

**Religion: We Belong to God**

**Grade 1**

**Welcome! You belong**

- to help the children become aware that they are welcome in the group
- to create a sense of belonging to the group through shared experiences
- to express belonging to one another
- to grow in awareness of belonging to family and friends
- to prepare a celebration
- to celebrate our belonging with family and friends

**Jesus welcomes us**

- to explore experiences of being with adults who welcome us
- to discover Jesus as someone who welcomes children
- to come to know Jesus as a friend
- to discover that Jesus wants a world of friends
- to meet Jesus as a storyteller
- to hear Jesus tell us that we are his friends

**We hear the story of God through Jesus**

- to appreciate the Bible as a book of stories
- to come to know the God Jesus loved
- to celebrate the Bible as God's word
- to deepen a sense of reverence for God's book
- to deepen the children's appreciation of God
- to recognize God and Jesus in the image of the Good Shepherd

**God dwells among us**

- to treasure the gift of motherhood
- to discover how God chose Mary to give us Jesus
- to enter into Advent as a time of anticipation
- to appreciate the good news of "God-with-us"
- to appreciate God's desire to be with us
- to celebrate Advent

**I'll always be with you**

- to savour the Christmas story
- to enter into Epiphany
- to explore experiences of caring
- to recognize how God cares for us
- to express wonder, praise and thanks for God as creator
- to explore all of creation as a gift from God

**Hallowed be your name**

- to discover how and why our names are so important
- to appreciate that God loves us and calls us by name
- to explore images of God
- to come to know Jesus' image of God
- to experience and explore ways we talk with those we love
- to learn to pray the Our Father

**Your will be done**

- to experience meals as an expression of belonging
- to discover how Jesus included everyone
- to reflect on ways Jesus shows his love for us
- to hear and respond to Jesus' invitation to love as he loved
- to grow in the awareness of belonging
- to understand God's desire for everyone to be friends

**We belong to God's family**

- to reflect on how difficult it is to love one another
- to see Jesus as someone who accepts us and invites us to become more loving people
- to explore the need to receive and give forgiveness
- to see Jesus' life as forgiving
- to reflect on what it means to love fully
- to see Jesus' life and death as God's love for us

**The Holy Spirit gathers us into God's circle of friends**

- to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and his new life
- to reflect on the promise of new life after death
- to deepen appreciation of baptism
- to become aware of new life through water and the Spirit
- to deepen appreciation of belonging to the Christian community
- to celebrate belonging to the family of God through baptism

**We are born of the Spirit**

- to come to know the Holy Spirit as the life of God within us
- to see the Christian community as people who share the life of God: Father, Son and Spirit
- to remember the story of God
- to proclaim our belief
- to prepare a celebration of belonging
- to celebrate our belonging to God's family

**Religion: We Belong to the Lord Jesus**

**Grade 2**

**Let's be friends!**

- to enjoy being together
- to create a space together that expresses who we are
- to share our stories of friendship
- to discover the joy of having friends
- to strengthen ties of friendship by preparing for a party
- to celebrate our friendship

**Let's come together**

- to reflect on how I belong
- to deepen my appreciation of belonging to a family
- to focus on our experiences of greeting and welcoming
- to celebrate our place in the assembly
- to experience Jesus Christ in the assembly (gathering)
- to remember that we belong to the family of God through Baptism

**Let's treasure God's word**

- to develop a listening attitude to the word of God
- to celebrate the word of God
- to experience Jesus Christ the Word
- to savour the experience of celebrating the word of God
- to listen to Jesus who reveals himself in the word
- to respond to Jesus the Word

**Let's treasure God's presence**

- to enter into Advent
- to celebrate Mary's response to the Word
- to treasure Mary's response to God's Word
- to rejoice in God's presence among us
- to listen to John the Baptist's response to God
- to hear the invitation to change our hearts

**Let's treasure God's gift**

- to enjoy being together again
- to recognize Jesus the Word of God as gift
- to enter into God's story given to us in the Creed
- to treasure what we believe
- to explore the community's prayer in the General Intercessions
- to celebrate God's gift in prayer

**Let's take**

- to appreciate the gifts of the earth
- to recognize the earth as God's gift to all
- to nurture an attitude of wonder and awe for the fruits of God's creation
- to celebrate the work of human hands
- to explore our activities around tables
- to explore how the Sunday assembly prepares the table of the Eucharist

**Let's bless**

- to explore how we honour people
- to explore how we honour God
- to remember what God has done in creation
- to remember what God has done in our midst
- to explore the action of the Spirit on the gifts of bread and wine
- to explore the action of the Spirit upon the assembly

**Let's break**

- to explore the Our Father as our request for daily bread and reconciliation
- to explore the seal of our prayer in the Sign of Peace
- to enter into the suffering and death of Jesus
- to appreciate the death of Jesus in the bread broken and the cup poured out
- to recognize that we are called to serve others
- to listen to the invitation to feast at the table

**Let's eat and drink**

- to explore our Easter experiences
- to enter into the joy of the Easter story
- to savour the presence of the risen Christ in the Easter community
- to reflect on how it is Jesus who gathers and feeds us
- to recognize that the food we share at the Sunday assembly is Jesus, the bread of life
- to hear Jesus invite us to be bread for all

**Let's go forth**

- to explore the meaning of the dismissal rite
- to discover what it means to be sent forth
- to reflect on the action of the Eucharist
- to treasure our belong to the risen Jesus
- to remember the joy of our being together
- to celebrate our being sent forth

**We welcome and gather in the Spirit!**

- to begin to create a space where all feel comfortable
- to gather our hopes and dreams for the year
- to explore our hopes and dreams for our world
- to learn about God's dream of gathering all people into one family
- to prepare a celebration of gathering
- to gather and celebrate God's dream for us

**The Holy Spirit gathers and feeds us at Eucharist**

- to explore our gatherings with family and with community
- to appreciate what binds us together in communities
- to explore how the activity of God's Spirit in the Eucharist creates Church
- to prepare for a celebration of the Eucharist
- to celebrate Eucharist
- to remember our oneness by sharing bread

**The Holy Spirit calls and anoints us in Baptism and Confirmation**

- to recognize my place in the eucharistic assembly
- to remember that I am baptized into God's story
- to immerse ourselves into the symbols of Baptism
- to celebrate our belonging to the Christian community
- to recognize that Baptism and Eucharist call and empower us to service
- to explore the activity of God's Spirit in community service

**The Holy Spirit comes upon Advent people**

- to enter into the spirit of Advent through the person of Isaiah
- to see Isaiah as a figure upon whom the Spirit of God rests
- to enter into the spirit of Advent through the person of Mary
- to see Mary as a figure upon whom the Spirit of God rests
- to enter into the spirit of Advent through the person of Joseph
- to celebrate Advent with a pageant

**The Holy Spirit dwells in Jesus**

- to explore the mystery of Christmas
- to celebrate God dwelling among us
- to recognize how the Holy Spirit fills Jesus with the power of God
- to learn about God's dream in the words and actions of Jesus
- to explore the dream of God
- to see the Holy Spirit at work in Jesus

**The Holy Spirit dwells in the followers of Jesus**

- to discover the different ways that Jesus called his disciples
- to recognize that Jesus shared his mission with the disciples
- to celebrate the coming of God's Spirit upon the disciples
- to see how the Holy Spirit strengthens the disciples to continue Jesus' work
- to see how the Holy Spirit strengthens people
- to discover the call of the Holy Spirit in our own time

**The Holy Spirit fills the whole earth**

- to acknowledge God's Spirit in all creation
- to treasure the gifts of God
- to recognize our mission to have dominion over the earth
- to acknowledge the fragility of the ecosystem
- to identify areas where we can make a difference
- to celebrate the earth

**The Holy Spirit reconciles people**

- to experience Jesus as one who forgives
- to explore our lives in the light of God's dream
- to explore the need to be forgiven
- to celebrate the power of the Holy Spirit to forgive
- to celebrate the story of the Passion
- to remember how we are reconciled in the suffering and death of Jesus

**The Holy Spirit gives new life**

- to celebrate the Easter gift of reconciliation
- to enter into the mystery of new life in the Spirit
- to experience changes
- to see the Spirit alive in the changes of life
- to recognize and cherish Easter people in our midst
- to celebrate new life in the Spirit

**The Holy Spirit is alive**

- to recognize ourselves as Church, God's great gathering
- to proclaim our belonging in the Spirit through the Creed
- to understand that the Holy Spirit inspires us to share in the mission of Jesus
- to appreciate the variety of gifts in the Church
- to remember who we are in the Spirit
- to celebrate that we are the Church

**The Church hands on the good news**

- to experience the joy and enthusiasm of new beginnings
- to enter into the Pentecost story and to remember the work of the Holy Spirit in the following of Jesus
- to experience family stories as signs of belonging
- to learn that the New Testament is a testimonial of faith handed on to us by the first Christians and our parish community today
- to explore the New Testament and learn how to use it
- to reverence the Bible as the word of God

**The good news about Jesus Christ**

- to recognize the importance of memories
- to enter into the memories of the first disciples of Jesus
- to reflect on the experience of meeting a special person
- to enter into the experiences of the first encounters with Jesus
- to discover how Jesus attracted great crowds to follow him
- to encourage a desire to know Jesus better

**Jesus tells us about the reign of God**

- to appreciate the storyteller in our midst
- to see Jesus as a storyteller
- to enter into and enjoy the parables of Jesus
- to understand that Jesus uses ordinary images to bring the message of God's reign of love into people's lives
- to inspire wonder and delight in God's unconditional love
- to learn the Good Shepherd psalm as an expression of trust in God's loving care

**A light shines in the darkness**

- to explore the experience of darkness and light in our lives
- to discover the promise of light in the message of John the Baptist
- to hear and reflect on the message of John the Baptist
- to recognize how people bear witness to Jesus
- to savour a special story tree—the stump of Jesse!
- to celebrate all those who have witnessed to the light of Christ in our lives

**Jesus, “born of a woman”**

- to appreciate the symbol of light in the celebration of the nativity
- to explore the celebration of Epiphany
- to explore the meaning of the presentation of Jesus in the Temple
- to celebrate Epiphany
- to recognize in Jesus someone eager to learn about the Jewish religious tradition
- to situate Jesus in his own land, among his own people

**Jesus reveals the compassion of God**

- to see how Jesus was filled with the power of God's Spirit
- to understand Jesus' mission as the sign of God's kingdom
- to learn the many ways in which Jesus brings hope and healing to people
- to recognize our call to share in Jesus' work for the kingdom
- to evoke a sense of awe and wonder in the presence of all that Jesus said and did
- to celebrate the good news of Jesus in praise and thanksgiving

**Jesus says “I am the Way”**

- to enter more deeply into the movement of the Holy Spirit in us
- to appreciate God’s intimate involvement in our lives
- to explore our thirst for life
- to celebrate Jesus as God’s gift of living water
- to join Philip in his longing to know the Father
- to grow in our understanding that Jesus and the Father are one

**Jesus gives his life for us**

- to discover that Jesus had enemies
- to witness the faithfulness of Jesus in the face of opposition
- to see how the Last Supper helps us understand the meaning of Jesus’ life and death
- to learn that the Eucharist is an invitation to live a life of love and service
- to deepen our understanding of the meaning of Jesus’ death
- to ritualize Jesus’ freeing act of forgiveness

**“My Lord and My God!”**

- to share the disciples’ joy in discovering that Jesus is risen
- to learn what the presence of the risen Lord means to his friends and to us
- to enter into Thomas’ profession of Jesus as Lord and God
- to ponder the question “Who do you say that I am?”
- to understand more fully how deeply Jesus trusted his Father
- to recognize that we, too, are invited into a relationship of trust with God

**Jesus’ Spirit is with us**

- to understand that the Holy Spirit continues the work of Jesus Christ in us
- to recognize the role of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist in our initiation into the life of Jesus Christ
- to see how people, empowered by the Spirit, are witnesses to Jesus
- to remember Jesus in the formulation of a creed
- to savour our memories of the year
- to celebrate our story

**The Church proclaims the good news**

- to affirm the uniqueness of each person
- to see community as formed by the rich diversity of persons within it
- to recognize that God has no favourites
- to see that the Holy Spirit calls us to unity with people who are different from us
- to reflect on God's dream to gather all people as one
- to see how Jesus' followers continue the work of gathering

**The Church believes in the Lord Jesus**

- to look at the basic Christian message through the proclamation of Peter
- to see the growth of the Church as the gift of the Spirit
- to learn that the Holy Spirit leads us into the Christian community by faith sealed in Baptism
- to recognize that God continues to call people
- to explore Baptism and Confirmation as sacraments of initiation
- to see the Church as sacrament of Christ's action in the world

**The Church celebrates God's mighty deeds**

- to see how the Lord Jesus is at the centre of our experiences of gathering
- to recognize the Church rooted in the Christian story and the breaking of the bread
- to understand the structure of the eucharistic liturgy
- to prepare and celebrate Eucharist
- to recognize how the Eucharist nourishes us and leads us into God's kingdom
- to deepen our sense of belonging to the community of praise

**The Church expects the coming of the Lord**

- to enter into the hopes and expectations of people
- to learn how the time of Advent helps us walk in hope
- to see Mary as one who hopes in God's promise
- to learn to pray with Mary and the Church
- to prepare a Jesse Tree and savour the stump of Jesse
- to celebrate the Advent promise of God-with-us

**The Church welcomes all nations**

- to see the epiphany as celebrating God's initiative in loving us
- to discover how God calls again and again
- to explore further God's call in Scripture
- to discover God's faithfulness in the story of our ancestors
- to see God's continuing faithfulness in the Church's missionary activity
- to celebrate God's faithfulness to all nations

**The Church acts justly**

- to deepen our awareness that the Church is called to reach out with the kindness of God
- to see justice as essential to being Church
- to hear the call to open our doors to others
- to discover how people welcome and reach out to others
- to uncover the place of justice in ecological relationships
- to celebrate our oneness with all creation

**The Church reconciles**

- to see creation as God's covenant
- to understand disorder in the world as a breach of the covenant
- to probe the mystery of evil
- to understand that our unfaithfulness cannot undo God's faithfulness
- to see that God reconciles the world through Jesus in the Holy Spirit
- to celebrate God's reconciling action through the Holy Spirit in the Church

**The Church loves**

- to invite wonder at the superabundance of God's love
- to recognize the Holy Spirit acting in and among people
- to recall the significance of anointing in our faith tradition
- to understand the Church's ministries as rooted in the anointing with the Spirit
- to understand the Triduum as the celebration of the mystery of God's love
- to prepare for the Easter Vigil as the central celebration of our faith

**The Church rejoices**

- to celebrate the risen Lord through sign, symbol and story
- to deepen appreciation of the feast of Easter
- to learn how we become Easter people
- to learn how we hold on to the Easter vision in our lives
- to see the victory of Easter in people's lives
- to realize that the Spirit of Jesus changes people

**The Church witnesses**

- to explore the Church's witness through the life of Paul
- to see missionary activity as the result of the experience of the risen Lord
- to learn about the structure and marks of the Church
- to see that witnessing is essential to being Church
- to review and reflect upon what it means to be Church
- to celebrate being Church

**Religion: You Shall be My Witnesses**

**Grade 6**

**You are my friends**

- to create a space for friendship.
- to discover God's love in our friendship.
- to appreciate friendship as a unique gift.
- to recognize God as source of light.
- to prepare ourselves to receive the light.
- to celebrate God as light.

**I love you with an everlasting love**

- to see the other as the image of God.
- to come to an awareness of the moral experience.
- to meet Moses as light and prophet of God.
- to explore the image of God as liberator.
- to reverence the Holy Name of God.
- to respect every name.

**I shall be your God; you shall be my people**

- to remember how God invites Israel into a covenant relationship.
- to reflect on the meaning of covenant.
- to proclaim the gifts of the commandments as part of the covenant.
- to explore the first three commandments.
- to see love of neighbour as love of God.
- to celebrate the acceptance of God's covenant love.

**God so loved the world**

- to acknowledge infidelity to the commandments of the covenant.
- to celebrate those who kept alive the hope of Israel's salvation.
- to discover Israel's awakening to a new covenant.
- to remember the promise of a covenant written in our hearts.
- to see Mary as bearer of God's promise.
- to celebrate Jesus as fulfillment of the promise.

**I am the way, the truth and the life**

- to know Christmas as a celebration of God's abundant love.
- to celebrate the ways God's love is manifested in Jesus.
- to understand the foundation of justice.
- to stir up a sense of justice.
- to examine issues of justice.
- to accept the challenge of justice.

**Love your enemies**

- to appreciate the moral life of the kingdom of God.
- to hear Jesus call us to generosity.
- to see how the beatitudes reveal the kingdom.
- to make the vision of Jesus our own.
- to recognize the beatitudes as gifts of God.
- to give praise and thanks for the bountiful goodness of God.

**What you do to the least of my brothers and sisters...**

- to introduce Lent as a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving.
- to explore God's graciousness in the parable of the Prodigal Son.
- to explore and appreciate the Lenten discipline of fasting.
- to see Lent as a time of covenant renewal.
- to introduce the corporal works of mercy.
- to recognize Jesus in the poor.

**No greater love**

- to treasure the events of the night before Jesus died.
- to see Jesus as the highest example of moral life.
- to encounter Jesus as the forgiveness of the Father.
- to explore forgiveness in the lives of the students.
- to enter into the Passion and death of Jesus.
- to prepare for the celebration of Easter.

**Do not be afraid**

- to celebrate the risen Lord.
- to recognize the death and resurrection of the Lord in the Eucharist.
- to recognize the risen Lord in the power of Love.
- to recognize the death and resurrection of the Lord in reconciliation.
- to realize how meeting the risen Lord leads to new life.
- to recognize the death and resurrection of the Lord in Baptism.

**You shall be my witnesses**

- to recognize the action of God's spirit in the lives of saints.
- to explore what it is to be a moral witness in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- to explore our lives as witnesses.
- to retrace the journey of the year.
- to prepare a celebration of the Eucharist.
- to celebrate the Eucharist.

**Religion: Believe in Me**

**Grade 7**

**I... We**

- Who am I?
- Am I normal?
- The Bible is my story.

**We believe in God**

- Whom do we trust?
- Am I all on my own?

**We believe in God the Father Almighty**

- Who loves me?
- The Ten Commandments liberate us.
- Authority can be good or bad

**We believe in God... the creator of heaven and earth**

- God invites us to share in creation.
- God has a plan for creation.
- All males and females have human dignity.

**We believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son**

- The many titles for Jesus have significance.
- How does Jesus challenge me?
- What makes Jesus believable?

**We believe in Jesus... our Lord**

- What does it mean to live in God's kingdom?
- What do I need to be happy?
- Signs of God's kingdom are in my life.

**We believe in Jesus... conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary**

- Like Mary, I can cooperate with God.
- Jesus, fully human and fully divine, is a model for my life.

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead.**

- Jesus chose to accept his death.
- What's the point of sacrifice?
- How do we share the Good News with all people?

**On the third day he rose. He ascended into heaven.**

- Hope is found in the resurrection of Jesus.

**He is seated at the right hand... He will come again to judge...**

- Jesus' judgment frees us from what holds us in bondage.
- Only God may judge people's hearts and their persons.
- God sees and rewards the good we do.

**Religion: Stand By Me**

**Grade 8**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit**

- The Holy Spirit changed the first followers of Jesus.
- The gifts of the Holy Spirit give us the strength to carry out God's will.
- Our decisions should be evaluated according to the fruits of the Spirit.
- One God relates to us as three distinct persons.

**We believe in the holy Church**

- The Sacraments are life-giving and help us to become holy.
- The Sacraments of Initiation celebrate and encourage belonging.
- The Sacraments of Healing are signs of hope and wholeness.

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church**

- Our "one catholic" Church makes God's love available to all.
- All Christians are called to be servants of Christ.
- The Sacraments of Marriage and Holy Orders model faithful service.

**We believe in the communion of saints**

- Death cannot destroy the bonds of Christian community and love.
- Saints have walked very closely with God; we are all called to be saints.

**We believe in... the forgiveness of sins**

- Following the Ten Commandments means living in union with Jesus.
- The Church helps us form our conscience, so that we avoid personal and social sin.
- God's forgiveness of us is different from others' forgiveness of us.
- The Sacrament of Reconciliation has great value.

**We believe in... the resurrection of the body**

- God cares about both our bodies and our souls.
- Sexual love should be total, lifelong, and life-giving.
- Jesus calls us to reach out to those who are suffering.

**We believe in Jesus... life everlasting**

- Humans and the rest of creation share one destiny in God's plan.
- Jesus guides us in responding to the violence around us.
- Love of God and the Golden Rule are the basis for just relationships.

**Amen**

- How can we live out the beliefs of the Apostles' Creed?
- The Eucharist gives us the strength needed to live out our beliefs.
- We celebrate the Eucharist with our class.