

**SCRIPTURE
ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY
GRADE 7**

GENERAL

Sources and Nature of Scripture

The students will:

- appreciate the New Testament (Christian Scripture) writings as holy and precious.
- recognize that the Bible is the inspired word of God written in the words of human beings.
- know the definition of Revelation. (cf. Glossary)
- know that the New Testament (Christian Scripture) began as oral tradition.
- know that the Church is the official interpreter of scripture.
- be able to define “Tradition” as the rich and dynamic process by which the entire story of the people of God is handed on to diverse communities. It includes: doctrine, unique customs, values and practices, moral rules, rituals, witness and contemporary attitudes of the Catholic Christian tradition. Tradition is inseparably united with the Scriptures which were written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit who guides the Church in handing on Tradition. (cf. Glossary)

Literary Forms

The students will:

- know that the Bible is written in a variety of literary forms; e.g., genealogies, psalms, letters, parables, wise sayings.
- name the four types of books of the Christian Scripture (New Testament): Gospels, Letters (Epistles), Acts of the Apostles, and the Book of Revelation.

Location and Identification of Scripture Passages

The students will:

- be able to locate Scripture references and book, chapter and verse.
- be able to identify the books of the New Testament (Christian Scripture) by abbreviation.

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Map Skills

The students will:

- be able to find some geographic locations of major events in the New Testament: Bethlehem, Nazareth, Jerusalem, Galilee, Samaria, Judea, Capernaum, Bethany, Cana, Sea of Galilee, Jordan River, the Mediterranean Sea and Dead Sea.
- be able to locate on a map sites in Jerusalem important to the final days of Jesus, beginning with Passion Sunday.

Application of Scripture

The students will:

- be able to apply the meaning of a Scriptural passage to present-day life.
- be able to use Scripture as a basis for prayer and reflection.

NEW TESTAMENT (CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE)

General

The students will:

- appreciate who Jesus is and what He wants of us, based on Christian Scripture.
- know that the evangelists (writers of Good News) are Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
- know that the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke are called Synoptic Gospels because they follow the same general outline.
- know the dates, sources, oral traditions, intended audience, literary characteristics and theological message of each of the four Gospels.
- be able to identify the purpose of the Acts of the Apostles, Epistles (Letters), and the Book of Revelation.
- understand some of the Jewish culture and thought at the time of Jesus.

Gospels: Some Events In The Life Of Jesus

The students will:

- compare the Infancy Narratives of Luke and Matthew.

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- know that “Incarnation” is the term the Church uses to name our belief that the Son of God became man.
- know the significance of Jesus’ baptism--recognition by God of Jesus as His Son; beginning of Jesus’ public ministry.
- know the significance of the temptation in the desert--Jesus experiences humanness; need for prayer in preparation for ministry.
- know some of Jesus’ titles: Prophet, Mediator, High Priest, the Christ, Lamb of God, Messiah, Son of David, King, Son of Man.
- be able to relate the story of the calling of the twelve apostles.
- find some of Jesus’ teachings in the Gospels in relation to the Ten Commandments and the Great Commandment of Love. (adultery, divorce, revenge, love of enemies, charity, prayer, fasting, service and leadership).
- study and discuss the Scripture passages in which Jesus predicts his Passion, Death, and Resurrection (Paschal Mystery).
- study the institution of the Holy Eucharist found in Luke 22:14-23.
- know that the resurrection is at the core of the Catholic faith.

Some Important New Testament People

The students will:

- identify important people from the New Testament (Jesus, Mary, Joseph, John the Baptist, the Apostles, Mary Magdalene, Elizabeth, Zachary, Simeon and Anna).
- search the Gospels to find significant passages about Peter.
- be able to identify the following groups: Sanhedrin, Pharisees, Sadducees, and Scribes.
- give examples from the Gospels of Mary’s qualities of openness and acceptance of God’s will, concern for family, and concern for others.
- give examples of Joseph’s qualities of loyalty and justice.
- know that John the Baptist preached on the themes of repentance and renewal.

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- find some examples of how John the Baptist, the precursor (one who prepares the way for Jesus) modeled the personal disposition needed to accept Jesus in our lives.
- know that all the apostles but John died a martyr's death.

Some Miracles

The students will be able to discuss:

- these miracle passages:
 - Curing Lepers (Lk. 17:11-19)
 - The Wedding of Cana (John 2)
- the difference between healing miracles and nature miracles.

Some Parables

The students will:

- know that a parable as a literary device is a short, fictitious story that illustrates a moral attitude or religious principle.
- know and be able to discuss these parables:
 - Talents (Mt. 25:14-30 or Lk. 19:11-27)
 - Hidden Treasure (Mt. 13:44-46)
 - The Sower and the Seed (Mt. 13: 1-8, 18-23)
- be able to relate the key themes of some of the parables.

Acts of the Apostles

The students will:

- be aware that the Acts of the Apostles tells how the Holy Spirit guided the Church in its early days.
- know the story of the first Pentecost.
- know that Stephen was the first martyr.
- know the story of Paul's call and conversion. (Acts 9:1-19)
- know that Luke wrote the Acts of the Apostles and that sometimes the term "Luke-Acts" is used to show the connection between the Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles.
- know the journeys of St. Paul.
- know how St. Paul died.

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Epistles (letters)

The students will:

- know the names of Paul's Epistles.
- know the names of some of the non-Pauline epistles.
- read I Cor. 12:12-31 and discuss its meaning.

Book of Revelation

The students will:

- know the location of the Book of Revelation in the Bible.
- know that the author of the Book of Revelation was an early Christian who calls himself "John"; this is not the same author as the Gospel writer.
- know that the Book of Revelation is a form of apocalyptic literature which uses signs, symbols, and colors.
- know that the Book of Revelation is not to be taken literally.
- know that the Book of Revelation is written to offer comfort to the early Christians who were being persecuted by the Romans.