

Grade Four

I. Goal

To introduce the children to Catholic moral teaching and to foster moral living.

II. Objectives

Message The students will:

1. Describe the Reign of God as the presence of God's love, peace, and justice in the world. (279-299)
2. Define grace as God's life in them. (1996-2005)
3. Describe that God forgives them when they offer words and signs of their sorrow and the intent to do better. (1423-1424; 1846-1848)
4. Describe the Church as a community of people striving to become a caring, loving, and faithful people responding to God's invitation. (897-913)
5. Explain the difference between sin, an accident, and a mistake. (1752-1754)
6. Explain that conscience is the ability to determine whether an action is right or wrong. (1776-1794)
7. Explain that the teachings of Jesus and the Church are necessary to help them in moral decisions and to develop an informed conscience. (84-95; 1749-1775; 1949-1974; 2030-2040)
8. Tell that the Sacrament of Reconciliation is recommended for those in venial sin and necessary for those in mortal sin. (1456-1458)
9. Describe mortal sin as a personal choice to completely turn away from God. (1854-1861)
10. Describe venial sin as a personal choice to hurt ourselves or others and God; but not completely turning away from God. (1854; 1862-1863)
11. Say the Two Great Commandments of Jesus from memory. (1823-1824)
12. Reference the Two Great Commandments to Mark 12: 29-31.
13. Say the Eight Beatitudes from memory. (1716-1717; 1727; 1718-1729)

14. Reference the Beatitudes to Mt. 5:3-10 and Lk. 6:20-22 as a fulfillment of the Ten Commandments. (1716-1724)
15. Say the Ten Commandments from memory. (700; 2056-2073)
16. Reference the Ten Commandments to Ex. 20:11-17 and Dt. 5:15-21.
17. Explore the Precepts of the Church. (2041-2043)
18. Say the Hail Holy Queen from memory.
19. Define the terms listed for grade four on page 44.
20. Tell Bible Stories in a manner appropriate to their age.
(See page 59-60)

Worship The students will:

1. Practice a variety of prayer forms guided by Catholic Tradition, e.g.,
(for example) (2567; 2644; 2660; 2684; 2685)

Memorized (2688)	Silence (2709-2724)
Song (1156-1158; 2663)	Spontaneous (2700-2701)
Dance and role play (2663)	Guided images (2705-2708)
Gestures (2663)	Scriptural/story (2653-2654)
Rosary (971; 2678; 2708)	
2. Participate in celebrations of the liturgical year, i.e., (that is)
 Sunday Mass (Liturgy) (2174-2188)
 Holy Days (2042-2043; 2180)
 Special feasts/saints/Marian feasts (484-507; 963-972; 2673-2679)
3. Participate in a retreat. (day long experience) (2691)
4. Experience the enthronement of the Bible at the beginning of the catechetical year and maintain the presence of the Scripture in a prominent place during every catechetical session. (102-103; 131-133)
5. Participate in a Penance service with the opportunity for individual Reconciliation.
6. Plan and participate in a Eucharistic Celebration. (1348-1355)

Community The students will:

1. Be given family take-home material to encourage the domestic church.
(2204; 2694)

2. Celebrate the parish patron saint's feast day in an age appropriate way.
(946-958; 2157)
3. Participate in several organized events that promote social and community interaction, e.g.,

Skating Party	Field Day
Picnic (Family)	Bike Rides
Christmas Caroling	Sled Rides
Party/pageant/drama based on the liturgical year	
Intergenerational (older student/teen/grandparent) Activities	
4. Demonstrate that sharing non-threatening areas of their lives is an essential part of Christian Community.

Service The students will:

Demonstrate that service is essential for the Christian life by (544; 2044-2046)

1. Participating in several service opportunities in the parish (involving families when possible) (1716-1729; 1822-1829) e.g.,

Cards for appropriate occasions and parish needs	
Food/clothing collection and distribution	
Recycling/environmental clean-up	
Visit nursing homes, shut-ins	
2. Participating in service opportunities promoting global awareness,
(1886-1889; 1905-1917; 1928-1942) e.g.,

Rice Bowl	Bread for the World
Holy Childhood Association	Crop Walk
Mission Activity	Hunger Meal
SOME (So that Others May Eat)	
3. Exploring that service can be a career, e.g.,

Field trip to or visitors from:	Police/fire department
Convent/rectory	Nursing home
Soup kitchen	Health fields
Religious Education Leaders	
4. Discussing the meaning that they derived from their service project(s).

III. Content

1. Grace is God's life in us.
2. Church is a community responding to God's invitation to fullness of life.
3. Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation God's mercy and love is shown.

4. The significance of conscience in determining right and wrong and differentiating mortal and venial sin
5. Recognition of the Two Great Commandments, Eight Beatitudes and Ten Commandments as our guides to living a Christian life

IV. Outcome and Evaluation

Knowledge Do the students know:

1. A definition of grace?
2. Sin is a personal choice to turn away from God?
3. The difference between sin, an accident, and a mistake?
4. The difference between mortal sin and venial sin?
5. The purpose for Reconciliation?
6. God forgives those who are sorry?
7. The Scripture passages which reveal the Two Great Commandments, Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments?
8. That the Eight Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments are guidelines for moral people?
9. The importance of an informed conscience?
10. The Hail Holy Queen from memory?

Attitudes and Beliefs Do the students:

1. Feel that God loves them personally?
2. Have an attitude of reverence for the Bible?
3. Recognize the importance of the need for Reconciliation?
4. Understand the consequences of sin?
5. Feel responsibility to seek reconciliation with those they have harmed?
6. Desire to follow Jesus by following the Beatitudes and Ten Commandments?

7. Realize the importance of personal sharing for the development of community?

Behavior How do the students:

1. Pray as a part of their daily life?
2. Responsibly participate in all class activities including worship, service, and social functions?
3. Share the take-home material with their families?
4. Participate regularly in the Eucharist?
5. Strive to be caring, loving, faithful disciples by living the Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments?
6. Make peace with God and with others?
7. Grow in the power to make moral decisions?
8. Participate in a Penance Service and make use of individual Reconciliation?

Grade Four

Message The students will:

19. Define the following terms in a manner appropriate to their age.

Absolution
Act of Contrition
Adam / Eve
Beatitudes
Bible
Chastity
Conscience
Conversion
Covenant
Disciple
Eucharist
Examination of Conscience
Eucharistic Prayer
Evangelist
Faith
Free Will
Grace
Great Commandments
Holiness
Kingdom of God
Mercy
Messiah
Mortal Sin
Moses
New Testament
Old Testament
Original Sin
Penance
Pentecost
Precepts of the Church
Reconciliation
Reign of God (Kingdom of God)
Sabbath
Salvation
Service
Sin
Ten Commandments
Venial Sin
Virtue