

## OVERVIEW

The 3rd Edition of 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 evangelization [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, realized 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.

## FAMILY-CENTRED 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 evangelizing 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](http://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 recognized 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 the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>
<b>GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY</b>		
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	communicate basic knowledge about Jesus	demonstrate through word, symbol or art the ways in which Jesus is the Good Shepherd, loving and caring for us
<b>CREATION</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of God making each of us a special person	communicate that they are created and loved by God	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"
<b>THE CHURCH</b>		
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 both the Old and New Testaments	listen and respond to Scripture stories through word, symbol or art
develop an awareness and appreciation that they belong to God's family, the Church	identify the Church as a community of believers who gather to pray and celebrate	Identify key features of their classroom prayer place and of the church building.
<b>LITURGICAL YEAR</b>		
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
<b>THE MORAL LIFE</b>		
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	express an understanding that God is always with us	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 the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>
<b>GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY</b>		
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
<b>CREATION</b>		
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
demonstrate an understanding of their responsibility to respect themselves, others and all creation	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
<b>THE CHURCH</b>		
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	demonstrate basic knowledge and understanding of Jesus and his teachings
develop an awareness and appreciation of holy people and saints as people who reflect God's goodness	recognize the role of Mary in the life of Jesus	demonstrate through word, symbol or art Mary's significance to each of us and to the Church
<b>LITURGICAL YEAR</b>		
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> )	identify key symbols, signs and rituals of the Catholic Tradition
<b>THE MORAL LIFE</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that when we sin we are not living the way Jesus taught us	identify Christian ways of relating to others 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, recognizing that in the <i>Our Father</i> Jesus taught us how to pray	compose and pray simple prayers of thanks, praise and sorrow

## SYLLABUS OUTCOMES FOR STAGE 2 (YEARS 3 & 4)

Values and Attitudes	Knowledge	Skills
<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>
<b>GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of God's love and forgiveness	identify scripture stories that speak of God's forgiveness	demonstrate through word, symbol or art a personal response to God's love and forgiveness
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
<b>CREATION</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of the importance of caring for all creation.	describe ways in which all creation can be cared for	identify ways they can care for God's creation
develop an awareness and appreciation of God creating us with a body and soul	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
<b>THE CHURCH</b>		
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 lives of love and service led by saints (including Mary and the canonized 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
<b>LITURGICAL YEAR</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of relevance of the Scriptures to the Liturgical Year	name the days of Holy Week and Easter and explain their meaning and significance for Christians	listen and respond to Scripture interpret demonstrating through word, symbol or art the significant events in the life of Jesus
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"
<b>THE MORAL LIFE</b>		
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	identify that Jesus' new commandment to "love God and love one another" is a summary of 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 the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>	<i>It is intended that the students will be able to:</i>
<b>GOD, THE HOLY TRINITY</b>		
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 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
<b>CREATION</b>		
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
<b>THE CHURCH</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of the knowledge that Jesus instituted seven sacraments through which we receive grace	explain how word, symbol and ritual are used in sacramental celebrations	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	explore the traditions, beliefs and history which are important to the life of the Catholic Church	research the history of the Catholic Church in Australia, analysing the influence of key people and events
<b>LITURGICAL YEAR</b>		
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 beliefs and traditions which are expressed in the story of the Catholic Church	identify and summarize the main components of the celebration of the Mass	reflect on and discuss how we gain strength as a community celebrating the Mass together
<b>THE MORAL LIFE</b>		
develop an awareness and appreciation of their responsibility to live according to the values of Jesus	explain the consequences of living according to the values of Jesus	analyse their own actions according to the values of Jesus
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	describe ways in which the <i>People of God</i> reach out, and fail to reach out to others	examine practical ways of practising and nurturing the actions of the Beatitudes

## SCOPE AND SEQUENCE

	Early Stage One
	Kindergarten
<b>STRAND</b> God, The Holy Trinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God loves us.</li> <li>• God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• We show this in the Sign of the Cross.</li> <li>• Jesus is the Good Shepherd who loves us.</li> <li>• Jesus was born in Bethlehem.</li> <li>• Jesus, lived in a family with Mary and Joseph - the Holy Family.</li> <li>• Jesus died and rose again.</li> <li>• Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead. Mary Magdala,</li> <li>• Breakfast on the Beach.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit is with us.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God made the world to show his love.                God made all the animals                God made me. God loves me                My family is a special gift from God.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I belong to my Church family                The Church is a very special prayer place with a tabernacle, altar and lectern.                God speaks to us in the Bible, which is the Church's book.                We learn about our faith family: Noah, Abraham, Moses, Jonah, David                God speaks to us through his Church.                Mary was asked to be the mother of Jesus.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> Liturgical Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday is a special day for Christians who gather together to celebrate the Mass.                At the Last Supper Jesus taught us how to celebrate the Mass.                Jesus is present with us when we celebrate the Mass.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Moral Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer is speaking, listening and singing to God.                We pray at Mass, with our families and at school.                Jesus wants us to pray often, at any time and in any place.                Jesus wants our love of God and others to grow.                Jesus wants us to follow him.</li> </ul>

	Stage 1	
	Year 1	Year 2
<b>STRAND</b> God, The Holy Trinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God loves us.</li> <li>• God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• Jesus is God's Son.</li> <li>• Jesus was born in Bethlehem.</li> <li>• Jesus died and rose again.</li> <li>• Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead - the road to Emmaus.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost</li> <li>• Jesus returned to Heaven</li> <li>• Jesus loves us and leads us to the Father.</li> <li>• The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God is caring and loves us.</li> <li>• God is the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• Jesus is God's Son.</li> <li>• Jesus was born in Bethlehem.</li> <li>• Jesus died and rose again.</li> <li>• Jesus appeared to his friends after he rose from the dead- The Empty Tomb.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit came at Pentecost</li> <li>• The work of the Holy Spirit can be seen in people who do good things.</li> <li>• God's Holy Spirit comes to us at Baptism and Confirmation to give us his life and love.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God made the world and saw that it was good.</li> </ul> <p>God gave us the gift of rest. We should care for God's creation. God is our Creator and Father, and we are his children.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God made the first man and woman.</li> </ul> <p>We are made in the image and likeness of God. In our families, we learn how to care for one another. Families can help us to know God better. God wants us to be happy with him in Heaven.</p>
<b>STRAND</b> The Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• At Baptism, we are welcomed into God's family, the Church.</li> </ul> <p>God speaks to us in the Bible. We learn about: Joseph and his brothers. Moses and the burning bush Jesus taught us about God's Kingdom. It has great value. It affects all parts of our lives. The kingdom parables The Mustard Seed, the Treasure and the Pearl of great price.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The sacraments are signs of God's love for us.</li> </ul> <p>In the sacrament of Penance, God welcomes and forgives us. God speaks to us in the Bible. We learn about: David and Goliath Moses – God of Freedom God speaks and acts through the Church. The light of Jesus shines from the Church. Saints have followed God's call with love.</p>
<b>STRAND</b> Liturgical Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ash Wednesday is the first day of lent</li> <li>• Lent is a time to grow in love</li> <li>• Palm Sunday is the first day in Holy Week</li> <li>• Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life.</li> <li>• The Ascension - Jesus returns to Heaven.</li> <li>• Pentecost- we celebrate the work of the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• Advent a time to prepare for Christmas.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Church has seasons to help us celebrate the life of Jesus.</li> <li>• Lent: we prepare for Easter.</li> <li>• Holy Week: we remember Jesus' love for us.</li> <li>• Jesus is the light of the world.</li> <li>• Easter Sunday: we celebrate Jesus rising to a new life.</li> <li>• Pentecost: we celebrate the work of the</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Christmas: the birth of Jesus.</li> <li>• Christmas: the flight into Egypt.</li> <li>• Feast of the Annunciation</li> </ul>	<p>Holy Spirit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advent - we remember the people who waited for the coming of Jesus.</li> <li>• Christmas: the birth of Jesus.</li> <li>• Christmas: the gifts of the Magi.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunday is a special day because we celebrate with Jesus in the Mass. In the liturgy of the Word we listen and respond to God's word. In the Liturgy of the Eucharist we gather to worship God at a holy meal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The liturgy is the name given to the official worship of the Church. The Mass is our time of thanksgiving. Jesus gives himself as our food in the Eucharist.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Moral Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus loves us. He shares his love for us through our parents and other people who care for us. Jesus taught us to forgive others. Jesus wants our love of God and others to grow. When we sin, we are not living the way Jesus taught us. We make choices that are not good, and hurt others and ourselves.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jesus taught us how to pray. We can pray anywhere.</li> <li>• Jesus told us how to find true happiness.</li> <li>• Jesus asks us to care for one another</li> <li>• God's commandments are our guide to living the right way.</li> <li>• Sin turns us away from God.</li> <li>• Our choices and decisions affect ourselves and others.</li> <li>• When we are truly sorry for what we have done and ask forgiveness. God will always forgive us.</li> </ul>

	<b>Stage 2</b>	
	<b>Year 3</b>	<b>Year 4</b>
<b>STRAND</b> God, The Holy Trinity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We share God's life and love (grace).</li> <li>• The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us.</li> <li>• Jesus loved us so much that he died for our sins.</li> <li>• Grace has been given to us by the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit guides the Church Jesus gave the Church the power to forgive sins.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit gives us the strength to love and help others.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The life of Jesus shows us God's great love for us.</li> <li>• Through Jesus' life, death, and Resurrection, we have new life.</li> <li>• Jesus Christ is the first to rise forever from the dead.</li> <li>• Jesus is always with us.</li> <li>• Jesus is the Son of God.</li> <li>• Jesus promised the Holy Spirit</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit inspires us to tell others about God's goodness. Peter and John act with courage</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God has given me gifts and talents.</li> <li>• God created us with a body and a soul.</li> <li>• God created us out of love and calls us to love.</li> <li>• God has given each person free will.</li> <li>• Free will allows me to choose to do good.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God's Creation is Good - And it was Good</li> <li>• The goods of the earth and "life" itself are gifts of God and should be respected - Stewards of God's creation</li> <li>• God made us different from one another. These differences should encourage love and respect. We</li> </ul>

		are God's work of art
<b>STRAND</b> The Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Holy Spirit guides the Church.</li> <li>• The Church helps us to know Jesus, and to make him known to others.</li> <li>• The Bible contains many stories of God and his people. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Moses and the Commandments</li> <li>• Daniel in the lion's den</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Gospels tell us about the life and teachings of Jesus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bartimaeus, Zacchaeus, the woman who washed Jesus feet.</li> <li>• Parables of the Seed and the Good Samaritan.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Jesus gave the Church the power to forgive sins. The normal way that this power is used is through the sacrament of Penance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our parish our church</li> <li>• Jesus shares his life with us in Baptism and Confirmation</li> <li>• Holy Spirit helps us to live with courage</li> <li>• The Gospels tell us about the life and teachings of Jesus.</li> <li>• The great commissioning</li> <li>• Peter identifies Jesus as the Son of God</li> <li>• Mary helps us to know and follow Jesus.</li> <li>• The Wedding at Cana</li> <li>• Called to follow Jesus</li> <li>• Saints say "yes" to God by following in the footsteps of Jesus.</li> <li>• Mary McKillop, Pier Giorgio Frassati</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> Liturgical Year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lent - we try to do something in our lives to bring us closer to Jesus.</li> <li>• Holy Week: Jesus teaches us how much he loves us</li> <li>• Jesus rose again from the dead on Easter Sunday.</li> <li>• Jesus appeared to his friends – The Road to Emmaus.</li> <li>• The Church celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost.</li> <li>• During Advent, we remember John the Baptist who prepared for the Saviour, Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• Mary said 'Yes' – the annunciation</li> <li>• Mary shares the good news with Elizabeth.</li> <li>• At Christmas we remember the birth of Jesus God's gift to us.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lent – A time for Change - almsgiving and making sacrifices.</li> <li>• Holy Week – the stations of the Cross</li> <li>• Pentecost- Jesus promises the Holy Spirit</li> <li>• New life in the Holy spirit.</li> <li>• Advent – A journey to Christmas</li> <li>• Advent - A journey in faith</li> <li>• Mary and Joseph journey to Bethlehem</li> <li>• The journey of the Magi</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Mass	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We celebrate- Jesus said, "Do this in memory of me".</li> <li>• Jesus is present in the Mass. Jesus is really with us.</li> <li>• Jesus is present in the priest who leads the community, when the people gather, the Scriptures are read and the Eucharist is celebrated at Mass.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We use liturgical signs and symbols in the Mass</li> <li>• The stories and actions of Jesus are lived out in the liturgy.</li> <li>• We worship Jesus who is present in the Eucharist. This is called the "Real Presence".</li> <li>• We carry the peace of Jesus where ever we go.</li> </ul>
<b>STRAND</b> The Moral Life	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prayer offers us the opportunity to listen and respond to God.</li> <li>• As members of the Church, we are to pray often, every day.</li> <li>• Children and parents should love and respect one another.</li> <li>• The Ten Commandments call us to love God and our neighbour.</li> <li>• God wants us to turn back to him after we have</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All our prayers bring our minds and hearts to God.</li> <li>• The Christian home is normally the place where children first hear about God's plan of love for them.</li> <li>• We show our love for God and others by living out the Ten Commandments.</li> <li>• Jesus teaches us how to keep the</li> </ul>

	<p>sinned. This is called "Repentance".</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forgiveness brings peace.</li> <li>• In the Sacrament of Penance we are forgiven and reconciled.</li> </ul>	<p>commandments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Be-Attitudes teach us to live Jesus way of love.</li> <li>• Living in peace happens when we treat others fairly and with respect.</li> </ul>
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	Stage 3	
	Year 5	Year 6
<p><b>STRAND</b></p> <p>God, The Holy Trinity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Trinity is the central mystery of our faith.</li> <li>• God the Father is our Creator; God the Son is our Redeemer; God the Holy Spirit is our Sanctifier;</li> <li>• God promised to send us a Saviour</li> <li>• Jesus the Son of God, is truly God and truly human.</li> <li>• Jesus Christ is the true God. He is the second person of the Blessed Trinity.</li> <li>• We call Jesus 'The Christ' which means the 'The Anointed One of God.'</li> <li>• Jesus Christ rose in the same human body that suffered on the Cross.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit led Jesus to begin his mission.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit is God active in the world.</li> <li>• The fruits of the Spirit reveal to us the presence of the Holy Spirit at work in the community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God speaks to us in Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition in Jesus Christ, God became man.</li> <li>• Through our celebration of the birth of Jesus we remember and reflect on the presence of God in the world today.</li> <li>• By his sacrifice on the Cross, Jesus overcame sin and death. We celebrate his sacrifice in the Eucharist.</li> <li>• After his resurrection, Jesus ascended into heaven to prepare a place for us.</li> <li>• The Ascension of Jesus marks the end of the Resurrection appearances of Jesus, as Jesus now enters into a new kind of existence.</li> <li>• Jesus asked God his Father to send the Holy Spirit to be with us always.</li> <li>• The Holy Spirit strengthens us in the sacrament of Confirmation</li> </ul>
<p><b>STRAND</b></p> <p>Creation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• God asks us to respect the life he gave us.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Taking 'sabbath' time is an important way of tuning in and responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives.</li> <li>• God has given each person free will and the power to choose.</li> <li>• Those who die in God's grace and friendship live forever with Christ</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I only die once because in the world, I only have one life.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• We believe in the Resurrection of the body at the end of time.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<p><b>STRAND</b></p> <p>The Church</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• God asks us to respect the life he gave us.</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.</li> <li>• Other Christians share in one baptism and one faith in Jesus. We pray and work for unity with them.</li> <li>• Through Baptism we share in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus.</li> <li>• In Confirmation the seal of the Spirit</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking 'sabbath' time is an important way of tuning in and responding to the promptings of the Holy Spirit in our lives.</li> <li>• God has given each person free will and the power to choose.</li> <li>• Those who die in God's grace and friendship live forever with Christ</li> </ul>	<p>perfects the grace of Baptism.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Gifts of the Holy Spirit: wisdom, understanding, right judgement, courage, knowledge, reverence, wonder and awe in God's presence.</li> <li>• In the Eucharist the sacrifice of Christ becomes also the sacrifice of the members of his Body.</li> <li>• We are nourished by the presence of Jesus in the Eucharistic celebration.</li> <li>• All members of the Church (lay and ordained) are called to use their own gifts and talents in building up the Church.</li> <li>• The sacrament of Marriage is the union in love of a man and a woman.</li> <li>• Marriage between a man and a woman is called a covenant. It is based on God's love, help and forgiveness.</li> <li>• Bishop, priests and deacons serve us in the name and person of Christ. Only baptised men can be ordained.</li> <li>• The Sacred Scriptures contain the Word of God and, because they are inspired they are truly the Word of God.</li> <li>• In the Old Testament, we encounter the story of God, God's chosen people and of their relationship with God.</li> <li>• In the New Testament we learn of Jesus Christ and the early Christian community as well as angels who help her on her earthly pilgrimage and protect every human being</li> </ul>
<p><b>STRAND</b></p> <p>Liturgical Year</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• During Lent we are called to reach out to others as Jesus did.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• In Holy Week we remember the rejection, suffering, death and Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ.</li> <li>• The Easter Vigil is the most important liturgy of the Church calendar. In the liturgy, the Holy Spirit enables the assembly to encounter Christ.</li> <li>• Jesus is with us in our Sunday Liturgy - The Eucharist.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• In Advent we prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas.</li> <li>• In Advent we are given time to reflect upon, and live out, the hope and expectation of</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Lent, the Church calls us to pray more, to make sacrifices and to give to the poor.</li> <li>• On Holy Thursday we remember the Last Supper.</li> <li>• In Holy Week the Church remembers that Jesus, in being faithful to his mission suffered and was crucified.</li> <li>• We call the celebration of the Eucharist the Mass. It is the thanksgiving sacrifice of Jesus, offered for the living and the dead.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Mary is the mother of God because Jesus is God.</li> <li>• Mary was created free from sin. This means she was 'full of grace' from the first instant she existed.</li> <li>• We call this her 'Immaculate Conception'.</li> <li>• During Advent we are reminded of the</li> </ul>

	<p>Christ's coming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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</li> </ul>	<p>people who are part of Jesus' family story.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Their patience and hope are part of God's message.</li> <li>At Christmas we celebrate our belief that the Son of God was born of the Virgin Mary, became human and lived among us.</li> </ul>
<p><b>STRAND</b></p> <p>The Moral Life</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>My Conscience guides me to right and good choices.</li> <li>God has given us a conscience to form our judgements.</li> <li>When properly formed, conscience guides our actions in freedom towards him. God asks us to be responsible for the life he has given us.</li> <li>Jesus shows us by his life what justice means: we are called to live and act justly. The corporal works of mercy</li> <li>The world will know us as followers of Jesus by the fruits of the Holy Spirit which are visible in our actions.</li> <li>Modern day prophets work towards a fairer distribution of resources to create a more just world.</li> <li>The Catholic Church in Australia reaches out to people who struggle to live with dignity. Lent is a time of growth and conversion.</li> <li>Jesus' teachings reveal to us God's immense love and joy at our turning away from sin.</li> <li>The Ten Commandments teach us to live as God intended.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Catholic Church acknowledges that human beings are imperfect. We are not evil, but everyone has certain weaknesses.</li> <li>The effects of original sin draw us away from God.</li> <li>The Beatitudes express Christ's plan for our happiness in his world and the next.</li> <li>Christ emphasized the following virtues as blessed and deserving of reward: humility, patience, meekness, purity, and the capacity to make peace.</li> <li>Through Jesus' actions and teachings we learn about understanding and accepting others and looking beyond externals to the true worth of the person.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>The Lord's Prayer shows us how to pray to the Father.</li> <li>There are various kinds of prayer: blessing, petition, intercession, thanksgiving and praise.</li> <li>Self-denial is an important part of Christian prayer.</li> </ul>