

## First Grade

- **Encountering God revealed through Sacred Scripture, Sacred Tradition, and the stories of everyday human experience**
  - Experiencing God as the Holy Trinity (Father, Son, and Holy Spirit)
  - God is a loving Father and Creator
  - Jesus is the Son of God the Father, Mary is His mother = Jesus is true God and true man
  - The Holy Spirit is sent to us by God the Father to be His love alive in us
  - Mary is our spiritual mother
  - We are called to be saints (to be holy)
- **Honoring Christ's presence in liturgy, participating in liturgical celebrations and the sacraments**
  - The seven Sacraments are an encounter with God's love and presence that give us grace
  - Name and identify the seven Sacraments
  - The Sacrament of Baptism makes us members of the Church
  - The Church is a sacred place where we meet God and show God our love and respect
  - The Sacrament of the Eucharist is Jesus completely sharing Himself with us
  - An increased awareness of what is happening at Mass (this could include learning the name for the vestments, the sacred vessels, and identification of the baptismal font, altar, tabernacle, sanctuary lamp, Easter candle, Stations of the Cross, and beginning to use gestures at Mass)
  - Associate the symbols and colors of the liturgical seasons (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time).
- **Encountering the Holy Spirit in expressions of prayer**
  - Prayer is listening to and speaking with God
  - Jesus teaches us how to pray
  - Learn certain prayers of the Church including: Sign of the Cross, Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Angel of God, Decade of the Rosary, Morning Offering, Grace before meals, Grace after meals
  - There is an important difference between worship Jesus and praying to Mary and the Saints
  - Building the habit of praying with one's family at significant times of the year: prayers for the dead during the month of November, the Rosary during the month of October, Stations of the Cross on Fridays in Lent, as well as opportunities throughout the year including adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
- **Learning Jesus' story to inspire a life of virtue**
  - God created us to love Him and our neighbors as ourselves
  - Church teaching informs our moral conscience; to choose to do what is good and to avoid what is wrong
  - Prayer to the Holy Spirit before making a decision, helps us to make better choices
  - God calls us to care for His creation
  - God created each of us out of love, each person is created as a gift
  - True happiness comes when we make virtuous choices
- **Learning how to become a disciple (student of Christ) and discovering one's role in the body of Christ (vocation)**

- We become member of the Church by our Baptism
- We learn what we believe by being active members of the Church and living what we believe
- We know the hierarchy of the Church including the pope, our bishop, and our pastor
- God has given each of us a personal vocation whose goal is to help us grow in holiness
- We learn to share what we learn about Jesus and our faith with others when asked