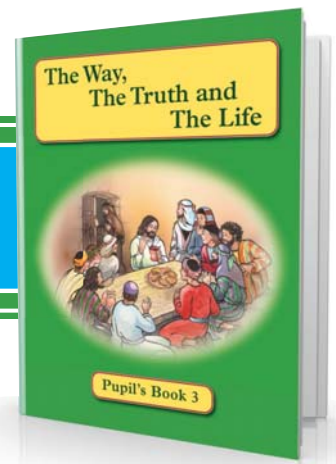




THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE



Contents



1. The Christian Family

- The Holy Family
- Our Family
- The Family of the Church
- Joining the Family of the Church
- The Sacrament of Baptism
- Signs and Symbols used in Baptism
- Promises made at Baptism



2. Mary, Mother of God

- The Annunciation
- Mary visits Elizabeth
- The Mystery of the Incarnation
- Advent
- The Birth of Jesus
- The Shepherds
- Visit of the Wise Men



3. Sacrament of Reconciliation

- The Great Commandment
- Called to Change
- God's Love
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation
- Receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation



4. Celebrating the Mass

- How the Mass began
- The Last Supper
- The Sacrifice of the Mass
- The New Covenant
- The Beginning of the Mass
- The Readings at Mass
- The Offertory and Consecration
- Holy Communion
- Our Parish Church



5. Celebrating Easter and Pentecost

- Celebrating New Life
- Celebrating Easter
- Jesus is Risen
- Jesus appears to the Apostles
- The Ascension
- Celebrating Pentecost
- The Fruits of the Spirit



6. Being a Christian

- The Challenge
- Loving My Neighbour
- St. Paul
- Meeting Jesus
- Using Gifts to Help Others
- Prayer



3.1 The Christian Family

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

“The Church is the family of God, the people that God gathers in the whole world...The Church is local: visibly present in...the life of local communities – families (the domestic Church), parishes and dioceses.” (p.19)

The sacraments “give and celebrate the life of God’s grace in us...The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life.” Baptism is one of the “sacraments of Christian initiation which lay the foundations of every Christian life. In Baptism we are reborn as children of God in Christ and enlightened by the Holy Spirit.” (p. 24)

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Know that we all belong to a family.
 - Think about how we can help our family.
- Know what it means to belong to the family of the Church.
 - Reflect on how the family of the Church helps us.
- Know that we join the Church when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
 - Think about what this Sacrament does for us.
- Understand what happens when we receive the Sacrament of Baptism.
 - Reflect on the meaning of the Sacrament of Baptism.
- Know about some of the signs and symbols used in the Sacrament of Baptism.
 - Reflect on why they are used.
- Know about the promises made at Baptism by parents and godparents.
 - Think about the importance of keeping promises.

3.2 Mary, Mother of God

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

“Mary the Mother of Jesus Christ and therefore the Mother of God is the first disciple. Her role in the Church flows directly from her union with Christ. She is the Church’s model of faith and charity and because of her singular response to God’s Word, is Mother of the Church.”

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Know that God chose Mary to be the Mother of His Son.
 - Think about the importance of being chosen.
- Know that Mary went to visit her cousin Elizabeth.
 - Think about how we can help each other.
- Know about the mystery of the Incarnation.
 - Reflect on mysteries.
- Understand that Advent is a time to prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus.
 - Think about how we can prepare.
- Know about the birth of Jesus.
 - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know that the wise men came to worship Jesus.
 - Think about the gifts we can offer Jesus.

3.3 Sacrament of Reconciliation

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

Reconciliation is a “sacrament of healing. Reconciliation makes sacramentally present Jesus’ call to conversion, involves contrition for our sins, confession of them to a priest, and absolution spoken by the priest in the name of Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the sacrament we acknowledge (confess) God’s holiness and mercy and we are reconciled to God and the community of the Church.” (p.24)

“There is no limit to God’s grace or to God’s mercy and forgiveness when we fail.” (p.34)

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Understand what it means to make wrong choices.
 - Reflect on how wrong choices affect us and other people.
- Know that Jesus called people to turn away from sin.
 - Think about why this is important.
- Understand that God always loves us.
 - Think of how important this love is for us.
- Know what the Sacrament of Reconciliation means.
 - Reflect on God’s love and forgiveness.
- Know what happens during the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
 - Think about what this Sacrament does for us.
- Understand the purpose of Lent.
 - Reflect on what we can do to prepare for Easter.

3.4 Celebrating the Mass

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

“In the Eucharist we participate in the Lord’s sacrifice. We are joined to the eternal praise and thanksgiving he offers as Son of the Father, and to his sacrifice on the cross. We receive him as our life and food, a promise of the eternal banquet of heaven. At the heart of the Eucharistic celebration are the bread and wine that become in reality Christ’s Body and Blood. Catholic faith adores this enduring presence of Christ not only within the celebration of the Mass but also outside it.”

“We express our love of God by acknowledging God as the Lord of our lives and giving God our thanks and praise. The regular Sunday participation in the celebration of Mass is a primary duty.”

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Know what happened at the Last Supper.
 - Reflect on how the Mass makes this real for us.
- Understand what happens at the beginning of Mass.
 - Think about why we say ‘sorry’.
- Understand the importance of the Readings at Mass.
 - Reflect on how we listen to God’s Word.
- Know what happens at the Offertory and Consecration.
 - Think about the offerings we can make.
- Know that it is Jesus we receive in Holy Communion.
 - Reflect on this very great gift for us.
- Be familiar with your Parish Church.
 - Reflect on its importance for you.

3.5 Celebrating Easter and Pentecost

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

“The celebration of the gift of salvation takes shape in the seasons and feasts of the Church’s year. Liturgy involves the conscious, active and fruitful participation of everyone.” (p.24)

“God’s Self-Revelation is perfected in us by the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of truth, promised by Jesus and revealed at Pentecost. It is the Holy Spirit who forms and guides God’s People to know God and enter into communion with God through Jesus Christ.” (p.14)

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Explore how the Church celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus.
 - Think about how we can celebrate Jesus’ Resurrection.
- Know that Jesus appeared to some of his disciples on the road to Emmaus.
 - Think about what we can learn from this experience.
- Know what Jesus said to Thomas when he did not believe he had risen from the dead.
 - Reflect on the meaning of these words for us.
- Know that Jesus returned to heaven.
 - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know what happened at Pentecost.
 - Reflect on how it changed the apostles.

3.6 Being a Christian

Religious Education Curriculum Directory

The greatest commandment of all

“Listen Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself.” (Mark 12:29-30).

Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

Key Learning Objectives:

- Begin to understand what being a Christian involves.
 - Reflect on what it means for us.
- Know what Jesus teaches about helping others.
 - Reflect on how we can help others.
- Know how St. Paul had to learn to be a Christian.
 - Think about what we can learn from his experience.
- Know that the Sacraments are a meeting with Jesus.
 - Be aware that in the Sacraments we receive Jesus’ great love.
- Know about people who use their gifts to help others.
 - Think about what we can learn from them.
- Begin to understand the importance of prayer.
 - Think about different ways of praying.