

What Every Catholic Should Know

Foundational Religious Education Lessons

The journey to knowing God and having an intimate relationship with Him is deeply personable. While God calls everyone to know Him, our response to His call is our own. Some grow up in the Church, hear God's call clearly, and respond with abundant love and worship. Others grow up in the Church, hear God's call muddled through life's events, and slowly grow in their response over time. Still others do not grow up in the Church, do not hear God's call, but discover God's call through works of mercy by others or by God sending a loud and clear message.

Whichever way God called you, His call led you to these religious education lessons. These lesson plans focus on the Catholic Catechism, the basic teachings of Catholic faith and Catholic religion. They are not deep theological discussions into the wonders and mysteries of God. The content of these lessons will create a strong Catholic foundation on which further adult faith formation can be built. Before understanding the doctors of the Church and Papal encyclicals, one must know the Catholic foundations.

All Bible links are to the New American Bible Revised Edition
All video links are to YouTube.

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Section: What Is Catholic?

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "What Is Catholic?"

"The Church is not a museum for saints, but a hospital for sinners." - Pope Francis
Being Catholic means to believe God became man, died, rose, ascended to heaven, then sent the Holy Spirit and handed over the whole enterprise to some fishermen from the middle of nowhere and a tentmaker.

Reading

- Reading: Parable of the wedding garment ([Matthew 22:1-14](#))
 - Who is invited to the kingdom of heaven?
 - God is inviting you to the wedding and is giving you the garment, faith, to put on.
 - Will you accept God's gift of faith?
 - What happens to people who do not accept the gift of faith?

Lesson

What's Catholic? - <https://youtu.be/mm0FVsz7fXM>

- Who established the Catholic Church, and who leads it?
- What do Catholics believe?
- What makes Catholics different from Jews, Muslims, and Protestants?
- How does the Catholic religion help your faith?

What Are Sacraments? - <https://youtu.be/C5KfJbCAwdc>

- What is the definition of a sacrament?
- What do sacraments do for us?
- What are the origins of the sacraments?

Liturgical Year - <https://youtu.be/tS8d71oHOX0>

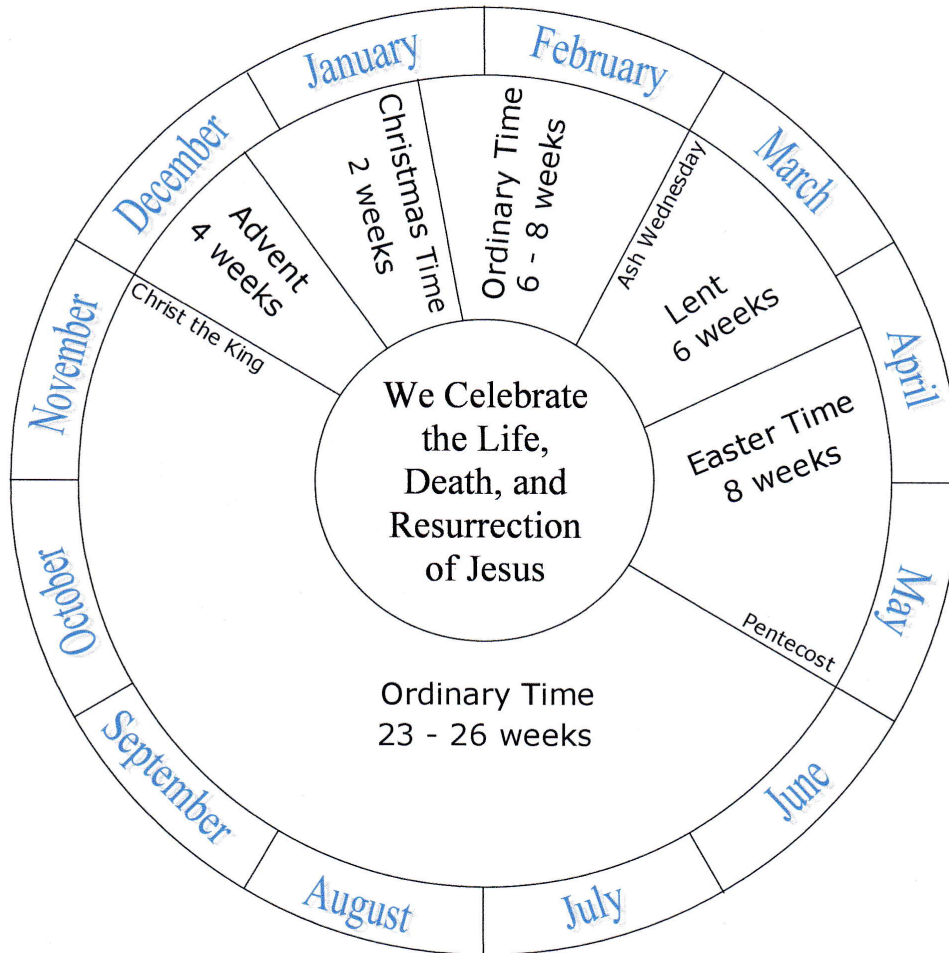
- What are the seasons of the liturgical year, and what are their colors?
- Why does each season have a different color?
- How many weeks in Advent? What ends Advent?
- What is the first day of Lent called? How many days in Lent?
- What is the most important day of the Catholic year?

Vocabulary

Pope	sacraments	Ordinary time
Bishop	Diocese	creed
Priest	catholic	Lent
Advent	Easter	

Notes:

The Liturgical Year



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Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Catholic Basics"

What is the story of salvation? What happens to us after we die? Where do we go? More importantly, why? If there is an afterlife, why care about life on earth? Catholics believe in the resurrection, that there is an afterlife, and that what you do on earth will determine your afterlife.

Reading

- Reading: Choose good or evil (Ben Sira 15:11-20)
 - When God created humans, what gift did God give to us?
 - Does God force people to choose or to act?

Lesson

Story of Salvation - https://youtu.be/7_CGP-12AE0

- Why did Adam and Eve choose not to partner with God?
- What does God promise to Abraham?
- Why did God send Jesus?
- What happens at the end of the salvation story?

Being Human - <https://youtu.be/B0Qm3a9sQQw>

- What makes humans different from animals?
- How does being made in the likeness of God relate to eternal life?
- What does it mean to freely love and to freely receive love?
- How does science, technology, engineering, arts, and math bring us closer to God?

Life After Life - <https://youtu.be/aFLhl4brJI>

- What happens after we die?
- Are heaven and hell real places?
- Do you have to believe in Jesus to go to heaven?

Vocabulary

heaven

hell

purgatory

free will

soul

sin

eternity

Image of God

salvation

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “What Catholics Believe”

Like a good dad, God faithfully believes in you, cares for you, loves you, and forgives you. But do you faithfully believe in God? What do Christians really believe? Do these beliefs impact your life? For the persecuted, martyred, and sainted, these beliefs impacted their lives in ways they could never imagine. To be truly Christian means to reject acedia: the laziness and sadness that rises up when you recognize your responsibility to become a saint. Being a follower of Jesus is to embrace your Christian beliefs no matter the worldly outcome.

Reading

- Reading: God’s Faithfulness ([Numbers 14:11-20](#))
 - In spite of all the signs performed by God, do you refuse to believe in Him?
 - Why does God have relentless faithfulness to you despite your sins?
 - How is God showing His glory by not giving up on us?

Lesson

Nicene Creed - <https://youtu.be/aBaiMWrX9v4>

- Why did Christians create a creed?
- What are the four elements that we believe?
- What does enhancing the Apostles Creed tell you about the Church and Science?

The Lord’s Prayer - https://youtu.be/w2ysPSuz7_U

- Why was this prayer so revolutionary at the time?
- What 3 things do we praise God?
- What 4 things do we ask God to do for us?

Hail Mary - https://youtu.be/Rm_VCy9LncE

- Is this prayer based on scripture?
- Why is Mary called Theotokos, “the God-bearer”?
- Why do we ask Mary to pray for us now? And at the hour of our death?

Vocabulary

Nicene Creed
Our Father
Hail Mary

Notes:

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of
the Virgin Mary,
and became man.
For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day

in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the
Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the
giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the
Son,
who with the Father and the Son is
adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of
the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Lord's Prayer (Our Father)

Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done, On earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread, And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Heaven, Purgatory, and Hell”

What happens to us after we die? Where do we go? More importantly, why? If there is an afterlife, why care about life on earth? Catholics believe in resurrection, that there is an afterlife, and that what you choose, what you do, on earth will determine your afterlife: go to heaven, go to purgatory, or go to hell.

Readings

- Reading #1: Resurrection ([Luke 20:27-38](#))
 - Is the heavenly life similar to life on earth but only better?
 - Is God the god of the living and the dead?

Lesson

Eternal Life? - <https://youtu.be/uCOyclMyJZM>

- What is meant by “eternal life”
- How is heaven vs hell a choice between life on God’s terms and life on our terms?
- How can we experience heaven on earth?

What You Should Know About Purgatory? - <https://youtu.be/GnwDDsN6ZfM>

- Why is purgatory necessary?
- Can souls that are not in heaven hear and benefit from our prayers?
- Are souls in purgatory saved?

Hell Is for Real - <https://youtu.be/7-hTfkMrET0>

- What is hell?
- Why do our choices, our free will matter?
- If there is no hell, is there meaning in life?

Do All Good People Go to Heaven - <https://youtu.be/TT4JAxfhgcQ>

- Is it easy to get to heaven?
- How can you better your chances to get to heaven?
- Can people who are righteous but not believe in Jesus go to heaven?

Vocabulary

heaven	last judgment
hell	soul
purgatory	free will
	eternal life

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Lent"

"There is a way that appears to be right to man, but in the end it leads to death." (Proverbs 16:25) The season of Lent starts on Ash Wednesday and is a time for us to grow spiritually, to get closer to God, and to prepare ourselves to celebrate Easter, Jesus' resurrection. Lent is 40 days because 40 is a biblical symbol meaning a period of trial, testing, and preparation. Lent ends with Holy Week and Jesus' crucifixion. But that is not the end of Jesus' story.

Reading

- Reading: Last Supper ([Matthew 26:17-30](#))
 - Who will betray Jesus?
 - Where do we hear these words at Mass?

Lesson

Lent - <https://youtu.be/QJBMw2pQZiA>

- How many days is Lent?
- Why do Catholics celebrate Lent?
- Why do Catholics give up something for Lent?
- Why do Catholics abstain from meat on Fridays?

Don't Give Anything Up for Lent - https://youtu.be/IH1CMXYPi_w

- Why should you be careful about giving up things for Lent?
- What should you do during Lent?

The Resurrection - <https://youtu.be/Vb24Lk1Oh5M>

- What did the Jews think the Messiah would do?
- How did the Messiah "free" the people who follow God?
- What is real power according to Jesus?
- Why is Easter the most important day for Christians?

Pentecost - <https://youtu.be/JQhkWmFJKnA>

- What happened on Pentecost, and how did that change the Church?
- Who was the first martyr, and which later important person was there to see it?

Vocabulary

Lent	Christ's passion (Stations of the Cross)	Judas
fasting	Palm Sunday	Good Friday
Ash Wednesday	Holy Thursday	Resurrection
Easter		Pentecost

Notes:

Section: Who Is God?

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Who Is God?”

The Bible tells us that God can create something out of nothing by just speaking (willing) it into existence. Why would someone with that much power want a relationship with you? Because God created you, and it is His will that you exist. And God loves His creation.

Reading

- Reading: For God so loved the world ([John 3:16-21](#))
 - Why did Jesus come into the world?
 - Who will have eternal life with God?

Lesson

Who Is God? - https://youtu.be/bxv_8kW9ij4

- Is God a person, place, or thing?
- What does it mean: “I am who am”?
- Why did God create the universe?
- How did Jesus change our understanding of God?

Who Is Jesus? - <https://youtu.be/sOIMrXIM6u4>

- Did Jesus really exist, and if so, how do we know?
- How does the belief in Jesus distinguish Christians from Jews and Muslims?
- Why is Jesus’ resurrection so important to Christianity?

The Holy Spirit - <https://youtu.be/iUFdHxBXM44>

- Are there references to the Holy Spirit in the Bible?
- What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit?
- Why should you ask for the Holy Spirit’s help?

The Trinity - <https://youtu.be/wkYM9OvX7f8>

- How many persons are in God?
- How does love help describe The Trinity?

Vocabulary

Yahweh	Holy Spirit
Father	Jesus
Trinity	Son of God

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Who Is Jesus?"

Jesus is called Emmanuel which means "God with us". Christians believe God became human to teach us himself how to have the best relationship with God and with each other: How to live a life so pleasing to God that God will give you eternal life. We believe God created the universe out of nothing, so why is it hard to believe God became human?

Readings

- Reading #1: The Lord Will Be Israel's Shepherd ([Ezekiel 34:1-16](#))
 - Why do sheep need a shepherd?
 - Who were the the shepherds and what did they do wrong?
 - What does God promise to do?
- Reading #2: The Good Shepherd ([John 10:7-18](#))
 - How does this reading compare to Ezekiel 34:1-16?
 - What does Jesus promise to do?

Lesson

Messiah - <https://youtu.be/3dEh25pduQ8>

- What is the salvation story?
- How is the Messiah central to the salvation story?

Jesus - Early Life and Ministry - <https://youtu.be/rSVzBCtw09Q>

- Where was Jesus born?
- Can you describe one of Jesus' miracles?
- What were the main messages of Jesus' teachings?

Last Week of Jesus' Life (Holy Week) - <https://youtu.be/PU1S2YLU8E>

- What do we recall on Palm Sunday?
- What do we recall on Holy Thursday?
- What do we recall on Good Friday?
- What do we celebrate on Easter Sunday

Who Is Jesus? - <https://youtu.be/4Y4xacvLUXo>

- Why do we believe Jesus is God?
- Why is it not impossible for God to become man?
- Who do you say Jesus was?

Vocabulary

The Good Shepherd
The Cross

Messiah
Salvation story

Notes:

Timeline of Jesus

1. Jesus is incarnated (God made man)
2. Jesus is born in Bethlehem to Mary and Joseph
3. Jesus grows up in Nazareth
4. Jesus is tested in the wilderness
5. Jesus is baptized by John the Baptist (**Baptism**)
6. Jesus turns water into wine (first miracle) (**Marriage**)
7. Jesus chooses his 12 disciples (**Holy Orders**)
8. Jesus gives Sermon on the Mount (**Reconciliation**)
9. Jesus feeds 5000 with a couple of loaves and fishes
10. Jesus is transfigured (shown as God)
11. Jesus raises Lazarus (**Anointing of Sick**)
12. Jesus enters Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)
13. Jesus celebrates the Last Supper (**Eucharist**)
14. Jesus is betrayed by Judas and arrested
15. Jesus suffers under Pontius Pilate
16. Jesus is crucified and buried (Good Friday)
17. Jesus is raised (resurrection) (Easter)
18. Jesus gives the Holy Spirit to the apostles (**Confirmation**)
19. Jesus ascends into heaven
20. Jesus will come again on the last day

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Bible and Old Testament”

The Bible is a religious book that details the love relationship between God and humans to inspire faith. The Bible is a series of stories of God’s relationship with His people: introduction, dating, break up, reconciliation, life long promises (covenants), counseling, and eventually acceptance and growing old together. The Bible provides a human interpretation of who God is, what God likes, what God does not like, and how to live a life that creates a good relationship with God.

Reading

- Reading: Call of Abraham ([Genesis 12:1-7](#))
 - What does God promise Abraham?
 - What major religions trace their origin to Abraham?

Key Concepts - <https://youtu.be/Xm9ugJjpbny>

Book chapter:verse

Read the Bible contextually (not literally)

[Timeline of the Bible](#)

[Numbers in the Bible](#)

Lesson

The Bible - https://youtu.be/_09m12sJuHY

- Who inspired the writers of the Bible?
- How is the Bible a love story between God and his people?
- Are we to interpret the Bible literally?

First 5 Books of Bible - <https://youtu.be/z-WuGfhcCDA>

- Do the Torah and the Bible contain the same books?
- How were these books of the Bible passed down?
- What important biblical stories and events are in these books?

Prophets - <https://youtu.be/1g1gByYQJZA>

- In what section of the Bible do we find stories of the prophets?
- What was the function of a prophet?
- Was the job of a prophet good and glamorous?

Vocabulary

canon of scripture
divinely inspired
allegory
Old Testament

Torah
contextual
oral tradition

Abraham
covenant
prophet

Notes:

Hyksos Period in Egypt – c.1650-1550

Egyptian Slavery



Abraham Called	1926	Jacob Born	1841	Joseph to Egypt	1733	Moses at Sinai	1496	Joshua into Canaan	1456	Era of the Judges	Gideon	Samson	1100	Saul	1060	David
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Assyrian Destruction (Shalmaneser V)

721

Israel
 Jeroboam I 925
 Ahab 885
 Jehu 824
 Elijah & Elisha
 Jonah & Obadiah
 Amos & Hosea

Babylon falls to Medo-Persia – 539 BC

EXILE

Assyria falls to Babylon – 612 BC
 Babylonian Destruction (Nebuchadnezzar)

586

Sennacherib's Campaign – 712 BC
 Manasseh
 Josiah
 1st Deportation
 Nahum, Zephaniah
 Habakkuk, Jeremiah
 Ezekiel & Daniel

Edict of Cyrus 538
 Temple Rebuilt
 Haggai & Zechariah

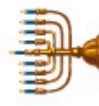
1000 BC	Solomon	1020-980	Rehoboam	919	Jehoshaphat	810	Uzziah	742	Ahaz	726	Hezekiah	697	Manasseh	640	Josiah	605	1 st Deportation	586	Edict of Cyrus	538	Temple Rebuilt	520-16	Haggai & Zechariah
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Seleucid & Ptolemaic Dynasties
 Alexander the Great
 336-323

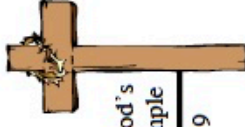


Septuagint
 c.250



Antiochus IV Epiphanes
 Maccabean Revolt
 175-163

Rome
 Conquers Judea
 64



Herod's Temple
 19

500 BC	Esther Made Queen	482	458	Malachi	336-323	321/305	Seleucid & Ptolemaic Dynasties	Alexander the Great	336-323	Septuagint	c.250	Antiochus IV Epiphanes	Maccabean Revolt	175-163	164	Rome	Conquers Judea	64	Herod's Temple	19
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Numbers in the Bible (Numerology)

- 1 Unity
 - One God

- 3 Perfection, Completeness, Holiness
 - Three persons in one God (Trinity)
 - “on third day”
 - Jonah spends 3 days and night in the whale
 - Jesus ministry was 3 years
 - Jesus rose on the 3rd day

- 7 Spiritual perfection
 - After creating world and seeing it was good, God rested on 7th day
 - times to forgive, repent
 - 7 demons left Mary Magdalene when healed by Jesus

- 12 Governmental perfection
 - 12 Tribes of Israel
 - 12 Apostles (needed to elect new apostle after Judas)

- 40 Trials and testings, period of time
 - Rained for 40 days and 40 nights
 - Israel wandered desert 40 days
 - Jesus fasted in wilderness 40 days before begin ministry

- 70 Judgement
 - Jacob’s family enters Egypt as 70 souls
 - 70 elders appointed by Moses
 - Israel spent 70 years in captivity in Babylon
 - Jesus said to forgive 70 x 7

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Bible and New Testament"

The New Testament tells the story of salvation during and after Jesus. Gospel translates to "good news", and Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John heard good news and passed it on...in the 4 gospels. After the four gospels are letters that provide insight into how those who lived with Jesus interpreted his teachings.

Reading

- Reading: Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus ([Luke 16:19-31](#))
 - What event is this parable foreshadowing?
 - How does this parable relate to the Bible?

Lesson

The Gospels - <https://youtu.be/9ne0-XemYIY>

- What's the big deal about 4 books in the Bible?
- Which 4 authors wrote the Gospels?
- What promise did God keep?

Paul's Letters? - <https://youtu.be/0mFtCZyMljY>

- Why is Paul significant to Catholics?
- What do we learn from Paul's letters?

The 12 Apostles - <https://youtu.be/44nsrDNVplA>

- Before meeting Jesus, were the Apostles ordinary or extraordinary people?
- What can we learn from the Apostles?

Parables - https://youtu.be/XX-aAg4_U2Q

- What is a parable?
- Why did Jesus teach using parables?

Vocabulary

gospel	Paul	Peter
incarnation	Mark	Judas
apostle	Luke	
parable	John	
Matthew	New Testament	

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Character of God - Part 1”

Exodus 34:6-7 is the first description of God’s attributes found in the Bible. Here we learn that all of God’s actions are an expression of these attributes: compassion, grace, patience, loyal love, and faithfulness. This list of God’s character traits has been carefully designed to help us see the meaning and importance of each trait in relation to the others.

Reading

- Reading: Exodus 34:1-10
 - Why did Moses break the first set of tablets?
 - How does this act express the character of God?
 - How does your sin punish others?
 - What wonders did God do, and what wonders does he continue to do?

Lesson

Character of God - <https://youtu.be/nxwzq1PJlM>

- How does God’s mercy relate to his passion for justice?
- How does God’s mercy and love balance with his anger at destructive human behavior?
- How is God’s anger a response to evil done to or by his human images?
- Would God be good if he didn’t get angry at evil?
- What is God’s plan to rescue and restore his creation from human evil?

Compassionate - <https://youtu.be/qJEtyAiAQik>

- What comes to mind when you consider God’s compassion for his people being related to a mother’s care for her infant?
- How does God respond when his people return to him in order to follow him?
- What are some of the ways Jesus embodies the compassion of God?
- Describe the ways followers of Jesus are called to live out the same self-giving compassion of God

Gracious - https://youtu.be/ABPVVw_aw44

- When undeserving people cry out for God to be gracious, how does God consistently respond?
- How has God been gracious to you?
- How does Jesus fully embody God’s glorious grace?
- With what attitude do people receive God’s gift of grace?

Slow to Anger - https://youtu.be/TeQ1nq_YJD0

- What expressions are used to describe a patient person?
- Why does it seem that God gives bad people more time on Earth while the good die young?
- Does Jesus’ self-giving love help us see God’s anger toward evil and his patient love for people at the same time?

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Character of God - Part 2"

"I might not always be able to advance my resume, but I can always work on my eulogy, my character." - Fr Mike Schmitz

Reading

- Reading: [Philippians 2:3-15](#)
 - What mindset do we need in order to rule as images of God?
 - What is one way you can shift your mindset to be like God?

Lesson

Loyal Love - https://youtu.be/UfbyFLgs_NM

- What does it mean that God has loyal love for us?
- How has God showed his unconditional love, generosity, and enduring commitment?
- What do you think it means for God's love to be inside of a person?
- How does God's love affect our actions toward those in need?

Faithful - https://youtu.be/HCLuq_5o7_o

- What do you think it practically looks like to trust God when all seems lost?
- How does Jesus embody and fulfill the ancient promises of God?
- How much do you trust God? Describe an example of what it looks like to put your trust in God.

Image of God - <https://youtu.be/YbipxLDtY8c>

- What likeness does God pattern humans after, and what does he bless them to do?
- How do humans forget about their identity as bearers of God's likeness?
- What ends up ruling over humans and how do consequences multiply through generations?
- What does Jesus instruct us to do to rule as image bearers like Jesus?

Justice - <https://youtu.be/A14THPoc4-4>

- Why are humans set apart from the rest of creatures on earth?
- What does God instruct us to do for the vulnerable and why?
- What is an example of how both powerful and vulnerable people might use anger to achieve justice and righteousness?
- What does it mean to be a "good person"?

Notes:

Section: Engaging With God

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Faith"

Faith is more than believing. Faith also is trusting. True faith in God is both believing in God and trusting in God. How much do you trust God with your life's decisions? Faith is the most important ingredient for obtaining eternal life. Jesus does not tell people their religion saves them. Jesus says your faith saves you.

"God doesn't call me to be successful. He calls me to be faithful" - St Teresa

Readings

- Reading: Jesus Heals the Bleeding Woman ([Mark 5:25-34](#))
 - Why did the woman seek Jesus?
 - Why was no one else in the crowd who touched Jesus healed?
 - To Whom do you turn when you have a problem in your life?

Lesson

Faithful - https://youtu.be/HCLuq_5o7_o

- How is God faithful?
- How much do you trust God?

Book of Job - <https://youtu.be/GswSg2ohqmA>

- Was Job a good person?
- Why do bad things happen to Job?
- Does Job reject God?
- What does God tell Job?

Tests From God - <https://youtu.be/sR4AT0LMJ5c>

- Why does God test people?
- How are God's tests opportunities to prove your faith?
- What sacrament grants us forgiveness for failing these tests?
- How does Jesus pass the ultimate test for us?

God Doesn't Care About Your Happiness - <https://youtu.be/xoMAzWQ1Dxo>

- What Bible examples show us good people called by God not being happy?
- What life does God want for us?
- How is joy different from happiness?

Vocabulary

Faith

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Catholic Prayer"

We often approach prayer as if it is a time when "we make" God present to us as if we "invoke" his presence by praying. In reality, God is always present and, when we pray, we make ourselves truly present to him. Prayer is simply talking to God. You talk to your parents and best friends daily. Do you talk to your God daily? Here is a simple daily prayer: "Dear God, I don't know what's going to happen today; but be by my side because you are God and I am not."

Reading

- Reading: The Lord's Prayer ([Matthew 6:5-14](#))
 - Is prayer an external or internal action?
 - Why is prayer not a magic spell?

Lesson

What Is Prayer? - <https://youtu.be/KBZ6DsRwdV8>

- Why does God want you to talk with Him?
- What are the different forms of prayer?
- Are songs in mass prayers?
- Who helps us pray?

Why God Does Not Answer Our Prayers - <https://youtu.be/ABVO8d8Uveo>

- What can be a flaws in our prayer?
- Do we notice when God answers our prayer?
- Do we try to convince God to let our will be done?

The Rosary - <https://youtu.be/M4-6P0KuSGM>

- Why do Catholics pray the Rosary?
- What are the 4 mysteries of the Rosary?

Psalms - <https://youtu.be/UADk6L4RfZU>

- Who wrote most of the psalms?
- When should you consider reading a psalm?

Vocabulary

prayer
Psalms
petition
intercession

Our Father
Hail Mary
Rosary
Glory Be

Mysteries of the rosary
Apostles Creed

Notes:



Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "The Mass"

At mass, Catholics encounter our God in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Jesus is really present in the Eucharist. It is not a symbol nor a memorial action. It is God Himself, the Incarnate that we consume at Mass so we can become what we eat. Why stay away from this personal encounter with your God? If I go to mass and leave the same way I walked in, it's because I didn't offer anything. I didn't give or sacrifice anything to God. I didn't give God access to my fears, my hopes, my weaknesses. I just showed up and watched. Jesus did not sacrifice himself on the cross so that we could just show up and watch.

Reading

- Reading: Holy, holy, holy Lord ([Isaiah 6:1-8](#))
 - Have you ever heard these words before?
 - Does anything in this reading remind you of the Mass?

Lesson

Understanding the Mass - <https://youtu.be/REHhhtRBW-8>

- Why do you go to Mass?
- Why do you miss Mass?

Introductory Rites - <https://youtu.be/l7fix1hIJB0>

- When does the Mass really begin?
- Where are we stepping into during the Mass and with whom are we joining?
- What acts of cleansing happen during the Introductory Rites?

Liturgy of the Word - <https://youtu.be/U5CWlrlzPq0>

- Why is the Old Testament important to hear at Mass?
- In what ways do the Psalms represent human response to God's activity?
- Where is the salvation story told outside of Mass?

Liturgy of the Eucharist - https://youtu.be/cd_o_xMXWs

- Whose words does the priest say during the Consecration of bread and wine?
- Are we remembering the Last Supper or participating in the Last Supper?
- Does receiving the Eucharist forgive your venial sins?
- Why would Pope Francis say the Eucharist is not a prize for the holy, but a medicine for the sick?

Vocabulary

Mass	host	Liturgy of Eucharist
homily	Last Supper	Prayer of the faithful
communion	Sign of peace	Liturgy of the Word

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Methods of Biblical Prayer”

Prayer is talking with God. Catholics developed methods of prayer to help the faithful have a more intimate dialogue with God. The Rosary is the most common method. The Ignatian Meditation and Lectio Divina are methods that use the Bible to help you communicate with and be inspired by God.

Readings

- Reading #1: Answer me when I call to you (Psalm 4)
 - What is the author asking of the Lord?
 - What is the Lord’s response?
- Reading #2: Can a man be of benefit to God? (Job 22:2-3, 21-30)
 - Does God need our prayers?
 - Why do we need to pray to God?

Lesson

Ignatian Meditation - <https://youtu.be/8NS8W3xZeyo>

- What are the steps to the Ignatian Method?
- How can this method of prayer help you communicate with God?

Lectio Divina - <https://youtu.be/lt2iGxLlqNY>

- What are the steps to “Divine Reading”?
- How can this method of prayer help you communicate with God?

Try Ignatian Meditation - <https://www.catholiccentral.com/catholic-central-episodes/praying-with-the-bible> (Matthew 14:13-20)

- With how much food did they start? Is that number significant?
- With how much food did the end? Is that number significant?
- Is there a deeper meaning to the apostles feeding the “hungry” with “food”?

Try Lectio Divina - <https://www.catholiccentral.com/catholic-central-episodes/praying-with-the-bible> (1 Corinthians 13:1-10)

- Does the word “love” stand out?
- Is there a deeper meaning to the word “love”?

Vocabulary (*definition available in the Visions handbook)

Ignation meditation
Lectio Divina

Notes:

Religious Education

Mass In-depth: Liturgy of the Word

At every Mass, the Lamb of God is sacrificed so that our sins are forgiven and we may have eternal life. In preparation for this encounter with our God, we first listen to the story of salvation as inspired by God through the writers of the Bible. We hear about God's relationship with the Jewish people, then about God's ultimate love for us: becoming man, incarnate, to atone for our sins.

Readings

Abraham Tested ([Genesis 22:1-13](#))

- 4000 years ago, Abraham said, "God will provide the lamb for the sacrifice." What does God provide at every Mass?
- How do you mentally and spiritually prepare for the Mass before you arrive? What offerings do you bring to the sacrifice?

Lesson

Introduction (4m) - <https://youtu.be/REHhhtRBW-8>

Introductory Rites (9m) - <https://youtu.be/l7fix1hIJB0>

- When does the Mass really begin?
- Why do we sign ourselves with holy water and show reverence to the altar?
- In your responses during Mass, are you being the worshiper your God deserves?
- What acts of cleansing happen during the Introductory Rites?
- Why do we want to sing the Gloria, the glory of God?
- How do the Introductory Rites prepare us to worship the Living God?

Liturgy of the Word (7m) - <https://youtu.be/U5CWlrlzPq0>

- Why is it important to hear the Word at Mass?
- Why is the Old Testament important to hear at Mass? How does it relate to the Gospel?
- Why do we read or sing a Psalm?
- What can we learn about the Early Church from the second reading?
- Why is the Gospel important to hear at Mass?
- Outside of Mass, where do you hear the story of salvation?

Homily and Creed (6m) - <https://youtu.be/3JJwkRcBimU>

- Why does the priest or deacon give a homily? Why is this not a sermon?
- How does the homily link the Liturgy of the Word with the Liturgy of the Eucharist?
- Why do we recite the creed?
- Why do we think we can ask favors of God in the Prayer of the Faithful?

Notes:

Religious Education

Mass In-depth: Liturgy of the Eucharist

At Mass, Catholics encounter our God in the Eucharist. The Eucharist is the source and summit of our faith. Jesus is really present in the Eucharist. It is not a symbol nor a memorial action. It is God Himself, the Incarnate, that we consume at Mass. You cannot have a more intimate relationship with God than partaking in the Eucharist. Why stay away from this personal, intimate encounter with your God?

Readings

The Sending of Isaiah ([Isaiah 6:1-8](#))

- Does anything in this reading remind you of Mass?
- Are you worthy to encounter your God at Mass?
- Like Isaiah, are you made clean by receiving the Eucharist?

Lesson

Preparation of the Gifts (7m)- <https://youtu.be/ENg2ZSLhrZk>

- What is the spiritual significance of the procession of the gifts?
- What is the significance of saying, "Fruit of the earth and work of human hands"?
- Does God need our sacrifice? Who needs our sacrifice?
- What will God sacrifice in union with our sacrifice?

Eucharistic Prayer and Communion (14m) - https://youtu.be/cd_o_xMXWs

- Are you giving your God thanks and praise during Mass? Or are you just watching?
- How does the Sanctus ("Holy, holy, holy Lord") unite us with the angels and saints?
- At what moment does the priest reveal the trinity nature of God?
- Are we remembering the Last Supper or participating in the Last Supper?
- Why do we rejoice and proclaim "Amen" after the Doxology?
- Does receiving the Eucharist forgive your sins?

Concluding Rite (6m) - <https://youtu.be/wnpP8E3A3rQ>

- Recall Isaiah (6:8). What would Isaiah have missed if he left immediately after receiving the ember from the Seraphim to forgive his sins?
- What does God ask of you after communion?
- Have you ever thought that God is calling you to come to Mass, so you can receive His gift, so He can send you on mission to change the world?

Knowing the Mass (10m) - <https://youtu.be/JxtmkqIAcLk>

- Has the meaning of the Mass changed for you?
- Are you committed to come to Mass prepared to give God your sacrifice?

Notes:

Section: Sacraments

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Sacraments of Baptism and Confirmation"

A sacrament is a visible sign of God's invisible grace. Baptism is the most important sacrament that a Christian can receive as it washes away sins and initiates one into the Body of Christ. Baptism plunges us from being a creature of God, to being a child of God. Baptism is an exorcism where God drives out Satan from the person so the Holy Spirit can dwell. Confirmation is the sacrament of confirming your commitment to Catholicism: saying "yes" to the Holy Spirit and saying "yes" to the Catholic Church. It fortifies the Holy Spirit's dwelling in you.

Reading

- Reading #1: A new covenant (Jeremiah 29:11, 31:31-34)
 - Why will God make a new covenant?
 - What will be God's new covenant?
 - How might the Sacraments of Initiation fulfill this covenant?

Lesson

Water of Life - <https://youtu.be/PgmAkM39Zt4>

- What role does water play in our salvation story as told in the Bible?
- Where in the Bible does water play a theme in the story of salvation?
- How can water be an outward sign of God's invisible grace during Baptism?

Baptism - <https://youtu.be/SKisfEgd3lY>

- What happens spiritually when you are baptized?
- Why is Baptism always the first sacrament?
- What happens during Baptism?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Confirmation - <https://youtu.be/1v-FLo7bcTE>

- What do you receive at Confirmation?
- What happens during Confirmation?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Vocabulary

sacrament chrism
Baptism Confirmation

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline: “The Lamb of God (Sacrament of Eucharist)”

If I go to Mass and leave the same way I walked in, it's because I didn't offer anything. I didn't give or sacrifice anything to God. I didn't give God access to my fears, my hopes, my weaknesses, my sins. I just showed up and watched. Jesus did not sacrifice Himself on the cross so that we could just show up and watch. - Fr Mike Schmitz

“Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.” - The Mass

Reflection

- Why do you go to Mass?
- Why do you miss Mass?
- What are your stumbling blocks regarding Mass?

Reading

I am the bread of life ([John 6:47-69](#))

- Consuming Jesus' flesh and blood. Does this shock you?
- From where would you eat his flesh and drink his blood if not the Eucharist?
- Like some of the disciples, do you also wish to leave due to this teaching?

Lesson

Sacrifice and Atonement (6m)- https://youtu.be/G_OIRWGLdnw

- How is God removing evil from the world?
- Have you really thought of the Mass as a sacrifice of atonement?
- How does sacrificing the Lamb of God, Jesus, take away our sins?
- Did the part about the bread and wine disturb you?

The Disciples Doubted the Eucharist. Do You? (9m) - <https://youtu.be/J6pSp-So00o>

- Have you ever thought about what the Eucharist really is?
- Why is it hard to believe God can perform this miracle? What else are you limiting God?
- What more does God have to do so that you believe?

Eucharistic Miracles (6m) - <https://youtu.be/93cqR-nwl8s>

- What is the purpose of miracles?
- Do these miracles impact your faith?

What You Need to Know About the Mass (14m) - <https://youtu.be/pqw8PkT8lu8>

- Who do we encounter during the Mass, and what does it mean?
- How is the Mass the great call and response between Jesus and His Church?
- God gives us a gift at every sacrament: what is the gift God gives at Eucharist?
- What are you offering to God at Mass, and what is God offering?

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Sacraments of Healing"

"I have gone astray like a lost sheep; seek out your servant for I do not forget your commandments." - Psalm 119:176. Catholics seem to actively avoid the Sacrament of Reconciliation because it causes them to reflect on their humanness, their mortality, and their lack of success of being who they want to be. Jesus himself was tempted, so why do we feel ashamed asking a priest to bestow God's forgiveness on us? I'm sorry that I sinned; please forgive me; I'll try not to sin again. As for Anointing of the Sick, it is the least visible and most misunderstood sacrament.

Readings

- Reading: Parable of the Unmerciful Servant ([Matthew 18:21-35](#))
 - How many times are we to forgive someone?
 - What is the moral message Jesus is telling us?

Lesson

Formation of Conscience - <https://youtu.be/slG07L6pBgs>

- What does it mean to have a conscience?
- How can we form our conscience to make better decisions?

Reconciliation - <https://youtu.be/abVVsG1TGL4>

- Is Reconciliation, Forgiveness, Penance, and Confession the same sacrament?
- Why do Catholics confess to a priest?
- What happens during Reconciliation?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Anointing of the Sick - <https://youtu.be/7EJXgUcWVZM>

- When should you ask for this sacrament?
- How many times can you receive Anointing of the Sick?
- What happens during Anointing of the Sick?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Spirituality and Mental Health - <https://youtu.be/7JYkRe1sFsY>

- How do the sufferings of Jesus give us hope about our own suffering?
- When should a Catholic seek a priest and when to seek a psychologist?

Vocabulary

Reconciliation
sin

penance

Anointing of the Sick

act of contrition

confession

conscience

Last Rites

mortal sin

venial sin

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Sacraments of Service/Vocation”

According to St Irenaeus, “The glory of God is the human person fully alive.” Discerning the purpose of your life can be a lifelong journey. The Catholic Church has two sacraments on vocations: Marriage and Holy Orders. Marriage is one of the most common institutions across every time and culture. For Catholics, marriage is a sacrament: a covenant to love, honor, and live in union with one person for life. Holy Orders is the sacrament through which the mission entrusted by Jesus to his apostles continues to live in the Church. Through this sacrament, the Church has deacons, priests, and bishops.

Reading

- Reading: Parable of the Talents ([Matthew 25:14-30](#))
 - Why is the Master angry with the man who buried his gift?
 - What does God want you to do with the gifts He has given to you?

Lesson

Purpose and Meaning of Life - <https://youtu.be/XBNgjXLYOiE>

- Why is prayer important to uncovering your purpose in life?
- What are other ways to uncover your purpose in life?
- Why did God put you in the world?

Marriage - <https://youtu.be/4wEhi7cM8IM>

- How is a Catholic marriage different from a civil marriage?
- What is meant by marriage covenant?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Holy Orders - <https://youtu.be/9TZy0C0VHjE>

- What is the difference between a priest and a deacon?
- Who can receive Holy Orders?
- When did Jesus institute this sacrament?

Discerning God’s Plan For Your Life - <https://youtu.be/80mslR5Zs6s>

- How do you know if you are called to religious life?
- What can women do who are called to religious life?

Vocabulary

Marriage	civil marriage
Holy Orders	marriage covenant
annulment	discernment
nun/sister	deacon

Notes:

Section: Living Christianity

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “God’s Plan to Overcome Evil”

We are created in God’s image which means we have free will. Free will means we freely choose between right and wrong. Your choice depends on your morality. The Catholic religion helps one understand what is good and bad in the eyes of God so you can make the right choice. For God plans to overcome evil in the world by you making the right choices.

Reading

- Reading: Original sin ([Genesis 3:1-7](#))
 - Why are Adam and Eve’s eyes open after they eat from the tree of knowledge?
 - What does this biblical story tell you about sin?

Lesson

Forces of Evil - <https://youtu.be/bsleuJ-QtYQ>

- What does it mean when Catholics talk about evil?
- In what ways does Satan, the force of evil, work on people?

The Problem of Evil - <https://youtu.be/ZthdArvhOu4>

- What are consequences for humans having free will, good and bad?
- Is God with you when you suffer?
- How does eternal life change the perspective of suffering?

Image of God - <https://youtu.be/YbipxLDtY8c>

- Who is commissioned to develop the world?
- How has this human vocation been compromised by our selfishness?
- How did Jesus open up a new way of being human through his life, death, and resurrection?

Is it a Sin? - <https://youtu.be/ZGsm9KOPpS8>

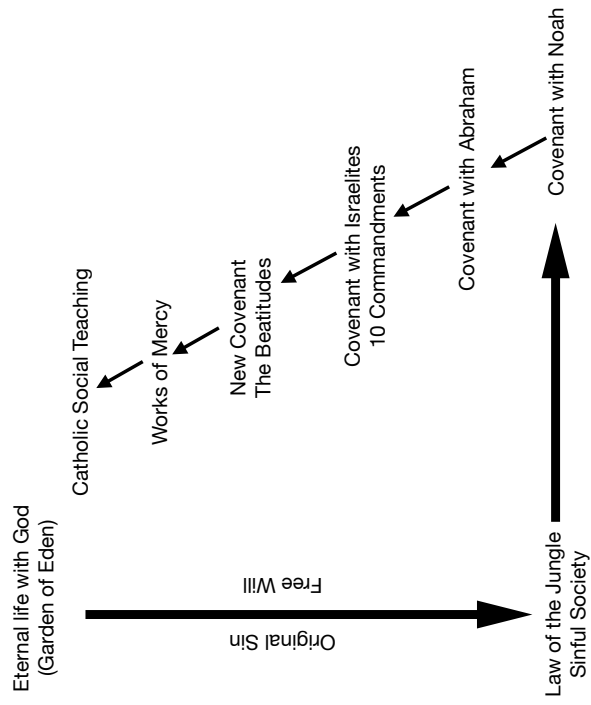
- What makes something a mortal sin?
- For an action to be a sin, why are intentions and circumstances important factors?
- Is there a sin so great that God would not forgive it?

Vocabulary

sin	Satan
mortal sin	Devil
venial sin	angels
Adam & Eve	Garden of Eden
temptation	

Notes:

Story of Salvation



“I will give them a heart to know me, that I am the Lord. They shall be my people and I will be their God, for they shall return to me with their whole heart.”

- Jeremiah 24:7

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “10 Commandments”

Many times in the Old Testament, God says He chose the Israelites to be a holy people to God. The Lord chose them out of all the peoples of the earth to be His people, His treasured possession, and He would be their God. All He asked for in return was their devotion and to keep His commandments. Although the Israelites looked forward to the coming messiah, the prophets continually pointed out how they rejected God, His commandments, and His works of mercy.

Readings

- Reading #1: 10 Commandments ([Exodus 20:1-21](#))
 - In a time of natural law and brutality, how are these commandments revolutionary?
 - What countries in the world follow these laws?
 - Why did the people “remain at a distance”?

Lesson

Covenants - <https://youtu.be/6v4jKkFj3TI>

- How is a covenant more than a promise?
- What did God promise to give the Israelites in return for their worship and obedience?
- How did Jesus restore the covenants and create the new covenant?

Biblical Law - <https://youtu.be/Sew1kBle-W0>

- What was the first divine command and why was it given?
- Holiness means “to set apart”. How does following The Law make one holy?
- Were the Israelites different from Adam and Eve? Are you and I different?

10 Commandments - https://youtu.be/3U4B_ZQ5Mw

- To whom did God give the 10 commandments?
- What are the two groups of commandments?
- How are the 10 Commandments a good moral code?

Vocabulary

covenant
10 Commandments
Law of Moses
morality

Notes:

Ten Commandments

1. Love your God with all your heart, soul, and mind

- Trust God. Worship God. Pray to God. Be obedient to God.
- Superstitions, horoscopes, tarot cards, and black magic are forms of idolatry.
- Since God became man, the veneration of sacred images is permitted.

2. Do not take the name of the Lord in vain

- Do not swear.
- The name of the Lord is holy, so treat it as holy and reverent.
- Do not ask God to punish your neighbor.

3. Remember to keep the sabbath day holy

- Reserve time on Sunday to worship God.
- Avoid activities that cause you to miss worship of God on Sunday.
- Avoid making unnecessary demands and work on Sundays.

4. Honor your father and mother

- Marriage is a covenant between a man and a woman who are open to having children.
- It is the parents' duty to provide as far as possible the physical and spiritual needs of kids.
- Governments are to respect the fundamental rights of the human person.

5. Do not murder

- Do not be angry with your neighbor.
- Life is sacred from conception to death.
- Do not tempt your neighbor to sin, which leads to spiritual death.

6. Do not commit adultery

- Do not look at your neighbor with lust.
- Sexual relations are to be between a married couple.
- Avoid situations that jeopardize one's chastity to one's spouse or to self.

7. Do not steal

- The goods of creation are for the public good.
- Slavery is wrong.
- Take care of the poor and the outcast.

8. Do not lie

- Do not be ashamed of testifying to one's faith.
- Testify to the truth by showing oneself true in deeds and words.
- The golden rule helps one discern whether it is better to be silent than to reveal the truth.

9. Do not desire your neighbor's spouse

- Respect your neighbor's marriage.
- Purify your thoughts.
- Practice modesty in dress, words, and actions.

10. Do not desire your neighbor's goods

- Avoid greed arising from a desire for riches or power.
- Do not envy your neighbor.
- Do not be attached to material goods.

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "The Beatitudes"

God created us in his image, which means we are "God like". God wants us to be "God like" by treating others the way God treats us: love your neighbor, help your neighbor, forgive your neighbor, be merciful to your neighbor. "There is a way that appears to be right to man, but in the end it leads to death." (Proverbs 16:25)

Readings

- Reading: Parable of the Good Samaritan ([Luke 10:25-37](#))
 - Why is this story so important about being a Christian?
 - How can following the 10 Commandments still cause you to sin?

Lesson

The Law - https://youtu.be/3BGO9Mmd_cU

- Why did "The Law" set the Jews apart from the rest of the nations around them?
- What was the cycle of the laws and the Israelites?
- How did Jesus fulfill the Law?

Sermon on the Mount - <https://youtu.be/4l1ABgBRjZ4>

- Why is the sermon on the mount so important to being Catholic?
- Did Jesus change the law of Moses?
- How are these God's ways and not man's ways?

The Beatitudes - <https://youtu.be/XHmTcxYHzy8>

- In what ways can wealth, pleasure, power, and honor isolate us from God?
- What does it mean to..
 - Be poor in spirit? Mourn? Be meek? To hunger and thirst for justice? Be merciful?
 - Be pure in heart? Be a peacemaker? Be persecuted for God's sake?
- How is living the Beatitudes living like Jesus?

What Is Love? - <https://youtu.be/hF3gfubWemo>

- How does English limit our understanding of the word "love"?
- Why is God's love a sacrificial love?

Vocabulary

Beatitudes	morality
Sermon on the mount	agape love

Notes:

The 8 Beatitudes - “Be” Attitude

Be...

21. Poor in Spirit - **Be humble** before God. Do not be attached to material things.
22. Be Mournful - **Ask God** for help. Do not be addicted to good feelings.
23. Meek - **Have self-control** like Jesus. Do not be addicted to worldly power.
24. Hungry and Thirsty for Justice - **Use faith** to act on God’s will. Do not be addicted to the status quo.
25. Merciful - **Forgive** sinners and provide compassion. Do not be addicted to laws and rules.
26. Pure in Heart - **Be ready** to do acts that please God. Do not be addicted to free will.
27. Peacemaker - **Find God** by reconciling yourself and others with God. Do not be addicted to self.
28. Persecuted For Sake of Justice - **Follow the commandments** even if they bring teasing or bullying. Do not be addicted to worldly honor.

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "Works of Mercy"

Faith is not a spectator sport. The Bible tells us that you are God's favorite medium to communicate his love and mercy to the world. That is, Jesus wants to touch people through our love, through our works of mercy. Jesus wants us to be his voice and his hands, bringing his gifts to those in need. Love others as Jesus loves you. For to love is to will the good of another, both bodily and spiritually. The works of mercy are hard. If they were easy, we wouldn't call them "works".

Reading

- Reading: For I Was Hungry ([Matthew 25:31-46](#))
 - Why do Catholics focus so much on "mercy"?
 - How is performing these actions being "God-like" to other people?

Lesson

Compassionate - <https://youtu.be/qJEtyAiAQik>

- What comes to mind when you consider God's compassion for his people being related to a mother's care for her child?
- How does God respond when his people return to him in order to follow him?
- What are some of the ways Jesus embodies the compassion of God?
- Describe the ways followers of Jesus are called to live out the same self-giving compassion of God

The Last Will Be First - <https://youtu.be/n-UenIDevpl>

- How does the world traditionally view power?
- How did God challenge this worldly belief?
- How did Jesus redefine the definition of power?

Corporal Works of Mercy - <https://youtu.be/FfWEUw0iwAQ>

- Why is serving others core to being Catholic?
- What are some ways you can serve others daily?

Spiritual Works of Mercy - <https://youtu.be/LNqxp4j4L7c>

- Why is helping others spiritually core to being Catholic?
- What are some ways we can help others spiritually?

Vocabulary

mercy
corporal works of mercy
spiritual works of mercy

Notes:

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Give food to the hungry

- Give food to a beggar
- Donate to a food drive/pantry
- Volunteer to make/serve food in a shelter

Give drink to the thirsty

- Donate water to a shelter or in an emergency situation
- Donate to help build wells for water for those in need
- Do not waste water

Shelter the homeless

- Donate unused furniture and bedding
- Invite people you know to stay with you when they are in need (traveling, in an emergency)
- Donate time or money to shelters

Clothe the naked

- Donate unused clothes
- Support a coat drive
- Donate baby items for moms in need

Comfort the sick

- Help someone with their medicine or with their medical bills
- Visit someone who is sick
- Give blood

Visit the imprisoned

- Visit someone in prison
- Send a care package to someone in prison
- Visit someone who is hospitalized or is in residential care

Bury the dead

- Attend funerals and visitations
- Send a card or visit the family to comfort them
- Visit a gravesite to pray

The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Counsel the doubtful

- Point someone to a good decision
- Willingly explain things
- Encourage someone to talk to an expert

Instruct the ignorant

- Teach knowledge and skills to others
- Share your faith with others
- Be patient with others

Admonish the sinner

- Warn others before they sin
- Lead people towards the good choice in a situation
- Help others understand why something is wrong

Comfort the sorrowful

- Communicate with the person via a call, card, text, or email
- Do something that gives joy to the person
- Be with the person

Forgive offenses willingly

- Always be willing to forgive someone
- Do not hold grudges
- Accept other's apologies with kindness

Bear wrongs patiently

- Be kind to people who make mistakes
- Let people learn from their mistakes
- Do not return evil with evil

Pray for the living and the dead

- Ask your friends how you can pray for them
- Pray for your friends, family, and enemies
- Pray for those who have died, especially for those who have no one to pray for them

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Catholic Social Teaching”

We are all made in the image of God which gives each person fundamental worth that cannot be erased by anything they do...or don't do. The seven tenets of Catholic social teaching instruct us how to treat others such as workers, family, friends, strangers, and the environment, whether far away or in our own backyard. Social justice is a necessary part of our faith. Christian charity is incomplete unless it is lived out through justice.

Reading

- Reading: We are called ([Micah 6:1-8](#))
 - Why is God questioning our faith?
 - How does God want us to worship Him?

Lesson

Justice - <https://youtu.be/A14THPoc4-4>

- Why are humans set apart from the rest of creatures on earth?
- What is justice, and who gets to define it?
- What does it mean to be a good person?
- What are Christians called to do regarding justice and injustice?

Catholic Social Teaching - <https://youtu.be/5SVDhKVfrm8>

- What makes a good Catholic?
- How do you apply what you hear on Sundays to your daily life?
- How do the tenets of Catholic Social Teaching give us guidance on what kind of society we are working to create?
- What kind of world would be a society that lived out Catholic Social Teachings?

Catholics and Politics - <https://youtu.be/UypFaAYevD8>

- Which political party fully follows the teachings of the Catholic Church?
- How can Catholics make positive change with their vote?
- What should Catholics consider when choosing the best candidate?

Vocabulary

Catholic Social Teaching
social justice
human rights
common good

Notes:

Catholic Social Teaching - Our Response to the Needs of Others

What is the Catholic position on these topics?

1. All human life has dignity (is important)
 - abortion
 - capital punishment
 - euthanasia
 - pornography

2. We must work for the common good
 - evaluation of laws
 - politics
 - war

3. We must respect the rights of others
 - community services (education, safety, housing)
 - prisoners
 - forced conversion

4. We must care for the poor and vulnerable
 - homeless
 - hungry

5. People have the right for decent work and wages
 - slavery
 - unions

6. We are one human family
 - racism
 - homosexuality
 - segregation

7. We must care for the Earth's resources
 - treatment of animals
 - pollution

Section: God's Church and Her People

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “The Church and Her People”

The concept of sainthood is often misunderstood by both Catholics and non-Catholics. Many non-Catholics think we worship saints. Many Catholics think they can never be a saint. The truth is, God never gives up on your call to sainthood. So why should you give up?

Reading

- Reading: Peter to lead the Church (Matthew 16:13-20)
 - Why does Jesus change Simon’s name?
 - Why is Peter a name every Catholic should know?

Lesson

Mary - <https://youtu.be/H1G-v8rchOA>

- Do Catholics worship or venerate Mary?
- Does Mary answer our prayers or does she intercede for us?
- What happened on the Assumption?

Saints - https://youtu.be/0ueiC1vXO_8

- What does it mean to be a “saint”
- Do Catholics worship or venerate saints?
- How do saints inspire, instruct, and intercede to strengthen our faith?

The Pope - <https://youtu.be/CUiZpMLqA70>

- Why do Catholics have a Pope?
- Who was the first Pope?
- Have all popes been good popes?

The Church - https://youtu.be/f8wj_jmBnyY

- What is “The Church”?
- Why should you attend church?
- How is the Church part of God’s plan for salvation?

Vocabulary

martyr

saint

Mary

feast day

assumption

intercede

canonization

Pope

Vatican

infallible

Protestant

Vatican II

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - "The Early Church"

After receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost, how could the Apostles remain silent? The Messiah had come. God became man, and He commissioned them to spread God's salvation story: the gospel. In his parables, Jesus told the Apostles that now everyone was invited to the feast, to God's kingdom. But Jesus also warned the Apostles that his message would encounter resistance and persecution.

Readings

- Reading #1: Stoning of Stephen ([Acts 7:51-8:3](#))
 - Why would the Jewish authorities want to kill followers of Jesus?
 - What model did St Stephen give Christians regarding persecution?

Lesson

The Apostle Paul - <https://youtu.be/oiVAbkINtRU>

- Why was Saul persecuting the early Christians?
- How did Saul convert to Christianity?
- In what ways were the Apostles changing Judaism to Christianity?

Paul's Missionary Journeys - <https://youtu.be/fglSbcGSr3A>

- Where did Paul spread the gospel?
- How did Jesus' prophesy that his message would cause divisions come true?
- Why did Paul's message about Jesus cause divisions in the Roman empire?
- Why did non-Jews accept the message of Jesus?

Paul Bound for Rome - <https://youtu.be/FJsiwOB0Pvg>

- How did the story of Paul mirror the study of Jesus?
- How was Paul's teaching in Rome turning the world upside-down?

Church History in Ten Minutes - <https://youtu.be/RQjS6NGvIQ0>

- What obstacles did the early Christians encounter?
- What was the Protestant Reformation?
- Did God fulfill His promise that His kingdom would spread to the ends of the earth?

Vocabulary

Saul	Acts of the Apostles
Paul	Protestant
mission	

Notes:

Religious Education

Lesson Outline - “Faith and Science”

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says “Though faith is above reason, there can never be any real discrepancy between faith and reason. Since the same God who reveals mysteries and infuses faith has bestowed the light of reason on the human mind, God cannot deny himself, nor can truth ever contradict truth.”

Reading

- Reading: Creation ([Genesis 1:1-31, 2:1-3](#))
 - How does this biblical story of creation mirror the theory of the Big Bang?
 - What is the biblical lesson the writer is trying to convey?

Lesson

Faith and Reason - <https://youtu.be/fdoZEhCn2YE>

- Why is it important to Catholics to seek the truth?
- What is the difference between faith and reason?

Creation and Evolution - https://youtu.be/B_sE07hey4

- What does the Genesis story of creation tell us about God and the universe?
- How can science bring us closer to God?

Proof of God - <https://youtu.be/JCZlrrM1Ds0>

- Can one prove that God exists?
- How can reason and faith work together to strengthen one’s belief in God?

Truth, Beauty, and Goodness - <https://youtu.be/Zr5m0qGECul>

- What three things do all humans long for regardless of religious beliefs?
- What does Jesus say about truth?
- In what ways does the Church strive for goodness?
- In what ways does beauty of the universe give us a glimpse of God?

Vocabulary

Story of Creation
Genesis

transcendentals

Notes: