

PRE-SCHOOL (FOUR YEAR OLD) EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Learns that God created the world
- Learns that God made and loves him/her
- Learns that God gave us the gift of his son, Jesus
- Recognizes Jesus was part of a family with Mary and Joseph
- Begins to understand that he/she is part of God's family, which is the Church
 - + Identifies the Bible as a book that has stories about God
 - + Is familiar with the story of creation (Genesis 1-3)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the nativity (Luke 2:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25)
 - + Is familiar with the story of Jesus blessing the children (Luke 18:15-17, Mark 10:13-16, Matthew 19:13-15)
- Learns that the body is a gift from God**

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Knows that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus
- Begins to understand that Advent is time of preparation and waiting for Christmas
- Begins to understand Easter as the celebration of new life
- Begins to understand some Christian symbols (candles, water, fish, cross)
 - + Is familiar with the story of Easter (Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-16, Luke 22-24, John 13-21)
 - + Is familiar with the story of Christmas (Luke 1-2, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23)

Characteristics of a Pre-School (Four-Year-Old) Child

- Sits still for limited amount of time unless highly motivated
- Enjoys manipulative play and projects
- Is a sensory learner
- Is imaginative and creative
- Enjoys stories, rhyming and nonsense songs and poems
- Can be aggressive and explosive due to emotional immaturity
- Likes to make choices and begins to see the wisdom of rules
- Is developing sensitivity to the feelings and attitudes of adults
- Needs experiences where he/she feels respected, is given freedom and can succeed
- Needs to be affirmed when he/she shows kindness and friendliness

Moral Life

- Gives examples of ways to show love by helping others
- Recognizes the need to care for God's creation
- Learns the importance of sharing with others
- Learns that Jesus taught us to love one another
- Begins to understand the importance of saying "I'm sorry"
- Identifies certain body parts as "private and special"**

- Benefits from opportunities to practice thoughtfulness
- Lacks understanding of cause and effect relationships and intentional or unintentional actions
- Sees predominantly from his/her own point of view and developmentally is still very self-centered
- Needs encouragement to share possessions with others but does not want to be forced
- Enjoys celebrations and being part of a group
- Is capable of beginning to understand God's love by experiencing human love
- Benefits from experiences that can raise awareness and appreciation of God's creation
- Can use signs and symbols as a basis for liturgical awareness
- Needs to have demonstrated to him/her that God made each child unique and special
- Knows that prayer can be talking to God in his/her own words

Christian Prayer

- Understands prayer as talking to God
- Understands that it is appropriate to thank God for creation
- Knows how to make the Sign of the Cross
- Is familiar with different types of prayer (thanks, asking, silence, praise)
- Understands singing can be prayer
- Is familiar with the Advent wreath
- Uses varied hand positions in prayer

KINDERGARTEN (FIVE YEAR OLD) EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Learns that God made and loves him/her
- Learns that God created the world out of love
- Knows that God gives us our senses to discover and enjoy creation
- Learns that God's special gift to us is his son, Jesus
- Learns that Jesus showed us how to love one another
- Identifies Mary as the Mother of Jesus
- Recognizes Mary, Joseph and Jesus as the Holy Family
- Learns that the Church is God's family
- Learns that saints are people who have died and are now happy with God
 - + Identifies the Bible as a special book that tells about God's love
 - + Is familiar with the story of creation (Genesis 1-3)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the birth of Jesus (Luke 2:1-7, Matthew 1:18-25)
 - + Is familiar with the story of Jesus blessing the children (Luke 18:15-17, Mark 10:13-16, Matthew 19:13-15)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the Good Shepherd (John 10:1-21)
- Recognizes that there are different kinds of families*
- Recognizes one's own family as special*
- Recognizes and cares for the body as a gift from God**

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Begins to participate in prayer experiences and/or liturgies
- Learns about several saints
- Learns that Advent is a time of waiting and preparing for Christmas
- Knows that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of Jesus
- Learns about Lent as a special time to love one another
- Learns that Easter is a celebration of Jesus' new life
- Recognizes Christian symbols (water, candles, cross, fish, oil and chi-rho)
- Learns that through Baptism we become children of God
- Learns about Jesus' Last Supper (as foundation for later learning about the Eucharist)
- Begins to say, "I'm sorry" and "I forgive you"
 - + Is familiar with the story of Easter (Matthew 26-27, Mark 14-16, Luke 22-24, John 13-21)

Characteristics of a Kindergarten Child

- Learns through active involvement
- Learns through repetition and review
- Is curious and eager to learn
- Begins to distinguish fantasy from reality
- Listens and follows two and three step directions
- Is able to remain focused on tasks (15 minutes)
- Thinks literally
- Needs to feel that God made each child unique and special
- Needs to feel loved and accepted by others
- Needs individual attention and praise for accomplishments
- Desires to feel independent but needs support and guidance
- Begins to show concern for others
- Learns to show concern for others through role-playing and adult models
- Prefers social play
- Learns to cooperate in a group
- Needs reassurance of God's love through trust relationships with caring adults
- Needs a sense of belonging in the family, class and church
- Has a sense of wonder about God's creation
- Shows thankfulness for God's creation
- Is ready for exposure to Scripture and a variety of prayer experiences

- + Is familiar with the story of Christmas (Luke 1-2, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-23)
- + Is familiar with the story of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-29)
- + Is familiar with the reference to Eucharist (John 6:35)

Moral Life

- Expresses thankfulness for God's love
- Learns that doing good is acting like Jesus
- Learns ways to help and respect others
- Shows respect for people of all cultures, languages, races and abilities
- Learns ways to share with others
- Reaches out to others through service experiences
- Values and cares for God's creation
- Learns that, while on earth, saints loved God and showed concern for others
- Begins to say "I'm sorry"
 - + Is familiar with the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:30-37)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the Golden Rule (Luke 6:31)
 - + Is familiar with the story of the Loaves and Fishes (John 6:1-15, Luke 9:12-17, Mark 6:34-44, Matthew 14:13-21)
- Shows love and respect for family members*
- Knows the need to talk with someone about feelings*
- Identifies "private and special" body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable**

Christian Prayer

- Experiences prayer as talking to God
- Participates in different kinds of prayer—praise, thanksgiving and asking
- Understands that silence is a form of prayer
- Understands that music is another form of prayer
- Experiences listening as prayer
- Uses varied hand positions for prayer
- Prays the Sign of the Cross with appropriate gestures

- Prays before eating
- Begins to participate in spontaneous prayer
- Begins to learn "The Lord's Prayer"
 - + Is familiar with the Lord's Prayer as part of Scripture (Luke 11:2-4, Matthew 6:9-13)

GRADE LEVEL 1 EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Names God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Recognizes that God creates people and the world out of love
- Begins to recognize that God sent us Jesus to show us how to love God
- Learns to identify Church as God's family
- Begins to recognize that the Holy Spirit is with us and helps us to love God
- Recognizes that every person has a guardian angel and angels are messengers of God
- Recognizes Mary as Jesus' mother and our mother
- Learns about saints
- Learns that we are saved as members of God's family
- Recognizes that God wants us to be happy with him in heaven
 - + Knows the Bible is the story of God's people
 - + Learns about Jesus from the Bible
 - + Is familiar with the story of Christmas (Luke 2: 8-18)
 - + Is familiar with the story of Easter (John 20:1-20, Luke 24:13-35)
- Recognizes that God made all kinds of families*
- Recognizes and cares for the body as a gift from God*

Liturgy/Sacrament

- Recognizes sacraments as special signs of God's love
- Recognizes that Baptism welcomes us to God's family, the Church
- Recognizes that at Mass Eucharist is the Bread of Life and the Saving Cup
- Recognizes that in Reconciliation we say "I'm sorry" and Christ forgives
- Gathers with God's family at Mass to thank and praise God
- Begins to pray at Mass: Lord Have Mercy; Glory to God; Alleluia; Response: "And also with you"; Holy, Holy, Holy; Amen; Our Father; Lamb of God
- Recognizes important liturgical seasons such as Advent, Christmas, Lent, Easter, and celebrates some saint's feast days
- Recognizes Christian signs and symbols: water, candles, cross, fish, chi-rho, oil
 - + Knows the story of the Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-30, Luke 22:13-20, Mark 14:12-26)
 - + Knows the story of Christmas (Luke 2:8-18)
 - + Knows the story of Easter (John 20:1-20, Luke 24)

Characteristics of a First Grader

- Experiences being special
- Recognizes that he/she belongs to a family
- Appreciates and thanks God for the special gifts of the senses
- Recognizes that friends and family are special
- Helps others and is open to others helping them
- Experiences family rituals and activities
- Experiences forgiveness in daily life
- Recognizes that he/she belongs to the family of God
- Experiences going to church with family weekly
- Shows respect for others
- Begins awareness of social justice issues

Moral Life

- Knows that Jesus gave us two great commandments: To Love God and to love our self and others
- Names how he/she loves God, self and others
- Shows care for others and creation
- Recognizes sin as choosing not to love God, self and others
- Tries to bring peace to one's self and others
- Demonstrates evidence of sharing with others
- Respects God's name as holy
- Recognizes that telling the truth is good and necessary
- Shows respect for people of all races, languages and abilities
- Recognizes saints as people who follow Jesus
 - + Knows the story of creation of the world and us (Genesis 1-3)
 - + Knows the story of the Good Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37)
 - + Knows the story of Jesus and Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)
 - + Knows the story of Jesus blessing the children (Matthew 19:13-15, Mark 10:13-16, Luke: 18:15-17)
 - + Recognizes stories of Jesus loving and helping many people (Mark 8:22-25, Luke 17:11-19)
- Demonstrates care for family members*
- Knows that feelings can make one feel good or bad*
- Recognizes that the heart of the family is married life *
- Knows that he/she can talk to someone when not feeling safe**
- Identifies "private and special" body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable**

Christian Prayer

- Prays and adores the Blessed Sacrament
- Recognizes that the church building is a house of prayer
- Experiences prayer as listening and talking to God
- Memorizes the Sign of the Cross
- Prays the Sign of the Cross
- Prays the Lord's Prayer
- Prays the Hail Mary
- Prays the Glory to the Father (Doxology)
- Expresses love of God and personal needs in spontaneous prayer
- Celebrates rituals and devotions such as the advent wreath, the Christmas crib, blessing with holy water
- Uses different gestures/postures for prayer
- Is introduced to traditional prayers and devotions such as the rosary and the Way of the Cross
- Reverences the Bible as God's special book
 - + Knows that the Lord's Prayer is part of Scripture (Luke 11:2-4, Matthew 6:9-13)

GRADE LEVEL 2 EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Expresses belief in God as Trinity and can discuss the role of each person in the Trinity
- Tells how the Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ
- Talks about ways the Church tries to do the things Jesus did
- Knows that Baptism is a sacrament of initiation into the Church
- Knows and celebrates one's own Baptism
- Knows that Jesus saves us from our sins because he died for our sins
- Describes Jesus as the Son of God who shows us God's love
- Learns that God raised Jesus from the dead
- Knows that Mary is the Mother of God and our mother
- Retells the stories of lives of saints
- Learns about the saints, heroes and heroines of the Church
 - + Knows that God speaks to us through the Bible, especially in the Liturgy of the Word
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the Nativity (Luke 2:1-18)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of love of God and others (Matthew 22:37,39)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates the meaning of the call of the first disciples (Matthew 4:18-22)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way that we are called by God (Isaiah 43:1)
- Knows that God made all things for us to enjoy*
- Recognizes that God made all kinds of families*

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Recognizes the Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism-Confirmation-Eucharist
- Recognizes the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist
- Wants to receive First Communion
- Celebrates the Sacrament of Reconciliation as healing forgiveness
- Knows importance of gathering regularly with God's family at Mass to worship and ask God's blessings
- Recognizes Liturgy of the Word and Liturgy of Eucharist as parts of the Mass
- Experiences liturgical rituals and gestures (for example bow, genuflect) as a way of sharing in Jesus' life
- Knows that God forgives sins in Baptism, Eucharist and Penance
- Recognizes the items found in a Church worship space
- Knows the requirements for receiving Communion: being free from serious sin and fasting one hour prior to receiving communion
- Recognizes Jesus' healing presence in the Sacrament of Penance and the Sacrament of the Sick
- Recognizes the Sacraments of Service as Holy Orders and Matrimony
- Recognizes and celebrates the liturgical seasons such as Advent and Lent
- Recognizes Christian signs and symbols and their importance in Liturgy and Sacraments
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of

Characteristics of a Second Grader

- Appreciates family members and recognizes one's uniqueness within the family
- Likes to participate and takes responsibility for his/her own actions as a member of a community (school, teams, groups)
- Experiences family activities and rituals
- Knows that he/she is special
- Experiences forgiveness in daily life
- Recognizes that he/she belongs to the family of God
- Experiences going to church weekly with the family
- Helps others and is open to being helped
- Can focus for longer periods of time
- Like to help with some routine chores
- Enjoys family outings

Christmas (Luke 1-2, Matthew 1:18-25, 2:1-15)

- + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of The Last Supper (Matthew 26:17-29, John 17:1-26, Luke 22:7-20)
- + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the Crucifixion (Matthew 27:33-37)
- + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of Easter (John 20:1-20, Luke 24:13-35)

Moral Life

- Acts as Jesus would act by being loving, kind, forgiving and helpful at home, school, church and in the community and can give examples of these
- Describes sin as making deliberate choices not to love God, self or others and recognizes our free choice to do good or bad things
- Explains consequences for making wrong choices
- Acts as a peacemaker
- Recognizes that sin harms or breaks our friendship with God
- Recognizes that the moral law to do good and avoid evil is written in our consciences
- Is able to examine his/her conscience in preparation for Sacrament of Penance
- Knows that love of God is inseparable from love of neighbor
- Begins to recognize the implications for living out the commandments
- Shows care for others and creation
- Recognizes saints as people who follow Jesus and act accordingly
- Recognizes the need for outreach and service within the community
- Shows respect for people of all races, languages and abilities
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the Loaves and Fishes (John 6:1-13)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of Washing of the Feet (John 13:1-17)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:1-17)
- Demonstrates love for family members*
- Recognizes that all families have rules and that rules keep people safe*
- Recognizes that all families have happy and sad times*
- Knows that he/she can talk to someone when not feeling safe**
- Identifies "private and special" body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable**

Christian Prayer

- Prays the Sign of the Cross, the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory To the Father (Doxology), Nicene Creed, Act of Contrition and prayers before and after meals
- Has memorized the Sign of the Cross and the Our Father
- Prays on a daily basis, expressing child-like trust in God
- Celebrates rituals, devotions and activities, e.g., the Advent calendar, Easter symbols
- Learns the importance of praying as a family
- Knows that prayer is raising one's mind and heart to God
- Prays with the help of the Holy Spirit
- Prays using the different gestures and postures of prayer
 - + Reverences the Bible as God's special book and can find the gospel stories in the Bible
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of The Lord's Prayer (Luke 11:1-4, Matthew 6:9-13)
 - + Is familiar with and articulates in a simple way the meaning of the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus and some miracle stories
 - + Can tell how the Bible stories demonstrate God's love

GRADE LEVEL 3 EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Describes God the Father as Creator, God the Son as Savior, God the Holy Spirit as Helper and Advocate
- Describes Jesus' mission as proclaiming the Good News and bringing about the Kingdom of God
- Defines the words "creed" and "communion of saints"
- Identifies the pope and bishops as leaders of the Catholic Church
- Knows that we become members of the Church through Baptism
- Tells the stories of five saints and describes the qualities of saints
- Understands Mary as the Mother of Jesus, as our mother and the Church's model of faith and charity
- Names Jesus' twelve apostles
- Knows the difference between the Old and New Testament
- Understands in a simple way the Paschal Mystery and that Jesus died to save us from our sins
- Understands in a simple way that God the Father raised Jesus from the dead through the power of the Holy Spirit
- Knows the meaning of Ascension and that Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead
- Recognizes that death will lead to union with God (heaven) or separation from God (hell)
- Knows that God created us to think, wonder and choose*
- Knows that we are created in the image and likeness of God*
- Understands that mothers and fathers share with God in creating new life*

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Names and describes the seven sacraments as signs of the Holy Spirit's work in us
- Explains the primary symbols of each of the seven sacraments
- Experiences Reconciliation as healing and forgiveness
- Recognizes essential importance of regular, active participation at Sunday Eucharist
- Knows the difference between the Liturgy of the Word and the Liturgy of the Eucharist
- Describes items found in a church worship space
- Explains the seasons of the Liturgical Year
- Exhibits a thorough understanding of the Easter Season
- Celebrates the Holy Days
- Experiences activities related to the Liturgical Seasons and Feasts
- Knows the significance of God as Abba, as addressed by Jesus
- Tells the stories of Jesus' birth, passion, death and resurrection
 - + Tells the Emmaus Story (Luke 24:13-35)
 - + Tells the story of Pentecost (Acts 1:1-4)

Characteristics of a Third Grader

- Shows a high level of energy and willingness to tackle almost anything
- Tends to be less cautious than younger children
- Begins to act more responsibly
- Begins to judge situations and considers what can happen to him/her
- Deepens understanding of forgiveness and healing
- Develops ability to feel empathy and compassion
- Displays enormous curiosity
- Shows increased self-confidence
- Develops close friendships
- Looks forward to school for social and academic reasons
- Wants to belong to a group
- Likes to read and write for pleasure and entertainment
- Needs supportive reinforcement from parents and other adults
- Experiences family rituals and activities
- Acquires computer skills and a developing understanding of technology
- Enjoys video games and other electronic entertainment

Moral Life

- Names the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy
- Knows that the Eucharist brings forgiveness and calls us to service
- Tells the difference between temptation, accident and sin
- Describes how sin hurts the whole community
- Shows evidence of living as a virtuous disciple
- Describes what it means to be a peacemaker
- Shows evidence of acting as a peacemaker
- Gives examples of how to work for justice and peace
- Practices stewardship in parish, community and world
- Recognizes that the Gospel is the revelation of Christ's mercy
- Knows that when we confess our sins, God forgives us
- Describes receiving grace which helps restore what sin has damaged in us
- Learns how to respond to conflicts in a peaceful way
- Displays skills of conflict resolution
- Identifies ways to prevent prejudice and discrimination
- Articulates basic human rights and responsibilities
- Knows and lives the Two Great Commandments
- Articulates a simple meaning of each of the Ten Commandments and gives examples of how to follow them
 - + Retells the story of Jesus Welcoming the Children (Mark 10:13-16)
 - + Can give an example of a parable from Scripture
 - + Retells the parable of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24)
 - + Can give an example of a miracle story from Scripture
 - + Retells the story of the Loaves and Fishes (John 6:1-14)
- Knows that God calls us to care for all creation*
- Identifies people who can help in making good decisions*
- Understands the value of friendships between brothers and sisters*
- Knows that he/she can talk to someone when not feeling safe**
- Identifies "private and special" body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable**

Christian Prayer

- Celebrates rituals and devotions
- Prays daily and knows that prayer is vital to Christian life
- Prays prayers of praise, thankfulness, contrition, petition
- Prays blessing prayers
- Prays the Psalms
- Prays the Lord's Prayer, Hail Mary, The Apostles' Creed, Act of Contrition, and the Rosary
- Memorizes the Hail Mary
- Knows that we pray with the help of the Holy Spirit
- Experiences that God's creation can help us to pray

GRADE LEVEL 4 EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Believes in the goodness of creation and God's care for it
- Understands grace as a sharing in God's life
- Appreciates the Holy Spirit as helper and guide in making good choices
- Understands Church as a community of worship, witness and service which carries on the work and mission of Christ
- Understands that God communicates gradually to us
- Understands that our faith is Trinitarian as expressed in Baptism
- Understands that the story of Adam and Eve reminds us that our first parents sinned against God
- Understands that Jesus lived, suffered and died for us, and we will rise with Christ to new life after death
- Knows in everything Jesus did, he is our model
- Knows that the Trinity was fully revealed to Jesus' disciples at Pentecost
 - + Understands that Scripture is God's word to us
 - + Understands and responds to the following Scriptural passages as experiences of God's love for us, our love for humanity and our need for mercy and forgiveness: Ten Commandments (Exodus 20:2-17); Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:1-12); Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25-37); Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-24); Temptation of Christ (Matthew 4:1-11)
- + Knows the meaning of the covenant with Noah, Abraham and Moses (Genesis 9:1-3, Genesis 17:1-9, Exodus 19:1-8)
- + Demonstrates the ability to locate the passages listed above in the Bible
- Knows that life begins at conception and grows inside the mother's body*
- Knows that God created human beings with a body and soul*

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Articulates the meaning of the Sacraments of Initiation
- Celebrates the Eucharist as a sacrament of the Church's unity, reconciliation and peace
- Celebrates Reconciliation as a sacrament of conversion, God's forgiveness, mercy and love
- Recognizes the value of and knows how to examine one's conscience
- Knows how to celebrate Rite I and II of the Sacrament of Reconciliation and can articulate the communal dimension of sin and forgiveness
- Expresses sorrow for sins in a prayer of contrition
- Knows the essential importance of regular participation in Sunday Eucharist, knowing that it is a celebration of the Paschal Mystery
- Explains ways Christ is present at Mass
- Has a growing understanding of the liturgical year

Characteristics of a Fourth Grader

- Demonstrates an interest in the wider world
- Grows in awareness of justice and fair play
- Exhibits awareness of self as individual and as a member of a group
- Recognizes need for guidelines and rules
- Acts more independently and confidently
- Begins to think of larger issues, e.g., environment, prejudice, violence, etc.
- Enjoys reading, listening to and participating in stories as well as role playing
- Develops friendships with members of the same sex
- Learns from observations as well as direct teaching
- Is able to use technology to obtain information and to communicate with others
- Displays curiosity about life, nature and people
- Desires to share and do things with others
- Develops an awareness that life requires making choices
- Is significantly influenced by teens and pre-teens in popular culture (music, television, movies)

Moral Life

- Recognizes that all Christians are called to holiness
- Knows Jesus' Two Great Commandments of love are a Christian's way of life
- Can articulate the Ten Commandments using the traditional formula
- Sees the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy as ways of responding to the needs of others
- Realizes that original sin is the human condition into which we are all born
- Recognizes conscience as the inner ability to judge between good and bad when making choices and recognizes the seven capital sins
- Realizes that temptation is a pull toward something we know is sinful and that it is a part of everyone's life
- Recognizes the seven gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - + Responds to the Ten Commandments as rules to help us live God's life of love (Exodus 20:2-17)
 - + Learns the Beatitudes as a way of life modeled by Christ to bring happiness (Matthew 5:1-12)
 - + Differentiates between sin which is choosing to turn away from God and mistakes which are accidents (Temptations of Christ - Matthew 4:1-11)
 - + Realizes that all choices have responsibilities and consequences and are to be made in light of Gospel values (Good Samaritan - Luke 10:25-37)
- Knows that listening to feelings can help one decide how to act*
- Knows that he/she can talk to someone when not feeling safe**
- Identifies "private and special" body parts and touches which can make a person feel uncomfortable**
- Can define bullying and harassment and recognize it when it occurs**

Christian Prayer

- Understands prayer as the living relationship of the children of God with their Father, his Son and the Holy Spirit
- Prays and understands the Prayer of St. Francis as a model for peace and love in the world
- Prays the Our Father
- Understands the Nicene and Apostles Creeds as statements of Catholic beliefs
- Reviews the memorization of previous prayers
- Memorizes the Glory to the Father (Doxology) and the Apostles Creed
- Recognizes forms of popular piety such as the Rosary and the Stations of the Cross
- Experiences personal and communal prayer, especially prayers of praise and thanksgiving

GRADE LEVEL 5 EXPECTATIONS

Creedal Church

- Explains how environment is God's creation and ours to respect
- Knows that God is the Creator, all-powerful, who made the world good
- Knows that the human race has a common origin reflected in the Adam and Eve story
- Knows and expresses belief that Jesus is the Son of God and the Word Made Flesh
- Understands Jesus as Savior and that "Jesus" means "God Saves"
- Understands that "Kingdom/Reign of God" is reflected in the good that happens in the world
- Knows and applies the concept of sacramentality: that Christ's life-death-resurrection is celebrated at liturgy
- Identifies ways that the Church carries on the mission of Jesus under the leadership of popes and the bishops
- Explains the communion of saints
- Identifies past and present Christian role models, e.g., patron saints
- Knows that Mary is the Mother of God as she is the mother of Jesus the Christ
- Understands that Christ's death and resurrection were part of God's plan
- Knows that the Assumption celebrates Mary taken to heaven, body and soul
- Knows that after death comes judgment which leads to heaven, hell or purgatory
 - + Knows an overview of the Bible, understanding that the Old Testament is fulfilled in the New Testament
 - + Is able to locate and read from the Bible the stories for this age group as listed, e.g., Genesis, chapters 1-3, two versions of the creation story
 - + Understands that there is one God (Deuteronomy 6:4-5)
 - + Knows that the Holy Spirit works in the Church, in the Scriptures and in the lives of people as at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4, 17)
- Knows about human sexual development and its sacredness*
- Knows and lives the belief that all life is sacred*

Moral Life

- Understands that the presence of sin or evil in the world is "original sin" into which we are all born
- Recognizes attitudes and actions that are sinful or selfish
- Acts out of the belief that mercy and justice are essential to Christian living
- Follows Catholic Social Justice teaching by reaching out to others through positive words and actions
- Distinguishes between mortal (serious) and venial sin
- Has a working knowledge of the Beatitudes and Commandments and can apply them to daily life
- Understands the meaning of the four cardinal virtues: prudence, justice, temperance and fortitude
 - + Practices forgiveness and being forgiven and knows forgiveness stories in Bible, e.g., (Matthew 18:21-22)
 - + Begins to be aware of the need for on-going conversion (1Corinthians 13:4-8)
- Identifies private and special body parts and touches which can make one feel uncomfortable**
- Can define bullying and harassment and recognizes when it occurs**
- Knows how to use conflict management skills**

Characteristics of a 5th Grader

- Transitions into puberty with rapid physical and emotional changes
- Demonstrates marked differences between boys and girls and even among the same gender
- Becomes aware of past, present and future community experiences
- Belongs to one or more groups because of commitments, e.g., sports, fun, service
- Belongs to peer groups who often develop their own codes of behavior
- Begins to make choices independent of adults
- Recognizes signs and symbols in games, sports, clothes and professions
- Appreciates and develops personal talents and abilities
- Practices problem solving
- Begins to be aware of different customs and rituals among people
- Values success in sports and is influenced by sports figures

Liturgy and Sacraments

- Knows the names, meanings, signs and symbols of each of the seven sacraments
- Celebrates the sacrament of Reconciliation
- Participates in the preparation of Eucharistic liturgies with class or group
- Recognizes the liturgical calendar and can explain the seasons of the Church year, their meanings and color
- Knows that the baptized share in the priesthood of Christ
- Understands the Sacrament of Holy Orders as the way Christ continues to preach and sanctify
 - + Is able to locate, read from the Bible and understands each story listed below as it relates to the Scriptures
 - + Experiences water, bread, oil and light as sacramental symbols (John 4:4-42)
 - + Recognizes Christ's presence at Mass: in the assembly, the priest-presider, the proclamation of the Word and especially in the Bread and Wine (John 6:1-58)
 - + Recognizes the meaning and celebration of the Sacred Triduum and Easter as our central feast - Anointing at Bethany (Mark 14:3-9)
 - + Knows that Baptism forgives original and personal sin - Nicodemus (John 3:1-21)
 - + Knows Confirmation and Baptism relate to the mission of Jesus (Mark 1:9-11, Matthew 3:13-17); and service (Mark 10:44)
 - + Understands that in the Sacrament of Matrimony, the family is seen as the "domestic Church" (John 2:1-11)
- + Understands the healing power of Christ in the Sacrament of the Sick (James 5:14-15)

Christian Prayer

- Participates in prayer services and other devotions, e.g., rosary, stations of the cross
- Prays the Our Father, Apostles Creed, Nicene Creed
- Knows how to pray the rosary
- Recognizes that Jesus prayed at decisive times in his life
- Prays to the saints in union with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Prays in harmony with the seasons of the Church Year
- Understands the difference between the Mass, other communal prayer and private prayer
- Uses Scripture as a source of prayer and reflection