

Developmental Benchmarks for Ninth Grade:

Building on the foundation of learning and practice developed through Grade 8, the goals for the formation of our children in Eighth Grade includes all previous learning plus...

Scripture: *During Grade 9, our children will come to understand Sacred Scripture as God's Word that speaks to them. They will...*

- Trace how the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament) are fulfilled in Jesus Christ.
- Know how, and when, the Bible came to be
- Be able to locate any chapter and verse of the Bible upon request
- Be able to explain what it means to believe we are saved by Jesus
- Understand that the Bible is a collection of many books inspired by God describing the history of salvation
- Describe the role of the Holy Spirit in their lives
- Know the names of all the Letters written by Paul.
- Know how to find Scripture that will help with specific needs such as courage, forgiveness, hope, friendship, loss, making choices, service, love, trust in God, etc.
- Be able to retell the following Bible stories:
 - Come to Me and Rest (Matthew 11:25-30)
 - A Time for Everything (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8)
 - Cardinal Virtues (Wisdom 8:7)
 - True Love and Theological Virtues (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)
 - New Life in Christ (Colossians 3:1-17)
 - I can do All Things (Philippians 4:13)
 - Act Justly, Walk Humbly (Micah 6:6-8)
 - Rejoice and Give Thanks (Philippians 4:4-9)
- Listen to/Have heard the following Bible Stories/Passages:
 - Your Word will Last Forever (Psalm 119:89)
 - The Bible is the Word of God (2 Timothy 3:16)
 - Fruits of the Holy Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23)
 - Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:1-2)

Doctrine: *During Grade 9, our children will know and understand these basic teachings of the Catholic faith. They will...*

- Know that the Feast of the Immaculate Conception is in honor and celebration of the conception of Mary and that she was free from original sin.
- Know and explain that church is apostolic.
- Know what the Reformation was and who started it.
- Know what each of the following are and how they are similar yet different. Prophet, Evangelist, Apostle, Disciple
- Know what it means to Evangelize and discuss ways they can evangelize to others.
- Know the purpose of Vatican II and discuss its importance.

Sacraments: *During Grade 9, 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 what Transubstantiation is and that as Catholics we believe in the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist.

- Know what a Monstrance is and what it is used for.
- Be able to list as well as participate in all six solemnities that are Holy Days of Obligation during the liturgical year.
- Know all the parts of the Holy Mass and explain the purpose of each part.
- Know and understand the meaning behind “...enter under my roof....”
- Attend and participate at Mass regularly and prayerfully be able to participate in the following ways:
 - Know which books the First and Second Readings were from and be able to remember what the readings (or some part of them) were about
 - Be able to share something they remember about the Gospel reading and the homily
 - Be able to discuss how the readings apply to their lives
 - Be involved in the liturgy in some other way (reading, helping set up or clean up, singing, altar server, ushering, greeting people)
- Participate in the liturgies of the Triduum and reflect on the experience.
- Participate in the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist
- Participate in Eucharistic Adoration

Prayer & Spirituality: *By the end of 9th Grade, our children will be able to...*

- Take a leadership role in preparing and directing a communal prayer service (e.g., an extended opening or closing prayer service for class)
- Identify sources of stress, anger, and conflicts in their lives and discover positive ways to deal it.
- Identify and practice the discernment model
- Know and explain the different forms of prayer (blessing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving, and praise)
- Know and experience mediation, contemplative prayer, and Catholic devotions.
- Identify a patron saint and be able to tell about that saint's life and how the saint followed Jesus' example
- Identify at least ten saints, be able to share something about their lives and describe what they most admire about those saints
- Understand the different types of vocational “callings”
- Learn the different dimensions of spirituality and assess their strengths and weaknesses of their spirituality.
- Have been exposed to and reflected on selected writings of contemporary Catholic spiritual writers (e.g., Thomas Merton, Mother Teresa, Dorothy Day, Joyce Rupp, James Martin, etc.)

Community: *By the end of 9th Grade, our children will understand that they are a part of a larger faith community or family – the parish of St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception AND the larger Catholic Church. They will...*

- Identify personal gifts, talents, traits, and characteristics and how to use them in the faith community.
- Know that Ecumenism is the unity among the Catholic Church and other Christian communities.
- Explain the importance of ecumenism and identify ways to be ecumenical.
- Understand the meaning of the church as “the Body of Christ” and their role in the church.
- Know that all human beings share the same basic needs and that we should accept and honor all humans as being made in the Image and Likeness of God.
- Explain their responsibility to call others to know, love and understand Jesus
- Know the characteristics and skills of discipleship.

Service: *By the end of Grade 9, our children will...*

- Be able to discuss what it means for a Catholic to “Walk the Talk”
- Know describe all seven parts of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Understand the church teachings on ethics of all respect life issues.
- Identify ways they can be involved in appropriate Catholic responses to situations of social injustice in their community
- Participate in and report on service projects they are involved in – including ones that serve the larger community (e.g., Habitat Humanity, Food Pantry, etc.)
- Be able to share what their participation in service projects has taught them
- Define “good stewardship” and explain how it is a way of putting their faith into action
- Be able to identify and discuss the difficulties and challenges in today’s culture of putting their faith into action (service)

Catholic Prayers to be able to recite by themselves:

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, Grace, Act of Contrition, Angel of God, Fatima Prayer, Hail, Holy Queen, all mysteries of the Rosary, Apostles Creed, The Nicene Creed, Morning Offering, Prayer of Saint Francis, Praying with the Psalms, Divine Mercy Chaplet, AND

Lectio Divina with Sacred Scripture: Lectio Divina has four separate steps: read ; meditate; pray; contemplate. First a passage of Scripture is read, then its meaning is reflected upon. This is followed by prayer and contemplation on the Word of God. Lectio Divina can also be done with *Video, Music and Art*

Come Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created. And you shall renew the face of the earth. O, God, who by the light of the Holy Spirit, did instruct the hearts of the faithful, grant that by the same Holy Spirit we may be truly wise and ever enjoy His consolations, Through Christ Our Lord, Amen.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Wisdom, Understanding, Knowledge, Counsel, Reverence, Courage, Fear of the Lord

Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Gentleness, Faithfulness , Modesty, Chastity, Generosity, Self-Control

Stations of the Cross

1. Jesus is condemned to death
2. Jesus carries His cross
3. Jesus falls the first time
4. Jesus meets His mother
5. Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry the cross
6. Veronica wipes the face of Jesus
7. Jesus falls the second time
8. Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem
9. Jesus falls the third time
10. Jesus is stripped of his garments
11. Jesus is nailed to the cross
12. Jesus dies on the cross
13. Jesus is taken down from the cross
14. Jesus is laid in the tomb.