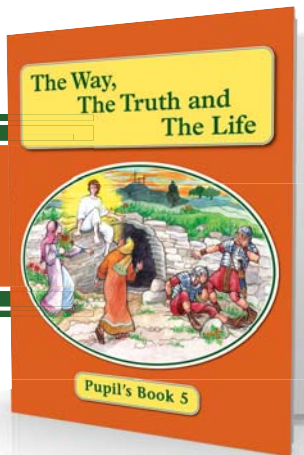




# THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE



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# 5.1 CREATION

## The Mystery of Creation

### God creates by wisdom and love

“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth” (Gen. 1:1).

“We believe that God created the world according to His wisdom. It is not the product of any necessity whatever, nor of blind fate or chance. We believe that it proceeds from God’s free will; He wanted to make His creatures share in His being, wisdom and goodness: ‘For you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created’ (Rev. 4:11). CCC 295.

**Attainment Target 1:** Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

**Attainment Target 2:** Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

## Key Learning Objectives

- Know that for a long time people have asked questions about Creation.
  - Reflect on some important responses.
- Know about the story of Creation in the Bible.
  - Reflect on the importance of this story.
- Know about the story of the Fall.
  - Think about how it helps us to understand suffering in the world.
- Understand that God calls us to care for creation.
  - Be aware of our responsibilities.
- Know about some of God’s great helpers.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from them.
- Be aware of God’s great gifts to us.
  - Reflect on the importance of our gifts.

## 5.2 God's Covenants

### Religious Education Curriculum Directory

#### The covenant with Noah

“After the unity of the human race was shattered by sin, God at once sought to save humanity part by part. The covenant with Noah after the flood gives expression to the principle of the divine economy toward the ‘nations’, in other words, towards men grouped ‘in their lands, each with [its] own language, by their families, in their nations’ (CCC 56).

#### God chooses Abraham

“In order to gather together scattered humanity God calls Abram from his country, his kindred and his father’s house ...” (CCC 59) See notes on page 25. “The people descended from Abraham would be the trustee of the promise made to the patriarchs, the chosen people, called to prepare for that day when God would gather all his children into the unity of the Church. They would be the root on to which the Gentiles (*people who are not Jews*) would be grafted, once they came to believe” (CCC60). See also pages 25-27 for notes on the Covenant with Moses and the people of Israel and then the New Covenant that Jesus makes with us.

**Attainment Target 1:** Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

**Attainment Target 2:** Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

#### Key Learning Objectives

- Understand the meaning of covenant.
  - Reflect on God’s covenant with Noah.
- Know about the covenant God made with Abraham.
  - Reflect on Abraham’s trust in God.
- Understand that God guides and challenges His people.
  - Be aware of our need to grow in faith and trust in God.
- Know that God made a covenant with Moses and the Israelites.
  - Be aware that this covenant is also made with us.
- Know that God send prophets to remind His People of His covenant.
  - Reflect on the message of the prophets for us.
- Know that God makes a New Covenant with us.
  - Reflect on our part in the New Covenant.

## 5.3 Inspirational People

### Religious Education Curriculum Directory

“**The Law of the Gospel** ‘fulfils’, refines, surpasses and leads the Old Law to its perfection. In the Beatitudes, the New Law *fulfils the divine promises* by elevating and orienting them towards the ‘kingdom of heaven’. It is addressed to those open to accepting this new hope with faith – the poor, the humble, the afflicted, the pure of heart, those persecuted on account of Christ – and so marks out the surpassing ways of the Kingdom” (CCC 1967).

“The entire Law of the Gospel is contained in the ‘*new commandment*’ of Jesus, to love one another as he has loved us” (CCC 1970).

**Attainment Target 1:** Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

**Attainment Target 2:** Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

### Key Learning Objectives

- Know that Jesus has come for everyone.
  - Reflect on how we can join his mission.
- Understand what it means to be a follower of Jesus.
  - Reflect on what it means for you.
- Know that the Beatitudes show us the way to live.
  - Think of ways they can help us to be true followers of Jesus.
- Understand why Jesus blessed the merciful.
  - Think about what this means for us.
- Know why Jesus blessed the pure in heart.
  - Reflect on the presence of God within you.
- Know why Jesus blessed those persecuted for doing what is right.
  - Think of what you can do to help those suffering today.
- Understand why Jesus blessed the poor in spirit.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from Fr. Arrupe.
- Know that the meek are blessed.
  - Reflect on the importance of trying to do God’s will.
- Know what it means to be a saint.
  - Think about how it would affect your life.

## 5.4 Reconciliation

### Religious Education Curriculum Directory

#### Only God forgives sin

“Only God forgives sins. Since he is the Son of God, Jesus says of himself, ‘The Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins’, and exercises this divine power: ‘Your sins are forgiven.’ Further, by virtue of his divine authority he gives this power to men to exercise in his name” (CCC 1441).

Christ has willed that in her prayer and life and action his whole Church should be the sign and instrument of the forgiveness and reconciliation that he acquired for us at the price of his blood. But he entrusted the exercise of the power of absolution to the apostolic ministry which he charged with the ‘ministry of reconciliation’” (CCC 1442).

**Attainment Target 1:** Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

**Attainment Target 2:** Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

#### Key Learning Objectives

- Understand that actions have consequences.
  - Reflect on some of the consequences of actions.
- Understand that Mary, our Mother untangles knots of sin.
  - Reflect on how Mary is always ready to help us.
- Know about God’s love and forgiveness.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Understand the meaning of sin.
  - Reflect on how sin hurts us, others and our relationship with God.
- Know what happens in the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
  - Reflect on how this sacrament helps us.
- Understand that God is love and always ready to forgive.
  - Reflect on what it means to experience forgiveness.

## 5.5 Life in the Risen Jesus

### Religious Education Curriculum Directory

#### On the third day Jesus rose from the Dead

“The Resurrection of Jesus is the crowning truth of our faith in Christ, a faith believed and lived as the central truth by the first Christian community; handed on as fundamental by Tradition; established by the documents of the New Testament and preached as an essential part of the Paschal mystery along with the cross:

Christ is risen from the dead!  
Dying, he conquered death;  
to the dead, he has given life (CCC 638).

“The mission of Christ and the Holy Spirit is brought to completion in the Church, which is the Body of Christ and the Temple of the Holy Spirit” (CCC 737).

**Attainment Target 1:** Learning *about* the Catholic faith.

**Attainment Target 2:** Learning *from* the Catholic faith.

### Key Learning Objectives

- Know that Jesus is risen from the dead.
  - Reflect on what the Resurrection of Jesus means for us.
- Understand the meaning of the Resurrection.
  - Reflect on the importance of the Resurrection for us.
- Know that the Spirit of Jesus works in many ways.
  - Reflect on the Spirit at work in the Church.
- Know that Jesus is present among us in different ways.
  - Reflect on how we can be present with Jesus.
- Know that there are different ways of praying.
  - Explore different ways of praying.
- Understand how Jesus teaches us to pray.
  - Reflect on the importance of prayer for us.

## 5.6 Other Faiths

### The Religious Education Curriculum Directory

#### *Nostra Aetate*

“All nations are one community and have one origin, because God caused the whole human race to dwell on the face of the earth. They also have one final end, God, whose providence, manifestation of goodness and plans for salvation are extended to all.” (para.1)

“The Catholic Church rejects nothing of those things which are true and holy in these religions. It regards with respect those ways of acting and living and those precepts and teachings which, though often at variance with what it holds and expounds, frequently reflect a ray of that Truth which enlightens everyone....” (para.2)

**Attainment Target 1: Learning *about* the Catholic faith.**

**Attainment Target 2: Learning *from* the Catholic faith.**

### Key Learning Objectives

- Know what the Church teaches about other faiths.
  - Reflect on the teaching of the Church for us.
- Understand what we believe about our Catholic Faith.
  - Reflect on our beliefs.
- Know some important Jewish beliefs.
  - Think about their importance.
- Know about some Jewish celebrations.
  - Reflect on the meaning of them.
- Know some of the Jewish beliefs we share and the differences between us.
  - Reflect on their importance for us.
- Know some significant Muslim beliefs.
  - Think about their importance.
- Understand some important practices of Muslims.
  - Reflect on the importance of prayer.
- Know some of the beliefs we share with Muslims and the some of the differences.
  - Think about what we can do together.

