

# *First Semester*

- I. **THE TRINITY** (232, 234, 237, 257, 261)
  - A. CENTRAL MYSTERY OF OUR FAITH
  - B. COMMUNITY OF LOVE CONSISTING OF GOD THE FATHER, GOD THE SON, AND GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT
  - C. GOD THE FATHER - THE FIRST PERSON OF THE BLESSED TRINITY  
Gn. 1:1-13, Ex. 3:1-20, Ps. 8:1-9, 150:1-6, Jn. 1:17 -18, 1 Jn. 4:7-13
    - 1. Creator of all (279, 282, 293, 319)
      - a. Creates freely out of nothing and out of love
      - b. Created the world to show forth and communicate his glory.
    - 2. Father of us all
    - 3. God reveals himself to us (35, 50)
    - 4. Some characteristics of God (268-70)
      - a. Holy (208)
      - b. Almighty (Omnipotent)
      - c. All-knowing (omniscient)
      - d. All-merciful
      - e. All-loving
      - f. Everlasting (212)

D. GOD THE SON - JESUS  
THE SECOND PERSON OF THE BLESSED TRINITY

Is. 9:1-7, Lk. 1:26-38,  
Lk. 1:39-45, 2:1-20  
Mt. 3:13-17, Mt. 6:7-15,  
Jn. 1:17-18

1. Savior

- a. Jesus died to save us. (457, 605, 629)
- b. Jesus opened heaven to us.

2. Names given to Jesus

- a. Christ, Messiah - Anointed One
- b. Savior - One who saves
- c. Redeemer - One who redeems
- d. Lord - Jesus is truly God
- e. Son of God and Son of Mary
- f. Emmanuel - God with us

E. GOD THE HOLY SPIRIT -  
THE THIRD PERSON OF THE BLESSED TRINITY

Gn.1:1-2, 2:7,  
Ps. 51:10-11, Ex. 36:2  
Mt. 3:13-17, Mk. 1:9-11,  
Lk. 3:21-22, Lk. 4:16-18  
Jn. 14: 14-21,  
Rom. 8: 9-11, 1 Jn. 4:7-13

- 1. The Paraclete promised by Jesus (747)
- 2. The Holy Spirit came upon the apostles at Pentecost Acts 2: 1-4
- 3. The *Epiclesis* at Mass

The Holy Spirit is called upon during the Eucharistic Prayer to make the gifts and the people holy. During this prayer, the priest extends his hands over the bread and wine, and the people.

## II. SACRAMENTS

(1210)

Jesus Christ instituted the Seven Sacraments.

### A. THE SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Mt. 28:19-20,  
Lk. 22:14-20, Jn. 6:32-40,  
Jn. 4:13-14, Jn. 20:19-29,  
Acts 2:1-12, (1210)

The sacraments of Christian initiation - *Baptism*, *Confirmation* and *Eucharist* are the foundation of the Christian life.

#### 1. Baptism

Mt. 3:13-17, 28:16-20,  
Jn. 4:13, Acts 1:5,  
Eph. 4:4-6, (1213)

##### a. Effects of Baptism

- 1) We are freed from original sin and all sin.
- 2) We are reborn as children of God. (782, 804)
- 3) We receive an indelible *spiritual mark* (character).  
The effect lasts forever.  
This sacrament is received only once.
- 4) We become members of the Body of Christ.
- 5) We are incorporated into the Church.
- 6) We are made sharers in the Church's mission.

##### b. Symbols

(1234-45)

- 1) Water
- 2) Oils (of Catechumen and Chrism)
- 3) Candles (Paschal and Baptismal)
- 4) Baptismal garment
- 5) Words and actions

c. Ordinary Minister

- 1) The priest or deacon
- 2) In case of emergency, any person with the proper intention

d. Responsibilities of the Baptized

- 1) To love God and others
- 2) To live up to our baptismal promises

2. Confirmation (1285)

“For ‘by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit. Hence they are as true witnesses of Christ, more strictly obliged to spread and defend the faith by word and deed.’”

a. Effect of Confirmation is the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit (1302)

b. Indelible *spiritual mark* (character); (1304-05)  
like Baptism this sacrament is received only once.

c. Symbols (1300)

- 1) Laying on of hands
- 2) Anointing with Chrism
- 3) Words used

*Bishop:* N., Be sealed with the Gift of the Holy Spirit  
*Response:* Amen.

*Bishop:* Peace be with you.  
*Response:* And also with you.

d. Ordinary Minister - the bishop (1312)

e. How the sacrament is celebrated -  
usually during the celebration of Mass

- 1) Presentation of the candidates
- 2) Renewal of Baptismal Promises
- 3) Imposition of hands
- 4) Anointing with chrism

3. Holy Eucharist (1113, 1210-11,  
1322-27, 1343, 1395)

“The Holy Eucharist completes Christian initiation.” (1322)

“The Eucharist is the source and summit of the  
Christian life.” (1324)

The Eucharist is the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ  
under the appearances of bread and wine.

a. Names (1328-32)

- 1) Holy Eucharist
- 2) Holy Communion (1331)
- 3) Blessed Sacrament (1330)
- 4) Body and Blood of Christ
- 5) Thanksgiving (1328)

b. Stories of the Last Supper-  
the First Eucharist

Mt. 26:25-29,  
Mk. 14:22-25,  
Lk. 22:14-20, Jn. 6:28-58;  
13:1-16, Acts 2:42-43,  
1 Cor. 10:16-18: 11:23-27

c. Signs - bread and wine

d. Minister - the priest

e. Celebrating the Sacrament

1) Mass - a share in Jesus' Last Supper

2) Consecration of the Mass (1353)

The Holy Spirit, through the action  
of the priest, changes bread and wine  
into the Body and Blood of Christ.

f. Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist (1379-80)

1) Blessed Sacrament not consumed (1378, 1418)  
at Mass is reserved in the  
tabernacle

(a) Sanctuary Lamp

(b) Genuflection

2) Adoration

(a) Monstrance

(b) Incense

3) Benediction - highlights presence of Christ in the Eucharist  
(Holy Communion and the Worship of the  
Eucharist Outside of Mass)

(a) Readings from the Word of God

(b) Hymns

- (c) Prayers
- (d) Time for silent adoration
- (e) Blessing of the people with the sacred host

B. SACRAMENTS OF HEALING

Mt. 22:34-49, Lk. 7:44-50.  
Lk. 23:33-34, Jn. 15:12,  
Acts 2:37-41

“The Lord Jesus Christ, physician of our souls and bodies, who forgave the sins of the paralytic and restored him to bodily healthy, has willed that his Church continue, in the power of the Holy Spirit, his work of healing and salvation, even among her own members. This is the purpose of the two sacraments of healing: the sacrament of penance and the sacrament of Anointing of the Sick.”

(1421)

1. Penance and Reconciliation

(1423-24, 1486)

a. Effect

- 1) Forgiveness of sins
- 2) Reconciliation with God and the Church

b. Symbols

- 1) Imposition of hands
- 2) Words of Absolution

c. Minister - priest

2. Anointing of the Sick

Jas. 5:14-15, (1509)

“By the sacred anointing of the sick and the prayer of the priests the whole Church commends those who are ill to the suffering and glorified Lord, that he may raise them up and save them.”

(1499)

- a. Effect
  - 1) Spiritual and sometimes physical healing
  - 2) Forgiveness of sins
- b. Symbols
  - 1) Imposition of hands
  - 2) Anointing with the Oil of the Sick  
(Oil of the Infirm)
- c. Minister - the priest
- d. How the sacrament is celebrated
  - 1) Prayer over the sick
  - 2) Imposition of hands
  - 3) Anointing with oil

### C. THE SACRAMENTS AT THE SERVICE OF COMMUNION

“Two other sacraments, Holy Orders and Matrimony are directed towards the salvation of others; if they contribute as well to personal salvation, it is through service to others that they do so. They confer a particular mission in the Church and serve to build up the People of God.” (1534)

#### 1. Holy Orders (1536, 1554, 1593)

- a. Effect
  - 1) In this sacrament, a man is ordained a deacon, priest or bishop.
  - 2) This sacrament, like Baptism and Confirmation, confers an indelible *spiritual character* (mark) and can be received only once.

3) The mission entrusted by Jesus Christ to his apostles continues to be exercised in the Church until the end of time.

4) It is a sacrament of service to God's people.

b. How the sacrament is celebrated

1) Imposition of hands

2) Anointing of palms of the hands with chrism

3) Prayer of consecration

4) Giving of chalice and paten

c. Minister - the bishop

d. Celebrated during the Eucharistic Liturgy

## 2. Matrimony

(1601)

a. Effect

1) A man and woman promise each other before God and the Church to love and honor each other for the rest of their lives.

2) In this sacrament God gives the man and woman the grace to make lifelong promises. (1603)

3) This promise has been raised by Jesus Christ to the dignity of a sacrament.

b. Symbol - the covenant: the exchange of promises between the man and woman reflect the covenant between Jesus and the Church

c. Minister - the baptized man and woman

d. Witnesses

1) The priest

2) The assembly of believers -  
only two witnesses necessary

e. Usually celebrated during the Eucharistic Liturgy

### III. MARY

(971)

#### A TITLES OF MARY

1. Mother of God

Lk. 1:26-38, 46-56,

“Mary is truly ‘Mother of God’ since  
she is the mother of the eternal  
Son of God made flesh, Who is God himself.”

(509)

2. Our Mother

3. Mary as Model for all believers

(144, 148-49, 165, 967)

#### B. DAYS IN HONOR OF OUR LADY

September	8	Feast of the Birth of Mary
September	15	Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows
October	7	Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary
November	19	Our Lady of Divine Providence
November	21	Memorial of the Presentation of Mary

December	8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
December	12	Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe
January	1	Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God

C. PRAYER TO OUR LADY - The *Rosary* (2708)

1. The *Joyful Mysteries*
2. The *Sorrowful Mysteries*
3. The *Glorious Mysteries*

**IV. LITURGICAL YEAR** (1168-73)

A. SUNDAY - the Lord's day is the day on which we celebrate Jesus Resurrection. It is the heart of the Church's life. (2177)

B. ORDINARY TIME: liturgical color is green: hope, growth, life

C. ADVENT (524-1095)

1. Liturgical color is purple: preparation, sorrow for sin, repentance
2. Period of four weeks of preparation for Christmas
3. Advent symbols
  - a. Jesse Tree - recalls how people since Adam and Eve have awaited Jesus' birth
  - b. Advent wreath

D. CHRISTMAS (525-30)

1. Liturgical Color is white: joy, glory, innocence
2. Story of Jesus' Birth
 

Mt. 1:18- 2-23  
Lk. 2: 1-20

## E. SAINTS, FEASTS, AND SPECIAL PEOPLE

Special days to honor saints are ranked and celebrated in different degrees.

*Solemnity:* liturgies celebrating events, beliefs, and personages of principal importance and universal significance in salvation history

*Feast:* liturgies of major importance

*Memorial:* liturgies celebrating minor events in the life of the Blessed Virgin Mary and of saints significant to a local country, church or religious community

September	9	Memorial of St. Peter Claver, Priest
October	1	Memorial of St. Theresa of the Child Jesus, Virgin and Doctor (St. Therese, the Little Flower)
October	2	Memorial of the Guardian Angels
October	4	Memorial of St. Francis of Assisi
November	1	Solemnity of All Saints
November	2	All Souls Day
November	3	St. Martin de Porres, Religious
November	30	Feast of St. Andrew, Apostle
December	6	St. Nicholas, Bishop
December	9	Blessed Juan Diego
		Feast of the Holy Family (Sunday in the Octave of Christmas)
January	4	Memorial of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, Religious

January	5	Feast of St. John Neumann, Bishop
January	6	Solemnity of the Epiphany (or the Sunday between January 5 and January 8)
		Feast of the Baptism of the Lord (Sunday after January 6)
January	31	Memorial of St. John Bosco, Priest

## V. PRAYER (2590)

### A. TRADITIONAL

1. The Sign of the Cross (2157)
2. Our Father Mt. 6:7-15, (2792-93, 2801)
3. Hail Mary Lk. 1:26-38
4. Doxology (Glory Be...)
5. Prayers of the Mass
6. Act of Contrition
7. Grace before and after Meals (2698)
8. Morning Offering (2698)
9. Acts of Faith, Hope and Love
10. The Rosary
11. Hail, Holy Queen
12. Angel of God
13. Apostles Creed (190)

- B. SPONTANEOUS (2643-44)
- Encourage students to be familiar and comfortable with these types of prayer
1. Prayer of petition (2629, 2633, 2647)
  2. Prayer of thanks (2637-2638)
  3. Prayer asking for forgiveness (2631)
  4. Prayer of praise (2639-49)
  5. Aspirations
    - a. Short prayer invoking the name or title of a saint
    - b. Common response: pray for us.
    - c. Example: *St. John Bosco, pray for us.*

## VI. SACRAMENTALS (1667-79)

See symbols used in the celebration of the sacraments.

## VII. SOCIAL JUSTICE

*"The commitment to human life and dignity, to human rights and solidarity, is a calling all Catholic educators must share with their students. It is not a vocation for a few religion teachers, but a challenge for every Catholic educator and catechist."*

Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions, USCC, 1998, p. 7

### ***Major Themes:***

**The Life and Dignity of the Human Person**

**Call to Family, Community and Participation**

## **Rights and Responsibilities of the Human Person**

### **Care for God's Creation**

- A. CARE OF ALL CREATION - respect for all life
  - 1. Human
  - 2. Animal
  - 3. Plant
  
- B. APPRECIATION OF GOD'S BLESSINGS
  - 1. Share with others
  - 2. Make choices that show respect for all creation

*Catholic tradition insists that we show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation.*

**Sharing Catholic Social Teaching Challenges and Directions**, USCC, 1998, p. 6

For further ideas see **From the Ground Up: Teaching Catholic Social Principles in Elementary Schools**, NCEA, 1999.

# *Second Semester*

- I. GOD'S LAW** (2055)
- A. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (2056-60)
1. Present the Ten Commandments as given by God to Moses as a covenant with his people.
  2. Scripture story of God and Moses Ex. 19:16-25; 20:1-21
  3. First three commandments express our fundamental duties to God. (2134, 2161, 2165-66, 2190-92)
  4. Other commandments express our fundamental duties to our neighbor. (2248, 2319, 2393, 2454, 2508, 2531, 2553)
- B. THE GREAT COMMANDMENT OF LOVE (2055)
1. Given by Jesus Mt. 22:37-40
  2. The Ten Commandments can be interpreted in light of the great commandment of love.
- II. CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY**
- A. BIRTH AND GROWTH OF THE CHURCH
1. Life of Jesus
  2. Birthday of the Church - Pentecost (Acts 2:1-24, 37-41)
  3. Early Church community (Acts 2:42-47)

- B. COMPOSITION OF THE CHURCH TODAY
1. Church as Family
  2. Church as Parish
  3. Church as Diocese
  4. The Universal Church
  5. The Communion of Saints (946-53)
- C. CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CHURCH (811)
1. The Church is *ONE*. (866)
  2. The Church is *HOLY*. (867)
  3. The Church is *CATHOLIC*. (868)
  4. The Church is *APOSTOLIC*. (869)
- D. MEMBERSHIP IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH
1. Sacraments of Initiation: (1212)  
*Baptism, Confirmation, Eucharist*
  2. As baptized disciples of Jesus we are of service to the Church by Mt. 28:19-20
    - a. Living the Good News
    - b. Spreading the Good News
    - c. Celebrating the Good News

### III. MARY

A. TITLES OF MARY (963)

1. Mother of the Church
2. The Immaculate Conception - Patroness of the United States and of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia
3. Our Lady of Guadalupe - Patroness of the Americas

B. DAYS IN HONOR OF MARY

February 11	Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes
March 25	Solemnity of the Annunciation
May or June	Immaculate Heart of Mary (Saturday following the Second Sunday after Pentecost)
August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption

C. MAY DEVOTIONS - Special prayers and activities to honor Mary

1. Traditional color is light blue
2. May Shrine

### IV. LITURGICAL YEAR

A. LENT (1095)

1. Time of preparation for Easter
2. From Ash Wednesday to the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday
3. Liturgical color is purple for penance

## B. HOLY WEEK

1. Palm Sunday Jn. 12:12-19
2. Triduum
  - a. Holy Thursday  
Mass of the Lord's Supper Mt. 26:26-35,  
Mk. 14:22-31,  
Lk. 22:14-23
  - b. Good Friday  
Celebration of the Lord's Passion  
Liturgical color is red  
for the blood of Jesus shed for us. Mt. 27, Mk. 15, Lk. 23
  - c. Holy Saturday
  - d. Easter:  
Sunset of Holy Saturday to sunset of Easter Sunday

## C. EASTER SEASON

(1168-69)

Sunset of Easter Sunday to sunset of the Solemnity of Pentecost

1. Easter Sunday: liturgical color is white  
for glory, joy, innocence Mt. 28:1-15, Mk. 16:1-8,  
Lk. 24:1-12, Jn. 20:1-10
2. Ascension Thursday: liturgical color is white Mt. 28:16-20,  
Mk. 16:19-20,  
Lk. 24:50-53,  
Acts 1:6-12
3. Pentecost: liturgical color is red for  
the Holy Spirit Acts 2:1-4

## D. OTHER CELEBRATIONS

1. Trinity Sunday - Sunday after Pentecost
2. Corpus Christi - Sunday after Trinity Sunday

E. ORDINARY TIME: liturgical color is green for hope, growth, life

F. SAINTS, FEASTS, AND SPECIAL PEOPLE

February	2	Feast of the Presentation of the Lord
March	3	Feast of St. Katharine Drexel, Virgin
March	17	Memorial of St. Patrick, Bishop
March	19	Solemnity of St. Joseph
April	25	Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist
April	29	Memorial of St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin and Doctor
May	1	St. Joseph the Worker
June	29	Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul, Apostles
July	3	Feast of St. Thomas, Apostle

G. HOLYDAYS OF OBLIGATION (2043, 2177, 2180)

January 1	Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God
40 Days after Easter	Ascension Thursday
August 15	Solemnity of the Assumption
November 1	Solemnity of All Saints
December 8	Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
December 25	Solemnity of Christmas

H. LITURGICAL COLORS

1. Green                      Ordinary Time for hope
2. Red                      Pentecost, feasts of martyrs, Palm Sunday, Good Friday
3. Purple                      Lent and Advent for penitence
4. White (gold)              Christmas and Easter for joy

V. PRAYER

- A. "JESUS PRAYER"
- B. MEDITATION
- C. SHARED PRAYER
- D. GUIDED MEDITATION
- E. REVIEW PRAYERS OF THE MASS
- F. STATIONS OF THE CROSS

VI. SACRAMENTALS

- A. BLESSED ASHES
- B. BLESSED PALMS
- C. BLESSED MEDALS
- D. STATUES / ICONS

## VII. SOCIAL JUSTICE

*“The Church’s social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society.... In this time of widespread violence and diminished respect for human life and dignity in our country and around the world, the Gospel of life and the biblical call to justice need to be proclaimed and shared with new clarity, urgency, and energy.”*

Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions, USCC, 1998, p. 4

### ***Major Themes:***

**Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers**

**Solidarity of the Human Family**

**Option for the Poor and Vulnerable**

#### A. AWARENESS OF THE NEEDS OF OTHERS

1. Family
2. Parish
3. Community

#### B. SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

1. Practice acts of kindness and forgiveness towards family members.
2. Participate in parish Lenten Programs
  - a. Collecting food for the poor
  - b. Remembering the parish shut-ins
3. Remember the food shelters in the area
4. Archdiocesan Social Service Agencies

