



***Share the Joy*** builds on the solid foundation formed by *To Teach As Jesus Did* and *Sharing the Light of Faith, the National Catechetical Directory*. In addition, the doctrinal content and methodology of *Share the Joy* find their roots in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* and the catechetical manifesto of Pope John Paul II's *Catechesi Tradendae*, from which *Share the Joy* has garnered the following characteristics:

- It proclaims the total message of Christ without distortion.
- It provides those who use it a better knowledge of the mysteries of Christ.
- It aims at true conversion and a life in conformity to God's will.

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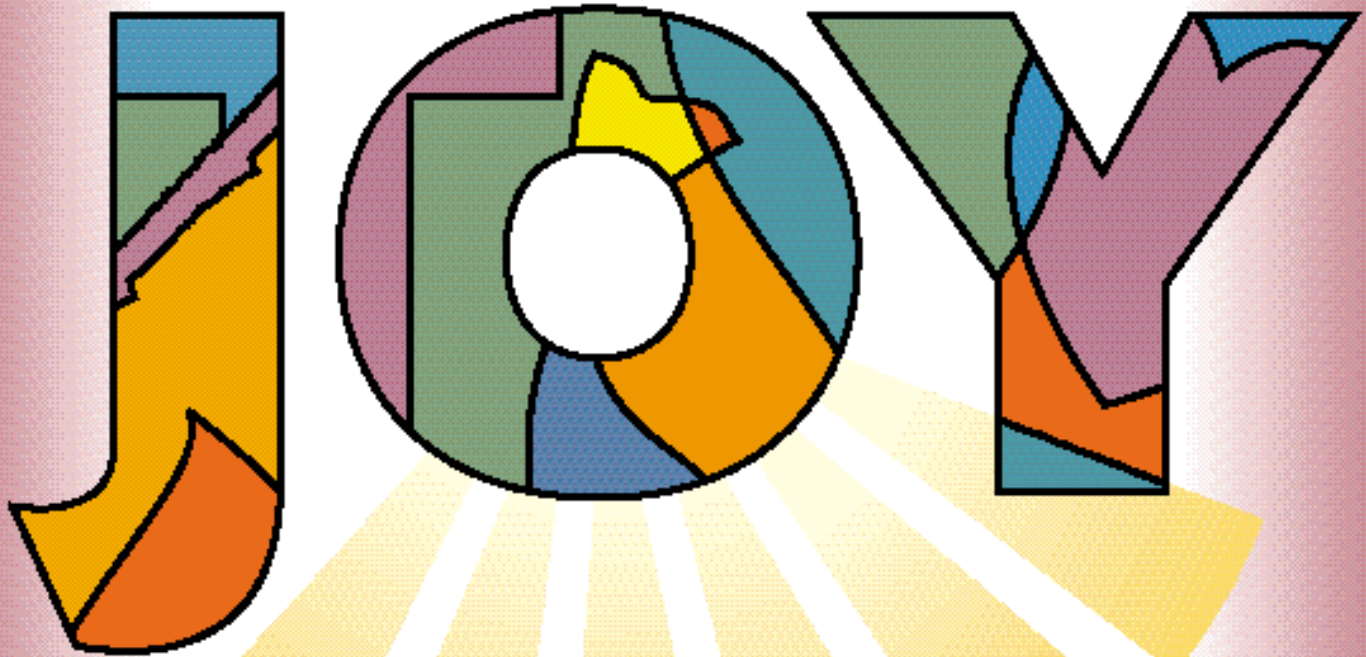
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***Benziger***

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# Scope & Sequence

SHARE THE



*Well done, my good and faithful servant.  
Since you were faithful in small matters,  
I will give you great responsibilities.  
Come, share the joy of your master!*

MATTHEW 25:21

The Profession of Faith

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 ABCs of Christian faith • A statement of belief.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #605, #301, #655, #150, #168



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 Angels as God's messengers • Catholics as Christians • God as Creator • Heaven as happiness with God forever • Doctrines of the Trinity, Holy Family, Great Commandment, and Ten Commandments.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #234, #237, #494, #531-34



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 Absolution as forgiveness in Reconciliation • Communion as sharing Jesus' Body and Blood • Confession as telling sins in Reconciliation • Gospel as good news of Jesus' life and teaching • Grace as share in God's life • Mass as Eucharist • Sacrament as sign of God's love • Doctrines of the Trinity, Holy Family, and Ten Commandments.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #249, #253, #259, #864

The Celebration of the Christian Mystery

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**  
 Christmas celebrates Jesus' birth • Easter celebrates Jesus' gift of new life • Sunday is a special day for prayer and rest • The actions and words of the Mass • How joy can be expressed through movement.  
**Catechism content:** #1163-65, #1166-67, #1201, #1212

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**  
 Advent as waiting for Jesus • Christmas as celebration of Jesus' birthday • Lent as trying harder to follow Jesus • Easter as remembering Jesus rose from the dead • The Mass as meal, sacrifice, and thanksgiving • The different parts of the Mass and appropriate responses • Learning about the seven sacraments and what each one celebrates • Religious significance of water, Good Shepherd, rainbow, and Christmas tree.  
**Catechism content:** #1163-65, #1346, #1116-18, #1145-47

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**  
 Special times in the liturgical year • The Mass as a sign of faithfulness, remembrance, caring, reaching out, gathering, and making Jesus present in the worshipping community • The Liturgy of the Word and The Liturgy of the Eucharist • The seven sacraments and how the sacraments build the Body of Christ • Religious significance of wheat, grapes, fish, palm branches and ashes.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #1163, #1168, #1171, #1166-67, #1118

Life In Christ

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**  
 Mary, Martha, and Lazarus as friends of Jesus • Mary as Jesus' mother and teacher • Joseph as Jesus' father and protector • Jesus as the Good Shepherd.  
**Catechism content:** #1693, #1911, #2204, #2223, #2232



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**  
 Mary's special yes • Martin de Porres as example of generous giver • Nicholas as bishop and Santa Claus • Elizabeth Ann Seton as founder of American Catholic education • How saints are special friends of Jesus and their friend, too • Jesus as Son of God • Bible as God's Word • Simple guidelines for following the example of Jesus at home, in school, and in their hearts.  
**Catechism content:** #1962, #2013-14, #2055, #2074

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**  
 God's family and how everyone is a part of it • The Presentation of Jesus and Mary • Katharine Drexel and the education of minorities • Albert the Great and how learning is important • Ways to follow Jesus • An examination of conscience with the Ten Commandments.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #1962, #1968, #2041, #2447



Christian Prayer

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 The Sign of the Cross • A Night Prayer • How to talk and listen to God • Reasons for praying to God • How to pray alone • How to pray with others.  
**Catechism content:** #2651, #2688, #2701, #2704, #2705

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 Sign of the Cross • Glory Be • Hail Mary • Prayer to Guardian Angel • Meal Blessing • Morning Prayer • The Lord's Prayer • Ways to talk to Jesus at any time • Ways to pray alone • Ways to pray with others.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #2609, #2697, #2704, #2709

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**  
 Sign of the Cross • Glory Be • Hail Mary • Lord's Prayer • Act of Contrition • Meal Blessing • Morning Offering • How to talk to God with whole heart, in quiet, and openly • Challenging ways to talk to God.  
**Catechism content:**  
 #2559-61, #2562-64, #2565

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Bishop as Catholic leader • Deacon as ordained minister • Last Supper as Jesus' special meal • Church as People of God • Pope as leader of all Catholics • Priest as celebrant of Mass and sacraments • Doctrines of the Trinity, Ten Commandments, Great Commandment, Golden Rule, and Works of Mercy.

Catechism content: #185-197, #688, #731, #811-870

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Beatitudes as Jesus' way to happiness and blessedness • Trinity as three Persons in one God • Conscience as ability to judge right from wrong • Parable as story Jesus used to teach about God • Ten Commandments as God's laws • Doctrines of The Ten Commandments, Great Commandment, Beatitudes, Corporal Works of Mercy, Spiritual Works of Mercy, and Church precepts • Answers to faith questions.

Catechism content: #234, #306, #787, #813, #863

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Catechumen as person preparing for Baptism • Liturgy as public worship of God • Sacrament as sign of God's love • Sacrifice as offering • Transubstantiation as bread and wine becoming Christ's Body and Blood at Mass • Doctrines of the holy days, Ten Commandments, Gifts of the Holy Spirit, Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, and Church precepts.

Catechism content: #204, #214, #684, #969, #971

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Gospel as Good News of Jesus' life and teachings • Inspiration as guidance of Holy Spirit for writers of Bible • Lectionary as book of Scripture readings used at Mass • Salvation as God's act of love through Jesus • Social justice as obligation of Christians to care for others • Tradition as way that Jesus' message is handed on • Doctrines of the Corporal Works of Mercy, Ten Commandments, Church precepts, and Beatitudes • Statements of Faith.

Catechism content: #234, #268, #282, #294, #303

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Special times in the liturgical year • Mass as prayer of praise and offering with Jesus • The order and parts of Mass • The seven sacraments and how they celebrate life in Jesus • Religious significance of holy oil, the anchor-cross, and tongues of fire.

Catechism content: #1116-18, #1145-47, #1163-65, #1346



**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Seasons of faith • Mass as sacrifice, meal, thanksgiving, remembrance, and communion • Order of Mass including Gathering, Liturgy of the Word, and Liturgy of the Eucharist • Church colors and their meaning and use in liturgy • Sacraments as signs and celebrations of particular charisms • Religious significance of water, laying on of hands, light, and Chi-Rho.

Catechism content: #1168, #1171, #1166-67

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Special seasons in the Church liturgical cycle • Parts of Mass including Gathering, Liturgy of Word, and Liturgy of Eucharist • Sacraments and their effect on the faith community • Religious significance of cross, heart, and lamb.

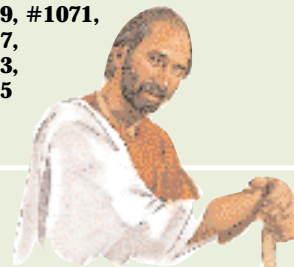
Catechism content: #1163-65, #1168, #1171, #1166-67



**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Seasons of Faith • Special feast days • Eucharist as celebration of promise, remembrance, thanksgiving, and forgiveness • Sacraments as expressed in daily life • Religious significance of Lamb of God and Alpha and Omega.

Catechism content: #1069, #1071, #1117, #1123, #1145



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The Assumption of Mary • Francis Xavier as missionary • Thérèse of Lisieux's little way of love • John Vianney as confessor • Following Jesus more perfectly to please God • How the Holy Spirit aids decision-making • How to make an examination of conscience with the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes.

Catechism content: #1717, #1804, #2014, #2055, #2070

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The Communion of Saints • The Archangels • Mary as she is experienced in another culture • Clare of Assisi as dedicating life to God's love • Catherine Labouré and Mary's medal • The moral principles that Jesus shares with all believers • Free will and the guidance of the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes • An examination of conscience.

Catechism content: #1724, #1962, #2447, #2041, #2500



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The nature of vocation • Saints who come from all walks of life • How Mary is experienced in the world today • Lawrence as early Church deacon and martyr • Advice from Jesus to follow the Way • Christian living through the Ten Commandments and Beatitudes • How to make an examination of conscience daily.

Catechism content: #1716, #1724, #1813, #1831, #2041

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

Patron saints as models for Christian living • The Immaculate Conception of Mary • Bernadette and her experience of Mary • Patrick as missionary to Ireland • Metaphors of Jesus and their meaning • How to make an examination of conscience.

Catechism content: #1962, #2013-14, #2041, #2055, #2447

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Glory Be • Hail Mary • Morning Offering • Guardian Angel Prayer • Act of Contrition • Meal Blessing • Apostles' Creed • Memorial Acclamation • Lord's Prayer • Mary's way of praying • Personal and communal prayer.

Catechism content: #2565, #2607, #2625, #2655, #2697, #2759

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Glory Be • Act of Contrition • Hail Mary • Meal Blessings • Lord's Prayer • Apostles' Creed • Memorial Acclamations • Lamb of God • Ways to talk to God alone • Ways to pray with others.

Catechism content: #2559-61, #2562-64, #2565, #2589

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Hail Mary • Glory Be • Act of Contrition • Meal Blessings • Apostles' Creed • Lord's Prayer, Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love • Mysteries of Rosary • Bookmark of Saint Teresa • Personal and communal prayer.

Catechism content: #2559-61, #2565, #2599, #2610, #2616

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Hail Mary • Glory Be • Apostles' Creed, Act of Contrition • Morning Offering • Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love • Memorial Acclamations • Prayer to the Holy Spirit • Meal Blessings • Ways to talk to God alone and in community.

Catechism content: #2697, #2704, #2709, #2725, #2759

Contents

God's love is revealed through many gifts— especially through people and the world they share. God's greatest gift is Jesus who teaches about God's love. Those who follow Jesus belong to God's Family and show love to all.

The Profession of Faith

Faith is the Christian's response to God's self-revelation. It is confessed in the Creed, celebrated in the liturgy, and lived with prayer in the observance of God's commandments.

CHILDREN WILL LEARN:

- God as creator of everything
- How God sent Jesus to live on earth
- The Holy Family as the Christian ideal of love and respect
- How Jesus called a community
- How Jesus' followers belong to God's family and practice the twofold law of love.

Catechism content:  
#53, #79, #339, #357, #898



The Celebration of the Christian Mastery

The celebration of the liturgy, along with the seven sacraments and sacramentals, makes the work of Christ and his Church present to the world. This celebration is preceded by evangelization, faith, and conversion.

CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:

- Thankfulness for God's great gifts
- How God's gifts to others and self are helpful
- The good feelings of sharing
- Jesus as the perfect role model.

Catechism content:  
#1069, #1099, #1218, #1359, #1468



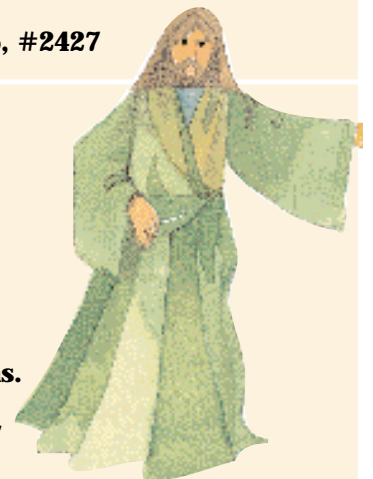
Life In Christ

Christians share in the divine nature through Christ's grace and the gifts of his Spirit, which they receive through the sacraments and through prayer. To live with Christ is to live out the beatitudes, with an awareness of sin and forgiveness, practicing human virtues and charity in communion with the saints.

CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:

- The Story of Creation
- Jesus with his family and children
- Jesus' public ministry including the call of the disciples
- Jesus' teachings including the parables and Great Commandment.

Catechism content:  
#1877, #2207, #2233, #2415, #2427



Christian Prayer

The Christian relationship with God is one of mystery requiring that the faithful have a strong belief as professed in the Apostles' Creed, celebrate their faith in liturgy, and live their faith in a vital and personal relationship. These are all forms of prayer which come from God, and which occur in covenant and communion with God.

CHILDREN WILL LEARN:

- The Sign of Cross
- The Lord's Prayer
- Mass as prayer
- Four kinds of prayer
- Prayer in words and actions
- Praying as community
- Special feasts and celebrations.

Catechism content:  
#2616, #2740, #2765, #2787

**1**  
The love of God is shown in the gifts of creation. The best gifts God has given the People of God are Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

**2**  
God invites all people into community through Christ Jesus. The communities of creation, family, friends, and Church, in addition to the sacraments, draw all Christians closer together.

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

God as present in all creation  
The Holy Family as the ideal of Christian living  
How Jesus' death and resurrection are celebrated at every Eucharist  
Prayer as listening and talking to God  
The Trinity as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
How the Church is God's family.  
Catechism content: #125, #357, #525, #484, #522, #727



**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Everyone as innately good and loved by God  
How to recognize Gospel values and celebrate differences among God's people  
The responsibility, self-discipline, and the security of belonging to a faith community  
Jesus and his teachings  
Celebrations of the reign of God.  
A sense of belonging in the Church.  
Catechism content: #1097, #1124, #1213, #1442, #1656

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The revelation of God in Creation and the Exodus  
The Annunciation, Nativity, and childhood of Jesus  
The Ministry of Jesus including his parables, death, and resurrection  
The sending of the Holy Spirit.  
Catechism content: #1693, #1724, #1877, #1911, #2064



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Glory Be  
Hail Mary  
The Lord's Prayer  
The Sign of the Cross  
Communal and personal prayer  
Sacraments and the parts of the Mass  
Major celebrations of Church year including Christmas, Easter, and Pentecost.  
Catechism content: #2561, #2637, #2675, #2777

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

The Holy Family and Jesus as ideals of Christian living  
Prayer as both listening and talking to God  
Jesus as truly present in the Eucharist  
The sacraments as God's gifts to the faith community  
The commandments as showing people how to love.  
Catechism content: #369, #646, #669, #859, #871

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Positive reinforcement for Christian values and behavior  
The value of prayer and sacrament in deepening one's relationship with God and community  
The Eucharist including its nature, Jesus' saving actions, and the moral responsibility involved in living a Eucharistic life.  
Catechism content: #1075, #1341, #1489, #1532, #1657



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The story of Creation  
The Annunciation, Presentation, and how Jesus was found teaching in the Temple  
Jesus' ministry including the call of the Apostles, miracles and parables, Last Supper, death, and resurrection  
The sending of the Holy Spirit to the Apostles and to all Christian people.  
Catechism content: #1786, #1825, #1905, #2062

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

Apostles' Creed  
Act of Contrition  
The Lord's Prayer  
Praise, thanksgiving, petition, and reconciliation as reasons for praying  
Communal and personal prayer  
The sacraments and parts of the Mass  
The Church as a special place for God's family  
The Church liturgical year and its holidays.  
Catechism content: #2651, #2638

**3**  
The Church continues the mission of Jesus. The Church gathers in the name of Jesus, proclaims the Good News, celebrates God's love, and serves others as Jesus commanded.

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

How the Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic  
Jesus and the saints  
Models for Christian living  
How Christians are called to share the Good News with others  
How the Apostles' Creed contains the core Christian beliefs  
How the Holy Spirit descended at Pentecost  
How Mary was assumed into heaven.  
Catechism content: #3, #76, #571, #641, #739, #798, #811



**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Stories of Christian heroes and heroines  
The goodness of each person, and how each person deserves love and respect  
Ways to foster a sense of belonging and caring in community  
Methods to develop skills for private reflection as well as communal participation  
The use of art, music, and drama to celebrate faith.  
Catechism content:  
#1145, #1161, #1253, #1269, #1324

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

The Creation and Last Judgment  
The Psalms  
The woman at the well and how her story shows the unconditional love of Jesus  
The miracles, death, and resurrection of Jesus  
How to listen to the Holy Spirit.  
Catechism content: #1194, #1913, #1932, #2088, #2175



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

The Lord's Prayer  
Hail Mary  
Glory Be  
Prayer for Vocations  
Apostles' Creed  
Act of Contrition  
Catechism content:  
#2562, #2569, #2586, #2664, #2766

Private and communal prayer  
Sacraments  
Parts of Mass  
Liturgical seasons including the feasts of Easter and Pentecost.

**4**  
God has promised to be with all of God's people, and expects that they will follow God's Law. The Catholic faith family will help each member do what is right and be true to God's covenant.

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

How God is active in human history  
How God gave the Ten Commandments for the covenant relationship  
How Jesus taught the Beatitudes for the New Covenant relationship  
How Jesus called forth a faith community and gave a twofold law of love  
How the Church also has laws  
How all share in the community of saints.  
Catechism content: #60, #62, #84, #108, #288, #737

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

Ways to celebrate Christian heroes and saints as role models  
How respect and obedience affirm community  
How to celebrate Reconciliation and make an examination of conscience.  
Catechism content:  
#1396, #1430, #1442, #1533, #1547

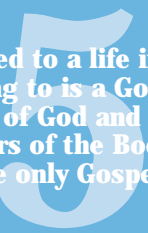


**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

Divine revelation  
Early religious history including the Creation, covenants, and Ten Commandments  
Jesus' public ministry including the call of disciples, parables, and teachings of Great Commandment, Beatitudes, and forgiveness  
The New Covenant and the descent of the Holy Spirit.  
Catechism content:  
#1692, #1816, #1877, #1911, #2064

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

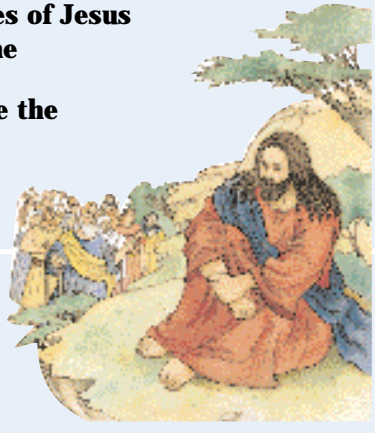
The Lord's Prayer  
Act of Contrition  
Personal prayer and the Mass as communal prayer  
How to plan and carry out prayer services  
How to participate in the Church liturgical year  
How to understand the meaning of sacramentals  
How to make an examination of conscience  
How to celebrate the sacrament of Reconciliation.  
Catechism content:  
#2563, #2602, #2650, #2659, #2683



Christians are called to a life in community. The community they belong to is a Gospel community. It is formed by the Word of God and by the sacraments. Christians are members of the Body of Christ on earth. Their lives may be the only Gospel anyone ever reads.

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

- How the divine life of Christ is shared in the sacraments and Church
- The identification of the sacraments of initiation, healing, and service
- The divine and human natures of Jesus
- Christian responsibility to the Gospel message
- How Jesus will come to judge the living and the dead.
- Catechism content: #522, #542, #764, #787, #959



**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

- The acceptance and support of their faith community
- The use of God's gifts and their accompanying responsibilities
- Sacraments as signs of God's love
- Involvement in worship preparation
- The demand for justice and peace as a Gospel mandate.
- Catechism content: #1146, #1425, #1505, #1534, #1657

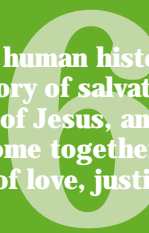
**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

- The birth and childhood of Jesus
- The nature of Jesus' mission including the call of the Apostles, Beatitudes, signs of the kingdom, the Paschal mystery, and sending of the Holy Spirit
- The history of the early Church
- The Epistles
- Sacrament texts.
- Catechism content: #1694, #1780, #1807, #1810, #2044



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

- The Lord's Prayer
- The Mass
- Personal prayer
- Silent meditation
- Sacramentals and the worship environment
- Planning worship and prayer
- Communal reconciliation.
- Catechism content: #2598, #2631, #2657, #2675, #2842



God's actions in human history are a call to all humankind. The story of salvation, the words of the prophets, the life of Jesus, and the witness of the early Church come together to form a living community of love, justice, and peace.

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

- Divine revelation
- The innate goodness of all individuals
- The Eucharist as memorial and sacrifice
- Baptism as the source of new life and identity
- How God and the Church are active in human history
- The relationship between the covenant and Ten Commandments and the new covenant and Beatitudes.
- Catechism content: #103, #198, #535, #546, #678, #871

**CHILDREN WILL EXPERIENCE:**

- Confirmation of faith roots through review of salvation history
- Active membership in the Body of Christ, which is the Church
- The importance of justice and morality in everyday life situations
- The integration of sacraments and celebrations of their life in Jesus.
- Catechism content: #1148, #1204, #1404, #1425, #1503

**CHILDREN WILL LEARN ABOUT:**

- The doctrines of divine revelation and Creation
- The biblical covenants, patriarchs, and prophets
- Jesus' teachings including the Ten Commandments, parables, Beatitudes, and the forgiveness of sins
- The sending of the Holy Spirit to all disciples.
- Catechism content: #1716, #1798, #1841, #1928, #1950



**CHILDREN WILL LEARN:**

- The Lord's Prayer
- Apostles' Creed
- Profession of Faith
- The Corporal Works of Mercy
- Acts of Faith, Hope, and Love
- How prayer is expressed alone, in community, and in liturgy
- Participation in the Church liturgical year.
- Catechism content: #2567, #2575, #2602, #2607, #2618