

KINDEGARTEN RELIGION

Focus: God as Loving Creator – God has created each person. He loves each of us in a special way. Our world is filled with signs of God’s love.

Faith Background

Children in kindergarten tend to view life with surprise, delight, and excitement. Religion teachers can take advantage of these attitudes by approaching spiritual development with awe and wonder and a sense of the sacred. This can best be fostered in an environment of emotional warmth and security.

Kindergarten students often view God as an invisible provider and protector. Children’s personal images of God are largely influenced by parents and other significant adults. As catechists model their own faith and engage children in religious experiences, they must be cognizant of their effect on the faith development of their students.

Creed

1. God – The student will explore creation as an expression of God’s love.

- a. Explain why each person is a child of God.
- b. Describe God as a loving Father and parent.
- c. Explain how we belong to a whole human family.
- d. Explain the need to love others as family.
- e. Understand that God created the world because He loves us.
- f. Tell how everything God made is good.

2. Jesus – The student will recognize Jesus as the greatest gift of creation.

- a. Tell why God gave us Jesus as Brother and Friend.
- b. Tell how Jesus, as older Brother, teaches us.
- c. Retell three stories Jesus taught people.

3. Sacred Scripture – The student will recognize the Bible as a special book.

- a. Identify God’s Holy Book.
- b. Explain that the Bible contains stories of God’s love for us.
- c. Recognize the story of creation.

4. Church – The student will identify the Church as a special family of God.

- a. Recognize how the Church celebrates the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter.
- b. Understand that we go to Mass to pray and sing together as God’s family.
- c. Plan a Mass.

Sacraments

- 1. Sacrament Preparation – The student will grow in understanding of the sacraments.**
 - a. Participate as part of the assembly in sacraments.
 - b. Recite/sing common responses at the assembly at Mass.

Christian Living

- 1. Christian Response – The student will appreciate creation as a gift.**
 - a. Name things God has made as gifts to our world.
 - b. Describe how we should keep creation beautiful.
 - c. Accept ourselves and others as unique creations and special children of God.
 - d. Demonstrate ways to care for God's creation and for others.
- 2. Morality – The student will express obedience appropriately.**
 - a. Recognize the difference between right and wrong actions.
 - b. Identify and respect persons with authority.
- 3. Human Life – The student will understand that God gives the gift of life.**
 - a. Recognize that our families share love with us.
 - b. Develop good health habits.
 - c. Recognize that boys and girls are alike in some ways and different in other ways.
 - d. Reject things that are harmful.
 - e. Express different feelings in effective ways.

Prayer

- 1. Prayer – The student will be encouraged to participate more fully in prayer.**
 - a. Make the sign of the cross.
 - b. Pray together as a class, school community, family, and church.
 - c. Pray the Guardian Angel.
 - d. Pray the Lord's Prayer.
 - e. Pray the Hail Mary.
 - f. Pray the Blessing Before Meals.