

**MORALITY
ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY
GRADE 4**

FOUNDATION: THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

The students will:

- know and respect life as a gift from God and a right of every human being.
- know our obligation to care for our lives and the lives of others.

DEFINITION

The students will:

- know the basic principle of morality is to do good and avoid evil.
- live life according to the principles of Jesus.

CALL TO LIVING A VIRTUOUS LIFE

Virtue

The students will:

- know that good habits of acting are called virtues.
- know that by practicing virtues people become virtuous.
- know that the Theological Virtues of Faith, Hope, and Charity are foundations for moral living. (cf. Glossary)
- identify and practice the virtues of loyalty, thankfulness, forgiveness, truthfulness, trustworthiness, respect for others, etc.

Freedom and Decision Making

The students will:

- know that God gives people free will to make choices between right and wrong.
- know that we are responsible for our personal choices and the consequence of these choices.
- distinguish between good choices and bad choices.

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Salvation (Redemption)

The students will:

- know that the terms “salvation” and “redemption” mean that God has saved us (redeemed us) from sin so we can live a virtuous life.

Grace

The students will:

- know that grace is a gift of God, a share in God’s life.

CONSCIENCE

Definitions

The students will:

- know that conscience is a gift from God.

Formed Conscience

The student will:

- use and develop their conscience to make correct moral decisions.

SIN

Definition of Sin

The students will:

- know the difference between temptation and sin.

Original Sin

The student will:

- understand that Original Sin is the basic condition or state of the world affected by sin into which every member of the human race (except Jesus and Mary) is born.

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Venial and Mortal Sin

The student will:

- know that serious sin is called mortal and lesser sin is called venial.

Sins of Commission and Omission

The student will:

- understand the difference between sins of commission and sins of omission.

RECONCILIATION AND FORGIVENESS

The student will:

- identify God as loving and forgiving.
- explain how forgiveness is part of reconciliation.
- share experiences of reconciliation in their lives and explain how these experiences affect their lives.
- be able to recognize the effects of reconciliation and forgiveness on the Christian community and the world.

MORAL GUIDES

The Two Great Commandments

The students will:

- know and understand that the two great commandments are to love God and to love others; e.g., Deut. 6:4-6; Tobit 4:15 “Never do to anyone else anything you would not want someone to do to you.” God and to love others; e.g., Deut 6:4-6, Tobit 4:15.

The Ten Commandments

The students will:

- know in order the Ten Commandments as guides to make responsible moral choices.

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Beatitudes (Mt. 5:3-12 and Luke 6:20-26)

The student will:

- know that the Beatitudes are at the heart of Jesus' preaching.
- know that the Beatitudes call us to live beyond the requirements of the Ten Commandments.
- know the Beatitudes and be able to discuss ways of acting on them.

The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy (Mt. 25:34-40)

The students will:

- know the Corporal Works of Mercy.
- know the Spiritual Works of Mercy.
- know and practice the Corporal and the Spiritual Works of Mercy.

The Authority of the Church

The students will:

- give examples of those people who respect authority in their lives.

Role Models

The students will:

- use the life of Jesus and his teachings as guides in making responsible choices; e.g., Parable of the Good Samaritan, Lk. 10:25-37.
- know about, and imitate as guides for daily living, the qualities of saints who model the person of Jesus.