



Shakopee Area Catholic School  
Religion Standards and Benchmarks  
Grade Level: 2

**Strand One: Promoting Knowledge of the Faith**

- A. The students will learn to know, love and be in relationship with Jesus Christ.
1. Recognize God is the Creator of all things
  2. Identify that God is Trinity: One God who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit
  3. Identify that “life” is our greatest gift from God
  4. Explain that we remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus and receive his Body and Blood when we receive the Holy Eucharist
  5. Recognize and appreciate God’s presence in all creation
  6. Identify angels are special messengers of God
- B. The students will explore Scripture as hearers and doers of the Word.
1. Know that the Bible is a special Book of God’s word and demonstrate how we show respect for it
  2. Know that we read from the Bible at Eucharist (Mass)
  3. Demonstrate how the Bible is divided into two main sections: Old and New Testament
  4. Give examples of how Bible stories tell us about God’s love for us
- C. The students will understand the major teachings of Catholicism.
1. Recognize the Great Commandment and the Ten Commandments
  2. Identify the seven Sacraments
  3. Name and explain the Sacraments of Baptism
  4. Eucharist and Reconciliation
- D. The students will know the Church’s teaching on the dignity of the human person in its social doctrine, including respect-life teaching.
1. Respect that each person is created in God’s image and likeness
  2. Show respect for all creation
- E. The students will learn the richness of the Church’s tradition and understand Church history.
1. Recognize that Jesus came to save all people
  2. Name three holy men or women who believed in God
  3. Name three holy men or women who lived at the time of Jesus and those living now who follow Jesus’ teaching

F. The students will learn the meaning and practical relevance of current church teachings as presented by the pope, diocesan bishop, Vatican congregations, and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops.

1. Identify the roles of family, laity, deacon, priest, bishop, and pope as leaders within our church

### **Strand Two: Liturgical Education**

A. The students will understand, live, and bear witness to the suffering, death, and resurrection of Jesus, celebrated and communicated through the sacramental life of the Church.

1. Recognize the saints as holy people
2. Identify the parts of their church (Baptismal font, altar, etc.)
3. Describe how grace is God's life in us
4. Give examples of how we live a Christian life

B. The students will understand the church doctrine on the Eucharist and other sacraments.

1. Identify that Jesus gave us the sacraments as a way to celebrate and remember God's love for us, and through which Jesus becomes truly present
2. Recall and tell the last supper
3. Explain the purpose of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and different ways to celebrate it
4. Experience the Sacrament of the Eucharist as an action in which we give thanks and praise, receive Jesus, remember His life, death, and resurrection and are sent to be Christ to others

C. The students will acquire the spirituality, skills, and habits of full, conscious, and active participation in the liturgy.

1. Identify the two parts of the Eucharist (Mass): Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist
2. Show reverence while being in Church
3. Relate the Sunday scripture readings to daily life
4. Recognize the Liturgical Seasons/Feast of Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, Ordinary Time

D. The students will learn to value the dignity and responsibility of Christian baptism.

1. Identify that through the sacrament of Baptism, we become members of the Catholic Church, are consecrated to God, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit
2. Give examples of how we respect one another
3. Explain how Baptism call us to be disciples of Jesus

E. The students will understand the roles of the laity and ordained in Liturgical celebrations.

1. Experience various celebrations of prayer and identify the leader

2. Actively participate in various liturgical celebrations (e.g. Praying with the community (assembly), singing, choir, gift bearers)
3. Identify the roles of priest, deacon, choir, lectors, and the community (assembly) in our Eucharistic Celebration

F. The students will understand and participate in the Church's daily prayer, Liturgy of the Hours, and learn to pray the psalms.

1. Tell that Catholics praise God in a special morning prayer and pray in thanksgiving in the evening
2. Demonstrate, in the context of prayer, the gestures related to Liturgy of Hours: sign of the cross, bowing

### **Strand Three: Moral Formation**

A. The students will understand the "Great Commandment" of Jesus.

B. The students will understand the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes and moral teachings of the Church and live according to them.

1. Recognize that the Ten Commandments are guides for moral living
2. Show respect for those in authority

C. The students will understand the dignity, destiny, freedom, and responsibility of each person.

1. Seek to develop a relationship with Jesus
2. Understand that actions affect others
3. Demonstrate respect for all living things
4. Acknowledge that the body is sacred because each person is made in God's image

D. The students will understand the meaning and nature of sin and the power of God's grace to overcome it.

1. Distinguish between accidents, mistakes and sin
2. Relate the concepts of sin, God's forgiveness and mercy and how sin hurts us, others, and our relationship with God
3. Understand the Sacrament of reconciliation and how to celebrate it
4. Explain the difference between accidents, mistakes, choices and sin

E. The students will learn how to acquire and follow a well-formed conscience.

1. Practice simple forms of guided reflection as a tool for understanding how to make informed moral decisions
2. Pray for God's help in knowing right from wrong

F. The students will learn to promote the Gospel of Life so that respecting life from conception until natural death.

is honored in personal behavior, public policy, and in the expressed values and attitudes of our society

1. Show respect and responsibility for all life
2. Pray in thanksgiving for the gift of life

G. The students will learn to live a lifestyle reflecting spiritual values.

1. Demonstrate ways to live the “Great Commandments”
2. Know that because of Baptism, we are Christ’s disciples

#### **Strand Four: Teaching to Pray**

A. The students will become familiar with the diverse forms and expressions of Christian prayer, with special attention to Our Father, the prayer which Jesus taught his disciples and which is the model for all Christian prayer.

1. Develop a personal relationship with Jesus
2. Understand that the family is the primary setting for learning how to pray
3. Recite the following prayers: The sign of the Cross, Angel of God , Hail Mary, Glory Be, and Prayer Before Meals
4. Formulate spontaneous prayers

B. The students will experience and appreciate the richness of the Catholic tradition of mysticism and contemplation.

C. The students will develop a regular pattern of personal and spiritual reflection, recognizing vocal prayer, meditation, and contemplative prayer as basic and fruitful practices in the life of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

1. Demonstrate a sense of wonder and curiosity into their relationship with God

D. The students will engage in shared prayer with others, especially family prayer, as well as at parish meetings and in small communities of faith.

1. Formulate prayers of petition and intercessions
2. Participate in prayers of petition and intercessions with their family, classmates and small faith sharing groups

E. The students will recognize and encourage practices of popular piety and devotion that help believers express and strengthen their faith in Jesus Christ.

1. Participate in a blessing led by someone else
2. Give and receive daily blessings

#### **Strand Five: Education for Community Life**

A. Foster spiritual growth in community

1. Perceive the Sunday Eucharistic Liturgy as central to the life of the Church

2. Demonstrate their awareness that through Baptism they are God's special child and a member of the Christian Community

B. Cultivate human values and Christian virtues that foster growth in the interpersonal relationships and in civic responsibility

1. Know and practice the Golden Rule
2. Identify as a disciple of Christ and a member of Christ's Body, the Church
3. Understand their responsibility to care for themselves, others, and the environment

C. Nurture marriage and family life

1. Know that Jesus lived as a member of human family
2. Understand the role and authority of adults with the family and acknowledge the roles and responsibilities of children within the family

D. Share actively in the life and work of the parish, and foster the potential of small communities to deepen the faith relationships of members, to strengthen the bonds of communion with the parish, and to serve the Church's mission in society

1. Participate in works of charity with their family or class
2. Recall the story of Pentecost
3. Develop relationships beyond their family or class in which they are able to share faith

E. Understand the Church's teaching on the nature and mission of the Church, including an understanding of the Church's authority and structures and of the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful

1. Identify oneself as Catholic
2. Retell the story of their baptism and name ways to live as a member of Christ's body

F. Support the ecumenical movement and promote the unity of God's people as an important dimension of fidelity to the Gospel

1. Identify all followers of Jesus as our brothers and sisters
2. Pray for the unity of all the Baptized

### **Strand Six: Missionary Initiation**

A. The students will learn to cultivate an evangelizing spirit among the faithful.

1. Identify that life is the greatest gift from God
2. Appreciate that many diverse cultures make up the Catholic Church
3. Relate how the Sunday Eucharist (Mass) ask us to help others

B. The students will learn to respond to God's call whether as a lay person, ordained, or vowed religious.

1. Give examples of saints, heroes, and holy people
2. Identify how members of the parish are living their Baptismal call

3. Recognize that the “People of God” are the Church

C. The students will learn to encourage, motivate, and equip the faithful to speak to others about scripture, tradition, and teachings of the church.

1. Share your favorite Bible stories with others
2. Apply their knowledge of the faith to their daily life

D. The students will explore and promote the applications of the Church’s moral and social teachings.

1. Share ways to share one’s gifts
2. Take actions that show their love of God’s Creation

E. The students will understand the importance of serving those in need, promoting the common good, and for the transformation of society through personal and social action.

1. Tell how to imitate Jesus by welcoming others, sharing with those in need and forgiving
2. Name ways to practice peace making

F. The students will learn to appreciate the value of inter-religious dialogue and contacts.

1. Know that the Our Father (lord’s Prayer) is a Christian Prayer
2. Know all major religions have “holy” spaces like a church
3. Demonstrate respect for persons of other religions
4. Know that Jesus, Mary and Joseph were Jewish