

Religious Education Program for Children at Holy Redeemer

Holy Redeemer Religious Education Program for children uses the Catechism Program from Loyola Publications: ***Finding God – Our Response to God’s Gifts 2013***, (*Know your Faith. Grow in Faith. Go in Faith*). The program, ***Finding God***, is based on the goal of St. Ignatius Loyola – *to help people find God in all things and to develop a deep friendship with Jesus Christ*.

It is a faith formation program that fosters a lifelong relationship with God by engaging children in the full and authentic teachings of the Catholic Church. With exploration of Scripture, Church Tradition, and prayer integrated into every session, children learn the fundamentals of our Catholic faith. Through active-learning strategies that serve a variety of learning styles, children participate, learn, and grow in knowledge, in faith, and in discipleship.

The structure of the *Finding God: Our Response to God’s Gifts* program consists of a spiral curriculum that integrates the fundamental themes of the ***Catechism of the Catholic Church*** as well as ***Scripture*** and ***Catholic Social Teaching***. As children are introduced to and revisit concepts and vocabulary from one year to the next, their knowledge and experience both broaden and deepen. Each year (Level 1 – 6) the same five themes are revisited, but from different perspectives. The following pages illustrate this and will help you know and keep pace with what your child is learning in Religious Education.

Finding God Program Features:

Reflection: Recorded guided reflections lead children into prayer

Scripture: Dramatized Scripture stories bring the Bible to life.

Prayer: Relevant opportunities help children integrate prayer into daily life

Experiential Learning: *Exploring Faith Through Art* prints provide a multisensory approach to faith formation

Inclusion: Activity modifications ensure that materials fit every student’s needs

Parent Resources: Abundant resources such as family e-newsletters, website etc.

Children’s Book: The Children’s books for grades 1 – 6, feature Catholic content shared in a rich context with beautiful images, thoughtful prayers, and engaging activities and experiences that draw children in to fully learn, experience, and express their faith.

Each student in Level 1 – 6 will receive a children’s workbook for their Grade Level. These workbooks will be used by the student in every class.

***Please note: In the event a student workbook is lost or damaged beyond use, it will be replaced by the Religious Education Program at a cost of \$20.00 to the family of the student. These textbooks are an essential tool for the student.**

The Kindergarten Program: God Loves Us is also from Loyola Publications, but individual workbooks are not available. The Catechist guides the five-year-olds to explore God’s love as they are introduced to God’s goodness through words, actions, feelings, people, places and things. Learning, growing, sharing, and celebrating provide the foundation for each chapter. Each chapter has its focus on one particular aspect of God’s goodness.

Finding God

Grade 1: God Found Everything Good – God and Creator

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

- Session 1: God is the Creator and loves all that He creates
- Session 2: God loves us and wants nothing but the best for us
- Session 3: Jesus tells us that God is His Father and our loving Father too.
- Session 4: The Holy Spirit is God's presence among us
- Session 5: Ordinary Time is a time to be thankful for God's creation

Unit 2: Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour

- Session 6: Jesus was born in Bethlehem
- Session 7: Jesus taught us how to pray to our Father as He prayed
- Session 8: Jesus taught us that God wants to know our needs
- Session 9: Jesus rose from the dead, making new life possible
- Session 10: Advent is a time to get ready to celebrate Jesus' birth

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

- Session 11: Jesus gives us the Church as a sign of His love for us and for the whole world
- Session 12: The Holy Spirit gives us gifts of peace, strength and joy
- Session 13: Jesus calls us to share His love
- Session 14: Mary, the mother of Jesus, loves and prays for us
- Session 15: We celebrate the birth of Jesus on Christmas

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

- Session 16: Jesus is with us in a special way through the Sacraments
- Session 17: In Baptism, we become members of God's Family
- Session 18: In celebrating the Mass, we remember what Jesus did for us.
- Session 19: When we pray, we are listening and talking to God
- Session 20: Lent and Holy Week are times to grow closer to God

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

- Session 21: The Commandments help us make good decisions
- Session 22: We are like Jesus when we care for one another
- Session 23: Jesus has given our parents to us, and we are called to honour and obey them
- Session 24: God wants us to care for the world He has given us
- Session 25: Easter is a time to celebrate how Jesus saves us all

Finding God

Grade 2: I Am the True Vine – Eucharist and Reconciliation

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

Session 1: God created the world to show us how much He loves us

Session 2: Jesus is the Son of God who comes to save us

Session 3: We call Jesus the Son of God because He reveals to us His loving Father

Session 4: All good things we do and the good decisions we make come from the Holy Spirit

Session 5: Ordinary Time is a time to be fed by Jesus, the Bread of Life

Unit 2: Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour

Session 6: With God's help, we can follow the Commandments and live in peace with one another

Session 7: Jesus is the model for the love and goodness in our lives

Session 8: Jesus calls us to the Kingdom of God

Session 9: The parable of the lost sheep shows God's loving concern for us

Session 10: Advent is a time to prepare for Jesus and make room for Him in our lives

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

Session 11: The Sacraments help us to worship God in a special way

Session 12: When we celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we are reconciled with God and with others

Session 13: In the Sacrament of Reconciliation, our sins are forgiven

Session 14: Mary is the great example of what it means to obey God

Session 15: Christmas is a time to celebrate the birth of Jesus with our families

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Session 16: When we receive the Sacraments of Initiation, we receive new life in Jesus

Session 17: One way we can see God's love in the world is the way we celebrate the Eucharist

Session 18: When we gather for Mass, we hear the Word of God

Session 19: Celebrating the Eucharist is central to Christian life

Session 20: Lent and Holy Week are times to ask for God's help in becoming the person He calls me to be

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

Session 21: Jesus shows us how to love through His words and deeds

Session 22: God helps us follow our conscience so that we can be truly free and happy

Session 23: We can be like Jesus by treating others fairly and with justice

Session 24: God wants us to respect one another's good name and property

Session 25: Easter is a time to reflect on eternal life

Finding God

Grade 3: Fishers of Men – Church and Holy Spirit

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

Session 1: God wants us to know Him

Session 2: The love of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is the source of the love we have for one another

Session 3: Jesus reveals to us that God is our loving Father, who calls us to live in peace with one another

Session 4: The Father sends Jesus to save us

Session 5: Ordinary Time is a time to grow and be grateful we belong to our church Community

Unit 2: Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour

Session 6: Jesus teaches us how to love the Father, others and ourselves

Session 7: Jesus calls us to love God and others

Session 8: Jesus invites His followers to enter the Kingdom of God

Session 9: Through Jesus` Death and Resurrection, we receive Salvation

Session 10: Advent is a time to prepare ourselves and our homes for the celebration of Jesus` birth

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

Session 11: Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to bring life into the Church

Session 12: Jesus gives us leaders in the Church

Session 13: Jesus Christ is especially present in the celebration of the Sacraments

Session 14: Mary is the Church`s model of faith and love

Session 15: Christmas is a time to prepare to celebrate as a Church the birth of Jesus

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Session 16: Through the Sacraments of Initiation, we receive fullness of the Spirit and become members of the Church

Session 17: When we fail to love God and others because of sin, Jesus calls us to forgiveness through the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Session 18: The celebration of the Eucharist is at the centre of parish life

Session 19: We are called by God to do special work as either a sister, brother, priest, married or single person

Session 20: Lent and Holy Week are times to think of how we treat others

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

Session 21: We live like Jesus when we practice the virtues of faith, hope and charity

Session 22: Jesus gives us the help we need to make good moral choices

Session 23: Jesus helps us to love and respect one another

Session 24: Jesus calls us to share with one another in any way we can

Session 25: Easter is a time to reflect on God`s merciful love

Finding God

Grade 4: Blessed Are the Poor – Beatitudes and the Ten Commandments

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

Session 1: God's love for us is revealed through His creation

Session 2: Jesus teaches us that God is our loving Father

Session 3: God responds to the sin of Adam and Eve with the promise of a Saviour

Session 4: God speaks to us through our conscience

Session 5: Ordinary Time is a time to grow as Jesus' disciples

Unit 2: Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour

Session 6: Jesus' law of love allows us to live peacefully with one another

Session 7: The Beatitudes show us how we can be truly happy and share happiness with Others

Session 8: Jesus redeemed us from our sins through His life, Death and Resurrection

Session 9: Jesus shares His new life with us through the power of the Holy Spirit

Session 10: We can prepare to welcome Jesus into our lives by making good moral Choices

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

Session 11: People are welcomed into the Church through the Sacraments of Initiation

Session 12: Jesus calls the Church to continue His mission

Session 13: Jesus calls us to forgiveness and offers us the grace of reconciliation when we sin

Session 14: Mary, the Mother of God and the Mother of the Church, is the perfect model of Christian discipleship

Session 15: During Christmas we celebrate Jesus' birth

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Session 16: Through the Sacrament of Reconciliation, we renew our relationship with God and others

Session 17: Jesus is really present to us in the Sacrament of the Eucharist

Session 18: We celebrate the healing presence of Jesus in the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick

Session 19: Matrimony and Holy Orders are Sacraments at the Service of Communion

Session 20: Lent and Holy Week are times to more like Jesus

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

Session 21: By using the Ten Commandments as guide for our actions, we are able to make good moral choices

Session 22: The first three commandments teach us to love God above all

Session 23: The Fourth through Sixth Commandments teach us to live in good relationship with others

Session 24: To choose to follow God's Ten Commandments is to choose life

Session 25: Easter is a time to reflect on Jesus' gift of peace

Finding God

Grade 5: The Bread of Life – Sacraments and Worship

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

Session 1: God creates and upholds the world through the power of His Word

Session 2: From the beginning we have been promised a Saviour to free us from Original Sin

Session 3: God's covenant with Abraham finds its fulfillment in Christ

Session 4: As a sign to the world of God's goodness, Jesus calls us to live in His kingdom

Session 5: During Ordinary Time we strengthen our bond with Jesus through the Sacraments

Unit 2: Jesus, our Lord and Saviour

Session 6: Jesus sends the Spirit to give us new life

Session 7: A Sacrament is a sign by which Jesus shares God's life – grace- with us

Session 8: In Baptism we enter into life in Christ

Session 9: Confirmation strengthens our relationship with Christ

Session 10: During Advent we prepare for Jesus' coming

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

Session 11: The unity of the faith is expressed in a variety of ways

Session 12: Through the Sacrament of Holy Orders, men are called to exercise ministerial leadership in the Church

Session 13: Jesus calls husbands and wives to form a domestic church with their children

Session 14: Jesus calls everyone to serve God and others and Mary is the model of how to respond

Session 15: During Christmas we remember to live holy lives

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

Session 16: The Eucharist is the central celebration of Christian life

Session 17: In the liturgy, Jesus Christ is present in His Word, in the assembly, and especially in the Eucharist

Session 18: In the Sacrament of Penance, we celebrate God's forgiveness, receive absolution for our sins, and are reconciled with ourselves, God, and the Church

Session 19: In the Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick, we celebrate Jesus' healing power

Session 20: During Lent we remember the Passion of Jesus

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

Session 21: Jesus is the foundation of a moral life

Session 22: Jesus helps us to act responsibly toward others

Session 23: Jesus' life in us makes us temples of the Holy Spirit

Session 24: Jesus calls us to live with our Father in Heaven

Session 25: During Easter we reflect on the mission Jesus gave us

Finding God

Grade 6: I Am Who Am – The Old Testament

Unit 1: God, Our Creator and Father

- Session 1: In the Bible, God reveals Himself to us, especially in the life, Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ
- Session 2: The human family is created in the image and likeness of God
- Session 3: The root of sin is lack of trust in God and disobedience to His commands
- Session 4: God calls Abraham and Sarah to believe in Him
- Session 5: Ordinary Time is a time to grow in the love of Jesus Christ

Unit 2: Jesus, Our Lord and Saviour

- Session 6: God helps people overcome sinful choices
- Session 7: Jesus calls us to a new covenant
- Session 8: The Exodus describes the covenant between God and the Israelites
- Session 9: David and Ruth made choices that helped to prepare the way for Jesus.
- Session 10: Advent is a time to appreciate the people who accompany us as we travel toward Jesus and plan to celebrate His birth.

Unit 3: The Church, Our Community in the Spirit

- Session 11: The Church is the new temple of the Holy Spirit
- Session 12: The psalms help us learn how to pray, and Wisdom Literature gives us practical advice on how to live
- Session 13: The mission of the Church is to proclaim Jesus' presence today
- Session 14: The Church is one, holy, catholic, and apostolic
- Session 15: Christmas is a time to celebrate Jesus' birth and the coming of the Wise Men

Unit 4: Sacraments, Our Way of Life

- Session 16: The prophets who called the Chosen People to repentance and conversion were powerful witnesses to God
- Session 17: The prophets bring words of hope and encouragement
- Session 18: In Baptism we are born into the family of Jesus; this bond is strengthened in the Eucharist and Confirmation
- Session 19: In celebrating the Sacraments of Penance and Reconciliation and the Anointing of the Sick, we find the healing presence of God in our everyday lives.
- Session 20: Lent and Holy Week are times for fasting and prayer

Unit 5: Morality, Our Lived Faith

- Session 21: Jesus calls us to practice the virtues of faith, hope and charity
- Session 22: In the Sacraments of Holy Orders and Matrimony, Christians are called to holiness
- Session 23: All of creation is a gift from God and the goods of the earth are to be used in ways that honor God
- Session 24: As Christians we are called to support the common good and the fundamental rights of each person
- Session 25: Easter is a time to celebrate the great story of our Salvation from the time of our ancestors in Faith into the future.