
RELIGION PROGRAM – STRANDS & THEMES GRADES ONE TO TWELVE

THE CANADIAN CATECHETICAL PROGRAMME

Canadian catechetical program builds in stages on the essential childhood education in faith that families provide. The various levels of the program seek to provide a progressive and systematic presentation of the faith. They are an initiation into lifetime of growing in faith.

CHILDHOOD – BORN OF THE SPIRIT & IN THE SPIRIT SERIES

- **Early childhood**
 - **In God's Image** (four and five year olds) – created in image of God
- **Cycle one:**
 - **We Belong to God** (Year One) invited by Jesus to belong to God the Father
 - **We Belong to the Lord Jesus** (Year two) called by the Lord Jesus to break bread together.
 - **In the Spirit We Belong** (Year three) gathered in unity to be the people of God
- **Cycle two:**
 - **Come and See** (Year four) knowing Jesus through those closest to him
 - **May We Be One** (Year five) being one with the Lord, who lives in the church
 - **You Shall Be My Witnesses** (Year six) witnessing to God's Spirit in the world

ADOLESCENCE – WE ARE STRONG TOGETHER SERIES

- **Transition years cycle** – synthesis of faith in the creed and living our faith
 - **Believe in Me** (Year seven) Part one of the creed
 - **Stand By Me** (Year eight) Part two of the creed
 - **Be with Me** (Year nine) evaluating own lifestyles and choices in light of the values revealed by Jesus' life and teachings
- **High school texts**
 - **Christ and Culture** (year ten) to assist youth, with the help of the gospel, to participate as Catholics in shaping of our culture
 - **In Search of the Good.** (year twelve) To assist youth to understand themselves as moral persons living the way of Christ through an examination of ethical theories, the revelation of sacred Scripture, and the experience and teaching of the Catholic church.
- **High school integrated program resources (IPR'S) scripture study and church teaching**
 - **Roots: Finding Strength in Biblical Tradition** Part One an exploration of the Old Testament in the context of youths' life questions.
 - **Roots: Finding Strength in Biblical Tradition** Part two an exploration OF THE New Testament in the context of youths' life questions
 - **Dreams, Dilemmas, Decisions: Deciding to be Church in Today's World** exploring church teaching on current issues in order to live as God intends for us to live.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROGRAM

- Religious education as evolving discipline, enables students to **learn knowledge, attitudes, skills** necessary to meet challenges of 21st century as they develop human and religious identities
- Designed to **promote religious literacy** that assists students in task of becoming life-long learners in relation to religious dimension of human experience.

- Designed to assist in **process of ethical and moral formation**
- Religious education both **educational and religious activity**.
- Religious education and family life education concerned with **integration of gospel values** into whole pattern of human life. Both developed within Judeo-Christian understanding of human person. Need to identify intrinsic connections.
- For learning process to be effective, a **variety of assessment and evaluation strategies** must be planned alongside learning activities. Clear outcomes and criteria essential
- Religious education is **connected with other disciplines** - ability to ask moral questions, to apply scripture to life, to find meaning in suffering, to take responsibility for actions: contributes to literacy; technological competency enhanced; assists in citizenship development; critical thinking essential expectation; global perspective; relationship to sciences
- Elementary and secondary **programs connected** so consistency from grade 1 to 12 – strands help this
- **Program assists students to**
 - Develop deep, **personal relationship with Christ** that is manifested in daily life and interpersonal activities.
 - Arrive at more **personal encounter with Lord** and grow more conscious of gift of faith.
 - **Assimilate essential doctrine** of church in more complete, systematic and detailed manner; see doctrine as insight
 - **Nurture love of church**
 - Learn to **adore God Father** in spirit & truth
 - Increase **acquaintance with scripture**
 - **Appreciate life lived according to gospel values** of Jesus
 - Recognize and accept **heritage of Catholic social teaching**
 - Become actively involved in **human community**
 - Recognize and appreciate spiritual wealth of **other world religions and Christian churches**
 - Foster Christian understanding, attitudes and values in areas of **family life, personal growth, respect for life, sexuality and social living**
 - Respond to baptismal call to **build reign of God**

Religious Education is divided into five strands. These five strands represent the five divisions of the catechism of the Catholic Church and the Fully Alive Program. Teachers should ensure that all five strands are addressed by the end of the academic year.

STRAND	GRADE ONE	GRADE TWO	GRADE THREE	GRADE FOUR	GRADE FIVE	GRADE SIX
Knowledge and respect for scripture	Parables and miracles of Jesus	Bible as word of God	Scripture stories of Advent, Easter and Lent	Identifying explaining analyzing scripture references	Locating bible passages with relevance to daily life	Integrating scripture with life
Basic Catholic teaching / Profession	Relationship with Father, Son & Spirit,	Jesus as human and divine. Jesus as model	God's love through Jesus and Holy Spirit	Life and teachings of Jesus	Church Christian community- past, present,	Valuing God, self and others

of faith	Mary as mother of God		(Trinitarian teaching)		future. Mary, model of faith	
Moral awareness	Jesus as model of living	Importance of God's creation and respect for life	Responses to God's call through community service	Respecting dignity of human life through responsible decision-making	Right and wrong choices; consequences and responsibilities	Exemplifying the Beatitudes
Prayers	Our Father, Hail Mary	Common prayers, personal prayers, prayers of the mass	Traditional group prayers, (Apostles creed)	Understanding of Lord's prayer, Mass and Apostles creed	Personal and creative prayer, liturgy, planning and integration	Communal and personal prayer, liturgical prayer
Sacraments	Belonging in community through baptism	God's presence in Sacraments of Baptism Reconciliation and Eucharist	Sacraments of initiation, Baptism, Reconciliation and Eucharist	Forms, signs, and symbols of Baptism, Eucharist and Reconciliation	Steps in reconciliation, Eucharist celebration	Communal and personal nature of sacraments, RCIA

STRAND	GRADE SEVEN	GRADE EIGHT	GRADE NINE	GRADE TEN	GRADE ELEVEN
Knowledge and respect for scripture	Jesus' call to change through gospels and resurrection	Bible used for referencing	Major stories and events in scripture; use historical, literary, critical approaches, identify canon of scripture; Beatitudes & commandments as relevant	Gospels as heart of Christian story; gospels as testimonies of faith in Jesus; exegesis skill; justice essential ingredient in human liberation; use of scripture in prayer and worship;	Key narratives in scripture; revelation; understanding of divine scriptures of world religions; relation between life questions of various world religions and their scriptures; covenant; rabbinical Judaism;
Basic Catholic	God's sacred	Church – one, holy, catholic	Christian call to take on attitude	Dignity of human as	Search for meaning within

<p>Teaching / Profession of faith</p>	<p>presence in creation. God's continued faithfulness</p>	<p>and apostolic. Communion of Saints. Ten commandments as guide. Peace and justice</p>	<p>of Christ; Mary as model of discipleship; call to community; Incarnation; discipleship; faith as reasonable</p>	<p>blessed & broken, created loved and redeemed by God; role of church in salvation; people of God; Mary as Mother of God and church; communion of saints; Knowledge of life & teachings of Jesus; credal forms; apply gospel to life; Christology</p>	<p>culture; ultimate questions in Christian tradition world religions, Native spirituality; historical development of church; search for meaning in world religions, human development</p>
<p>Moral Awareness</p>	<p>Moral decision-making; observe, judge, act model</p>	<p>Responsible choices. Self respect and respect for others. Service in the community</p>	<p>Teaching informing moral decision making; role of conscience; table fellowship; inclusive society; see/ judge/act</p>	<p>Teachings of Jesus important for moral decision making; Jesus as model; apply teachings of culture; social teachings; moral principles to media; option for poor as criterion; engage in community service;</p>	<p>Role of morality in search for meaning; moral codes; religion and culture and moral issues; religious fundamentalism; covenant; moral living; secularism</p>

				absolute truth and God as source	
Prayers	Analysis of Creed (first half) experiencing a variety of prayer forms (scripture prayers)	All prayer forms. Creating personal creeds. Apostles Creed (second half)	See below	See below	See below
Sacraments	Scriptural origins and role of sacraments in Christian community	Confirmation (gifts of Spirit) Baptism's link to Confirmation. Conscience and Reconciliation	See below	See below	See below
Prayer and Sacramental Life			Variety of prayer forms; connection prayer and life; sacramentality; forgiveness; sacrament of reconciliation; religious celebrations	Recognize spiritual and sacramental in human; Eucharist & Anointing of Sick; various purposes of prayer; personal & community prayer; sacraments of initiation; identify seven sacraments; main traditional prayers	Worship as response to sacred reality; importance of prayer & worship; role of symbol, ritual, celebration in Christian & Jewish & Muslim contexts; challenges of culture

STRAND	GRADE TWELVE
Knowledge and respect for scripture	Scripture transform lives; knowledge of narratives and events in scripture; scripture critiques culture; early community; justice and peace
Basic Catholic teaching / Profession of faith	Relationship religious faith and culture; four

	marks of church; culture in church teachings; social teaching & culture; Holy Spirit; community service
Moral awareness	Search for meaning in human anthropology; role of church community to transform world; ability to discern right from wrong; Ten Commandments; principles and key tenets of moral teaching; analyze social structures in light of social teaching
Prayer & sacramental life	Role of sacraments in life journey; Sacrament of Marriage; marriage prep; historical develop of marriage; service as call to ministry; Sacrament of Holy Orders; historical develop ordination; ministry as call to service