

# *Second Grade*

## DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON OFFICE FOR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION **Curriculum Outcomes/Religious Education**

At this level, Catholic School and Religious Education children will be presented with the following beliefs and practices and at the conclusion of this level demonstrate a knowledge of these beliefs and an understanding of how these practices are integral to living out the Catholic faith in a manner appropriate for their age and ability.

The following curriculum outcomes are categorized within the fundamental tasks of catechesis: “helping to know, to celebrate and to contemplate the mystery of Christ.” (GDC 85-87; NDC pp. 59-63)

### *Key Concepts*

- 1 | Knowledge of the Faith
- 2 | Liturgical Education
- 3 | Moral Formation
- 4 | Teaching to Pray
- 5 | Education for Community Life
- 6 | Missionary Initiation

# Before you begin Review

Review Key  
Concepts from  
Previous Grade  
Level

- God is the creator of all things and created us in his image and likeness
- in the Blessed Trinity there are three Persons, Father, Son and Holy Spirit in the one God
- the Bible, the Old Testament and the New Testament, is the Word of God
- in the Gospels of the New Testament we find the life of Jesus, the Son of God
- through the sacrament of Baptism we become children of God, and are brought into the Church
- Jesus founded the Church and the Holy Spirit guides the Church
- Mary is the mother of Jesus and our Mother
- Joseph is the foster father of Jesus
- Jesus, Mary and Joseph are the Holy Family, a model for all families

## Key Concepts

### 1 Knowledge of the Faith

■ Catechesis gives believers a knowledge of the content of God's self-revelation which is found in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition and helps them know and understand the mysteries of the faith we proclaim in the Creed. (cf. NDC p. 60)

Children being  
catechized in  
Second Grade will:

- a. realize that there are three Persons in the one God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, called the Blessed Trinity, that we acknowledge when we make the sign of the cross (CCC 232-234, 2157)
- b. know that Jesus, the second Person of the Holy Trinity, is the Son of God the Father who became man (CCC 422-423, 461, 463, 470)
- c. recognize that Jesus, while he was on earth taught us how to live, and asks us to follow him and become his disciples "be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect", Matthew 5:48 (CCC 1693)
- d. understand that both the Old Testament and the New Testament tell how God came to his people so that they could know him, love him and serve him (CCC 121-130)
- e. understand that God gives us the gift of grace which is a participation in the life of God (CCC 1997)

Children being  
catechized in  
Second Grade will:

- f. understand that the grace of Christ heals us of sin and sanctifies us (CCC 1999)
- g. understand that we receive grace through the seven sacraments: Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist, Penance, Anointing of the sick, Holy Orders, Matrimony (CCC 2003)
- h. name the Ten Commandments given to us by God to guide our life (see pages 496-497 in the CCC for: A Traditional Catechetical Formula)
- i. name the two great commandments given to us by Jesus, Mark 12:29-31, Matthew 22:34-40, Luke 10:25-28 (CCC 2196)
- j. know that in the sacrament of Penance we express sorrow to God for our sins and we are forgiven (CCC 1448-1460)
- k. know that the sacrament of the Body and Blood of Jesus is called the Eucharist (CCC 1328)
- l. know that at the Last Supper Jesus gave us himself in the Eucharist (CCC 1339)
- m. know that at the words of consecration in the Eucharistic prayer the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Jesus (CCC 1352-1353)
- n. realize that the Mass is a gathering of the faithful to celebrate the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist (CCC 1346, 1348-1355)
- o. understand that during the Liturgy of the Word we listen to the Old Testament, the wonders of God in covenant with his people and to the New Testament, the life of Jesus in the gospels, the Acts of the Apostles, and the letters of Paul and other apostles/disciples (CCC 1349)
- p. understand that at Mass, which is the celebration of the Eucharist, we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus, give thanks, and receive Jesus in communion and that the Eucharist is a sacrifice because it *represents* (makes present) the sacrifice of the cross, because it is its *memorial* and because it *applies* its fruit (CCC 1355, 1358-1360, 1366)
- q. realize that our Church teaches that the bread and wine, by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the words of the priest become the Body and Blood of Christ, who is really and mysteriously made present (CCC 1357-1358)
- r. realize that the whole Christ is truly, really, present in the fullest sense in the Eucharist (CCC 1374)
- s. understand that heaven is promised to those who love and obey God; in heaven we will see God and be happy with God forever (CCC 1023-1024, 1821, 2796)
- t. explain that Mary is truly “Mother of God” and our Mother, and that devotion to Mary is part of our Catholic tradition (CCC 509, 971)

# 2 Liturgical Education

Christ is present in the sacraments. The believer comes to know Christ intimately in the liturgical celebrations of the Church. Christ's saving action in the Paschal Mystery is celebrated in the sacraments. This is especially true in regard to the Eucharist. Catholics experience the closest communion with Jesus on earth that is possible when they receive his living Body and his Precious Blood in Holy Communion. Catechesis should promote an active, conscious and genuine participation in the liturgy of the Church and an understanding of the doctrinal truths of the Creed which are its foundation. (cf. NDC p. 60)

Children being catechized in Second Grade will:

- a. explain, in an age appropriate manner, the liturgical year (CCC 1163-1171)
- b. explain the meaning of the season of Advent and the season of Christmas (CCC 524-526)
- c. explain the meaning of the season of Lent and Easter (CCC 540, 569-572, 1172-1173 )
- d. demonstrate the ability to approach the sacrament of Penance and seek forgiveness (CCC 1484)
- e. understand that God calls us through the Church to regular reception of the sacrament of Penance (CCC 1457-1458)
- f. demonstrate the ability to receive Holy Communion reverently during Mass (CCC 1355)
- g. participate at Mass by e.g., attention to singing, responses, readings, signing at the gospel, listening to the Eucharistic prayer, saying the Our Father, joining in the sign of peace (CCC 1345-1347, 1438-1455)
- h. understand that God obliges us to keep holy the Lord's Day which we do, in part, by attending Mass each Sunday (CCC 1193, 1389)
- i. realize the importance of the church i.e., a place where Catholics gather to pray and celebrate the sacraments, especially the Eucharist, by visits to the church to become familiar with e.g., the altar, sacred vessels, vestments (liturgical colors), baptismal font, confessional, tabernacle, statues (CCC 1181-1186, 1379, 1408-1409)
- j. know about and celebrate some feasts of Mary, the Mother of God, as they occur in the liturgical year, e.g.,
  - Nativity of Mary, September 8
  - Immaculate Conception, December 8
  - Our Lady of Guadalupe, December 12
  - Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God, January 1
  - Annunciation of the Lord, March 25 (CCC 1172, 1195, 2177)

- k. know about and celebrate some feasts of the saints e.g.,
  - St. Therese of the Child Jesus, October 1
  - Guardian Angels, October 2
  - All Saints, November 1
  - St. Martin de Porres, November 3
  - St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, January 4
  - St. John Neumann, January 5
  - St. Francis DeSales, Patron/Diocese of Wilmington, January 24
  - St. Katharine Drexel, March 3
  - St. Joseph, March 19
  - Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha, July 14 (CCC 1173, 1195, 2030)

## 3 Moral Formation

■ Catechesis must transmit the content of Christ’s moral teachings and conform the believer to Christ through personal transformation and conversion. It should encourage the faithful to give witness to Christ and His Church’s teaching in everyday life. As Catholics, we are called to carry the values of the Gospel and the teaching of our Church into the public square. (cf. NDC p. 61)

**Children being catechized in Second Grade will:**

- a. understand that our life is a gift from God and that we must care for our life and the lives of others (CCC 1996, 2258)
- b. understand that we grow in mind, body and spirit in Christ (CCC5, 1254, 1308)
- c. understand that God teaches us to be kind and loving to our friends and neighbors, those who are different and those who are like us (CCC 1697, 1700)
- d. understand, in an age appropriate way, the love, respect and obedience children should show in the family (CCC 2214, 2216-2217)
- e. realize that we should respect and care for God’s gift of creation (CCC 299, 2402)
- f. know that conscience is a voice within our hearts where God has written his law calling us to love and to choose to do what is good and avoid evil (CCC 1776)
- g. understand that sin is an offense against God (CCC 1850)
- h. identify that mortal sin destroys the life of God within us by a grave violation of God’s law, we lose sanctifying grace, are no longer in full union with the Church but remain children of God and members of the Church; the Sacrament of Penance is for all sinful members of the Church especially those who have fallen into grave sin (CCC 1855-1859, 1861, 1446)
- i. identify that venial sin is a less serious offense but weakens our relationship with God and others (CCC 1855, 1862-1863)

- j. recognize that receiving Holy Communion increases union with the Lord, forgives venial sin, and helps to preserve us from mortal sin (CCC 1416)
- k. realize the difference between situations of accident or carelessness and deliberate moral choice (CCC 387, 1860)

## 4 Teaching to Pray

■ Conversion to Christ and communion with him lead the faithful to his disposition of prayer and reflection. Jesus' entire life, death and Resurrection were an offering to the Father. The Our Father is the prayer that Jesus taught us to pray and the model of all Christian prayer. The handing on of the Our Father is a summary of the whole Gospel and a true act of catechesis. The most effective catechesis is permeated by a climate of prayer. (cf. NDC p. 61)

Children being catechized in Second Grade will:

- a. understand that prayer is a gift from God, the raising of our hearts and minds to God and a relationship with God (CCC 2559, 2564)
- b. understand, in an age appropriate manner, that there are different forms of prayer:
  - adoration (blessing) (CCC 2628)
  - supplication (petition, intercession, contrition) (CCC 2629, 2631, 2634)
  - thanksgiving (gratitude) (CCC 2637)
  - praise (CCC 2639)
- c. know that the Our Father has a special place in the prayers of the church and in the Mass and that this prayer is found in the New Testament. Luke 11:2-4; Matthew 6:9-13, (CCC 2773-2776)
- d. understand that there are other prayers in the Bible and prayers that are based on the Scriptures: e.g.,
  - The Lord is my Shepherd, Psalm 23: 1-6
  - Shout joyfully to God, all you on earth; sing his glorious name; give him glorious praise, Psalm 66:1-2
  - Hail Mary, Luke 1:26-33
  - My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior, Luke 1:47 (CCC 2697, 2757, 2759)
- e. understand that daily prayer e.g., before and after meals, before bedtime, before an automobile trip, is a way of life for Christians (CCC 2659-2660)
- f. know that prayer may be said at anytime or place but special places for prayer are the home, Church and in classes where we learn about God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit (CCC 2743, 2659-2660; NDC p.203)

- g. learn/review the following prayers; the Church teaches: “The memorization of basic prayers offers an essential support to the life of prayer, but it is important to help learners savor their meaning.” (CCC 2688)
- Sign of the Cross
  - Our Father
  - Hail Mary
  - Glory Be
  - Act of Contrition
  - Grace before and after Meals
  - Morning Prayer and Prayer at bedtime
  - Angel of God
  - Introduction to the Rosary (this is a lengthy prayer for children of this age yet since many receive a rosary at the time of First Communion some introduction seems appropriate)
  - Introduction to the Stations of the Cross

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Note: See Appendices of this curriculum and of *Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church*.

## 5 Education for Community Life

■ Jesus said to his disciples: “Love one another as I have loved you.” (John 13:34) This command guides the disciple’s life in the Catholic Church and global community. Catechesis should encourage: a) an apprenticeship in Catholic living b) a spirit of simplicity and humility c) special concern for the poor d) care for the alienated and the immigrant stranger e) fraternal correction and love f) common prayer and g) mutual forgiveness. Members of the Body of Christ receive special graces and gifts to help build up the Church. Ecumenical charity and sensitivity as well as a zeal for unity among Christians are emphasized. (cf. NDC p. 61)

Children being catechized in Second Grade will:

- a. know that Jesus commands us to love God and love our neighbor, John 13:34-35, Luke 10:25-28
- b. understand that common prayer, Matthew 18:19, inclusive of family prayer, is a way of life for Christians (CCC 2685, 2694, 2696)
- c. understand that when other children are doing something wrong we should tell them to stop or tell parents/teachers (CCC 1829)
- d. know that we can make choices and our choices effect the lives of others (CCC 1800)
- e. realize that we must forgive others when they express sorrow for having hurt us and we must say we are sorry and ask forgiveness when we have hurt another person, Matthew 18:22 (CCC 1657, 2227, 2840, 2845)
- f. realize that Jesus founded the Catholic Church that we might all be one and at the same time to understand that not everyone is a

Catholic and that some of our relatives, playmates and neighbors may worship in other Christian denominations that believe in Jesus Christ (CCC 816, 818)

- g. recognize that God has entrusted to all human beings responsibility for the world and all its creatures (CCC 373)
- h. understand that along with others in our family, parish, school and neighborhood, we practice the charity of the Lord in good works and love for all especially the poor (CCC 2179)

## 6 Missionary Initiation

■ Catechesis seeks to form disciples of Christ who bear witness to their Catholic faith in society. A missionary spirit of evangelization is cultivated and nourished by the teaching and attitudes of Jesus Christ. Every means should be used to encourage vocations to the Priesthood and religious life and to awaken special missionary vocations. Catechesis recognizes that other religious traditions reflect the “seeds of the Word” that can allow for both “inter-religious dialogue” and “evangelization.” (cf. GDC 86)

Children being catechized in Second Grade will:

- a. realize that Jesus asks us to share the Good News of the Gospel and our Catholic faith with those we meet; (for this age such sharing would be mainly to relatives and friends) (CCC 905)
- b. understand that when we receive Holy Communion we receive the Body and Blood of Christ which strengthens us to share our faith with others (CCC 1396)
- c. understand that the Church asks us to pray for vocations to the priesthood, and to the different forms of consecration to God in religious and apostolic life, Luke 10:1-2 (CCC 1587, 1595, 1986)
- d. learn that many priests heard the call of God to priesthood as young boys and that if that call is heard, they should pray about it and talk to their parents and a priest about the priesthood (CCC 1589, 2253)
- e. realize that many people in the parish assist the priest at Mass as altar servers, lectors, cantors, extraordinary ministers of communion, ushers, and that someday they too, may assist at Mass (CCC 897, 903)
- f. realize that wherever they are: school, home, church, playground, stores, houses of friends/relatives, they are followers of Jesus and their behavior should show that they are Christians (CCC 2013)
- g. recognize that we call Jesus the Prince of Peace and Jesus’ words “Blessed are the Peacemakers”, Matthew 5:9, call all to foster peace in the various situations of their lives (CCC 2305)

Scripture  
References  
for Catechists/  
Parents and  
for Stories  
the Children  
Can Tell

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(use similar list  
from First Grade  
for scripture texts  
relating to Life of  
Jesus)

Exodus Chapters 19 and 20	...The Ten Commandments given to Moses (use brief excerpts)
Luke 10:25-28; Matthew 22:34-40	...Jesus' Great Commandment
John 13:34-35	...Love One Another
Luke 15:3-7	...The Lost Sheep
Luke 15:8-10	...The Lost Coin
Luke 15:11-32	...Prodigal Son and Loving Father
John 20:19-23	...The Gift of Penance
Luke 11:2-4; Matthew 6:9-13	...The Our Father
Mark 14:22-25; Matthew 26:26-29; Luke 22:15-20; 1Corinthians 11:23-26	...Last Supper, Institution of the Eucharist