

Student Learning Expectations and Benchmarks

Religion – Grade 7 Focus: New Testament

Major Components Grades K-8

- 1.0 Faith enables a person to make sense of life.
- 2.0 Knowledge and skills are needed to find in Scripture a source of nourishment for our own life with God and neighbor.
- 3.0 Creation is God’s first revelation of love and invitation for men and women to grow in loving relationship with creation, their neighbor, and God.
- 4.0 Jesus Christ is the Eternal Son of God and the Son of Mary (fully Divine and fully Human) and reveals to us the Trinity: Father, Son and Spirit.
- 5.0 The Church is the community of Christ’s disciples.
- 6.0 The Seven Sacraments of the Church are encounters with the Risen Christ in which one responds and grows as a disciple.
- 7.0 The prayer of the Church community nourishes the life of each member and the community itself.
- 8.0 Christ calls us to be grateful disciples committed to praising God and proclaiming the Good News through loving service of neighbor and the promotion of justice.
- 9.0 Sacred Scripture and Church teaching provide us with: the meaning and sources of morality; the key concepts framing the moral life; and the guidance for making moral decisions in a complex world.
- 10.0 There are various forms of personal prayer that enable one to deepen their sense of being loved, of belonging, and of making a difference.

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Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

- 1.3 Faith, Hope & Love (Rom. 5:1-11)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

- 1.1.1 create a “Friendship Proverb” poster.
- 1.3.1 create a CD cover for a soon-to-be released recording about faith and hope.

1.1 Life is mysterious; our hearts long to make sense of life and to find meaning in our lives.

Students will: 1.1.1 be able to express concerns about the meaning of events in their own lives.

1.2 Everyone asks certain questions.

Students will:

- 1.2.1 be able to raise questions about suffering and promise in the New Testament and in the world today.

1.3 Religion provides ultimate answers to the basic questions of life.

Students will:

- 1.3.1 discuss faith responses to questions about suffering and promise in the New Testament and in the world today.

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2.1 The Bible is a written record of God's Revelation, which is His encounter with a people to bring them to new life.

Students will:

2.1.1 retell stories from the New Testament in which Jesus interacts with people to bring them new life.

2.2 The Church is the authentic interpreter of the Bible. The Bible is the Church's book. It needs to be read according to the Church's understanding as expressed by Tradition.

Students will:

2.2.1 demonstrate an understanding of reading the Bible within the living Tradition of the Church by using the "Church" lens to view New Testament events and persons.

2.3 There is a structure and organization to the Bible. The Catholic Bible, finalized by the Church, is called the scriptural canon- the Church's certification of its authenticity.

Students will:

2.3.1 understand and explain the structure and organization of the New Testament (i.e., Gospels, Letters, Acts, Revelation).

2.3.2 locate selected New Testament passages independently.

2.4 The Bible developed over a period of time. In order to understand it, the presentation of the cultural, historical, literary, and faith context of the times is necessary to discover the sacred author's intentions (exegesis).

Students will: 2.4.1 discuss aspects of the historical period in which Jesus lived among us.

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2.5 The Spirit inspired the sacred authors so that the stories and messages of the Bible continue to give new life to readers today and to sustain and shape the community of believers.

Students will: 2.5.1 correlate key New Testament stories with the Liturgical Year..

2.6 The Biblical narratives, from Creation through the proclamation of the Gospel, tell the story of God's creating, saving, and transforming love (Salvation History).

Students will:

2.6.1 relate New Testament stories where they have seen examples of God's creative, saving, and transforming love.

2.7 Certain key themes (grace, sin, freedom, call, response, covenant, etc.) help one understand the Biblical message of God's saving love.

Students will: 2.7.1 discuss moments of grace found in the New Testament stories.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

2.5 Jesus Enters Jerusalem (Mt. 21:1-11; Mk. 11:1-11; Lk. 19:28-44; Jn. 12:12-19) 2.6 Woman at the Well (Jn. 4:4-42)

Woman Caught in Adultery (Jn. 8:1-11) Canaanite (Syrophenician) Woman's Faith (Mt. 15:21-28; Mk. 7:24-30)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

2.6.1 create a presentation about some of the customs of Jesus' day. 2.9.1 present a story

from the New Testament that demonstrates the reception of grace.

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Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

3.2 Anointing at Bethany (Mt. 26:6-13; Lk. 7:36-49; Jn. 12:1-11) 3.3 Faithful and Unfaithful Servants (Mt. 24:45-51)

Parable of the Talents (Mt. 25:14-30) 3.4 Garden of Gethsemane (Mt. 26:36-40; Mk. 14:32-42; Lk. 22:39-46) 3.5 Genealogy of Jesus (Mt. 1; Lk. 4:23-37)

3.2 Men and women, created in God’s image, have a special dignity; God desires an intimate and loving relationship with us.

Students will:

3.2.1 provide New Testament examples of how Jesus treated each person with dignity.

3.3 Men and women have special responsibilities as stewards of God’s creation.

Students will:

3.3.1 locate and discuss the “steward” passages in the New Testament (e.g., Matthew 24, 25, etc.).

3.4 The wounded nature of humanity affects every man and woman and makes it more difficult to live God’s way.

Students will: 3.4.1 explain how prayer can help in times of temptation.

3.5 God promises a Savior, one who will finally enable men and women to live God’s way of life (i.e., Kingdom of God).

Students will:

3.5.1 discuss the importance of the genealogy of Jesus found in Matthew 1. 3.5.2 find characteristics of God’s Kingdom in the New Testament (i.e., Beatitudes).

Sermon on the Mount (Mt. 5:1-12; Lk. 6:20-26) Parable of the Ten Virgins (Mt. 25:1-13)

Parable of the Wedding Feast (Mt. 22:1-14)

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Sample Learner Assessments

Students will:

3.3.1 create posters about the importance of stewardship using scriptural passages from the New Testament.

3.5.2 create a “Beatitude” quilt illustrating how they can continue to build the Kingdom of God today.

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4.1 The Gospels reveal key moments in the life of Jesus.

Students will:

4.1.1 trace and compare the stories of the life, death, and Resurrection of Jesus found in the Synoptic Gospels.

4.2 The Paschal Mystery (i.e., the passion, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus) is central to our lives as disciples.

Students will:

4.2.1 cite different teachings from the New Testament concerning the Paschal Mystery and discipleship.

4.3 Jesus Christ is the Son of God and the Son of Mary.

Students will:

4.3.1 cite and explain New Testament examples in which Jesus is acknowledged as both Divine and Human.

4.4 Through his teaching and healing, Jesus reveals to us the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Students will:

4.4.1 cite and explain New Testament examples of Jesus' continued presence with the Church after His Resurrection and how the Holy Spirit continues to be present in the Church today.

4.5 Jesus teaches us how to love our neighbor and establishes a new covenant between God and humanity and among humans; the heart of the new covenant is love.

Students will:

4.5.1 find New Testament examples of Jesus' love of his neighbor. 4.5.2 explore ways of being models of Christian love in everyday life.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

4.1 Passion and Death of Jesus (Mt. 27; Mk. 15; Lk. 23; Jn. 18:28-40, 19) Resurrection (Mt. 28:1-10; Mk. 16:1-8; Lk. 19:28-44; Jn. 20:1-10) Ascension of Jesus (Mk. 16:19-20; Lk. 24:50-53; Acts 1:6-12)

4.2 The World's Hatred (Jn. 15:18-27) The Coming Persecution (Lk. 21:12-19) Attitude of a Servant (Lk. 17:7-10)

4.3 The Word (Jn. 1:1-18) Annunciation and Visitation (Lk. 1:26-56)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

4.3.1 create an illustration using the "I am" statements found in the Gospel of John. 4.3.1 draw a picture of a story from the New Testament that illustrates Jesus' humanity and one that illustrates Jesus' divinity. 4.5.1 act out one of the New Testament stories that illustrates Jesus' love of neighbor.

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5.1 The Catholic Church embodies the Church of Jesus Christ in the most complete way because of its: continuity with the first disciples (Apostolic); vision (Catholic); community and structure (One); and sacramental life (Holy).

Students will:

5.1.1 understand and explain how the Catholic Church is world-wide and includes many cultures and ethnic groups.

5.3 Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are enabled to share in the life of the Trinity, invited to discipleship, and become members of the Church.

Students will:

5.3.1 locate the New Testament passage that describes the Baptism of Jesus and explain what this baptism signaled for Jesus' life.

5.4 The Holy Spirit guides the Church as it continues the Mission of Christ.

Students will: 5.4.1 retell the story of the first Pentecost from the Acts of the Apostles.

5.5 The responsibility for maintaining the well-being of the Church belongs to each member. Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, through the Sacrament of Holy Orders constitute the hierarchy and have special responsibilities.

Students will:

5.5.1 know and recite the Precepts of the Church. 5.5.2 participate in service projects and discuss how service is essential to being a disciple of Christ.

5.7 There are transforming personalities, moments, and movements throughout the Church's history (e.g., Fathers and Doctors of the Church, Councils of the Church, Monastic communities, Saints, scandals, schisms, etc.).

Students will:

5.7.1 research and identify New Testament men and women who inspire them to lead holy lives.

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5.8 There are a variety of images and models that can help one understand and appreciate the Church. The Church acts as a model, catalyst, and support for its members in Seeing, Celebrating, and Living as Christ taught.

Students will:

5.8.1 cite examples from the New Testament in which the Early Church acted as a model community, catalyst, and support for its members.

5.8.2 discuss the Vatican II images of: People of God, Body of Christ, Temple of the Holy Spirit as they apply to the Church today.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

5.1 Calling of the First Disciples (Mt. 4:18-22; Mk. 1:16-20) 5.3 Baptism of Jesus (Mt. 4:13-17; Mk. 1:9-11; Lk. 3:21-22) 5.4 Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13) 5.5 Washing the Disciples Feet (Jn. 13:1-20)

Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37) 5.8 Christian Conduct (1 Pt. 3:8-12)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

5.3.1 create a reenactment of Jesus' baptism for First graders. 5.5.2 participate in a parish or school service project and write a reflection on how this event demonstrates love of neighbor.

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6.2 The Seven Sacraments are sacraments of the Church and their celebration constitutes the central prayer of the Church.

Students will:

6.2.1 cite examples of stories from the New Testament that demonstrate how the Sacraments can strengthen their relationship with God and the faith community.

6.2.A There are three Sacraments of Initiation: Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist.

Students will:

6.2.A1 relate New Testament events to the Sacraments of Initiation (e.g., Baptism of Jesus, Last Supper, Pentecost, etc.).

6.2.B There are two Sacraments of Healing: Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick.

Students will:

6.2.B1 articulate how the Sacrament of Reconciliation can help them understand their own personal relationship with Jesus and others.

6.2.B2 find evidence of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick in the New Testament.

6.2.C There are two Sacraments of Vocation/Service: Marriage and Holy Orders.

Students will:

6.2.C1 discuss the meaning of the word “vocation” and how their parents, parish priests, deacons, and vowed religious can help them to discern about their vocation.

6.2.C2 find New Testament examples of persons responding to God’s call.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

6.2.A 6.2.B 6.2.C

Baptism of Jesus (Mt. 4:13-17; Mk. 1:9-11; Lk. 3:21-22) Last Supper (Mt. 26:17-35; Mk. 14:12-26; Lk. 22:1-38) Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13) Cure of Simon’s Mother-in-Law (Mt. 8:1-15; Mk. 1:29-31; Lk. 4:38-39) Cure of the Crippled Begger (Acts 3:1-10) Man Born Blind (Jn. 9:1-41) John the Baptist (Mt. 3:1-12; Mk. 1:2-8; Lk. 3:1-20; Jn. 1:19-28) Woman at the Well (Jn. 4:4-42) Call of Levi (Mt. 9:9-13; Mk. 2:13-17; Lk. 5:27-32)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

6.2.1 create a commercial for one of the Sacraments. 6.2.1 create a skit, game, or charade about one of the Sacraments.

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Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

7.1 Prayer of Jesus (Jn. 17:1-26) Further Teachings on Prayer (Lk. 11:5-13) The Lord’s Prayer (Mt. 6:9-13; Lk. 11:1-4) Martha and Mary (Lk. 10:38-42)

7.2 The Last Supper (Mt. 26:17-35; Mk. 14:12-26; Lk. 22:1-38) 131

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7.1

Prayers of blessing, praise, thanksgiving, sorrow, intercession, and petition

express our relationship with God.

Students will:

7.1.1 read and reflect upon New Testament passages in which Jesus was at prayer. 7.1.2 explain how prayer expresses their relationship to God.

7.2 The Eucharistic liturgy is “the summit toward which the activity of the

Church is directed, at the same time it is the fount from which all the Church's power flows.” [Sacrosanctum Concilium, #10]

Students will:

7.2.1 locate New Testament passages which describe the institution of the Eucharist.

7.3 The Liturgical Year provides a context and stimulus for acquiring the mind, heart, and hands of Christ (i.e., understanding the life and teach of Christ).

Students will:

7.3.1 explain how the Triduum liturgies deepen their understanding of the Passion of our Lord.

7.3.2 identify which Liturgical season the Church is currently celebrating.

7.4 Ritual, art, architecture, and music all have an important role to play in fostering active participation in the liturgy.

Students will:

7.4.1 identify and explain New Testament persons and events which are depicted in the Sistine Chapel.

Sample Learner Assessments

Students will:

7.1.2 create greeting cards using one of the five styles of prayer (blessing, praise, thanksgiving, petition, or intercession).

7.1.2 create and present a prayer service that expresses their relationship with God.

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8.1 As disciples we are called to constant conversion and continual growth in virtue and holiness.

Students will: 8.1.1 identify virtues modeled by Jesus in the New Testament.

8.2 The Holy Spirit helps us grow as Christ's disciples with a variety of gifts, both for individuals and for the sake of the community.

Students will:

8.2.1 locate and explain New Testament passages that reference gifts given in the Early Church.

8.2.2 identify gifts present in the Church today.

8.3 The concept and exercise of stewardship enables us to grow in gratitude.

Students will: 8.3.1 give examples of stewardship from their own lives.

8.4 Mary is the Mother of God and the model Disciple whose example inspires us to be faithful disciples of Christ.

Students will:

8.4.1 8.4.2 8.4.3

locate and discuss New Testament references to Mary. articulate how Mary, the Mother of God, is a model of faith for them today.. know and explain the Sorrowful Mysteries.

8.5 The Saints inspire us to grow as faithful disciples of Christ and help us through the Communion of Saints.

Students will: 8.5.1 find stories about Saints in the Early Church from the New

Testament.

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8.6 As a disciple, we are called to share the Gospel, and to witness to the Gospel especially in our concern for the poor and marginalized in the world.

Students will:

8.6.1 locate New Testament passages where Jesus shows concern for the poor and marginalized.

8.6.2 reflect on and discuss how service to others is necessary to discipleship.

8.7 Having shared his life on earth, Christ wants his disciples to live forever (i.e., nature of heaven, purgatory, and hell).

Students will:

8.7.1 locate and discuss New Testament passages which describe the afterlife (e.g., John 10, Book of Revelation, etc.)

8.8 There are different roles in the Church (i.e., ordained, lay, vowed religious); each serves in proclaiming, witnessing, and serving in the Church and in the world.

Students will:

8.8.1 cite different roles present in the Early Church and tell how the persons in these roles proclaimed, witnessed, and served in the Church and in the world.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

8.2 Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor. 12:1-11) One Body, Many Parts (1 Cor. 12:12-31)

8.4 Annunciation (Lk. 1:26-38) Marriage Feast at Cana (Jn. 2:1-11) Agony in the Garden (Mt. 26:36-46; Mk. 14:32-42; Lk. 22:39-46) Scourging at the Pillar (Jn. 19:1-5) Crowning with Thorns (Mt. 27:27-31; Mk. 15:16-20) Carrying the Cross (Mt. 27:32; Mk. 15:21; Lk. 23:26-32) Crucifixion and Death (Mt. 27:33-56; Mk. 15:22-40; Lk. 23:33-49; Jn. 19:17-37)

8.5 Stephen's Martyrdom (Acts 7:54-60) Saul's Conversion (Acts 9 1:9)

8.6 Cleansing of a Leper (Mt. 8:1-4; Mk. 1:40-45; Lk. 5:12-16) Curing the Lame Man (Mt. 9:1-8; Mk. 2:1-12; Lk. 5:13-26) Man with a Withered Hand (Mt. 12:9-14; Mk. 3:1-6) Curing the Officials Daughter (Mt. 9:18-19, 23-26; Mk. 5:21-24, 35-43;

Lk. 8:40-42, 49-56) 134

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Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

8.6 Healing a Boy with a Demon (Lk. 9:37-43) 8.7 Judgment of the Nations (Mt. 25:31-46)

The Good Shepherd (Jn. 10:1-21) Son of God (Jn. 8:12-30) Parable of the Great Feast (Lk. 14:15-24) End Times (Lk. 21:7-11; Rv. 1:9-20; 5:1-14; 9:1-21; 13:1-18; 21-22

Sample Learner Assessments

Students will:

8.2.1-8.2.2 create a poem describing the Holy Spirit in short phrases to illustrate their understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit.

8.2.1-8.2.2 create a collage of seven images illustrating the Gifts of the Holy Spirit.

8.4.3 8.6.1 8.7.1

8.7.1

create a presentation about the Sorrowful Mysteries. create a game about the social teachings of the Church. create an illustration of one of the images of the end of the world found in the Book of Revelation. create an illustration of an image presented by John in

chapters 20-21 of the Book of Revelation.

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9.1 To be moral as a Christian means acting as Christ would act.

Students will: 9.1.1 discuss the Christian's call to follow Jesus.

9.2 Christ's new command to love, as expressed in the Beatitudes, is at the heart of Christian morality and fulfills the Ten Commandments.

Students will:

9.2.1 locate and discuss New Testament passages which contain Jesus' command to love.

9.3 Sin is a failure in genuine love for God, neighbor and creation.

Students will:

9.3.1 cite New Testament examples of sin and forgiveness, and explain how turning away from God affects their lives and relationships.

9.4 There are different degrees of seriousness to sin.

Students will: 9.4.1 explain how sin can be both commission and omission.

9.5 The Church's moral teachings inspire, guide, correct, and strengthen us as Christ's disciples.

Students will:

9.5.1 describe and use a moral decision-making process that references both Scripture and the Church's moral teaching.

9.6 Respect for human life and commitment to the common good provide a framework for the central moral teachings of the Church and are the basis for challenging certain presuppositions of economics, science, technology, and common/popular views of the human person and the purpose of life.

Students will:

9.6.1 use their study of the New Testament to develop an awareness of human suffering.

9.6.2 discuss actions that promote social justice.

9.7 Christian morality goes beyond personal morality and calls us to influence the social fabric of our society and culture.

Students will: 9.7.1 retell a Gospel account in which Jesus' teaching confronted the current culture.

9.8 Each person has a responsibility to form a mature conscience to assist him/her at each moment in doing good and avoiding evil.

Students will:

9.8.1 locate New Testament passages that provide examples of Jesus helping to form the consciences of believers.

9.8.2 define "conscience" and provide examples of how they see their consciences at work.

9.9 Grace is the relationship, freely initiated by God, that enables us to live out our identity as God's beloved and Christ's disciples.

Students will:

9.9.1 locate New Testament passages in which God's gift of grace enabled the first

disciples to live out their identities as God's beloved.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

9.1 Sayings on Discipleship (Lk. 14:25-33) Faith and Works (Gal. 2:15-21; Jas. 2:14-26)

9.2 Love of Enemies (Mt. 5:43-48) Great Commandment (Mt. 22:34-40; Jn. 15:11-17)

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9.3 Jesus and Peter (Jn. 21:15-19)

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Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

9.3 Zacchaeus (Lk. 19:1-10) Peter's Denial (Mt. 26:69-75; Mk. 14:66-72; Lk. 22:54-65; Jn. 18:15-17) Judas' Betrayal (Mt. 26:47-50; Mk. 14:43-47; Lk. 22:47-48; Jn. 18:1-11) Judas' Death (Mt. 27:3-10)

9.7 Woman at the Well (Jn. 4:4-42) Good Samaritan (Lk. 10:25-37)

9.9 Emmaus Story (Lk. 24:13-35) Thomas (Jn. 20:24-29)

Sample Learner Assessment Students will: 9.1.1 locate songs that promote the Christian call to follow Jesus.

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10.1 Personal prayer is essential for growth as a disciple of Christ.

Students will: 10.1.1 articulate their "habit of prayer."

10.2 Prayer is both expressive and formative of one's relationship with God

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Students will: 10.2.1 discuss how prayer expresses their deepest needs.

10.3 The Church provides many prayers and devotions in her tradition (e.g., the Rosary, Stations, Litanies, etc.).

Students will:

10.3.1 participate in a variety of traditional devotions. 10.3.2 recite Prayer Card prayers independently.

10.4 There are many different methods of prayer (e.g., meditation, formal prayers, Scripture based, contemplative, prayer methods from religious Communities, etc.).

Students will: 10.4.1 experience and participate in different prayer forms.

10.5 There are certain times and rhythms that call one to pray and that foster prayer (e.g., morning, evening, and meal grace, etc.).

Students will: 10.5.1 review the New Testament prayer passages to observe the times Jesus prayed.

10.6 The Holy Spirit draws us to pray, helps us when prayer is difficult, and leads us to experience God's presence within us.

Students will: 10.6.1 identify the actions of the Holy Spirit in the prayer of the Early Church.

Recommended Scripture Stories and Passages

10.5 Cleansing the Temple (Lk. 19:45-48) The Answer to Prayer (Lk. 11:9-13)

10.6 Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13)

Sample Learner Assessments Students will:

10.2.1 create a prayer labyrinth to be used during a retreat. 10.3.1 create a prayer center for student use. 10.4.1 formulate a mantra to use for centering prayer. 10.5.1 plan and participate in seasonal prayer services.

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