

2019-20 Elementary Lesson Guides

Grade 3 – 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
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. Ignatius of Loyola Chapter 1 – Created to Be Happy Make nametags Pass out books and folders	Theme: God wants us to know him. ENGAGE: Story (St. Ignatius of Loyola); thinking about the goodness of all of God's creation; Short prayer (p. 3). EXPLORE: God's Wonders; All Creation Praises God (Psalm 148:7-14 on p. 5); The Apostle's Creed (first part); Reading God's Word (Genesis 1:31 on p. 6); Knowing God. REFLECT: Prayer (first part of Apostle's Creed). RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 9); My Response (pass out paper for drawing ways we can show we care for God's world).
9/21	Chapter 2 – Created to Be Together	Theme: The love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the source of the love we have for one another. ENGAGE: Picture (serving others); Thinking about how we share God's love with others in our communities; Short prayer (p. 11). EXPLORE: Story (The Sign of the Cross); Link to Liturgy (near the beginning and end of Mass we pray the "Sign of the Cross"); Praying the "Glory Be to the Father"; Reading God's Word (1 John 4:16 on p. 13); Meet a Saint (Elizabeth of Hungary, p. 14). REFLECT: Praising the Holy Trinity (Sign of the Cross). RESPOND: Living My Faith (Ways of being like Jesus); Prayer (p. 17); My Response (ways we can show our love for someone else).
9/28	Chapter 3 – God is Our Father	Theme: Jesus reveals to us that God is our loving Father, who calls us to live in peace with one another. ENGAGE: Thinking about how we are followers of Jesus when we are loving toward others; Short prayer (p. 19). EXPLORE: Jesus teaches us that God is our loving Father; Praying the "Our Father"; Reading God's Word (2 Corinthians 1:3-4 on p. 22); Forgiving Others. REFLECT: Listen to Recorded Guided Reflection "The Lord's Prayer" (CD 1, Track 6) RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 25); My Response (pass out paper for drawing ways we can show our love in a special way at home).
10/5&10/12	NO CLASS	Columbus Day and Confirmation
10/19	Chapter 4 – Jesus Is With	Theme: The Father sends Jesus to save us.

	<p>Us</p> <p>Unit 1 Review</p>	<p>ENGAGE: Thinking about the physical birth of Jesus compared with our own families; Short prayer (p. 27).</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Nativity Story; Trusting God and trusting others; Reading God's Word (Deuteronomy 31:8 on p. 29); Different names for Jesus.</p> <p>REFLECT: Praying the second part of the Apostles' Creed.</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 33); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a way we will, this week, try to help one person who seems unhappy).</p>
10/26	<p>Unit 2: Son of God, Son of Mary</p> <p>Unit Saint: St. Scholastica and St. Benedict</p> <p>Chapter 6 – Jesus' Good News</p> <p>Seasonal Session: All Saints Day</p>	<p>Theme: Jesus teaches us how to love the Father, others, and ourselves.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Story (The Holy Twins: St. Scholastica and St. Benedict); Short prayer (p. 43).</p> <p>EXPLORE: Parable of the Mustard Seed (Matthew 13:31-32 on p. 44); Jesus teaches us about the Kingdom of God using parables (stories). St. Benedict founds a monastery; Parable of the Yeast (Matthew 13:33 on p. 47); The parables of the mustard seed and yeast teach us how to serve the Kingdom of God through our love of God and serving others; Small acts of kindness can make a big difference.</p> <p>REFLECT: Listen to Recorded Guided Reflection "Kingdom of God" (CD 1, Track 7)</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Word I Learned); Prayer (p. 49); My Response (pass out paper for drawing ways we can help someone in need in our school, neighborhood, or parish).</p> <p>Theme: On All Saints Day we celebrate all members of the Church, living and dead, united in Christ.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about Halloween as "All Hallows Eve" - the eve of All Saints Day; a "hallowed" person is a saint; Short prayer (p. 227).</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Communion of Saints (1 John 4:11-13 on p. 228)</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 230) with veneration of Mary (statue or picture), our greatest example of a saint – the "Queen of All Saints."</p> <p>RESPOND: Discuss ways we can be like the saints.</p>
11/2	NO CLASS	FCPS Holiday
11/9	Chapter 7- Following Jesus	<p>Theme: Jesus calls us to love God and others.</p> <p>ENGAGE: We can always trust Jesus; Short prayer (p. 51)</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Rich Young Man (Mark 10:17-23 on p. 52); Link to Liturgy: The "Sign of Peace" at Mass is how we share the peace of Christ with one another; The Ten Commandments help us to follow God and to care for others; The Holy Spirit gives us the grace to turn back to God; Conversion is when we mend our relationships with God and others.</p> <p>REFLECT: Meditative prayer (p. 56)</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Word I Learned); Prayer (p. 57);</p>

		My Response (write or discuss what you could do this week to show you want to follow Jesus).
11/16	Chapter 8- Jesus Gathers Disciples	<p>Theme: Jesus invites his followers to enter the Kingdom of God.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about how we work together with our friends to make something good happen; Jesus chose apostles and disciples to help him spread the Good News of the Kingdom; Short prayer (p. 59).</p> <p>EXPLORE: Jesus and Peter (Luke 5:1-5 and Luke 5:6-11 on pp. 60-61); The apostles and disciples accepted Jesus' mission to proclaim God's Kingdom; We are still called today to work together as disciples of Jesus, proclaiming the Kingdom of God in Jesus' name – this is our “mission”; Reading God's Word (Luke 10:2 on p. 63).</p> <p>REFLECT: Meditative prayer (p. 64) with song “Here I Am, God” (CD 2, Track 5).</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 65); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of your family working together on a project you think might be helpful to someone in need).</p>
11/23	<p>Seasonal Session: Advent Chapter 10</p> <p>Chapter 12- The Catholic Church</p>	<p>Theme: In the season of Advent, we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Explaining the Liturgical Calendar (p. 201); Short prayer (p. 203).</p> <p>EXPLORE: Annunciation (Luke 1:26-33 on p. 204); Prayer is a way of letting Jesus know that he is welcome in our lives and in our hearts.</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 206); Praying the Hail Mary</p> <p>RESPOND: Discussing and/or writing ways we can prepare our hearts during Advent to be ready to welcome Jesus at Christmas.</p>
11/30	NO CLASS	Thanksgiving

12/7	Chapter 13 – The Church Prays	<p>Jesus Christ is especially present in the celebration of the sacraments.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about how signs give us direction in our lives and convey messages; Jesus shares the gift of sacraments as a sign of His love for us; Short prayer (p. 99).</p> <p>EXPLORE: Jesus shares his love with others through healing (Luke 7:1-17 on p. 100 and Luke 7:8-10 on p. 101); Sacramentals (crosses, holy water, etc.) help us grow in faith; Reading God’s Word (Luke 17:21 on p. 103).</p> <p>REFLECT: Listen to Recorded Guided Reflection “Faith in Jesus” (CD1, Track 8).</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 105); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of what you will do this week to celebrate the grace you receive in the sacraments)</p>
12/14	Seasonal Session: Christmas Chapter 15	<p>ADVENT PRAYER SERVICE</p> <p>Theme: During the Christmas season, we celebrate Jesus’ birth.</p> <p>ENGAGE: What Jesus’ birth means to us; Short prayer (p. 207).</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Nativity (Luke 2:1-20 on p. 208; We, like the shepherds, welcome Jesus and are messengers of the good news of Jesus’ birth.</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 210);</p> <p>RESPOND: Discussion of the true meaning of Christmas</p>
12/21 & 12/28	NO CLASS NO CLASS	Christmas Vacation
1/4	NO CLASS	New Years
1/11	Chapter 14 – Mary is Holy	<p>Theme: Mary is the Church’s model of faith and love.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about our own mothers; Short prayer (p. 107).</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Magnificat (Luke 1:46-54); We are part of the Communion of Saints; the Rosary helps us to honor Mary by remembering the principal events in the lives of Jesus and Mary.</p> <p>REFLECT: Praying the Rosary with the Joyful mysteries (p. 112).</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 113); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of what you will do this week to show that you are a loving and trusting son or daughter).</p>
1/18	NO CLASS	Martin Luther King
1/25	NO CLASS	Fairfax County Holiday
2/1	Unit 4: Meeting Jesus Unit Saint: St. Paul the Apostle	See Chapter Lesson

	Chapter 16: Sacraments of Initiation	
2/8	Chapter 17 Reconciliation Chapter 18 Eucharist	See Chapter Lesson
2/15	NO CLASS	PRESIDENT'S DAY
2/22	NO CLASS	OLGC Basketball Tournament
2/29	SEASONAL SESSION: LENT Chapter 9 – Jesus Dies and Rises	<p>Theme: The season of Lent is a time of preparation for the feast of Easter</p> <p>ENGAGE: We are called to make the 40 days of Lent holy by praying and by doing special things to honor God; Short prayer (p. 211)</p> <p>EXPLORE: Jesus was helped by the Holy Spirit when tempted in the desert (Mark 1:12-13); The ashes we receive on Ash Wednesday is a sign of our need for God in our lives (they are made from the palms blessed the year before on Palm Sunday).</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 214).</p> <p>RESPOND: Review of Lenten words (prayer, fasting, etc.)</p> <hr/> <p>Theme: Through Jesus' death and resurrection, we receive salvation.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about ways we can share God's love with others; Short prayer (p. 67).</p> <p>EXPLORE: St. Paul's Letter (1 Corinthians 15:1-5); Jesus' passage from death to resurrection is called the "Paschal Mystery"; Reading God's Word (John 11:25-26); The second part of the "Apostles' Creed).</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer (p. 72)(+review first part of Apostles' Creed).</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 73); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of what you will do this week to show that you will live your life in service to others).</p>
3/7	Chapter 19 Christian Living Unit 4 Review	See Chapter Lesson
3/14	NO CLASS	2nd Grade 1st Eucharist Retreat
3/21	NO CLASS	LIVE JESUS!
3/28	Seasonal Session: Holy Week Chapter 20	<p>Theme: During Holy Week we remember that Jesus suffered and died for our salvation.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Thinking about our own sacrifices and the sacrifices of Jesus (we remember them in the "Stations of the Cross"); Short prayer (p. 215).</p> <p>EXPLORE: Jesus' Trial (Luke 23:22-26); Simon of Cyrene</p>

	Chapter 21: Faith, Hope and Charity	(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.
4/4 & 4/11	NO CLASS	HOLY WEEK and Easter
4/18	SEASONAL SESSION: Easter Chapter 25 Chapter 24 All Life is Sacred	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. 169). EXPLORE: Jesus has risen (Luke 24:1-8) REFLECT: Prayer Service (p. 172). RESPOND: Discussing signs of a joyful Christian and what we can do to be witnesses to Jesus Christ.
4/25	Chapter 22 Making Good Choices Chapter 23 Living as God's Children	Theme: Jesus gives us the help we need to make good moral choices. ENGAGE: Thinking about how we make difficult choices; Short prayer (p. 171). EXPLORE: When Jesus was tempted in the desert he chose to follow the Father's will instead of his own (Matthew 4:1-11 on p. 172); The Ten Commandments teach us how to live for God and others. REFLECT: Morning Offering Prayer (p. 176). RESPOND: Living My Faith (Words I Learned); Prayer (p. 177); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture or writing a sentence to tell what you will do when you are faced with a moral choice). Theme: Jesus helps us to love and respect one another. ENGAGE: Thinking about how you feel when your family is happy; Short prayer (p. 179). EXPLORE: Through the grace of God, we can live in peace, harmony, and justice with our families; We share God's love by caring for others, especially the poor and elderly; The Holy Spirit is the source of God's help in our lives; Story (St. Louise de Marillac). REFLECT: Listen to Recorded Guided Reflection "Hold Them

		<p>in Your Heart” (CD1, Track 10).</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Word I Learned); Prayer (p. 185); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of what you will do this week to promote peace and harmony in your home).</p>
5/2	NO CLASS	1st Eucharist Masses for 2nd Grade
5/9	<p>Unit 3: Community of Jesus Unit Saint: St. Katharine Drexel</p> <p>Chapter 11: Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit (see also Special Session: Pentecost)</p> <p>Catch Up/Review/ Diocesan Standards of Learning</p>	<p>Theme: Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to bring life into the Church.</p> <p>ENGAGE: Story (St. Katharine Drexel); Short prayer (p. 83).</p> <p>EXPLORE: The Holy Spirit (Acts of the Apostles 2:1-12); Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help the disciples carry out his mission; The Holy Spirit brings life and strength to the Church; The Holy Spirit helps us today teaching us to be witnesses to Jesus.</p> <p>REFLECT: Prayer to the Holy Spirit (p. 88)</p> <p>RESPOND: Living My Faith (Word I Learned); Prayer (p. 89); My Response (pass out paper for drawing a picture of what you will do this week to practice gentleness and self-control).</p>
5/16	Closing Mass	<p>Closing Mass at 9:00AM for all.</p> <p>Parents are invited and encouraged to come.</p> <p>Celebration to follow in DeSales Hall.</p>