

2019-20-Elementary Lesson Guides

Grade 4 – Catechist Guide

Text: Finding God: Our Response to God's Gifts

Finding God Resources: There are also **Black-Line Masters** in the back of each teacher manual that you can use to reinforce the chapter at the beginning or the end of class. There are also CDs with songs and readings suggested for each lesson. There is an easel of Art prints for every grade level which are referenced in every chapter.

| Date | Lesson | Focus |
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| 9/7 | Open House And Opening Mass | Open House 9:30 Session 1 10:00 Mass Open House 11:00 Session 2 |
| 9/14 | Unit 1: Creator and Father Unit Saint: St. Teresa of Avila Chapter 1 – God Creates the World Make nametags Pass out books and folders | Theme: God's love for us is seen in His creation. ENGAGE: Story (St. Teresa of Avila); Thinking about how we can take care of the earth; Short prayer (p. 3). EXPLORE: God created and continues to create the world and the human family; We have souls, intellects, and free will; Learning about Psalms (Psalm 65:10, 14 on p. 5) REFLECT: Listen to Recorded Guided Reflection "God's Wonderful Creation" (CD1, Track 6). RESPOND: Write a sentence about one way that you could help care for the world. |
| 9/21 | Chapter 2 – Our Father in Heaven | Theme: Jesus tells us that God is our loving Father. ENGAGE: Thinking about how we can be brothers and sisters to everyone in the world; Short prayer (p. 11). EXPLORE: God listens to our prayers (Matthew 7:9-11 on p. 12); Review of the "Our Father"; Theological Virtues of faith, hope, and charity; God is revealed as the Trinity – Father creates the world; Jesus, the Son, saves us; and the Holy Spirit teaches us the truth. REFLECT: Act of Faith prayer (p. 16). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two about what you will do this week to show that you have faith and trust in God's love. |
| 9/28 | Chapter 3 – God's Plan for Salvation | Theme: God responds to the sin of Adam and Eve with the promise of a savior. ENGAGE: Thinking about how we could keep someone from being hurt; Short prayer (p.19). EXPLORE: Adam and Eve disobeyed God, thereby injuring their relationship with God and each other (Genesis 3 on p. 21); Because of this first sin, we are born into original sin; Salvation is the forgiveness of sins and the restoration of friendship with God, which comes through Jesus; We say "Lord, have Mercy" during the penitential rite of the Mass. REFLECT: Act of Hope prayer (p. 24). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two about what you will do this week to improve your relationship with God and with |

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| | | those around you. |
| 10/5&10/12 | NO CLASS | Columbus Day and Confirmation Grade 8 |
| 10/19 | Chapter 4 – God Calls Us to Obey Chapter 5 – Unit 1 Review | Theme: God speaks to us through our conscience. ENGAGE: Thinking about what freedom really means; Short prayer (p. 27). EXPLORE: Because we have free will, we can choose to do what is right; We form our conscience by studying the teachings of the Church, following the guidance of our parents, and listening to our church leaders; When we cooperate with the Holy Spirit, we can live in true freedom; Examination of Conscience is one way we can cooperate with the Holy Spirit; the Fruits of the Holy Spirit, especially Prudence, helps us to make good choices. REFLECT: Reflective examination of conscience prayer (p. 32). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week to help show respect for the dignity of others. |
| 10/26 | Unit 2: Son of God, Son of Mary Unit Saint: St. John Baptiste Vianney Chapter 6 – Jesus’ Law of Love Seasonal Sessions: All Saints | Theme: Jesus’ law of love allows us to live peacefully with one another. ENGAGE: Story (St. John Baptiste Vianney); Thinking about ways we can show love to others; Short prayer (p. 43). EXPLORE: Jesus’ new law of love is to love one another as God as loved us; We express our love for one another by caring for the poor, loving our enemies, and praying for people; The Fruit of the Holy Spirit, Fortitude, strengthens us to do the right thing even when it is difficult; St. Vincent de Paul shows us by example how to show his love for God by caring for the poor and suffering in the world; Through the general intercessions at Mass, we pray for others around the world and our parish. REFLECT: Act of Love prayer (p. 48). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week to show your love for God and others. |
| 11/2 | NO CLASS | FCPS Holiday |
| 11/9 | Chapter 8 - Jesus Our Redeemer | Theme: Jesus redeemed us from our sins through his life, death, and resurrection. ENGAGE: Thinking about what being grateful means; Short prayer (p. 59). EXPLORE: The risen Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to help us to live as he lived; At the end of time, Jesus will judge both the living and the dead; Jesus on the Cross (Luke 23:39-43 on p. 61); Jesus is our Redeemer because he offered his death to free us from our sins; Story of Ascension (Acts of the Apostles 1:9-11); After the consecration at Mass, we proclaim the |

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| 12/14 | Seasonal Session: Christmas Chapter 15 | See back of book Celebrate Advent Lessons and Carols TBD |
| 12/21 12/28& 1/4 | NO CLASS | Christmas Vacation Christmas Vacation and New Years |
| 1/11 | Unit 3: Community of Jesus Unit Saint: St. Louis IX Chapter 11 – The People of God | Theme: Through the Sacraments of Initiation, we are made members of the Church. ENGAGE: Story (St. Louis IX); Thinking about celebrations in our lives; Short prayer (p. 83). EXPLORE: Jesus wants us to continue his ministry by telling others of his teachings; Jesus wants everyone to be part of his community, the Church; The Sacraments of Initiation are Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist; St. Dominic continued the ministry of Jesus by founding the Order of Preachers, or Dominicans (Matthew 28:19-20 on p. 85). REFLECT: Recorded Guided Reflection “Go Forth” (CD1, Track 8). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about three ways you will be like Jesus this week? |
| 1/18 | NO CLASS | Martin Luther King |
| 1/25 | NO CLASS | Fairfax County Holiday |
| 2/1 | Chapter 12: The Church Teaches Us | Theme: Jesus calls the Church to continue his mission. ENGAGE: Thinking about ways we work together with others for special projects; Short prayer (p.91). EXPLORE: After Jesus died and ascended into heaven, the Apostles continued Jesus’ mission (Acts of the Apostles 1:21-26 on p. 92); Today, the Pope and Bishops, the successors of the Apostles, are the spiritual leaders of the Church; As faithful members of Christ’s body (the Church), we follow the Precepts of the Church (p. 95). REFLECT: Morning Offering Prayer (p. 96). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about one way you will help continue Jesus’ mission by doing something good for your family this week. |
| 2/8 | Chapter 13: God is Our Friend | Theme: Jesus calls us to forgiveness and reconciliation when we sin. ENGAGE: Thinking about how it feels to lose something that is important to you; Short prayer. EXPLORE: Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24); When we sin, we damage our relationship with God and others; Through the Sacrament of Penance, we receive God’s forgiveness; Mortal sin is a serious offense through which we reject our relationship with God; Venial sin is a less serious break with God and others. REFLECT: Meditative prayer. RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about one way you can practice forgiveness of others this week. |
| 2/15 | NO CLASS | PRESIDENTS’ DAY |

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| 2/22 | NO CLASS | OLGC Basketball Tournament |
| 3/1 | Chapter 14: Serving God and Others Unit 3 Review | Theme: Jesus calls Christians to be His disciples. ENGAGE: Thinking about a time when you were called to do something very special; Short prayer (p. 107). EXPLORE: Mary was the first and greatest of Jesus' disciples (Luke 1:27-38 on p. 108); Blessed Miguel Pro was executed for practicing his faith by being a priest (p. 111); the Holy Spirit calls us each to discipleship – to continue Jesus' mission by serving the needs of the world. REFLECT: Salve Regina prayer (Hail, Holy Queen) (p. 112). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week to act as a disciple of Jesus. |
| 2/29 | Unit 4: Meeting Jesus Unit Saint: St. Ignatius of Loyola Chapter 17 – The Sacrament of the Eucharist | Theme: Jesus is really present to us in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. ENGAGE: Thinking about favorite celebrations in our families; Short prayer (p.131). EXPLORE: Jesus miraculously fed five thousand people with just five loaves of bread and two fish (Mark 6:34-44); Jesus invites us all to share a meal with him: the Eucharist; In the Eucharist, bread and wine are consecrated, becoming the Body and Blood of Christ; Holy Days of Obligation (p. 135). REFLECT: Meditative prayer (p. 136). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week to share with needy people. |
| | Lent Seasonal Session | See back of book |
| 3/7 | Chapter 18 – Anointing of the Sick | Theme: We celebrate the healing presence of Jesus in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick. ENGAGE: Thinking about how you would like to be treated by family and friends if you were very sick or hurt; Short prayer (p. 139). EXPLORE: Through the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, the Church continues Jesus' healing ministry (Story, pp. 140-141 and Matthew 11:4-5 on p. 142). REFLECT: Intercessory prayer (p. 144). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week to help someone who is sick and suffering. |
| 3/14 | NO CLASS | 1st Eucharist Retreat for 2nd Grade |
| 3/21 | NO CLASS | LIVE JESUS! |
| 3/28 | Chapter 19 – Sacraments of Service | Theme: Matrimony and Holy Orders are Sacraments at the Service of Communion. ENGAGE: Thinking about what we may want to be when we grow up; Short prayer (p. 147). EXPLORE: The Sacraments of Service prepare people for service to the community; Married couples, bishops, priests, |

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| | <p>Seasonal Sessions: Holy Week Chapter 20</p> | <p>and deacons are called to show others what it means to love as Jesus loved (Story, pp. 148-149 and John 15:1-15 on p. 150). REFLECT: Recorded Guided Reflection “A Walk in the Vineyard” (CD 1, Track 9). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two (or draw a picture) about what you will do this week in service to another person.</p> <p>Theme: During Holy Week we remember that Jesus suffered and died for our salvation. ENGAGE: Thinking about our own sacrifices and the sacrifices of Jesus (we remember them in the “Stations of the Cross”); Short prayer (p. 215). EXPLORE: Jesus’ Trial (Luke 23:22-26); Simon of Cyrene (what we do for someone else, we do for Him). REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 218). RESPOND: Discussing ways we can follow Jesus willingly, even when it is difficult to do so.</p> |
| 4/4 | NO CLASS | Holy Week |
| 4/11 | NO CLASS | Easter |
| 4/18 | <p>Seasonal Sessions: Easter Chapter 25</p> <p>Unit 4 Review</p> | <p>Theme: During the Easter season we celebrate the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus Christ. ENGAGE: Thinking about the emotions involved in the events of Good Friday and Easter Sunday; Short prayer (p. 219). EXPLORE: Jesus has risen (Luke 24:1-8) REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 222). RESPOND: Discussing signs of a joyful Christian and what we can do to be witnesses to Jesus Christ.</p> |
| 4/25 | <p>Unit 5: Living Like Jesus Unit Saint: St. Francis Xavier Chapter 21 - The Ten Commandments</p> <p>Chapters 22-24 Commandments</p> | <p>Theme: By using the Ten Commandments as a guide for our actions, we are able to make good moral decisions. ENGAGE: Story (St. Francis Xavier); Thinking about how rules are part of our everyday life; Short prayer (p. 163). EXPLORE: God shepherded the Israelites on their journey to the Promised Land and gave them the Ten Commandments (Exodus 7:14-11:10 on p. 164); Their covenant with God guaranteed their freedom in return for their steadfast worship; Jesus’ command to love one another reveals the deeper meaning of the Ten Commandments. REFLECT: The Come Holy Spirit prayer (p. 168). RESPOND: Write a sentence or two about the person you will go to for advice when making a difficult choice</p> |
| 5/2 | NO CLASS | 1st Eucharist Masses for 2nd Grade |
| 5/9 | Review | <p>Catch up</p> <p>Review Year</p> |

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| | | Review Diocesan Standards of Learning |
| 5/16 | Closing Mass | Closing Mass at 9:00AM for all. Celebration to follow in DeSales Hall. |