



Christ our Light and Life

**Catholic Primary Religious Education Curriculum
for
Special Religious Education
in NSW State Schools**

Approved for use in the Catholic Diocese of Armidale



CCD Publications (Archdiocese of Sydney)

OVERVIEW

The curriculum series *Christ our Light and Life* is designed for use as the main resource of Special Religious Education (SRE) for Catholic children attending public schools. The series is for parents, priests, catechists and others involved in the ministry of Special Religious Education. This series will be most effective in teaching contexts committed to the Gospel of Christ, to Sacred Tradition, and to the magisterium of Christ's Church.

The *Christ our Light and Life* series aims to provide an environment in which young children may fall 'in love' with Jesus the Good Shepherd and develop a real relationship with him. They will discover both personal union with God, and their membership of a Church established by God. They will learn how to become like their Saviour – in the home, in school, in the parish and in the world. Christian virtue and Christian truth become the foundation for the whole of life.

The *Christ our Light and Life* is informed by the following practical principles:

- + Formation in faith is a life-long journey. Life itself is the context of any religious education program;
- + The needs of students change over time. Therefore, a variety of teaching methods are required over time;
- + The students' lives influence their expressions of faith. Thus catechists' teaching strategies will respond to and respect the cultural diversity of students and their families;
- + The family is the basic community of the Church. Links between the home, parish and school are discovered and encouraged.

FOUNDATIONAL CATECHETICAL GOALS

"The definitive aim of catechesis is to put people not only in touch, but also in communion and intimacy, with Jesus Christ, and by him to be led to the love of the Father in the Spirit and share in the life of the Holy Trinity." (John Paul II, Catechesi Tradendae, 5)

The Foundational Catechetical Goals are derived directly from the *General Directory for Catechesis* (GDC, 1997). They are the six fundamental tasks of catechesis which drive the whole program.

The purpose of catechesis is as follows:

- + To create an initial conversion to or deepening awareness of Jesus Christ, moved by the Holy Spirit, through a primary proclamation of the Gospel [85]
- + To create a deepening knowledge of Jesus Christ through Scripture and Tradition [85]
- + To celebrate the salvific presence of Christ in the Sacraments, particularly the Eucharist [85]
- + To challenge students to undertake a journey of interior transformation, taking the Decalogue and impressing on it the spirit of the Beatitudes, as Christ taught us in the Sermon on the Mount [85]
- + To challenge students to permeate their lives with a spirit of prayer, so as to discover the mysterious action of God, who gives us strength in our weakness [85]
- + To learn to cooperate actively in building up the Church and its work of evangelisation [86]

THE ROLE OF CATECHISTS

Catechists serve Jesus Christ as they pass on the Word in Scripture and Tradition to the young. Faithful to this Revelation, they are called to:

- + transmit the Gospel message and a maturity in faith - spiritual, liturgical, sacramental and apostolic;
- + provide clear doctrine, according to the teachings of the Catholic Church;
- + seek to understand revealed truths more deeply in their own lives so they can be a living witness to truth;
- + help the students make sense of their lives through Jesus Christ, who is the Revelation of God;

- + convey a sense of the nature of Christianity as a lived experience;
- + help students appreciate the relevance of the Sacraments in life's journey towards eternal life;
- + convey a real sense of how Jesus wished his followers and all people to live their lives;
- + respect the relationship between God and the child;
- + be a servant of a message that is not their own, and, together with the child, humbly listen to God's word;
- + treat students, right from the start, as persons known and loved by God, belonging to a community of believers;
- + foster each student's positive self-esteem, well-being, competence and unique potential;
- + believe that all students have the capacity to learn and should be treated justly and equitably.

CATECHETICAL METHODOLOGY

"The communication of faith in catechesis is an event of grace, realised in the encounter of the word of God with the experience of the person." (GDC #150)

Catechesis requires a meeting of the word of God with the experience of the person. God's Word, as expressed in Scripture and Tradition, must touch a person's life-experience for catechesis to occur. In this way a student integrates the Catholic faith with his or her personal experience.

There are then two beginning places for catechesis: the faith of the Catholic Church (faith) and human experience (life).

BEGINNING WITH FAITH: DEDUCTIVE METHOD

This method starts with the presentation of facts, and the application of those facts to personal life. These facts are derived from Scripture, Tradition, and the treasury of Church teaching. The truths of Christianity are drawn from these facts, absorbed by the mind, and integrated into personal life.

BEGINNING WITH HUMAN EXPERIENCE: INDUCTIVE METHOD

This method begins with life experience and enlightens that experience with the Word of God. This process reasons from the part to the whole – from subjective personal experience to objective universal truths, which, once understood, are reclaimed by the individual to enrich and educate that personal subjectivity.

Both catechetical methods are needed, and one method does not exclude the other. Just as revealed truths must be applied to life, life must be illumined with truth. Catechesis must unite faith with life. A number of activities are suggested, from which teachers select those which best suit their choice of inductive or deductive teaching.

FAMILYCENTRED CURRICULUM

"The family, which has the primary duty of imparting education, needs the help of the whole community." Pope Paul VI, (Gravissimum Educationis, 3 1965)

A key aim of the new curriculum series *Christ our Light and Life* is to promote the central place of parents and to support them in fulfilling their responsibilities for the faith formation and education of their children (cf. CCC, 2225-2226)

Families are the basic community of the Church. The parents of students in our schools and parishes are part of the whole Catholic community that has as an essential element of its mission the education in faith of its children. While it is not always possible for parents alone to educate their children in faith, they can, and should be an important part of the community that educates them.

The *Christ our Light and Life* series has included at the end of the Student Activity Book a series of eight 'Extension Activities' which families might use to supplement and continue the lessons learned at school. It is an acknowledgement of the role of parents as first educators of their children and the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine encourages and supports them in this role.

The family is the foundational unit of the Church, an integral part of the whole Catholic community.

Each family is called:

- + to accept and live the Catholic Faith;
- + to mature in faith and become an evangelising community;
- + to love, nurture and serve each other;
- + to participate in the development of society;
- + to share in the life and mission of the Church.

As part of the whole Church, families are to be supported by the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine in the education in faith of their members.

The *Christ our Light and Life* series:

- + strives to affirm and strengthen family life;
- + acknowledges the many different situations of families today;
- + encourages and models a commitment to faith.

CURRICULUM RESOURCES

THE STUDENT ACTIVITY BOOK

The Student Activity Book contains:

- + 32 sequenced lesson worksheets;
- + 8 Extension Activity Sheets. These pages are perforated, enabling them to be taken home at the end of each lesson. These pages contain information for the parents as well as activities for the students to complete;
- + Treasury of Prayers;
- + Values for Australian Schools.

The Student Activity Book has been prepared to accommodate either composite or non-composite classes. For example, Middle Primary (Stage 2) is aimed at years 3 and 4; that is, it is appropriate for children aged 8 - 10. In a composite class, the 'a' and 'b' text cycles are used in alternate years, so that students have a different book for each year and will thus cover the whole curriculum for the Middle Primary level. The same will occur with Junior Primary (Stage 1) and Senior Primary (Stage 3).

THE TEACHER'S MANUAL

The Teacher's Manual contains:

- + Scope and Sequence document;
- + Doctrinal Overview;
- + 32 sequenced lesson plans;
- + A Christmas Play;
- + Glossary.

The Teacher's Manual is a professional guide for helping catechists in their preparation and delivery of SRE lessons.

CCD WEBSITE

The CCD Sydney website has been developed to offer further assistance to catechists providing supplementary curriculum resources and relevant web-site links. Resources offered will include materials for the practical and professional learning of catechists. www.ccdsydney.catholic.edu.au

SACRED SCRIPTURE

An essential element of the *Christ our Light and Life* series is the reading of the Word of God in Scripture. Here we must revere the power and mystery of the Word of God. None of us can ever grasp the full meaning of a scriptural text, but by reading the Word of God reverently, slowly and reflectively, we bring the children into its mystery. At this age, most of them will not object or ask what every word means, but they will absorb in a deeply spiritual way the power of God's Word. They will begin to learn how to breathe the "atmosphere" of the Scriptures. They will gain a sense of Scripture that we hope will develop and grow through all the years ahead of them in the catechetical journey.

When reading the Scriptures to the children from an officially authorised translation, the catechist may wish to add an explanation if the meaning is not clear to the students. Let us never lose sight of the power of God's Word proclaimed in the community of faith under the guidance of the Holy Spirit!

Students need to become familiar with the story of God's people through the telling and reading of Scripture, and have opportunities to reflect on the Scriptures in relation to their own lives.

The Sacred Scriptures are the living Word of God, read by believers through the eyes of faith. In interpreting the texts of Scripture, we are called to 'be attentive to what the human authors truly wanted to affirm and to what they wanted to reveal to us by their words' (cf. *Dei Verbum* 12).

THE PRAYER PLACE

The Prayer Place is an area of the classroom set aside to be used during Special Religious Education lessons. It contains all the materials and resources used in religious education. The area is re-created/re-decorated for each lesson, according to the theme. The students are taught to respect the Prayer Place and to care for it.

The Prayer Place can contain:

- + the Bible;
- + models of objects used in the Church's worship;
- + models of people and objects from the time of Christ;
- + booklets of parables and stories of Jesus;
- + icons, crucifix, colourful posters of Jesus' life and stories;
- + pictures/posters relating to the theme of each lesson.

Catechists have a responsibility not only to teach their students about faith, but also to provide opportunities for them to experience a living faith through participation in prayer and liturgy. Since the law of prayer is the law of faith, the methods by which we pray and worship will affect and reflect the depth or otherwise of our understanding of God.

Prayer is:

- + the raising of the mind and heart to God;
- + being open to a relationship with God;
- + our response to God's invitation to this relationship of love and communion;
- + placing one's life, as a whole person, before God, aware of one's own needs and those of others and the world;
- + providing a diversity of experiences, which might include vocal, meditative, contemplative.

CONTENT STRANDS

GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY: The content strand *God, the Holy Trinity* enables students to become aware of the mystery of the one God as a Trinity of three distinct Persons – Father, Son and Holy Spirit: the Father as the first Person known to the Hebrews in Old Testament times; the second Person, Jesus Christ, true God and true man; and the Holy Spirit, the third Person sent by the Father and the Son at Pentecost. The relationship between these three Persons is explored and understood, as well as their attributed roles of Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.

CREATION: The content strand *Creation* enables students to appreciate the goodness and interconnectedness of all creation. All creatures reflect God in his perfections. The levels of creation are examined, distinguishing between matter and spirit, plants and animals, humans and angels. An in-depth study is made of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God. The human person is constituted of body and soul, with the spiritual powers of intelligence and free will. These spiritual powers are the crown of human dignity, and bring with them moral responsibility. Part of human responsibility is to care for and nurture God's good creation. Finally, the 'Last Things' are explored, with an emphasis on how creation will find its consummation in Christ, and how the human person is destined to everlasting life in God's heavenly Kingdom.

THE CHURCH: The content strand *The Church* enables students to appreciate the mystery of Christ's 'Mystical Body', and its mission to continue Christ's work of teaching, governing and sanctifying. Aspects of the Church examined include the Magisterium, or teaching Church, the role of Sacred Scripture and Tradition, the Liturgy, the Sacraments, the works of the Church, discipleship and mission, the Church in heaven (Mary and the Saints) and the Church suffering (Purgatory). The Church is the People of God, the Body of Christ, comprising clergy, religious and laity. Students are invited to a deeper appreciation and participation in the life and mission of the Church.

THE LITURGY AND THE LITURGICAL YEAR: The content strand *The Liturgy and the Liturgical Year* aims to give students an understanding of the nature of the Liturgy, its importance and centrality in Christian public worship. Within this, emphasis is given to provide a deeper appreciation of the Eucharist and the Divine Office, inviting students to a greater level of active and fruitful participation. The sacraments are presented as visible channels of grace, established by Christ to impart his life to us. Exploration is also made of the Liturgical Year and how it presents the great events of the Christian message to the People of God, especially Advent/Christmas, Lent/Holy Week and Easter/Pentecost, as well as commemorating the lives of inspirational men and women recognised as Saints by the Church.

THE MORAL LIFE: The content strand *The Moral Life* presents the moral law as taught by Christ in the Sermon on the Mount. The Commandments and Beatitudes are presented as the law of love and perfection, binding on all. This life cannot be practised without grace, which is obtained ordinarily through prayer and the sacraments. Students are introduced to different forms of prayer, and invited to incorporate prayer into their lives. Students are also invited to discern their vocations through prayer and counsel. Finally, issues of moral importance are discussed, presenting the Church's teaching on such topics as the family, chastity, respect for life, respect for property, respect for truth and for the good name of others.

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES FOR KINDERGARTEN

Values and Attitudes	Knowledge	Skills
<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>

GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY

develop an awareness and appreciation of God's love for us	identify that God is Father, Son and Holy Spirit	demonstrate the Sign of the Cross and pray in the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit
develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus as the Good Shepherd	identify and describe the ways in which Jesus is the Good Shepherd, lovinQ and carinQ for us	listen and respond to Scripture stories about Jesus through word, symbol or art

CREATION

develop an awareness and appreciation of God making each of us a special person	identify the many different things we can do with our bodies	demonstrate through word, symbol or art impressions of self
show and develop a sense of wonder and awe for the gift of God's creation	describe various aspects of God's creation, including people, plants and animals	demonstrate through word, symbol or art an appreciation for "our wonderful world"

THE CHURCH

develop an awareness and appreciation of the Bible as the Church's book and to know that we should listen to its stories with reverence	identify principal figures from the Bible, namely Jesus Christ, the Good Shepherd	listen and respond to Scripture stories through word, symbol or art
develop an awareness and appreciation that through Baptism we welcome a person into God's family, the Church	identify the main symbols associated with Baptism and name members of the Church's family	demonstrate a knowledge that the Church is a community of believers who gather to pray and celebrate

LITURGICAL YEAR

develop an awareness and appreciation of the major Seasons and celebrations in the Church's liturgical year	identify how the Seasons of Advent, Christmas and Easter relate to the life of Jesus Christ	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a personal response to Advent, Christmas and Easter
develop an awareness and appreciation of Sunday as the Lord's Day	identify that Sunday is a time to gather with other members of God's family for liturgy	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a growing familiarity with the symbols and rituals of the Mass

THE MORAL LIFE

develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus wanting us to love and care for others	list the ways in which Jesus loved and cared for others and identify his call to "Come, follow me"	demonstrate through word, symbol or art the ways in which Jesus' actions can be applied to our own lives
develop an awareness and appreciation of prayer, especially the communal experience of liturgy	name different ways to pray and identify key features of their classroom prayer place and of the church building	pray personally and communally prayers that are both traditional and spontaneous

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES FOR STAGE 1 (YEARS 1 & 2)

Values and Attitudes	Knowledge	Skills
<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>

GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY

develop an awareness and appreciation of God's love for us	list some of the ways God shows he loves us	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a personal response to God's love for us
develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus as the Son of God who leads us to the Father	identify examples from Gospel stories of how Jesus leads us to the Father	listen and respond to Scripture stories about Jesus through word, symbol or art

CREATION

develop an awareness and appreciation of God making the world to show his love for us	identify and describe the many different aspects of God's creation, including people, plants and animals	develop and/or articulate prayers of thanks to God for the gift of creation
develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that God made the first man and woman	identify that God created humankind in his own image	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a response to the Genesis account of the creation of humankind

THE CHURCH

develop an awareness and appreciation of God speaking to us in the Bible and through the Church	identify examples of how God speaks and acts through the Church	retell a Bible story, explaining in their own words what it means to them
develop an awareness and appreciation of our respect and celebration of Mary through prayers, feasts and Seasons during the Church liturgical year	list and describe some of the ways we celebrate Mary during the year	demonstrate through word, symbol or art Mary's significance to each of us and to the Church

LITURGICAL YEAR

develop an awareness and appreciation of the major Seasons and celebrations in the Church's liturgical year	identify that Advent is a time when we wait and prepare for the birth of Jesus	explore and describe practical ways through which we can prepare for the birth of Jesus
develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that in the liturgy, we gather, listen and respond to God's word	identify and describe the major parts of the Mass (<i>Liturgy of the Word, Liturgy of the Eucharist</i>)	explore and describe ways in which they can take the word of God and live it out in their own lives

THE MORAL LIFE

develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that when we sin we are not living the way Jesus taught us	identify and describe what it means to sin	distinguish between what is right and wrong, applying this knowledge to life situations
develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus wanting us to pray often, at any time and in any place	identify that prayer is loving, speaking, listening and singing to God, recognising that in the <i>Our Father</i> Jesus taught us how to pray	pray personally and communally prayers that are both traditional and spontaneous

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES FOR STAGE 2 (YEARS 3 & 4)

Values and Attitudes	Knowledge	Skills
<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>

GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY

develop an awareness and appreciation of the Trinity as the name given to the three persons in one God	name the persons of the Blessed Trinity and identify other titles by which God is known	listen and respond to Scripture stories identifying images and titles of the persons of the Trinity
develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus' life, death and resurrection revealing God's love for us	identify Gospel stories in which Jesus shows God's love for people	listen and respond to Scripture stories about Jesus through word, symbol or art

CREATION

develop an awareness and appreciation of God creating us with a body and soul	identify that our soul is immortal	distinguish between a body and a soul
develop an awareness and appreciation of God giving us the gift of free will	define in their own words and discuss the meaning of free will	examine recent choices they have made, giving consideration to their use of free will

THE CHURCH

develop an awareness and appreciation of the Church being the People of God	identify members who build up the Church and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ	examine practical ways in which they, as members of the Church, can spread the Good News of Jesus Christ
develop an awareness and appreciation of the Church being a Communion of Saints	identify that Saints say "Yes" to God by following in the footsteps of Jesus	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a personal response to the life stories of selected Saints, identifying how they can be models for their own lives

LITURGICAL YEAR

develop an awareness and appreciation of the major Seasons and celebrations in the Church's liturgical year	name the days of Holy Week and Easter and explain their meaning and significance for Christians	listen and respond to Scripture stories associated with the days of Holy Week and Easter, demonstrating through word, symbol or art how the risen Jesus is experienced in their own lives today
develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus' presence when we celebrate the Mass	identify the four ways in which Jesus is present in the Mass	listen and respond to the words of the consecration distinguishing that Jesus is with us in a special way through the "Real Presence"

THE MORAL LIFE

develop an awareness and appreciation of Jesus giving us a new commandment to "love God and love one another"	identify that Jesus' new commandment to "love God and love one another" is a summary of the commandments	examine practical ways of applying Jesus' new law to "love God and love one another" to their own lives
develop an awareness and appreciation of the commandments teaching us to live good lives as God intended	identify and explain in their own words the Ten Commandments	examine practical ways of living out the commandments, reflecting upon recent decisions and actions

SYLLABUS OUTCOMES FOR STAGE 3 (YEARS 5 & 6)

Values and Attitudes	Knowledge	Skills
<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that students will be able to:</i>

GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY

develop an awareness of the roles attributed to the persons of the Holy Trinity	identify the distinct qualities of each person of the Trinity	demonstrate through word, symbol or art the mystery of the Trinity
develop an awareness and appreciation of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit	identify and describe the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit	examine ways in which they can nurture the fruits of the Holy Spirit in their own lives

CREATION

develop an awareness and appreciation of the significance of <i>stewardship</i>	identify how human beings have misused/mistreated God's creation and explain how <i>stewardship</i> can remedy this	examine practical ways of being <i>stewards</i> of creation so that they may be able to apply these actions to their own lives
develop an awareness and appreciation of God guiding creation towards perfection	identify that only God can create from nothing	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a personal response to the magnificence and perfection of God's creation

THE CHURCH

develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that Jesus instituted seven sacraments through which we receive grace	list each sacrament and its purpose	group the sacraments appropriately and match them with their rituals and symbols
develop an awareness and appreciation of the Catholic Church in Australia having a special story	identify key people and events that have shaped the Catholic Church in Australia	research the history of the Catholic Church in Australia, analysing the influence of key people and events

LITURGICAL YEAR

develop an awareness and appreciation of some of the major Seasons and celebrations in the Church's liturgical year	identify that Lent is a time of prayer, fasting and almsgiving when we are challenged to live more like Jesus	examine practical ways of being able to live more like Jesus
develop an awareness and appreciation of the Mass being the most important celebration in the life of the Christian community	identify and summarise the main components of the celebration of the Mass	reflect on and discuss how we gain strength as a community celebrating the Mass together

THE MORAL LIFE

develop an awareness and appreciation of the Christian life being marked by virtues that lead us to God and by virtues that enable us to live a happy life	name and describe the human and theological virtues	examine practical ways of practising and nurturing human and theological virtues in their own lives
develop an awareness and appreciation of the Beatitudes being central to Jesus' teachings and that they express his plan for our happiness in this world and the next	identify the actions of the Beatitudes in Scripture, in our lives and in the lives of others	examine practical ways of practising and nurturing the actions of the Beatitudes

SCOPE & SEQUENCE

	EARLY STAGE ONE	STAGE ONE	
	KINDERGARTEN	YEAR ONE	YEAR TWO
<p>STRAND</p> <p>God, The Holy Trinity</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We show this in the Sign of the Cross. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves us. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus, lived in a family with Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead. Mary Magdaia, Breakfast on the Beach. The Holy Spirit is with us.</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- the road to Emmaus. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost Jesus returned to Heaven Jesus loves us and leads us to the Father. The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things.</p>	<p>God is caring and loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- The Empty Tomb. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things. God's Holy Spirit comes to us at Baptism and Confirmation to give us his life and love.</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>Creation</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We show this in the Sign of the Cross. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves us. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus, lived in a family with Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead. Mary Magdaia, Breakfast on the Beach. The Holy Spirit is with us.</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- the road to Emmaus. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost Jesus returned to Heaven Jesus loves us and leads us to the Father. The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things.</p>	<p>God is caring and loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- The Empty Tomb. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things. God's Holy Spirit comes to us at Baptism and Confirmation to give us his life and love.</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Church</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. We show this in the Sign of the Cross. Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves us. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus, lived in a family with Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead. Mary Magdaia, Breakfast on the Beach. The Holy Spirit is with us.</p>	<p>God loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- the road to Emmaus. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost Jesus returned to Heaven Jesus loves us and leads us to the Father. The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things.</p>	<p>God is caring and loves us. God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Jesus is God's Son. Jesus was born in Bethlehem. Jesus died and rose again. Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- The Empty Tomb. The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things. God's Holy Spirit comes to us at Baptism and Confirmation to give us his life and love.</p>

<p>STRAND</p> <p>Liturgical Year</p>	<p>Holy Week: The washing of the feet and the Last Supper. Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: God's Holy Spirit is with us Advent we prepare for Jesus at Christmas. Christmas: we remember the birth of Jesus. The shepherds came to visit the baby Jesus Feast of the Annunciation .</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday is the first day of lent Lent is a time to grow in love Palm Sunday is the first day in Holy Week Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. The Ascension - Jesus returns to Heaven. Pentecost- we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent a time to prepare for Christmas . Christmas: the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the flight into Egypt. Feast of the Annunciation .</p>	<p>The Church has seasons to help us celebrate the life of Jesus. Lent: we prepare for Easter. Holy Week: we remember Jesus' love for us. Jesus is the light of the world. Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent - we remember the people who waited for the coming of Jesus. Christmas: the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the gifts of the Magi.</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Mass</p>	<p>Holy Week: The washing of the feet and the Last Supper. Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: God's Holy Spirit is with us Advent we prepare for Jesus at Christmas. Christmas: we remember the birth of Jesus. The shepherds came to visit the baby Jesus Feast of the Annunciation.</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday is the first day of lent Lent is a time to grow in love Palm Sunday is the first day in Holy Week Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. The Ascension - Jesus returns to Heaven. Pentecost- we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent a time to prepare for Christmas . Christmas: the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the flight into Egypt. Feast of the Annunciation .</p>	<p>The Church has seasons to help us celebrate the life of Jesus. Lent: we prepare for Easter. Holy Week: we remember Jesus' love for us. Jesus is the light of the world. Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent - we remember the people who waited for the coming of Jesus. Christmas: the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the gifts of the Magi.</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Moral Life</p>	<p>Holy Week: The washing of the feet and the Last Supper. Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: God's Holy Spirit is with us Advent we prepare for Jesus at Christmas. Christmas: we remember the birth of Jesus. The shepherds came to visit the baby Jesus Feast of the Annunciation .</p>	<p>Ash Wednesday is the first day of lent Lent is a time to grow in love Palm Sunday is the first day in Holy Week Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. The Ascension - Jesus returns to Heaven. Pentecost- we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent a time to prepare for Christmas . Christmas : the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the flight into Egypt. Feast of the Annunciation.</p>	<p>The Church has seasons to help us celebrate the life of Jesus. Lent: we prepare for Easter. Holy Week: we remember Jesus' love for us. Jesus is the light of the world. Easter Sunday : we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life. Pentecost: we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit. Advent - we remember the people who waited for the coming of Jesus. Christmas: the birth of Jesus. Christmas: the gifts of the Magi.</p>

STAGE TWO

	YEAR THREE	YEAR FOUR
<p>STRAND</p> <p>God, The Holy Trinity</p>	<p>We share God's life and love (grace). The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Jesus loved us so much that he died for our sins. Grace has been given to us by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides the Church Jesus gave the Church the power to forgive sins. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to love and help others.</p>	<p>The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Through Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, we have new life. Jesus Christ is the first to rise forever from the dead. Jesus is always with us. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit The Holy Spirit inspires us to tell others about God's goodness. Peter and John act with courage</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>Creation</p>	<p>We share God's life and love (grace). The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Jesus loved us so much that he died for our sins. Grace has been given to us by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides the Church Jesus gave the Church the power to forgive sins. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to love and help others.</p>	<p>The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Through Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, we have new life. Jesus Christ is the first to rise forever from the dead. Jesus is always with us. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit The Holy Spirit inspires us to tell others about God's goodness. Peter and John act with courage</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Church</p>	<p>We share God's life and love (grace). The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Jesus loved us so much that he died for our sins. Grace has been given to us by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guides the Church Jesus gave the Church the power to forgive sins. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to love and help others.</p>	<p>The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us. Through Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, we have new life. Jesus Christ is the first to rise forever from the dead. Jesus is always with us. Jesus is the Son of God. Jesus promised the Holy Spirit The Holy Spirit inspires us to tell others about God's goodness. Peter and John act with courage</p>

<p>STRAND</p> <p>Liturgical Year</p>	<p>Lent - we try to do something in our lives to bring us closer to Jesus. Holy Week: Jesus teaches us how much he loves us Jesus rose again from the dead on Easter Sunday. Jesus appeared to his friends – The Road to Emmaus. The Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. During Advent, we remember John the Baptist who prepared for the Saviour, Jesus Christ. Mary said 'Yes' - the annunciation Mary shares the good news with Elizabeth. At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus God's gift to us.</p>	<p>Lent - A time for Change - almsgiving and making sacrifices. Holy Week - the stations of the Cross Pentecost- Jesus promises the Holy Spirit New life in the Holy spirit. Advent - A journey to Christmas Advent - A journey in faith Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem The journey of the Magi</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Mass</p>	<p>Lent - we try to do something in our lives to bring us closer to Jesus. Holy Week: Jesus teaches us how much he loves us Jesus rose again from the dead on Easter Sunday . Jesus appeared to his friends – The Road to Emmaus. The Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. During Advent, we remember John the Baptist who prepared for the Saviour, Jesus Christ. Mary said 'Yes' - the annunciation Mary shares the good news with Elizabeth. At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus God's gift to us.</p>	<p>Lent - A time for Change - almsgiving and making sacrifices. Holy Week - the stations of the Cross Pentecost- Jesus promises the Holy Spirit New life in the Holy spirit. Advent - A journey to Christmas Advent - A journey in faith Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem The journey of the Magi</p>
<p>STRAND</p> <p>The Moral Life</p>	<p>Lent - we try to do something in our lives to bring us closer to Jesus. Holy Week: Jesus teaches us how much he loves us Jesus rose again from the dead on Easter Sunday. Jesus appeared to his friends – The Road to Emmaus. The Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. During Advent, we remember John the Baptist who prepared for the Saviour, Jesus Christ. Mary said 'Yes' - the annunciation Mary shares the good news with Elizabeth. At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus God's gift to us.</p>	<p>Lent - A time for Change - almsgiving and making sacrifices. Holy Week - the stations of the Cross Pentecost- Jesus promises the Holy Spirit New life in the Holy spirit. Advent - A journey to Christmas Advent - A journey in faith Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem The journey of the Magi</p>

STAGE THREE

	YEAR FIVE	YEAR SIX
<p>STRAND God, The Holy Trinity</p>	<p>The Trinity is the central mystery of our faith. God the Father is our Creator; God the Son is our Redeemer; God the Holy Spirit is our Sanctifier. God promised to send us a Saviour Jesus the Son of God, is truly God and truly human. Jesus Christ is true God. He is the second person of the Blessed Trinity. We call Jesus 'the Christ' which means the 'Anointed One of God.' Jesus Christ rose in the same human body that suffered on the Cross. The Holy Spirit led Jesus to begin his mission. The Holy Spirit is God active in the world. The fruits of the Spirit reveal to us the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in the community.</p>	<p>God speaks to us in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition In Jesus Christ, God became man. Through our celebration of the birth of Jesus we remember and reflect on the presence of God in the world today. By his sacrifice on the Cross, Jesus overcame sin and death. We celebrate his sacrifice in the Eucharist. After his resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us. The Ascension of Jesus marks the end of the Resurrection appearances of Jesus, as Jesus now enters into a new kind of existence. Jesus asked God his Father to send the Holy Spirit to be with us always. The Holy Spirit strengthens us in the sacrament of Confirmation.</p>
<p>STRAND Creation</p>	<p>All creation is "very good" (Gen. 1:31) and is in the likeness of God, reflecting his own infinite perfections in a multiplicity of ways. God asks us to respect the life he gave us. Stewardship calls us to take responsibility for the protection and care of all the earth community by exploring and developing better ways to live in peace with all creation. Taking 'sabbath' time is an important way of tuning in and responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives. God has given each person free will and the power to choose. Those who die in God's grace and friendship live forever with Christ.</p>	<p>I only die once because in this world, I only have one life. At death, my soul is separated from my body. Jesus will come again at the end of time to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Resurrection of the body at the end of time. At the end of life we will be judged on our love. The work of angels is to give glory to God and participate in the Trinity's saving mission.</p>
<p>STRAND The Church</p>	<p>Jesus is the Head of the Church. The Pope is the Vicar of Christ on earth. The Church is the People of God. The Church is the Body of Christ. The Church tries to proclaim the Gospel to people in their language and culture. The lay faithful, in particular, are called to spread God's justice and goodness in the world around them. As Church, we believe in the transforming presence of the Spirit in our world. The Holy Spirit transformed the apostles from people full of fear to people who boldly took up the mission of Jesus to spread the Good News of God's great love. The Church is the people of God. The Church has carried out Jesus' commission even at the cost of martyrdom. People faced many challenges and struggles establishing the Catholic Church in Australia. This work was greatly helped by the arrival of priests and religious orders.</p>	<p>We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. Other Christians share in one baptism and one faith in Jesus. We pray and work for unity with them. Through Baptism we share in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In Confirmation the seal of the Spirit perfects the grace of Baptism. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, right judgement, courage, knowledge, reverence, wonder and awe in God's presence. In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of his Body. we are nourished by the presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic celebration All members of the Church (lay and ordained) are called to use their own gifts and talents in building up the Church. The sacrament of Marriage is the union in love of a man and a woman. Marriage between a man and a woman is called a covenant. It is based on God's love, help and forgiveness. Bishops, priests and deacons serve us in the name and person of Christ. Only baptised men can be ordained.</p>

	<p>There are different expressions of the Catholic church in Australia originating from the Eastern traditions as well as the Western tradition. Sacraments are visible signs of the presence of God. They are an encounter with God. There are seven sacraments they can be grouped into Sacraments of Service, Sacraments of initiations, Sacraments of Healing. The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick gives an inner strengthening through the Holy Spirit. Penance, a sacrament of healing, brings the forgiving love of our Father and the grace of the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>The Sacred Scriptures contain the Word of God and, because they are inspired they are truly the Word of God" (DV24). In the Old testament we encounter the story of God, God's chosen people and of their relationship with God. In the New Testament we learn of Jesus Christ and the early Christian community angels who help her on her earthly pilgrimage and protect every human being.</p>
<p>STRAND Liturgical Year</p>	<p>During Lent we are called to reach out to others as Jesus did. Lent is the season of forty days when we prepare to celebrate the death and Resurrection of the Lord Jesus during Holy Week and Easter. In Holy Week we remember the rejection, suffering, death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ. The Easter vigil is the most important liturgy of the Church calendar In the liturgy, the Holy Spirit enables the assembly to encounter Christ. Jesus is with us in our Sunday Liturgy - The Eucharist Mary has been greatly blessed by God and she is honoured by all generations. Mary was assumed body and soul into Heaven. Mary continues to be honoured through her feast days. In Advent we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas In Advent we are given time to reflect upon, and live out, the hope and expectation of Christ's coming. At Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus, when God came to earth and became one of us. Christmas is the great feast of the Incarnation, one of the key mysteries of our faith.</p>	<p>In Lent, the Church calls us to pray more, to make sacrifices and to give to the poor. On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper. In Holy Week the Church remembers that Jesus, in being faithful to his mission suffered and was crucified. We call the celebration of the Eucharist the Mass. It is the thanksgiving sacrifice of Jesus, offered for the living and the dead. The Holy Spirit came on Pentecost Day and entirely transformed disciples into apostles who not only lived for Jesus but also died as his witnesses. Mary is the mother of God because Jesus is God Mary was created free from sin. This means she was 'full of grace' from the first instant she existed. We call this her 'Immaculate Conception'. During Advent we are reminded of the people who are part of Jesus' family story. Their patience and hope are part of God's message. At Christmas we celebrate our belief that the Son of God was born of the Virgin Mary, became human and lived among us.</p>
<p>STRAND The Moral Life</p>	<p>My Conscience guides me to right and good choices . God has given us a conscience to form our judgments. When properly formed, conscience guides our actions in freedom towards him. God asks us to be responsible for the life he has given us. Jesus shows us by his life what justice means: we are called to live and act justly. The corporal works of mercy The world will know us as followers of Jesus by the fruits of the Holy Spirit which are visible in our actions . Modern day prophets work towards a fairer distribution of resources to create a more just world. The Catholic church in Australia reaches out to people who struggle to live with dignity. Lent is a time of growth and conversion Jesus' teachings reveal to us God's immense love and joy at our turning away from sin. The Ten Commandments teach us to live as God intended. God's mercy is shown to those who repent, usually in the sacrament of Penance. The sacrament of Penance gives us the grace to overcome sins.</p>	<p>The Catholic Church acknowledges that human beings are imperfect. We are not evil, but everyone has certain weaknesses. The effects of original sin draw us away from God. The Beatitudes express Christ's plan for our happiness in this world and the next. Christ emphasised the following virtues as blessed and deserving of reward: humility, patience, meekness, purity, and the capacity to make peace. Through Jesus' actions and teachings we learn about understanding and accepting others and looking beyond externals to the true worth of the person. All Christians are called to celebrate and live a new and faithful life in the Spirit and to proclaim Jesus courageously in word and deed to all those around them. The Lord's Prayer shows us how to pray to the Father. There are various kinds of prayer: blessing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise. Self-denial is an important part of Christian prayer.</p>