Israel and its people were the background for Jesus’ life and teachings.

The Good News About Jesus

The students discover the meaning and the importance of the gospel.
The students explore the similarities and differences among the synoptic gospels.
The students discover the characteristics of the Gospel of Mark and the Gospel of Matthew.

Junior High New Testament Benchmarks

The students discover the characteristics of the Gospel of Luke and the Gospel of John.
The students recall and appreciate the ways the writers of the four gospels proclaim the good news of Jesus.

The Only Son of God

The students discover that God called John the Baptist to prepare the way for Jesus Christ.
The students explore the ways John the Baptist bridged the Old and New Testaments.
The students explore the infancy narratives in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke.
The students discover that the infancy narratives are the good news of our salvation in miniature.
The students recall the importance of the roles of John the Baptist; to appreciate the infancy narratives as the good news of our salvation in miniature.

Christ the Lord

The students reaffirm that Jesus is a divine Person with two natures: a human nature and a divine nature.
The students explore Jesus’ statements about and descriptions of Himself.
The students learn that in bringing God’s mercy and forgiveness to all people Jesus let everyone know he was the Messiah and Lord.
The students explore the ways Jesus taught his disciples to pray; to explore the meaning of the verses of the Our Father.
The students recall the ways in which Jesus showed his divinity.

The Power and the Glory

The students discover that miracles are extraordinary events caused by God’s power.
The students explore the healing miracles of Jesus.
The students explore nature miracles in the Old and New Testaments.
The students discover Jesus’ miracles of driving out demons and raising the dead.
The students recall that the miracles of Jesus revealed the power and glory of God.

A Surprise and a Challenge

The students discover and appreciate Jesus the teacher.
The students explore the kingdom of God parables.
The students appreciate God’s love and mercy expressed in Jesus’ parables of grace.
The students explore the parables of responsibility and judgment.
The students recall Jesus’ teaching in the parables about the kingdom, God’s grace, and judgment.

The New and Everlasting Covenant

The students appreciate the meaning and the importance of the paschal mystery.
The students deepen understanding of Jesus’ celebration of the Last Supper and His New commandment of love.
The students appreciate that each time the Eucharist is offered, the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross is really made present.
The students appreciate what we can learn from the Church’s reflection on the Gospel accounts of the resurrection and ascension of Jesus.
The students recall that in the Triduum we celebrate the events of the paschal mystery and the sealing of the new covenant.

Built on the Apostles

The students deepen understanding of the origin of the Church and the call of the apostles.

The students explore the reasons why Peter was chosen to be the leader of the Church.

The students explore the origins of the apostolic ministry.

The students explore the apostles' ministry of service; to discover why Paul is known as the "Apostle to the Gentiles."

The students recall the apostolic ministry of the Church from its founding to today.

A People Set Apart

The students discover New Testament images of the Church.

The students discover that in the New Testament we find the foundation for the seven sacraments.

The students explore the New Testament's guidance for putting faith into practice.

The students explore the ways we live out our vocation as disciples of Jesus Christ.

The students recall that we as a Church are a people set apart by God.

Come, Lord Jesus

The students discover the meaning of the parousia.

The students explore the literary form and symbols of the Book of Revelation.

The students explore what it means to be evangelizers of hope.

The students review key concepts about the course on the New Testament.

The students recall the meaning of the Book of Revelation and the second coming.

Jesus Christ In Every Age

The students discover the variety of ways artists have responded to Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?"

The students explore the ways some artists have depicted the infancy and childhood of Jesus.

The students explore some artists' interpretations of Jesus in His teaching ministry.

The students explore the ways artists have depicted some of the miracles of Jesus.

The students explore the ways some artists have depicted the crucified and risen Jesus.