

Faith and Life Series
22 Week Curriculum Outline

Grade 1
Our Heavenly Father

Third Edition

Grade 1: Our Heavenly Father

22 Week Parish Curriculum

THEME: Introduction to the Holy Trinity through presentations on God the Father, the life of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, God's plan of salvation and our part in that plan, especially in the Church. Acquaints children with Mary, the angels, and the saints. Children learn basic prayers.

Weeks 1-6

- ❖ **Part I: The Old Testament**
- ❖ Chapters 1-8: The Old Testament, God our Creator; our home in Heaven lost through Original Sin; the world prepares for the Savior.

Weeks 7-16

- ❖ **Part II: Jesus Christ**
- ❖ Chapters 9-21: The Incarnation, life, death, Resurrection, and Ascension of Jesus.

Weeks 17-22

- ❖ **Part III: The Church**
- ❖ Chapters 22-28: The Holy Spirit, the Blessed Trinity, the Church, and Mary our mother.

AIM: To introduce first-grade students to the Church's Faith regarding the Triune God, the life of Jesus, the work of the Holy Spirit, and the life of prayer, with a special emphasis on growing to know, love, and serve God in faithfulness.

Grade 1: Our Heavenly Father

Part I: The Old Testament

Week 1: Heavenly Father / God's Gifts / The Our Father

Ch. 1: God Is Our Father

- a. God is our heavenly Father
- b. God gives us all good gifts
- c. We should thank God when we talk to him in prayer
- d. We should love everyone in the family of God

Week 2: Heaven / Sign of the Cross / Mass

Ch. 2: Heaven Is Our Home

- a. Heaven is God's home, the place of perfect happiness
- b. Heaven is our true home
- c. The Sign of the Cross reminds us of who God is and what Jesus did
- d. The Mass is a foretaste of heaven

Week 3: Creator / Angels / Body & Soul

Ch. 3: God Watches over Everything

- a. God is everywhere, all powerful, all knowing, and all good
- b. God is our Creator
- c. God created angels

Ch. 4: God's Special Gifts

- a. God created us with a body and soul to know, love, and serve him
- b. God gives each of us a guardian angel to help protect your body and soul

Week 4: Adam & Eve / Grace / Original Sin / Promise of a Savior

Ch. 5: Adam and Eve

- a. God created Adam and Eve
- b. God gave Adam and Eve many gifts, including grace

Ch. 6: A Sad Story

- a. Adam and Eve sinned and lost the fullness of God's gifts
- b. God promised to send a Savior

Week 5: Noah & the Flood / Abraham & Isaac

Ch. 7: A Time of Waiting

- a. God called Noah to build an ark
- b. Noah obeyed and his family was protected during the flood
- c. God called Abraham to trust him and sacrifice Isaac
- d. Abraham obeyed and God spared Isaac and blessed Abraham's descendants
- e. God gives us faith to believe and do what he says

Week 6: Moses / Ten Commandments / John the Baptist

Ch. 8: Getting Ready for the Savior

- a. The prophets were holy men who prepared people for the coming of the Savior
- b. Moses was the first prophet
- c. Through Moses God gave us the Ten Commandments
- d. John the Baptist was the last prophet
- e. John the Baptist prepared the people for the Savior

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Part II: Jesus Christ

Week 7: Annunciation / Visitation / Rosary

Ch. 9: Mary Hears Some Wonderful News

- a. Mary was prepared by God to give birth to the Savior
- b. Mary said, “Yes” to God and is a model for us to follow
- c. The Rosary is a special prayer that Mary wants us to pray

Week 8: Nativity / True God & True Man / Wise Men

Ch. 10: The Savior Is Born

- a. Jesus was born in a stable in great humility
- b. Jesus is true God and true man
- c. Jesus was born to open the gates of heaven

Ch. 11: Three Wise Men Arrive

- a. The wise men adore Jesus and give him gifts
- b. Adoring Jesus truly present in the Blessed Sacrament
- c. Each person should offer his gifts and do his best for Jesus

Week 9: Childhood of Jesus / Jesus’ Public Life / Apostles / Pope, Bishops, & Priests

Ch. 12: Jesus Grows Up

- a. Jesus led a simple, humble life in Nazareth

Ch. 13: Jesus Begins His Work

- a. Everyone should follow the example of Jesus
- b. The apostles lived with and learned from Jesus and then carried on his work on earth
- c. The Pope and bishops are the successors of the apostles and carry on their work
- d. Priests help the bishops

Week 10: Good News / Bible / Miracles

Ch. 14: Jesus Tells the Good News

- a. God wants everyone to live with him forever in heaven
- b. Jesus teaches the Good News by word and deed, which everyone can learn from the Bible

Ch. 15: Jesus Does Wonderful Things

- a. Jesus performed miracles that show he is the Son of God, and because he loves all people

Week 11: Son of God & Savior / Healing / Faith

Ch. 16: We Believe in Jesus

- a. Jesus is the Son of God and the Savior of the world
- b. Jesus heals many people
- c. Jesus desires that we have faith in him

Week 12: Eucharist / Real Presence

Ch. 17: The Best Gift of All

- a. Jesus promised to remain with the Church for all time
- b. The apostles received from Christ the power to change bread and wine into the Body and Blood of Jesus. The Eucharist is the source and summit of Christian life
- c. The Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist

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Part II: Jesus Christ (Continued)

Week 13: Passion of Christ / Mary Our Mother / New Adam

Ch. 18: Jesus Dies for Us

- a. Jesus suffered and died for the sins of man
- b. Mary suffered with Jesus and he gave her to us to be our mother
- c. Jesus' sacrifice made up for Adam's sin and gave sanctifying grace back to mankind

Week 14: Resurrection / Assumption

Ch. 19: Jesus Was Raised to New Life

- a. Jesus rose from the dead
- b. Jesus' appearances after the Resurrection
- c. The Resurrection is celebrated at every Mass
- d. Mary was taken to heaven, body and soul

Week 15: Church / Apostolic Succession / Hierarchy

Ch. 20: Jesus Begins the Church

- a. Jesus founded the Catholic Church to continue his work of giving us his grace
- b. Jesus established a hierarchy that is continued by Apostolic Succession

Week 16: The Great Commission / Ascension

Ch. 21: Jesus Goes Back to Heaven

- a. Jesus spent forty days with the apostles after his Resurrection
- b. Jesus gave the Great Commission to his apostles to preach and baptize
- c. Jesus promised to send the Holy Spirit after he would return to the Father

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Part III: The Church

Week 17: Pentecost / Holy Spirit / Gifts of the Holy Spirit

Ch. 22: The Holy Spirit Comes

- a. The apostles and Mary prayed for nine days before the descent of the Holy Spirit
- b. The Holy Spirit descended on Pentecost and helped the apostles to remember and understand all that Jesus taught them
- c. The Holy Spirit gave the apostles the grace to do the work of God courageously
- d. The Holy Spirit gives life to the Church today

Week 18: Blessed Trinity

Ch. 23: The Blessed Trinity

- a. There are three Divine Persons in the one true God

Week 19: Baptism / Liturgy of the Word & Liturgy of the Eucharist

Ch. 24: God Gives You His Life

- a. Original sin means that we are born without sanctifying grace
- b. We receive that grace through the Sacrament of Baptism

Ch. 25: Many Gifts from God

- a. God gives us gifts out of love
- b. Our response to God should be thanksgiving and prayer
- c. We especially respond to God with gratitude during the Mass

Week 20: Mother of God / Immaculate Conception / Queen of Heaven

Ch. 26: Our Mother, Mary

- a. The Blessed Virgin Mary is the Mother of God and Jesus gave her to us to be our mother
- b. Mary is the Immaculate Conception and was assumed body and soul into heaven
- c. Mary is a model of discipleship and an intercessor
- d. Mary is the Queen of Heaven

Week 21: Discipleship / Prayer / Sacrifice

Ch. 27: Following Jesus

- a. Jesus is our model of perfection
- b. Prayer is the lifting of one's heart and mind to God
- c. Love is sacrificial

Week 22: Communion of Saints / Last Things

Ch. 28: Jesus Will Come Again

- a. God made us to know, love, and serve him
- b. God's plan for man is to be united with him forever in heaven
- c. At the end of the world we will be reunited to our bodies for all eternity
- d. To go to heaven we must be in the state of grace when we die