

# Religion Grade Level Standards for Catholic Schools

## Archdiocese of Los Angeles

### Grade Level 8

#### Scripture/ Christian Life

- Explains the relationship between Old Testament and New Testament Scriptures
- Tells stories from Scripture that describe the person and ministry of Jesus Christ: The Rich Man and Lazarus (Lk 16: 19-33); The Money Changers in the Temple (Mk 11:15-18, Mk 13:23, Lk 21:25-28); The Baptism of Jesus (Lk 3:13-17); The Last Judgment (Mt 25:35-40); Jesus announces his mission (Lk 4:14-23); Jesus: The Second Adam (1 Cor 15:47); Temptation (Mt 4:1-11)
- Associates Jesus as a friend and model of how we are called to be friends: Lk 8:1-3, Lk 9:28-36, Lk 10:38-42, Mt 10:1-4, Mt 19:13-15, Mt 26:36-56, Jn 1:40-48, Jn 11:1-53, Jn 19:25-27, Jn 15:12-17
- Connects Scripture stories to life issues: Life of the Christian (Acts 2: 42-47, 4:32-35); Light Under a Bushel Basket (Mt 5:14-16); God's Mercy and Compassion (Lk 1:68-79); Church as a Family (Ephesians:14-21); Justice of God (Jeremiah 22:13, Lk 6:36, 38); Kingdom Parable and Actions (Lk 10:33, 19:10, Mk 2:17); Share My Mission (Mt 28:20)
- Uses the Bible as a source for daily prayer

#### Sacraments/ Worship

- Names the Sacraments of the Church and associates them with life experiences
- Identifies and experiences Catholic rituals, for example, Baptism, Eucharist and Reconciliation
- Experiences a relationship with God in individual prayer including meditation and spontaneous prayer
- Recognizes and experiences belonging to a community that prays with and for each other
- Participates regularly in Sunday Eucharist
- Recognizes and understands the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist
- Can identify and explain the parts of the Liturgy
- Participates in the Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Articulates the cycles of the Liturgical Year, including Feasts
- Identifies the ritual nature of life and associates it with the ritual of Church, for example: family meals and Eucharist, seasons of nature and seasons of the Church Year

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(grade 8 continued)

### **Morality/ Social Justice**

- Recognizes the Ten Commandments, the Corporal and Spiritual works of Mercy as guidelines for living a good life and applies them to daily life
- Describes experiences of conscience which signal what is right and wrong
- Identifies and begins to develop virtues such as justice, courage and wisdom
- Articulates a consistent Life Ethic from a Catholic perspective
- Understands personal choices in relationship to the moral life
- Associates social, economic and political choices with Christian morality
- Recognizes that some sins are collective and social - the wrongful acts of a group
- Begins to integrate skills of justice and peacemaking
- Recognizes that our call to the Christian life may be counter cultural to the message in some contemporary music and media, yet can identify the positive messages in the same
- Is conscious of racial, ethnic and class differences and makes definite efforts to be inclusive in relationships
- Reaches out to those who may be isolated from “in” groups
- Can articulate an awareness in the disparity of resources (both locally and globally) and can connect that to the need to reach out to the poor and disenfranchised
- Recognizes that “globalization” and technology have implications for the life and dignity of the human person
- Begins to understand the impact of or world on the development of the Church
- Participates in Christian Service activities

### **Christian Faith and Practice**

- Connects the beliefs of the Catholic Church to the lived experience of youth
- Recognizes major periods in the Bible and in the history of the Catholic Church: Genesis - Exodus; New Testament period; Development of the early Church
- Describes the Marks of the Church
- Identifies the significant components in the hierarchical nature of the Church
- Defines Lay Leadership and articulates the role of the laity in building the Kingdom of God
- Recognizes interreligious dialogue as the effort to foster cooperation and improve understanding between and among different Christian traditions
- Describes the contribution of saints and holy people to our faith tradition, for example: St. Teresa of Avila; St. Vincent Palloti; St. Rose of Lima; Dorothy Day; Archbishop Oscar Romero
- Recognizes different images and titles for Mary: Our Lady, Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Lourdes, Sorrowful Mother, Queen of Heaven
- Recognizes holy people of other traditions: Gandhi, Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Identifies one’s self as being a unique creation, made in God’s image