

# 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\*

## 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\*\*

## 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)

## 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