Religion Standards: Grade Three

THEME:
Understanding that part of God's Kingdom is our membership in the Church.

OBJECTIVES:
A. God's Kingdom is God's loving power at work in the world.
B. The Holy Spirit has helped the Church grow in the Kingdom.
C. God's Kingdom grows in all of us through the Sacraments.
D. People are all called to further the Kingdom by developing our own gifts and talents.

1.0 MESSAGE: The Kingdom of God on earth is experienced through participation in the life of the Church.

1.1 God
1.1.1 To understand that Jesus is the Messiah.
1.1.2 To understand that Jesus' life on earth was as a teacher to us.
1.1.3 To understand that Jesus accepted His cross.
1.1.4 To develop a closer relationship with Jesus and His mother Mary.
1.1.5 To introduce the role of the Holy Spirit in the Church today.

1.2 Scripture
1.2.1 To learn through parables, Jesus' vision of the Kingdom.
1.2.2 To understand Jesus' teachings through miracles, gestures, prayers, and love.
1.2.3 To introduce thanksgiving and praise Psalms as a way of praising God.
1.2.4 To guide children into understanding how to spread the Good News.
1.2.5 To learn the Word of God is spread through the help of the Holy Spirit.

1.3 Doctrine
1.3.1 To learn that Jesus offers us life forever.
1.3.2 To learn the Church is One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church.
1.3.3 To understand that the Pope is the successor of St. Peter, and the Bishops/Priests are successors of the apostles.

2.0 WORSHIP: We experience God's love through signs and symbols.

2.1 Sacraments
2.1.1 To learn the names and symbols of the seven sacraments.
2.1.2 To understand that sacraments bring people closer to God and nourish their membership in the Kingdom.
2.1.3 To learn how the sacraments express and enrich our faith.
2.1.4 To learn that the sacraments are rooted in ancient rituals.
2.1.5 To learn that Jesus shares His life through the sacraments.

2.2 Prayers
2.2.1 To know the following prayers: (1) Sign of the Cross; (2) Doxology (Glory to the Father...); (3) Lord's Prayer: (4) Grace before and after meals; (5) Hail Mary
2.2.2 To learn the Creed.
2.2.3 To develop the ability to compose simple prayers.
2.2.4 To have the opportunity to participate in a variety of prayer forms such as recitation, spontaneous prayer, guided meditation, gestures, song, and dance.

2.3 Liturgy
2.3.1 To reinforce the prayers of the Eucharistic liturgy.
2.3.2 To participate in planning liturgies.
2.3.3 To reinforce that there are two parts of the Mass.

2.4 Liturgical Year
2.4.1 To celebrate the seasons and solemnities of the Church Year:
Advent
Ash Wednesday
Easter
Ordinary Time
Christmas
Lent
Ascension Thursday
Epiphany
Holy Week
Pentecost

2.5 Feast Days
2.5.1 To celebrate feast days of the saints.
2.5.2 To understand the celebrations associated with Holy Days.

2.6 Traditions
2.6.1 To understand the rituals of Advent such as Advent wreath, Jesse Tree.
2.6.2 To understand the rituals of Lent such as Ashes, Stations of the Cross, Washing of the Feet, fasting and almsgiving.
2.6.3 To further understand rituals and traditions of the Catholic Church associated with the Holy Days.

3.0 MORALITY: Individual decisions affect others as well as ourselves.
3.1 To reinforce that our decisions involve choices.
3.2 To recognize responsibility for personal choices.
3.3 To continue to experience reconciliation as a part of forgiveness.
3.4 To learn that it is not fair to be unkind to others because of their race, sex, religion or handicap.

4.0 CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING: We live the Christian message in service to others.
4.1 Justice
4.1.1 To continue to learn to practice fairness.
4.1.2 To treat others as we want to be treated.
4.1.3 To learn about the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and have the opportunity to practice them.

4.2 Peace
4.2.1 To learn that we belong to a world-wide circle of people who are building the Kingdom of God.
4.2.2 To use conflict resolution skills.

4.3 Local Needs
4.3.1 To continue to participate in local outreach programs.
4.3.2 To continue to participate in the needs of the parish.

5.0 COMMUNITY: The Church community is related to our own lives.

5.1 Models of Church
5.1.1 To learn that the Holy Spirit has worked within the Church throughout all time.
5.1.2 To learn that we are Catholic Christians.
5.1.3 To understand that People of God make up a parish community.
5.1.4 To understand that we are all disciples of God.
5.1.5 To learn about the role of the laity, priests, religious, bishops, cardinals, and the pope.
5.1.6 To recognize that the Church has many functions: Institution, Herald, Sacrament, and Servant.

5.2 Church History
5.2.1 To learn that Jesus sent the Holy Spirit to help the Church carry on the work of the Kingdom.
5.2.2 To learn how the early Christians worked for the Kingdom.

5.3 Mary/Saints
5.3.1 To learn about Mary in the following roles:
   Mother of Jesus  Mother of the Church
   Friend of the apostles  Our Mother
   Queen of Saints
5.3.2 To learn about the work of the saints as they spread the Good News.
5.3.3 To continue to learn about patron saints.

6.0 FAMILY LIFE: Life is begun and nurtured in a loving family.

6.1 Human Dignity
6.1.1 To understand that all people are gifts of God.
6.1.2 To understand and learn about human families.
6.1.3 To learn the importance of developing a positive self worth.
6.1.4 To study the reproductive cycles of living.
6.1.5 To understand feelings in communicating with others.
6.1.6 To reinforce a sense of respect and reverence for all life.

7.0 TERMINOLOGY:

8.0 SCRIPTURE REFERENCES to be used to develop the themes of the religion standards.
Genesis 1 God as Creator
Genesis 12 God gathers His people
Isaiah 7: 10-14 Emmanuel, God with us, foreshadows Jesus
Isaiah 9, 11: 1-9 Rule of Emmanuel; promise of the Kingdom fulfilled in Jesus
Psalm 104: 30 God’s spirit sent over the earth
John 14: 9-26, 26 Jesus reveals the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
John 3: 16 Jesus is sent by God
Matthew 28: 18-20 Commissioning of the apostles
Matthew 13: 44-46 Parables of the Kingdom
Acts 2: 1-13 Pentecost
Luke 6: 12-16 Call of the apostles
Luke 16: 18-20 Peter as leader
John 19: 26-27 Mary as our Mother
Luke 18: 35-43 Cure of the blind man
Mark 7: 31-37 Cure of the deaf man
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