

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)