

Curriculum

Kindergarten-Grade One: Will be using the Pflaum Gospel Weeklies “*Promise*”. Welcome to a liturgy-based approach to catechesis. Each “*Promise*” lesson is built around the theme of the Sunday Gospel, so Jesus’ story forms the heart of each lesson. In *The Joy of the Gospel*, Pope Francis urges us catechists to make Jesus’ good news “ring out over and over. Jesus Christ loves you; he gave his life to save you; and now he is living at your side every day to enlighten, strengthen, and free you” (paragraph #164). As a catechist you hand on to children a living tradition that includes scripture, doctrine, creeds, the lives of the saints, and the teaching of councils and popes. But, as Pope Francis continues, “nothing is more solid, profound, secure, meaningful, and wisdom-filled than the initial proclamation”—Jesus Christ loves you (#165).

Grade Two: *God's Gift: Reconciliation* and *God's Gift: Eucharist* have everything you need to effectively pass on the beauty of the sacraments and to engage both children and families in this important time of preparation.

Grade Three - Six: Our Sunday Visitor’s “*Alive in Christ*” religion Curriculum invites children to open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them in Sacred Scripture, helps them discover what it means to be Catholic in today’s world, and gives them the tools they need to live their faith in everyday life. The children will form a vibrant Catholic identity and develop a love for Jesus and his church. This curriculum guides students to a personal and ongoing relationship with Jesus Christ, beginning with God’s invitation through prayer, reflection, study, and application of Sacred Scripture. It also helps form a strong Catholic identity through a comprehensive and developmentally appropriate presentation of the faith.

Grade Seven: We will be using “*The Theology of the Body for Teens Middle School*”. This program is divided into 8 unique segments that reflect the pedagogical approach of John Paul II’s revolutionary teaching. The program gives seven and eighth graders the answers to their tough questions concerning their bodies, their sexuality, and their future.

Grade Eight and Nine: We will be looking a little closer at the Mass with “*Altaration*” for the first part of the year. *Altaration* addresses head-on one of the biggest problems we all face: how do we get Catholic teens to appreciate the awesome beauty and mystery of the Mass...and to actually look forward to attending and participating? Through a unique learning experience, including powerful cinematography and workbook resources, teens will come to see the Mass and the priesthood in a dramatically new way. *Altaration* is designed to stir thought, create conversation, dispel myths, and inspire young souls to a deep and lasting love for the Mass. The goal of *Altaration* is not to fill teens’ heads with information but to pierce their hearts with transformation. The second half of the year some will be looking at the Bible closer with “*Encounter*” and others will be starting with “*Chosen*.” Filmed on locations all around the U.S. and internationally, “*Chosen*” keeps teens’ interest with the right balance of faith, fun, and powerful vignettes that challenge their existing perspectives on the meaning of their lives and their ultimate call to holiness. “*Encounter*”: *Experiencing God in the Everyday* is more than a Bible study program. It is a life-changing experience that speaks directly to the hearts and minds of middle school aged kids, “*Encounter*” uses the color-coded Bible Timeline learning system to reveal the story of our faith and God’s plan for our lives. As your students are drawn into this story they will come to a new and profound understanding of who God is. Most importantly they will see God not as a distant doctrinal concept, but as a loving Father who desires a meaningful and lasting encounter with them.

Grade Ten: We will be using the NEW *“You: Life, Love, and the Theology of the Body”*. Identity. Gender. Love. Chastity. The world is a difficult place for teens, and it has become increasingly hard for parents and educators to help teens discover the truth about their bodies, their sexuality, and their unique call to love. In an age of “selfies” and egocentrism, *You* cuts through the noise to present an authentic view of the human person. It presents young people with the extraordinary story of their creation as unrepeatable individuals. But the program doesn’t stop there. *“YOU: Life, Love, and the Theology of the Body”* introduces teens to the truth that life is not, in fact, all about them; it is about going out of themselves to be a sincere gift for others.

Grade Eleven: Will be prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation by reflecting on the **wisdom, works and worship of the Catholic Church**. They will be using a *“Decision Point.”* This program will not only prepare young Catholics for the Sacrament of Confirmation in a dynamic way, but also teach and inspire them to respond and cooperate with God’s grace in all the circumstance of their daily lives, long after their Confirmation has passed.