

Concord-Carlisle Faith Formation

2025-2026 Good News Scope and Sequence

Grades 3-4

Objective: By the end of the year, your **3rd and 4th graders** should be able to articulate that **we are the Church** and that each of them plays an important role in building it. As members of the **Body of Christ**, they are called to form their consciences in accordance with the life and teachings of Christ. Throughout your lessons, help them recognize and live out this truth.

Prayer Goals: Begin and end every class with prayer.

- By the end of the year, **3rd graders** should be able to pray **the Apostles' Creed** and should review the prayers learned in Grades 1 and 2, especially the responses to the Mass.
- 4th graders should learn how to pray **the Stations of the Cross and the Act of Faith**. Make use of the Lenten season to guide them in leading the Stations of the Cross. Be sure to review the Apostle's Creed and the responses to the Mass.
- **Parent Access:** [Please click here](#) and select **Good News**.

LITURGICAL YEAR			DOCTRINAL CONTENT			Reminders & Lesson Notes
	Date/Sunday	Sunday Gospel	Catholic Faith Word	Doctrinal Concept	Catechism Handbook Themes	
ORDINARY TIME	Oct. 5-6, 2025 27th Sunday Ordinary	Luke 17:5–10 Faith the Size of a Mustard Seed				1. Disregard today's formal lesson. Begin instead with an introduction activity. 2. Lead a community-building exercise: group students based on something they have in common, then ask them to introduce themselves to each other. Switch groups until all have had a chance to meet. Be sure to introduce yourself to the class as well. (suggestions: Common Ground Corners, or Find a Friend Who or add something unique on the name tag that describes you—i.e.: favorite color, favorite fruits, a pet, etc.) 3. Set up the prayer space-identify the corner of the classroom where you will set up the prayer space. Invite each student to prayerfully place an item on the table (Tablecloth, cross, candle, Bible, picture of a saint). 4. Then begin with a prayer. This is a good time to review what they know: Sign of the Cross; Our Father; Hail Mary; Glory Be 5. Classroom Ground Rules: Tell the students how happy you are that they are here. Explain that to keep our time together holy and respectful, we need to set ground rules. Engage the students in helping to decide: - What will be acceptable in the classroom - What will not be acceptable 6. Closing Prayer - Return to the prayer corner - Thank the students for their participation. End with the Our Father

		7. Distribute Materials & Dismiss - Distribute their Pflaum package and dismiss (It's up to you how you distribute it (the whole package or just the page for the week). Reminders for parents: No session next week in honor of Indigenous Peoples'/Columbus Day weekend. The family is still invited to Mass. Parent Meeting: There will be a parent meeting on October 19th when we return from break
Oct. 12-13, 2025 28th Sunday Ordinary	No Session in honor of Indigenous Peoples and Columbus Day	
Oct. 19-20, 2025 29th Sunday Ordinary	Sunday Gospel: Luke 18:1–8 Catholic Faith Word: Parable of a Persistent Widow Doctrinal Concept: Prayer of petition Catechism Handbook: Prayer, pg. 36 Note for Lesson: The handbook has a wonderful section on prayer. However, please highlight for the students that the #1 prayer of the Catholic Church is the Mass. Reminders: Parent Meeting: Parents will join your class after their meeting with me. Make sure to warmly welcome them and include them in your concluding prayer. Family Mass and Family Faith Formation: Next week is our first Family Mass, which will be followed by our family faith formation session. Our very own 3rd graders will lead this Mass in collaboration with the 6th graders. Closing Prayer: Invite the children to pray for and with each other (simple intentions, blessings, or a Hail Mary together). Or ask the parents to pray over their children (placing a hand on their shoulder and saying a short blessing).	
Oct. 26-27, 2025 30th Sunday Ordinary	Family Mass followed by Family Faith Formation	
Nov. 2-3, 2025 All Souls' Day	Sunday Gospel: John 6:37–40----Jesus Promises Eternal Life Catholic Faith Word: Heaven, soul Doctrinal Concept: Heaven and Final Judgment Catechism Handbook: Eternal Life, pg. 14 Reminders: Safety Day:	

		Next Sunday is Safety Day. As part of class, we will provide a special lesson during the first 30 minutes on how children can keep themselves safe. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Ms. Noel.
	Nov. 9-10, 2025 Lateran Basilica	Sunday Gospel: John 2:13–22---Cleansing of the Temple Catholic Faith Word: Eucharist Doctrinal Concept: The Mass: Liturgy of the Eucharist Catechism Handbook: Liturgy of the Eucharist, pg. 22 Reminder: After beginning class with prayer, please teach the Safe Environment Lesson before moving on to the main lesson for the week.
	Nov. 16-17, 2025 33rd Sunday Ordinary	Sunday Gospel: Luke 21:5–19 Jesus Teaches About End Times Catholic Faith Word: Disciples Doctrinal Concept: God the Father Catechism Handbook: God the Father, pgs. 6–8 Reminders: Family Mass & Family Formation: Next week is Family Mass. Please plan to attend Mass together as a family. Immediately following, we will gather for Family Faith Formation. Thanksgiving Break: There will be no faith formation sessions on November 30th and December 1st for Thanksgiving. Wishing you and your families a very blessed and joyful holiday!
	Nov. 23-24, 2025 Christ the King	Family Mass followed by Family Faith Formation
	Nov. 30-Dec. 1, 2025 1st Sunday of Advent	Thanksgiving Break No Faith Formation Session
Th e ADVENT-CHRISTMAS	Dec. 7-8, 2025 2nd Sunday of Advent	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 3:1–12 John the Baptist Prepares for Jesus Catholic Faith Word: Prophet Doctrinal Content: Liturgical Year; Catholic Social Teaching Catechism Handbook: Church Year: Advent, pgs. 18 and 57; Communion of Saints, pgs. 13 and 40; Hail Mary, pg. 46 New Liturgical Year Lesson Plan Introduce the New Year: Last week, while we were away for Thanksgiving break, the Church entered a new liturgical year. This new year is introduced with readings from the prophet Isaiah.

	The Church year is divided into three cycles: A, B, and C. We just concluded Year C. Can anyone tell me what liturgical year we are in now? (Year A). That's right, the cycle repeats! Liturgical Seasons: Each cycle is marked by different seasons. Last time, we were in Ordinary Time. Can anyone tell me what season we are in now? (Advent) Liturgical Colors: Each season has a special liturgical color. What color is associated with Advent? (Purple) Yes, purple reminds us that this is a time of waiting and preparation for Jesus. Activities: Read page 18 together. Complete the coloring activity on page 57. Change the cloth in the prayer space from green (Ordinary Time) to purple (Advent). If Time Permits: Continue with the teaching on the Saints.
Dec. 14-15, 2025 3rd Sunday of Advent	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 11:2–11---Jesus Is the Messiah Catholic Faith Word: Messiah; Nativity Catechism Handbook: Son of God, Nativity, pgs. 9; Church Year: Christmas, pgs. 18 and 57 Note to Catechists: This is the last class before Christmas break, making it a perfect time to reflect on Jesus Christ as the Son of God and on the meaning of His birth for the world. Lesson: Jesus is the ultimate revelation of God the Father. Read page 9 with the children. Two weeks ago, we entered a new liturgical year and season. In just a few days, we will enter the Christmas season. Explore more about this on page 18, and complete the activity on page 57. Why Jesus' birth matters: It celebrates the joy of the Incarnation, God becoming one of us (Emmanuel-God with us), so that we can become one with God. Feel free to include another Christmas activity if time allows. See their Christmas, Epiphany page for a Christmas activity on creating their own Nativity Scene. Reminders: Family Mass & Christmas Pageant: Next week is our Family Mass and the Christmas Pageant at 11:30am at St. Irene, followed by the Christmas Dinner. There will be no faith formation session that week. All should report to St. Irene at 11:30. Christmas and New Year's Break: There will be no sessions on December 28th and 29th in observance of Christmas Encourage families to attend Christmas Mass on December 24th or 25th to celebrate the birth of Christ.

ORDINARY TIME	Dec. 21-22, 2025 4th Sunday of Advent	Family Mass and Christmas Pageant at St. Irene, followed by Christmas Dinner
	Dec. 28-29, 2025 Holy Family	Christmas Break No Faith Formation Session
	Jan. 4-5, 2026	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 2:1-12 the Epiphany Catholic Faith Word: Nativity Doctrinal Concept: Family of every nation Catechism Handbook: The Holy Family, pg. 10 Note to Catechists: As you begin this session, take some time to warmly welcome the children back. Check in with them and ask if they were able to celebrate Jesus' birth by attending Mass. Remind the children that we are still in the Christmas Season. Begin your class prayer at the prayer space. Change the liturgical color from purple (Advent) to white (Christmas). Then return to your seats and share: Jesus was born into a family, just like us. His mother was Mary and his father was Joseph. But Jesus' birth also made the whole world into one larger family, the family of God's children. People from far away came to worship Jesus, like the Magi in this Sunday's Gospel. After this introduction, continue with the lessons for December 25th and January 4th in the children's package. (See your teacher's guide for some excellent discussion starters, especially the question "<i>Whom will you tell?</i>"). Reminders: Family Mass & Family Formation: Next week is Family Mass. Please plan to attend Mass together as a family. Immediately following, we will gather for Family Faith Formation. MLK Day Break: There will be no faith formation sessions on January 18th & 19th in observance of MLK Day.
	Jan. 11-12, 2026 Baptism of the Lord	Family Mass followed by Family Faith Formation
	Jan. 18-19, 2026 2nd Sunday Ordinary	MLK Break No Faith Formation Session
	Jan. 25-26, 2026 3rd Sunday Ordinary	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23--- Jesus Calls the First Apostles Catholic Faith Word: Apostle Doctrinal Concept: Sacrament of Holy Order Catechism Handbook: Discipleship, pg. 16 (bottom) Reminders: Family Mass & Family Formation: Next week is Family Mass. Please plan to attend Mass together as a family. Immediately following, we will gather for Family Faith Formation.

	Feb. 1-2, 2026 4th Sunday Ordinary	Family Mass followed by Family Faith Formation
	Feb. 8-9, 2026 5th Sunday Ordinary	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 5:13–16 Sermon on the Mount: Salt and Light Catholic Faith Word: Body of Christ Doctrinal Concept: Vocations Catechism Handbook: Discipleship, pg. 16 (top and middle) Reminders: Presidents Day Break: There will be no faith formation sessions on January 15th & 16^h in observance of Presidents Day. Ash Wednesday: Please encourage families to join us for Ash Wednesday on February 18th as we begin our Lenten journey together.
	Feb. 15-16, 2026 6th Sunday Ordinary	Presidents' Day Break No Faith Formation Session
LENT	Feb. 22-23, 2026 1st Sunday of Lent	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 4:1–11 Jesus Is Tempted Catholic Faith Word: Conscience, Lent Doctrinal Concept: Commandments 1–3: Honoring God Catechism Handbook: Church Year: Lent, pgs. 18 and 57; Keeping the Commandments, pg. 34 Note to Catechists: Since we are entering a new Liturgical Season, begin your opening prayer at the Prayer Space and change the cloth color from green to purple. Reminders: Family Mass & Family Formation: Next week is Family Mass . Please plan to attend Mass together as a family. Immediately after, we will gather for Family Faith Formation . Our 4th graders will be leading the liturgy, together with the 2nd graders .
	March 1-2, 2026	Family Mass followed by Family Faith Formation (2 & 4)
	March 8-9, 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent	Sunday Gospel: John 4:5–42---A Samaritan Woman Shares the Good News Catholic Faith Word: Good News Doctrinal Concept: The Church Catechism Handbook: The Good News, pg. 32
	March 15-16, 2026 4th Sunday of Lent	Sunday Gospel: John 9:1–41---- Jesus Heals a Blind Man Catholic Faith Word: Creed Doctrinal Concept: Holy Days of Obligation Catechism Handbook: Apostles' Creed, pgs. 6 and 15
	March 22-23, 2026 5th Sunday of Lent	Sunday Gospel: John 11:1–45--- Jesus Raises Lazarus Catholic Faith Word: Resurrection Doctrinal Concept: Divine Revelation and Sacred Scripture Catechism Handbook: Lord's Prayer, pgs. 35 and 40
	March 29-30, 2026	Sunday Gospel: Matthew 21:1–11 & 26:14—27:66 Jesus' Passion Catholic Faith Word: Passion

EASTER	Palm/Passion Sunday	Doctrinal Concept: Divine Revelation and Sacred Tradition Catechism Handbook: Stations of the Cross, pgs. 41–42; Church Year: Triduum, pg. 57 Reminders: Triduum: As we journey through Holy Week, invite families to join the parish for the Triduum liturgy beginning on Holy Thursday. Children Commemoration of the Passion: On Good Friday, April 3rd at 4:00 pm at St. Irene Church, we will offer a special commemoration of the Passion of Christ for children. Please encourage families to attend together. Easter Break: There will be no faith formation sessions on April 5th and 6th in observance of Easter Sunday. Encourage families to attend the Easter Vigil or an Easter Sunday Mass to celebrate the Resurrection.
	April 5-6, 2026 Easter Sunday	Easter Break No Faith Formation Session
	April 12-13, 2026 2nd Sunday of Easter-Divine Mercy Sunday	Sunday Gospel: John 20:1–9 & John 20:19–31 Jesus Is Risen Catholic Faith Word: Easter Doctrinal Concept: The Works of Mercy Catechism Handbook: Resurrection, pg. 11; Works of Mercy, pg. 45 Reminders: Patriots' Day Break: There will be no sessions on April 19th & 20th in observance Patriots Day.
	April 19-20, 2026 3rd Sunday of Easter	Patriots' Day Break No Faith Formation Session
	April 26, 2026 4th Sunday of Easter	Sunday Gospel: John 10:1–10---Jesus Is the Good Shepherd Catholic Faith Word: Salvation Doctrinal Concept: The Old Testament: Covenant with God Catechism Handbook: Incarnation, pg. 9
	May 3, 2016 5th Sunday of Easter	Sunday Gospel: John 14:1–12---Jesus Is the Way, Truth, and Life Catholic Faith Word: Mercy Doctrinal Concept: Commandments 4, 6, 7, 9, 10: Honoring Relationships Catechism Handbook: New Commandment: Law of Love, pg. 32 Reminders: Next week is our last session. It is also May Crowning following the 11:30am Mass at St. Irene.
	May 10-11, 2026 6th Sunday of Easter	Sunday Gospel: John 14:15–21---Jesus Promises to Send the Holy Spirit Catholic Faith Word: Confirmation Doctrinal Concept: Sacrament of Confirmation Catechism Handbook: Sacrament of Confirmation, pg. 21; Sacraments of Initiation, pg. 26 Note to Catechists: This is our final session of the year. Feel free to include something fun and memorable with your children. I would skip the lesson altogether. Maybe play a review game to see

		Reminders: May Crowning will take place today following the 11:30 am Mass at St. Irene. Since it is also Mother's Day, we will take this opportunity to honor both Mary, our heavenly mother, and our earthly mothers.
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The topics included in this Scope and Sequence chart are subject to minor changes, which will be reflected in the Teaching Guides throughout the catechetical year.

Thank you for your amazing and immeasurable work. God bless you abundantly!