

# Developmental Benchmarks for Third Grade:

Building on the foundation of learning and practice developed through Grade 2, the goals for the formation of our children in Third Grade include all previous learning plus...

**Scripture:** *During Grade 3, our children will come to understand Sacred Scripture as God's Word that speaks to them.*

*They will...*

- Be able to recognize which books of the Bible are in the Old Testament and which are in the New Testament
- Be able to describe the Old Testament as writings about God's relationship with His chosen people, the Hebrews
- Be able to describe the New Testament as writings about Jesus who shows us how to love God and others
- Be able to retell the following Bible stories with words, art and/or drama
  - The Greatest Commandment (Mark 12:28-34)
  - The Story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
  - Jesus is the Good Shepherd (John 10:1-18)
  - Jesus feeds a Huge Crowd (John 6:1-15)
  - The Story of the Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12)
  - The Promise of the Holy Spirit (John 14:15-31)
  - The Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:5-13)
  - The Story of the Last Supper (Mt. 26:17-30, Mk. 14:12-26, Lk. 22:7-39 and Jn. 13:1-17:26)
  - We are the Church (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- Listen to/Have heard or read the following Bible Stories:
  - The Story of David and Goliath (1 Samuel 17:1-54)
  - The Story of Jonah and the Whale (Jonah 1:1-17)
  - The Story of Jesus Walking on the Water (Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52)
  - The Story of Jesus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
  - The Story of the Wedding at Cana (John 2:1-11)
  - The Parable of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37)
  - The Story of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-42)
- Recite the Ten Commandments and be able to identify what they tell us to do and what not to do
- Recite the Greatest Commandment and be able to say how it applies to their lives

**Doctrine:** *During Grade 3, our children will know and understand these basic teachings of the Catholic faith:*

- That God is Trinity – one God who is Father, Son and Spirit
- Be familiar with the concept of “revelation” and be able to identify ways in which God is revealed to us (Scripture, the Church, creation, families, people, life events)
- Know that Jesus is, at the same, true God and true Man
- Know that God sent Jesus to teach us how to live lovingly, justly, humbly, and prayerfully.
- Be able to give examples of how God expresses love for us
- Be familiar with the concepts of Heaven, Hell and Purgatory
- Know that Advent is the season of waiting and preparation for the birth of Jesus at Christmas
- Know that Lent is the season of sharing in Jesus' journey to Jerusalem and his death
- Know that Easter is more than one day – it is the season of celebrating Jesus Resurrection

**Sacraments:** *During Grade 3, 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...*

- Be able to recite the names of the seven sacraments
- Be able to identify that Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist are sacraments of initiation
- Be able to identify that Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick are sacraments of healing
- Be able to discuss how Eucharist helps us remember the life, death and resurrection of Jesus
- Attend and fully participate at Mass regularly and prayerfully be able to participate in the following ways:
  - Be able to share something they remember about the Gospel reading
  - Be able to share something they remember about Fr. Gary's homily
  - Reverently recognize and respond to the consecration during the Liturgy (the bread and wine are changed into the real presence of the Body and Blood of Christ)
- Be able to identify the liturgical seasons of the Church year and recognize their significance. (Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, Pentecost, and Ordinary Time)
- Participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

**Prayer & Spirituality:** *By the end of 3rd Grade, our children will...*

- Be able to recite the Prayer Angel of God
- Participate in the praying of the Rosary
- Participate in the praying of the Stations of the Cross
- Prepare for and assume different roles in communal prayer (family, Sunday class, the Liturgy)
- Compose prayers for different occasions (birthdays, travel, a new school year, sickness, etc.)
- Compose and say their own morning and evening prayers

**Community:** *By the end of 3rd Grade, our children 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 be able to...*

- Recite and describe the two Great commandments: love of God and love of neighbor
- Describe how sinful acts interfere with their relationships with God, others, creation and self
- Relate appropriate Catholic responses to situations of social injustice (e.g., homelessness, hunger, poverty, environmental destruction) and practice ways to stand up for what is right
- Examine the effects of their own behavior in family, group settings and the larger world

**Service:** *By the end of Grade 3, our children will...*

- Be able to tell stories from the gospel of people serving others
- Report on ways they can be of service in their families and in the parish
- Plan and participate in one or more service projects to help those in need
- Have taken actions that show their love of and respect for God's creation
- Give examples of different kinds of work people perform and how that work helps other people (e.g., parents' work at home, police, artists, musicians, plumbers, truck drivers, farmers, garbage men, housekeeping, nurses)

**Catholic Prayers to be able to recite by themselves:**

**Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Grace, Act of Contrition, and**

**Angel of God:** Angel of God, my guardian dear, to whom God's love commits me here, ever this day be at my side to light and guard, to rule and guide. Amen.

**Know that there are four sets of Mysteries of the Rosary:** Joyful, Glorious, Luminous, and Sorrowful