

TEACHING THE CANADIAN CATECHETICAL SERIES IN COMBINED GRADES

TIME FRAME	GRADE 1 PROGRAM WE BELONG TO GOD	GRADE 2 PROGRAM WE BELONG TO THE LORD JESUS	CENTRAL CONCEPT
SEPTEMBER		UNIT 1 – Let’s be friends! Theme 1 – It’s good to be here! Theme 2 – What a joy to have friends! Theme 3 - Let’s party!	Friendship
OCTOBER	UNIT 2 – Jesus welcomes us Theme 4 – Jesus welcomes children Theme 5 – We meet Jesus’ friends	UNIT 2 – Let’s come together Theme 5 – We gather Theme 6 – We belong	Welcoming and gathering Gathering rites
NOVEMBER		UNIT 3 – Let’s treasure God’s word Theme 7 – We celebrate the word Theme 8 – We savour the word Theme 9 – We respond to the word	Bible as the Word of God Liturgy of the Word
PRE-ADVENT (end of November)		A Catechesis on Reconciliation (supplementary booklet) Theme 1 – Jesus tells us of God’s love Theme 2 – Jesus helps us to be reconciled	Reconciliation
DECEMBER	UNIT 4 – God dwells among us Theme 10 – God chooses Mary Theme 11 – We share Mary’s joy Theme 12 – We celebrate Advent		Advent

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JANUARY	UNIT 5 – I'll always be with you Theme 13 – God is with us UNIT 6 – Hallowed be your name Theme 17 – We call God by name	UNIT 5 – Let's treasure God's gift Theme 14 – We treasure the gift of God's story Theme 15 – With Jesus, we pray together	Liturgy of the Word Creed Intercessory Prayer
FEBRUARY	UNIT 5 – I'll always be with you Theme 15 – God takes care of the world	UNIT 6 – Let's take Theme 17 – We celebrate the work of human hands Theme 18 – We prepare the table of the Eucharist UNIT 7 – Let's bless Theme 19 – We lift up our hearts to to the Lord	Liturgy of the Eucharist Preparation of the gifts
MARCH	UNIT 6 – Hallowed be your name Theme 18 – Jesus shows us how to talk to God our Father	Theme 21 – May the Holy Spirit come upon these gifts Theme 22 – Give us this day our daily bread	Liturgy of the Eucharist Prayer, forgiveness

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HOLY WEEK APRIL	UNIT 7 – Your will be done Theme 24 – Jesus gives his life for us UNIT 9 – The Holy Spirit gathers us into God’s circle of friends Theme 25 – Praise God for new life	UNIT 8 – Let’s break Theme 20 – Do this in memory of me UNIT 9 – Let’s eat and drink Theme 25 – Alleluia! He is risen! Theme 26 – Come, take and eat Theme 27 – Jesus is our food and drink	Liturgy of the Eucharist Easter
MAY	Theme 26 – We are born of the Spirit Theme 27 – The Christian community welcomes us with great joy UNIT 10 – We are born of the Spirit Theme 28 – In the Spirit we belong Theme 29 – The Holy Spirit helps us to remember		Baptism, Spirit
JUNE		UNIT 10 – Let’s Go Forth Theme 28 – With God’s blessing, we go forth Theme 29 – We meet the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread Theme 30 – Let’s celebrate!	Service, being “sent forth” Dismissal rites

Special Notes regarding these Grade 1 and 2 Outlines:

1. Because the new Grade 2 program unfolds the parts of the Eucharistic Liturgy in a faithfully sequential manner, great care has been taken to determine which themes could be omitted without compromising the integrity of the overall approach of the program.
2. Components which will be ongoing throughout the programs are introduced in the early units. Therefore, teachers are asked to read the introduction – especially the “Integration of Components” section – as well as Units 1 and 2 of both programs to determine which constants to introduce and use throughout the year.
3. It is hoped that parish and family will take on an ever-increasing role in sacramental preparation. However, in cases where, at this point in time, the school is responsible for preparing Grade 2 students for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, it is suggested that this take place before the beginning of Advent. Even if the reception of the sacrament occurs later in the school year, Themes 1 and 2 of the booklet, “A Catechesis on Reconciliation” would be best taught in late November with Theme 3 being left to serve as immediate preparation just prior to the celebration of the sacrament. The rationale for this proposal is that there is greater flexibility of time in the first term and less danger of interrupting the sequential flow of the Eucharist later in the year.
4. When excerpts from each of the combined grades are listed within the same time frame (month), the arrows provided indicate the sequence of themes to be taught.
5. In the rare cases where the word “and” appears between two topically parallel themes (see March and April), it is recommended that teachers read the themes from both grades and choose applicable highlights to form one integrated theme (since time in both the liturgical and school calendar years does not allow for the teaching of each theme sequentially).
6. Theme 25 in both Grades 1 and 2 are Easter week themes and teachers may choose one or the other rather than blending the content of each grade level.

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Toronto Catholic District School Board