

# Religion Learning Targets

## Sixth - Eighth Grade

### Sixth Grade

In Religion, children focus on four aspects of their faith: Catholic Traditions, Rituals and History, Social Justice and Morality, the Community of Faith, and Prayer. In Grade 6, students will:

#### Catholic Traditions, Ritual and History

- Compare how the authors of the Bible used many different literary forms to convey God's message
- Describe the major figures in the development of God's relationship with the chosen people.
- Illustrate the role of the Catholic Church in world history.
- Debate why the Church is one, holy, catholic and apostolic.
- Demonstrate how God is the Supreme Being, who always was and always will be.
- Compare the seven sacraments, their signs and symbols and how they mediate God's grace.
- Explain why all of the Eucharistic Liturgy is considered prayer.

#### Social Justice and Morality

- Demonstrate the ability to make moral decisions and to evaluate the consequences of one's actions, through reflection, talking to others, and praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.
- Compare the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and God's Law of Love as guidelines in the formation of the conscience and as the foundation to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.
- Justify why as Christians, followers of Jesus, and members of one human family, each person is called to and responsible for defending the dignity and rights of people everywhere by responding to the needs of all members of society with compassion and justice, most especially the poor and suffering (illustrate the ways that Christians can aid the vulnerable.)
- Explain how by virtue of Baptism, every Christian is called to service and this call is fulfilled through a variety of lifestyles and ministries.
- Describe how each person is called to be a caretaker of the earth and list ways to appreciate the world God has given each person, by conserving the resources God created and by living in peace with all peoples and creatures of the earth.

### Faith Community

- Demonstrate how Jesus is the foundation of the Christian Catholic faith.
- Demonstrate how the Church is a sign of God's presence in the world today.
- Explain how each Christian, single, married, cleric or religious is called by Baptism to follow Christ and minister to others.
- Explain how the gift of human life begins at the moment of conception.
- Identify the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.

### Prayer

- Participate communally in the tradition of prayers for the Church including the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Grace before Meals, Doxology (Glory Be), Act of Contrition, Apostle's Creed, Nicene Creed, the Prayer of Saint Francis, The Rosary, Acts of Faith, Hope and Love, Prayer of the Holy Spirit, the Stations of the Cross
- Recite the liturgical responses
- Experience all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation, and communal.
- Compose simple prayers and petitions.

## Seventh Grade

In Religion, children focus on four aspects of their faith: Catholic Traditions, Rituals and History, Social Justice and Morality, the Community of Faith, and Prayer. In Grade 7, students will:

### Catholic Traditions, Ritual and History

- Describe how Jesus teaches about God, prayer, justice, peace, service and moral life in the New Testament.
- Critique the role of the Catholic Church in world history.
- Break down the significance and impact of the Second Vatican Council (Vatican II).
- Describe the role of the prophets, martyrs, and saints in the history of the Church.
- Describe how there is only one true God, who is revealed as three distinct persons: God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit.
- Deduce why Jesus' passion, death, resurrection and glorification is called the Paschal Mystery.
- Explain how God is revealed in the life of Jesus Christ, in the Sacred Scriptures, in tradition, and in the life of the Church.

- Explain why the Church gathers at the Eucharistic Liturgy to celebrate the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and explain why it is one's responsibility to fully and actively participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy.

### Social Justice and Morality

- Demonstrate the ability to make moral decisions and to evaluate the consequences of one's actions, through reflection, talking to others, and praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.
- Compare the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and God's Law of Love as guidelines in the formation of the conscience and as the foundation to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.
- Name the seven key principles of the Catholic social teachings discuss how they can be applied to personal and societal situations.
- Justify why as Christians, followers of Jesus, and members of one human family, each person is called to and responsible for defending the dignity and rights of people everywhere by responding to the needs of all members of society with compassion and justice, most especially the poor and suffering (illustrate the ways that Christians can aid the vulnerable.)
- Explain how by virtue of Baptism, every Christian is called to service and this call is fulfilled through a variety of lifestyles and ministries.
- Describe how each person is called to be a caretaker of the earth and list ways to appreciate the world God has given each person, by conserving the resources God created and by living in peace with all peoples and creatures of the earth.

### Faith Community

- Explain how a deep relationship with Jesus requires a personal faith commitment.
- Discuss the need to know and respect those people who profess other faiths.
- Demonstrate how through Baptism each person is called to be active participants in the community of faith.
- Defend how life within the Catholic Christian family is the responsibility of each member.
- Defend the nature and importance of sexuality as a divine gift, a fundamental component of personality, and an enrichment of the whole person - body, emotions, soul - whose deepest meaning is to lead the person to the gift of self in love.

### Prayer

- Participate communally in the tradition of prayers for the Church including the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Grace before Meals, Doxology (Glory Be), Act of Contrition, Apostle's Creed, Nicene Creed, the Prayer of Saint Francis, The Rosary, Acts of Faith, Hope and Love, Prayer of the Holy Spirit, the Stations of the Cross, Hail Holy Queen, Psalm 23.
- Recite the liturgical responses
- Experience all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation, and communal.
- Compose prayers and petitions for specific events, celebrations, and prayer services.

# Eighth Grade

In Religion, children focus on four aspects of their faith: Catholic Traditions, Rituals and History, Social Justice and Morality, the Community of Faith, and Prayer. In Grade 8, students will:

## Catholic Traditions, Ritual and History

- Diagram the major historical events of the Church.
- Defend how the most current teachings of the Church are set out during the most recent council gathering - Vatican Council II.
- Justify why knowledge of the history of the Church is essential to a proper understanding of the faith.
- Justify how Jesus is Christ, the Messiah, the anointed one sent by God.
- Explain how, through the power of the Holy Spirit, God gave the world, Jesus, through Mary.
- Argue for the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine offered at the Eucharistic Liturgy.
- Compare and contrast the two main parts of the Eucharistic celebration, the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist, as well as two smaller rites, the Introductory Rite and the Concluding Rite.
- Evaluate one's responsibility to fully and actively participate in the Eucharistic Liturgy.
- Compare and contrast the liturgical seasons of the church year (Advent/Christmas, Lent/Easter, and Ordinary Time) and describe how the scripture and environment reflect these seasons.

## Social Justice and Morality

- Explain how moral values come from the teachings of Jesus and demonstrate the ability to make moral decisions and to evaluate the consequences of one's actions, through reflection, talking to others, and praying to the Holy Spirit for guidance and strength.
- Prove how the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and God's Law of Love are guidelines in the formation of the conscience and as the foundation to be used in the process of making good moral decisions.
- Assess how Christian values help each person make social, economic, and political choices that build the kingdom of God.
- Examine the importance of participating in society and contributing to the common good and defend the need to advance the common good in society.
- Justify why as Christians, followers of Jesus, and members of one human family, each person is called to and responsible for defending the dignity and rights of people everywhere by responding to the needs of all members of society with compassion and justice, most especially the poor and suffering (illustrate the ways that Christians can aid the vulnerable.)
- Explain how by virtue of Baptism and Confirmation, every Christian is called to service and this call is fulfilled through a variety of lifestyles and ministries.
- Show how a consumer culture impacts each person and the earth, and describe how each person is called to use their personal talents to care for the

earth by conserving the resources God created and by living in peace with all peoples and creatures of the earth.

### Faith Community

- Articulate and examine reasons for believing in God.
- Demonstrate how through Baptism each person is called to be active participants in the community of faith.
- Defend how life within the Catholic Christian family is the responsibility of each member.
- Defend the need to respect the moral norms regarding sexuality that are taught by the Church.

### Prayer

- Participate communally in the tradition of prayers for the Church including the Sign of the Cross, Our Father, Hail Mary, Grace before Meals, Doxology (Glory Be), Act of Contrition, Apostle's Creed, Nicene Creed, the Prayer of Saint Francis, The Rosary, Acts of Faith, Hope and Love, Prayer of the Holy Spirit, the Stations of the Cross, Hail Holy Queen, Psalm 23.
- Recite the liturgical responses of the liturgy as prayer.
- Experience all forms of prayer: formal, informal, spontaneous, reflective, personal, mantra, music and movement, guided meditation, and communal.
- Compose prayers and petitions for specific events, celebrations, and prayer services.