**Developmental Benchmarks for**

**Sixth Grade:**

Building on the foundation of learning and practice developed through Grade 5, the goals for the formation of our children in Sixth Grade includes all previous learning plus…

**Scripture:** *During Grade 6, our children will come to understand Sacred Scripture as God’s Word that speaks to them. They will…*

* Be able to identify the names and general purpose of the prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament)
* Be able to discuss how God uses the prophets to speak to both the Hebrews of old and to us today
* Identify and describe the message of the following prophets: Amos, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Micah and Elijah
* Be able to retell the following Bible stories:

o Jesus on Forgiveness (Matthew 18: 21-35)

o Peter’s Declaration of Jesus (Matthew 16: 13-20)

o The Story of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31, John 11:17-44)

o The Story of the Woman at the Well (John 4:11-14)

o The Story of Saul on the road to Damascus (Acts 9:1-30)

* Listen to/Have heard the following Bible Stories:

o The Story of Job (Job 38:1-41)

o The Story of Lazarus being raised from the dead (John 11:17-44)

o The Story of the Transfiguration (Luke 9:28-36)

o The Resurrection Stories (Matthew 28:1-20, Mark 16:1-18, Luke 24:1-35, John 20:11-29)

o The Ascension (Mark 16:19-20, Luke 24:50-51, Acts 1:3-11)

o God has Given Each of us Gifts to Share (Romans 12:1-8)

o The Suffering Servant (Isaiah 50:4-9)

**Doctrine:** *During Grade 6, our children will know and understand these basic teachings of the Catholic faith. They will…*

* Be able to define the term “revelation” as used by the Catholic Church
* Be able to give examples of God’s revelation to the people down through the ages
* Explain the meaning of the term “communion of saints”.
* Know that “faith” is our lifetime response to God who reveals himself to us (CCC: 26)
* Know that the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament) are honored as the Holy Word of God by both Jews and Christians

**Sacraments:** *During Grade 6, 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 describe the ritual and explain the meaning of the consecration of the bread and wine (gestures, prayer and theology)
* Be able to describe ways to prepare for the celebration of the Mass (e.g.., reflect on readings prior to Mass, abide by rules of fasting, dress nicely, pray, be silent)
* 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

o Be able to share something they remember about the Gospel reading and the homily

o Be able to discuss how the readings apply to their lives

o 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 Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist

**Prayer & Spirituality:** *By the end of 6th Grade, our children will…*

* Identify a patron saint and be able to tell about that saints life and how the saint followed Jesus example
* Identify at least five saints, be able to share something about their lives and describe what they most admire about those saints
* Participate in praying the Litany of the Saints
* Be able to explain the purpose of both private (personal) prayer and communal prayer
* Understand the purpose of praying a “Morning Offering” and begin to develop this practice
* Be able to give examples of communal prayer
* Keep a record of how and when they pray – especially during Advent/Christmas and Lent/Easter seasons
* Be able to discuss the importance of being vigilant in prayer – especially in terms of overcoming difficulties
* Be supported to set aside some time each day for prayer
* Recite the Prayer of Saint Francis
* Regularly practice an examination of conscience

**Community:** *By the end of 6th 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 discuss the consequences of sin in their own lives and the lives of the community and world
* Know and continue to practice the Corporal Works of Mercy
* Discuss the roles of ordained clergy and non-ordained religious in today’s church
* Be introduced to the concept of “evangelization”
* Give examples of the Church’s historical and contemporary missionary service in the US and around the world
* Be able to discuss or dramatize how Catholics are called to respond to [selected] challenging moral issues

**Service:** By the end *of Grade 6, our children will…*

* Know and begin to practice the Spiritual Works of Mercy
* Participate in a group service project and report on its effects
* Have discussed the various possibilities for service within the vocations of single, married, religious and ordained
* Discuss the ways in which service can be a lifestyle and/or career

***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, and…**

**Morning Offering**

O Jesus, I offer you all my prayers, works, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your most Sacred Heart. Amen.

**Prayer of Saint Francis**

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.