

Developmental Benchmarks for First Grade:

Building on the foundation of learning and practice developed in PreK-Kindergarten, the goals for the formation of our children in First Grade includes all previous learning plus...

Scripture: *During Grade 1, our children will come to understand Sacred Scripture as God's Word that speaks to them. They will...*

- Know that the stories read at Mass come from the Bible
- Demonstrate respect for the Bible as God's Holy Word to us
- Be able to *retell* the following Bible stories:
 - The first creation story (Genesis 1: 1-31 and 2: 1-4a)
 - The Birth of Jesus (Matthew 1: 18 -25; Luke 2: 1-20)
 - The story of Jesus blessing the children (Mark 10:13-16; Luke 18:15-17)
 - The story of Jesus' death and resurrection (end of all four Gospels)
- Listen to/Have heard the following Bible Stories:
 - The second Creation Story (Genesis 2:4b – 25)
 - The Story of Adam and Eve (Genesis 3:1-13)
 - The Story of Noah and the Flood (Genesis 6:9- 9:17)
 - The Story of God Covenant with Abraham (Genesis 17:1-9)
 - The Story of God Calling Moses (Exodus 3:1-17)
 - The Story of the Exodus (Exodus: 14:1-31)
 - The Story of Moses and the Ten Commandments (Exodus: 20:1-17)
- Know that the Bible stories tell about God's love for us
- Know that life and all of creation are gifts from God that we are to love and protect
- Know that creation shows God's love for us
- Know that the birth of Jesus shows God's love for us

Doctrine: *During Grade 1, our children will know and understand these basic teachings of the Catholic faith:*

- Know that God is the creator of all things
- Know that LIFE is our greatest gift from God
- Know that God is Love and will never stop loving us. Because God loves us, we love God. Because we love God, we want to do what God asks us to do.
- Know that God wants us to do good and avoid evil.
- Know that when we knowingly do something that offends God or harms others, we call that "sin".
- Understand that God and Jesus will forgive us our sins and help us to not sin when we ask for it.
- Know that The Holy Spirit is also God – the Third Person of the Holy Trinity
- God gives each of us a guardian angel to guide and protect us.
- Know and be able to say what we celebrate on Christmas Day, on Good Friday and on Easter Sunday

Sacraments: *During Grade 1, our children will begin to know and appreciate the importance of Sacraments and that Liturgy and Eucharist is central to our Catholic Faith. They will...*

- Know that the Sacraments are gifts given us by Jesus as a special way to celebrate and remember God's love for us
- Know what Baptism is and that, through Baptism, we are welcomed into the Christian Family as followers of Jesus

- Ideally, have the children see/attend a Baptism and have an opportunity to discuss it (or take the children up to church and show/describe what happens)
- Attend and participate at Mass regularly and prayerfully and be able to participate in the following ways:
 - Say “Amen” at the end of the prayers
 - Say “Lord Hear Our Prayer” during Prayers of the Faithful
 - Say the “Our Father” with the congregation
 - Bring up the gifts with their family at least once

Prayer & Spirituality: *By the end of 1st Grade, our children will...*

- Be able to recite the Our Father, the Hail Mary and the Glory Be
- Understand why we say a prayer (“Grace”) before a meal
- Lead Grace before a meal at least once each week
- Regularly say prayers before bed and meals
- Be able to demonstrate some prayer postures, e.g., bowing to the Altar and genuflecting toward the Tabernacle.
- Begin to develop the habit of praying for others – beyond their immediate family
- Be able to share ways that God shows his love for them
- Be able to describe prayer as talking to Jesus, God (his Father), and the Holy Spirit
- Be able to pray in their own words

Community: *By the end of Grade 1, they will understand that they are part of a larger faith community or family – the parish community of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception AND the larger Catholic Church, they will*

- Know that the two Great commandments are love of God and love of neighbor
- Be able to recognize how their behavior affects others
- Be able to share ways they can love God and their neighbor

Service: *By the end of Grade 1, our children will...*

- Have listened to select gospel stories and discussed how love of neighbor was shown
- Be able to share ways they can provide service to others
- Be able to discuss ways to care for and respect the gift of creation – AND to understand that this is also showing love of neighbor

Catholic Prayers to be able to recite by themselves:

Sign of the Cross In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Our Father Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

Prayer Before Meals Bless us O Lord, and these thy gifts, which we are about to receive, from thy bounty, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Glory Be Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.