

Faith and Life Series
22 Week Curriculum Outline

Grade 7
The Life of Grace

Third Edition

Grade 7: The Life of Grace

22 Week Parish Curriculum

THEME: Beginning with an understanding of God's loving gift of the revelation of himself through creation, the prophets, the Incarnation, and the Church, grace is understood as central to our relationship with God. It unites us with him allows us to share in his eternal life. The lessons place special emphasis on the role of grace in developing the virtues, and especially on the transmission of grace through the seven Sacraments.

Weeks 1-6

❖ **Part I: God Reveals Himself**

- ❖ Chapters 1-6: The revelation of God through creation, the prophets, and to the Chosen People.

Weeks 7-9

❖ **Part II: God Becomes Man**

- ❖ Chapters 7-12: Jesus, true God and true man; priest and sacrifice for the Church.

Weeks 10-22

❖ **Part III: God Shares His Life**

- ❖ Chapters 13-31: The operation of grace in our lives in developing the virtues and in being transmitted through each Sacrament.

AIM: To help seventh-grade students treasure the Sacraments as indispensable elements of a full Christian life of love and truth. To deepen an understanding of grace, how it is given, and its relation to practicing the virtues. To appreciate the gifts of faith and reason.

Grade 7: The Life of Grace

Part I: God Reveals Himself

Week 1: Faith / Revelation

Ch. 1: Knowing God through Creation

- a. Reason
- b. Man is created in God's image
- c. Revelation
- d. Faith

Week 2: Salvation History / Scripture / Tradition / Magisterium

Ch. 2: Divine Revelation

- a. Salvation History
- b. The Word of God is passed on through Scripture and Tradition
- c. Scripture is inspired by God and inerrant
- d. Magisterium

Week 3: Creation / Man / Angels / The Fall

Ch. 3: Creation

- a. God creates out of love and everything he creates is good
- b. God created man and gave him many gifts
- c. God created the angels and the angels who rebelled are called demons
- d. The fall of man
- e. God promised to send a Savior

Week 4: Abraham & Isaac / Jacob / Joseph

Ch. 4: God's Plan of Salvation

- a. God established a covenant with Abraham
- b. God called Abraham to sacrifice Isaac
- c. Jacob obtained Esau's birthright and blessing
- d. Joseph was sold into slavery in Egypt
- e. Joseph saved his family from famine

Week 5: Moses / Passover / Ten Commandments / Joshua / Judges / Kings

Ch. 5: The Holy Prophet Moses

- a. God called Moses to deliver his people from slavery
- b. Through the Passover Sacrifice and meal, the Israelites are spared from the angel of death
- c. God established a covenant with his people and gave them his law
- d. Promised Land

Week 6: Prophets / Elijah & Elisha / Isaiah / John the Baptist

Ch. 6: God's Special Spokesmen: The Prophets

- a. Prophets were witnesses to truth and called men back to the ways of God
- b. Elijah & Elisha
- c. Isaiah
- d. John the Baptist

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Part II: God Becomes Man

Week 7: Annunciation / True God & True Man / God the Son / Priest, Prophet, & King

- Ch. 7: Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
- a. Jesus became man to redeem mankind from sin
 - b. Gabriel announced to Mary that she would be the mother of the Savior
 - c. Jesus is true God and true man
- Ch. 8: The Saving Mission of Jesus
- a. Jesus has a threefold office of priest, prophet, and king

Week 8: Sacrifice / Grace / Redemption

- Ch. 9: The Priesthood of Jesus
- a. Sacrifice is an act of worship
 - b. Jesus is the perfect sacrifice
 - c. Jesus is our one mediator with God
- Ch. 10: Christ, Source of All Grace
- a. Jesus is the source of all grace
 - b. Jesus dispenses his grace through the Church

Week 9: Catholic Church / Papacy & Apostles / Pentecost / Holy Spirit

- Ch. 11: Jesus Founds His Church
- a. Jesus calls the twelve apostles with Saint Peter as their head
 - b. Apostolic succession
 - c. Four marks of the Church
- Ch. 12: The Church in Our Time
- a. The apostles spread the Gospel throughout the world
 - b. The Holy Spirit sanctifies and protects the Church

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Part III: God Shares His Life

Week 10: Grace

Ch. 13: Doctrine of Grace

- a. Sanctifying grace is necessary for salvation
- b. The seven sacraments are the ordinary channels of grace
- c. Actual grace inspires us to do good and helps us to grow in holiness

Week 11: Theological Virtues / Cardinal Virtues / Seven Capital Sins

Ch. 14: Faith, Hope, and Charity

- a. Virtues are permanent dispositions of the soul
- b. The theological virtues are infused in us by God

Ch. 15: The Cardinal Virtues

- a. The cardinal virtues are the foundation of a good and truly happy life
- b. The capital sins are the root of all other sins

Week 12: Seven Sacraments

Ch. 16: The Seven Sacraments

- a. The seven sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ to be visible signs that confer grace

Week 13: Baptism

Ch. 17: God Calls Us to Reconciliation

- a. Jesus reconciled man to God through the gift of himself
- b. We accept and participate in this gift through Baptism
- c. The effects of Baptism include an indelible seal upon the soul
- d. Baptism of desire and of blood

Ch. 18: The Rite of Baptism

- a. The rite of Baptism

Week 14: Confirmation / Gifts of the Holy Spirit / Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Ch. 19: The Sacrament of Confirmation

- a. The Holy Spirit is our counselor and comforter
- b. Confirmation strengthens God's grace within us to assist us in living our Christian faith and in being witnesses of Christ

Ch. 20: The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

- a. The gifts of the Holy Spirit help us to recognize and respond to God's will

Week 15: Eucharist

Ch. 21: The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist

- a. Jesus is the Bread of Life
- b. Last Supper
- c. Transubstantiation
- d. Worthy reception of the Eucharist

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Part III: God Shares His Life (Continued)

Week 16: Mass / Holy Communion

Ch. 22: The Eucharistic Sacrifice

- a. The Mass makes the Paschal Mystery of Christ present for us and is the greatest form of worship that we can offer to God

Ch. 23: The Eucharist in Our Lives

- a. The Eucharist is the source and summit of the Christian life

Week 17: Sin / Conscience / Mercy

Ch. 24: Sin and Mankind

- a. Concupiscence
- b. Conscience

Ch. 25: God's Mercy and Forgiveness

- a. God is merciful and offers forgiveness to the repentant sinner

Week 18: Sacrament of Penance

Ch. 26: The Sacrament of Penance

- a. The Sacrament of Penance is the ordinary means for the forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism

Week 19: Anointing of the Sick & Preparation for Heaven

Ch. 27: The Sacrament of Anointing

- a. Jesus instituted the sacrament to care for the body and soul of the sick and dying
- b. The sacrament helps a person to prepare for death or, if it is God's will, brings about a physical healing
- c. The rite of the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
- d. Preparation for heaven

Week 20: Holy Orders / Matrimony

Ch. 28: The Sacrament of Holy Orders

- a. The Sacrament of Holy Orders is the sacrament by which men become ordained ministers

Ch. 29: The Sacrament of Matrimony

- a. Marriage was instituted by God at the time of Creation
- b. Jesus made marriage a sacrament

Week 21: Sacramentals & Piety

Ch. 30: Sacramentals

- a. Sacramentals are sacred signs established by the Church to bestow grace to those who receive them with the right disposition
- b. We honor the saints and ask them to pray for us

Week 22: Blessed Virgin Mary

Ch. 31: Mary, Mediatrix of Grace

- a. Jesus gave us Mary to be the mother of the Church and our mother
- b. Mary's special privileges
- c. Consecration to Mary