

# Family Life

## CURRICULUM *by* GRADE

### KINDERGARTEN



#### FAMILY

- Knows that God created families, and that families help each other.
- Understands love and respect for family members.
- Recognizes that Jesus taught us to love one another, and marriage is a celebration of that.
- Is introduced to the belief that we are born to love, and that family is how we learn to love.

#### FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS

- Remembers that God gave us friends, and that Jesus teaches us to help each other.
- Learns the importance of sharing and taking turns.

#### HUMAN SEXUALITY

- Remembers God created boys and girls alike and different.
- Is introduced to the belief that our bodies are a gift from God.

#### MARRIAGE

- Remembers that God gave us a mom and a dad, and that marriage is a gift from God.
- Is introduced to the belief that babies are the result of sacramental love in a family.

#### MORAL DECISION MAKING

- Remembers that God wants us to make good decisions.
- Is introduced to the belief that we are to know Him, love Him, and serve Him.

#### RESPECT FOR LIFE

- Remembers a baby is a gift from God, from the moment of conception.

#### VIRTUES

- Practices Sharing, Caring, and Love.

**FIRST GRADE**



**FAMILY**

- Understands that God created one's own family.
- Demonstrates and verbalizes love and care for one's family.
- Understands that each family is special, that families pray together, and that the Church is a family.
- Recognizes that Jesus showed us how to love one another.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Understands that God gave us our friends, and wants us to show friendship to others.
- Shows respect for others.
- Helps and shares with others.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Understands that God gave us our bodies as a gift, and that God wants us to take care of our bodies.
- Realizes that feelings help us be aware of the needs of our bodies to be safe.
- Recognizes special and private body parts, and that the body is a gift of God.

**MARRIAGE**

- Recognizes and understands that married life is a gift of God, and that families are meant to serve the community together.
- Knows that Jesus, Mary and Joseph are the Holy Family.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Understands that God wants us to make good decisions for ourselves and for others.
- Shows love and respect.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Understands that everyone is a gift from God, no matter who they are.

**VIRTUES**

- Understands and demonstrates Helping, Caring, Sharing, and Love.

**SECOND GRADE**



**FAMILY**

- Remembers that God is present with us in our families.
- Understands that families celebrate sacraments together.
- Understands that families have rules.
- Recognizes that there are many kinds of families, and that they all have happy times and sad times, but continue to love each other.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Demonstrates God's desire for us to treat each other as friends.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Knows that, as male or female, we are created in the image and likeness of God.
- Understands that new life is a gift from God.

**MARRIAGE**

- Understands that marriage is one of the seven sacraments of the Church.
- Identifies the symbols of marriage.
- Understands that the love of God is inseparable from the love of neighbor.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Understands that God gives us rules to help us with living and God helps us make good decisions.
- Demonstrates good decision making.
- Understands prayer helps us to be in friendship with God.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Knows that we are created in the image and likeness of God.
- Demonstrates respect for human life in all its forms.

**VIRTUES**

- Understands and demonstrates Obedience, Caring, Fairness, and Love.

**THIRD GRADE**



**FAMILY**

- Understands the value of relationships between brothers and sisters, and that brothers and sisters are a gift from God to us.
- Understands the role of the family is to pass on the faith.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Recognizes positive role models.
- Demonstrates friendship in home, school, parish and social situations.
- Understands the importance of friendships between brothers and sisters.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Understands that mothers and fathers share with God in creating new life.
- Remembers that all people are created in the image and likeness of God.

**MARRIAGE**

- Understands God created man and woman to love each other as husband and wife.
- Understands that being created in God's image enables husbands and wives to share in God's love.
- Understands that marriage is for the purpose of unity and procreation.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Identifies people who can help in decision making.
- Understands God wants us to make good choices and decisions, and God gave us free will.
- Remembers that sin hurts the whole community.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Understands people are a sign of God's love.
- Demonstrates that God wants all human life to be protected and kept safe.
- Understands that we are called to be peacemakers.
- Works for justice through conflict resolution and avoidance of prejudice and discrimination.

**VIRTUES**

- Understands and demonstrates Loyalty, Courage, Self-Control, and Responsibility.

**FOURTH GRADE**



**FAMILY**

- Applies the Great Commandment in relationship with own family, and understands that families become stronger when members respect each other.
- Articulates that we are all called to holiness.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Understands the call to live the Great Commandment.
- Analyzes the Great Commandment to understand the relationship between love of God and love for others.
- Believes in the goodness of creation and God's care for it.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Knows that life begins at conception and grows inside a mother's body.
- Understands the importance of respect and care for one's own body and the bodies of others.
- Understands that grace is a sharing in God's life.

**MARRIAGE**

- Applies knowledge of marriage, and recognizes that marriage is the context in which we welcome children.
- Connects expression of love in marriage with the welcoming of new life, and with self-giving.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Understands that God gave us the gift of free will, and the gift of conscience to do what is right.
- Applies good decision making and the gift of conscience to own life.
- Prays for help to know what is right and wrong.
- Understands that the Holy Spirit is a helper and guide in making good decisions.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Knows that life begins at conception.
- Knows that God created human beings with a body and a soul.
- Understands all human life is sacred.

**VIRTUES**

- Is introduced to and practices Modesty, Right Judgment, Obedience, Respect, Self-Control, and Acceptance.



**FAMILY**

- Recognizes that parents have the responsibility to care for their children.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Analyzes relationships with boys and girls, and applies understanding of friendship to both genders.
- Understands dating as a time to develop deeper friendships.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Understands human sexual development and its sacredness.
- Applies this knowledge in respect for the human body, and God's plan for us.
- Understands life is sacred.

**MARRIAGE**

- Understands that marriage is a sacred relationship between a man and a woman.
- Recognizes the giftedness men and women bring to marriage.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Shows decision-making and problem-solving skills.
- Understands that the Church helps us to know and live by the truth, and that God helps us to choose what is true, good and beautiful.
- Understands that the virtues allow us to do what's good, right, and loving in the areas of relationships and sexuality, and applies to own life.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Knows and lives the belief that all life is sacred, and is to be respected.
- Understands that sometimes people make bad choices that don't respect life.
- Understands that the consequence of bad choices is sin.

**VIRTUES**

- Can practice and give examples of Modesty, Respect, Honesty, Generosity, Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude.

## SIXTH GRADE



### FAMILY

- Understands and applies the belief that families are the foundation of society, and evaluates judgments in light of this truth.
- Recognizes that the humility and fidelity of Christian daily life exists in the family.

### FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS

- Applies understanding of inclusivity in friendships and social situations.
- Identifies the dimensions of responsible dating: no drugs, alcohol, or sexual behavior; no manipulation, lies, or gossiping; respect for self, others, and others' friends; respect for body, feelings and time; honesty; being true to self; kindness; and boundaries.

### HUMAN SEXUALITY

- Understands that God's plan calls us to refrain from sexual activity outside of marriage, and applies to self and relationships.
- Understands the importance of delayed gratification, and that the body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Understands chastity: that each person is meant to be a full and whole human being and each person's behavior should reflect that goodness.
- Understands that we are all called to chastity, in accord with our state in life -- married, single, religious, consecrated celibate. Understands that chastity promotes abstention from immoral sexual activity, and applies to own life.

### MARRIAGE

- Knows that the purpose of marriage is the good of spouses, procreation and the education of children.
- Becomes aware of the difference between sacramental marriage and civil marriage.

### MORAL DECISION MAKING

- Understands that the Church helps us to know and live by the truth.
- Demonstrates the knowledge that growing in one's relationship with God, through prayer, helps one to know God's will and make right decisions.

### RESPECT FOR LIFE

- Analyzes life situations in the context that human life begins at conception with the right to life, and every person is a person with dignity.
- Demonstrates a consistent respect for life.

### VIRTUES

- Is introduced to and begins to practice Chastity, Modesty, and Reverence.
- Understands Prudence, Temperance, Justice, and Fortitude.
- Practices Respect and Responsibility.

**SEVENTH GRADE**



**FAMILY**

- Understands how the family mirrors the love of the Trinity, and that we are called to build strong families.

**FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS**

- Understands the difference between friendship and abusive or manipulative relationships.
- Understands that some friendships change over time.
- Cooperates freely in God's plan.
- Understands that harassment is a type of relational bullying.

**HUMAN SEXUALITY**

- Analyzes human sexuality, understanding the human body is the temple of the Holy Spirit.
- Knows there are many sinful uses of sexuality outside of marriage in our society.
- Can articulate more fully what chastity is and why it's important and helpful.
- Analyzes how chastity includes self-mastery. Understands that we are created in God's image and likeness.

**MARRIAGE**

- Understands married love is self-giving and life-giving.
- Understands that in sacramental marriage, a man and a woman become one and form a family.
- Understands marriage as the intimate union of marriage is physical, emotional, psychological, and spiritual.

**MORAL DECISION MAKING**

- Examines free will in own life, and how the gift of free will allows us to say yes to God.
- Understands that spiritual maturity is becoming like Jesus.
- Knows that growing in one's relationship with God, through prayer, helps one to know God's will and make right decisions.
- Understands that some sins are collective and social.

**RESPECT FOR LIFE**

- Knows that we are called to respect life from conception to death.
- Understands that sin and moral evil are at the root of many threats to human life.
- Evaluates life situations in the context of a consistent ethic of life.

**VIRTUES**

- Can practice and give examples of Chastity, Compassion, Right Judgment, Prudence, Modesty, Sacrifice, Penance, Self-Denial, Tolerance, Understanding, and Self-Acceptance.

## EIGHTH GRADE



### FAMILY

- Recognizes that affirmation and communication are essential to human life, and are found in strong families.
- Understands that the family is the basic cell of society, the Domestic Church.

### FRIENDSHIPS AND RELATIONSHIPS

- Understands that responsible dating helps friendships, and must be built on mutual trust.
- Evaluates own relationships in an effort to stay healthy, respectful, kind, and Christ-like in interactions with others.

### HUMAN SEXUALITY

- Understands human sexuality is primarily concerned with our capacity to love and form relationships by being male or female.
- Recognizes a person's gender is constitutive of his or her nature and spirituality.
- Evaluates relationships, and practices chastity.
- Makes judgments about relationships in light of understanding that chastity directs our sexuality and sexual desire toward authentic love and away from using persons as objects for sexual pleasure.

### MARRIAGE

- Understands that developing one's own unique gifts as fully as possible contributes to a healthy marriage.
- Evaluates relationships, and how they are ordered toward the good of marriage and family.

### MORAL DECISION MAKING

- Understands that God has given us the natural desire for happiness.
- Evaluates how within informed conscience and free will, we can choose to follow the right path to happiness.
- Understands that growing in one's relationship with God, through prayer, helps one to know God's will and make right decisions.

### RESPECT FOR LIFE

- Knows that violence begins with a lack of respect for life.
- Understands each person has a fundamental dignity because everyone has been created in the image and likeness of God.
- Demonstrates a consistent respect for life.

### VIRTUES

- Is introduced to, can give examples of, and practices Chastity, Modesty, Tolerance, Understanding, Temperance, Prudence, and Self-acceptance.