



RELIGION PK

COURSE MANUAL



LESSON PLANS - QUARTER REPORT FORMS

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Course Materials

- *Religion for Young Catholics: Pre-Kindergarten*
- *New Catholic Picture Bible*
- *Coloring Book about Jesus*
- *Coloring Book about the Saints*
- *Animals of the Bible Coloring Book*
- *God's Rules for Me (Catholic)*
- *Christmas Coloring Book*
- *Miracles of Jesus Coloring Book*





FIRST QUARTER



RELIGION PK LESSON PLAN

Our goal for your child this First Quarter is to learn the basic prayers of the Faith. Hopefully, by the end of the quarter, your child will be able to make the Sign of the Cross and learn most of the Hail Mary, Our Father, and Glory Be. Of course, the more your child is exposed to daily prayer, the easier it will be for him or her to learn them. Praying the Rosary together as a family, saying Grace before and after meals, starting each school day with prayer, reading the Bible, and most importantly, attending daily Mass are some of the ways to live the Catholic life. In this way, we obey Our Lord's instruction to "pray always" (St. Luke 18:1). There is no point in going on to learn the catechism, the doctrines of the Catholic Faith, if we are not praying every day.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Parent:

Inside *Religion for Young Catholics: Pre-Kindergarten*, on the back of the first page, you will see that the book was granted an *Imprimatur*. This means that the book was reviewed by a bishop, who declared that everything in it agrees with Catholic teachings, and the material is free from doctrinal error. The word *Imprimatur* literally means "let it be printed," and thus, the bishop assures the reader there is nothing therein contrary to faith and morals.

Take a look at the table of contents to see the material that will be covered in this course. Then read the quotes of Our Holy Father from his recent visit to the United States. Next, read the book's General Introduction. These two pages include statements from the last two Popes as well as statements from the Second Vatican Council that show the importance the Church places on a child's proper education. Finally, read the Special Introduction for Parents and Teachers on the following page.

Read p. 1, which is addressed to you. Get into the habit of beginning each lesson with a prayer, whether formal or informal.

Look inside *New Catholic Picture Bible*. The inside front and back covers have maps of the Holy Land during the times of the Old and the New Testament. On pp. 228-232, there are photographs of the places where Our Lord walked. Refer to these interesting photos throughout the year in order to give your child a better image of the Holy Places. Take some time before beginning the course to study the photos and read their informative captions. In the front of the book, there is a lovely presentation page where you can inscribe your child's name and date. Years from now, your child will look upon that page with fond memories of his introduction to learning about the Catholic faith.

Week One

Day 1

You can check off work
as you complete it!



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 1, Prayers

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Show your child the picture on the book cover. Ask your child to point out the Blessed Mother and Baby Jesus. Point out the little children and explain that Jesus loves the little children and the little children love Him. One little girl is bringing flowers to Jesus. Explain to your child that our good works and prayers are the flowers that we can give to Jesus. The lovely painting is found in the Basilica of Our Lady of Angustias (Sorrows) in Granada, Spain.

Show your child the picture on p. 1, which is a classic painting of Heaven. Point out each Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Blessed Mother, the Angels, and the Saints.



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 2. Show your child the stained glass depiction which shows the little children once again approaching Jesus, but this time, He is a grown Man.

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RELIGION PK LESSON PLAN



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 3. Read with your child

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Religion for Young Catholics: p. 4. Show your child the drawing

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The artist shows Jesus in the clouds. The little girl prays to Him. From the expression on her face, we see the prayer comes from her heart. She cannot see Him, but Jesus is there, listening to her. Explain to your child that Jesus is always near her or him, and “prayer” means having a conversation with God, talking to Him as you would talk to another person.



Coloring Book about Jesus: Have your child color p. 17. Teach your child how to color inside the lines, but this is a fine-motor skill that most preschool children have not yet developed. Encourage your child and praise his masterpiece!

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Day 2



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 5, The Sign of the Cross. Read and explain to your child. Demonstrate how the Sign of the Cross is made, then have your child try. Repeat it several times and encourage the child to practice making the Sign of the Cross throughout the day, especially at the times of prayer: Grace before and after meals, Rosary, night prayers.

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Religion for Young Catholics: p. 6

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Making the Sign of the Cross while saying the Glory Be is a matter of custom in some places, while other places, a respectful bow of the head replaces the Sign of the Cross. Follow your own family’s custom in this. Either way, the Sign of the Cross or the bow should be concluded at “... and to the Holy Spirit.” At family Rosary time, point out to your child the Glory Be and remind him how it should be said.

Explain to your child that the prayer came from the Angels of the First Christmas, as they sang, “Glory to God in the highest!”



Coloring Book about Jesus: p. 27. Have your child read and color. Read the caption and point out Jesus gives us His blessings, and He blesses us each time we bless ourselves with the Sign of the Cross.

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Day 3



Review the Glory Be and the Sign of the Cross: Continue to practice them with your child as the opportunities present throughout the day, especially at family prayer time.

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Coloring Book about Jesus: “I Think about Jesus,” p. 16. Read the page to your child, answering his or her questions, then ask your child to color the page.

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RELIGION PK LESSON PLAN



Coloring Book about the Saints: pp. 8-9, St. Peter Claver. St. Peter Claver's feast day is September 9. He is the patron of Black Missions. If you have started the school year immediately after Labor Day, his feast day should be in your first week of school. Read the two pages to your child. If you have a children's book of saints, read his story. Assign either one or both pages for your child to color. ☐

Day 4

New Catholic Picture Bible: This book should become a favorite for your child.



New Catholic Picture Bible: Show your child the nice cover picture, then the picture of Christ the King on p. 2. By His Cross, He has conquered. ☐

On the previous page (p. 1), write your child's name, yours, and the date in the appropriate places. This ought to make this book very endearing to your child. Explain that it is his or her special book about the Bible, and because it is so special, it is important to take good care of it.



New Catholic Picture Bible: pp. 164-165, "Jesus and Little Children." Point out the picture on p. 164 to your child, reminding him or her of the other pictures discussed this week that show Our Lord's love for little children. Read p. 165, pausing to explain and answer your child's questions. ☐

If you have begun the school year immediately after Labor Day, the Feast of the Blessed Mother's Nativity, September 8, should be the reason for a family celebration. Here are some suggestions. Bake cupcakes or a cake with your child that are dotted with blue icing for Our Lady. Decorate it with a small plastic statue of Mary. Sing Happy Birthday to the Blessed Mother before blowing out the candles on her cake. Wear blue in her honor. Help your child make a birthday card to place before her statue. Place before it a vase of fresh flowers your child picked from your garden. Throughout the school year, incorporate the wonderful feast days of our Faith into your child's lessons. This is one of the best ways to make your home into a Domestic Church.

Week Two

The second school week of September falls around several special feasts: The Holy Name of Mary, September 12, Our Lady of Sorrows, September 14, and the Exaltation of the Cross, September 15, on which we honor the discovery of the True Cross by St. Helen.



Read the story of St. Helen If you have a book of saints, read the story of St. Helen, which will tell how the True Cross was discovered. Make it a practice to incorporate the day's feast into your schooling. Read about or tell your child about the saint of the day before beginning schoolwork. ☐

RELIGION PK LESSON PLAN

Day 1

**Religion for Young Catholics: p. 7, The Lord's Prayer** ☐

Read the page and the Our Father to your child, explaining as you go. Help your child to memorize this and other prayers by breaking them up into smaller sections. First, say the entire prayer. Then let your child practice only the first three lines. Say them first and then have your child repeat: "Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name." Do this often throughout the day, especially at family prayer times. Review the Sign of the Cross and the Glory Be.

Day 2



Start each lesson with the Sign of the Cross and the prayers learned thus far, and this will serve as a review and reinforcement for your child. ☐



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 7. Review the first part of the Our Father with your child. Go over it several times until your child has mastered it or is on the way to memorizing it. If your child is ready, teach the next section: Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. When your child has mastered the second part of the Lord's Prayer, add it to the first section. ☐

Now your child will be saying: Our Father, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. If this is too big of a "bite" for your child, then shorten the pieces. The idea is to build upon what the child initially memorized. Keep adding; keep it as a unit.

**Coloring Book about the Saints: p. 18** ☐

In keeping with the Feast of the Nativity of Mary, assign this page to color. Show your child a statue of Our Lady and ask what colors she wears. Now is a good time to introduce colors to your child. Our Lady usually wears blue and white, as in Our Lady of Grace and Our Lady of Lourdes. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel is dressed in brown, like the brown scapular. St. Joseph is often seen in brown (for the carpenter) and purple (descending from the royal house of King David). Jesus, in the image of the Sacred Heart, wears red and white. Point out the holy images in your home to your child. Explain who the statue or picture represents. Point out the colors in them.



Explain to your child that Mary is the Mother of Jesus, and she is our Mother, too. Tell your child that is why we call her the Blessed Mother. Explain that she lives in Heaven, that she is Queen of everyone (the Saints) who is in Heaven, as well as our Queen, too. ☐

Day 3



Religion for Young Catholics: p.7. Continue teaching the Our Father. Review what your child has memorized thus far. Practice it with your child. Then add the next part when you feel your child is ready: "Give us this day our daily bread." ☐

**RELIGION PK LESSON PLAN**

Picture Bible: pp. 80-81. The Prophet Jonah. Jonah (Jonas) and the Whale is a favorite Bible Story. Read and explain the story to your child. Remember, it's not a "fish story," but the account of an actual event that was confirmed by Our Lord (Matthew 12:40). ☐



Animals of the Bible Coloring Book: p. 31, Whales. Assign this page to your child. ☐

Day 4

Religion for Young Catholics: Spend the rest of this week teaching the Our Father to your child. Follow the recommendation first to review, then learn the new segment of the prayer, then build on to the prayer. Keep reinforcing what your child has learned by means of family prayer times. ☐



Coloring Book about the Saints, p.2. If you would like additional material for your child, read to your child, p. 2, St. Anthony, in *Coloring Book about the Saints*. Read about St. Anthony in a children's book of saints. Help your child to color the page. ☐



Continue reviewing throughout the day all the prayers your child has learned thus far. ☐

Week Three

Autumn begins about September 21. Celebrate the change of season by having your child decorate one of his coloring pictures with fallen leaves he or she has picked. If you live in a region where the seasons do not change, trace maple or oak leaves on construction paper. Help your child to cut them out. Tell your child to color them red, yellow, and orange. Point out the beauty of nature to your child. Then say a prayer with your child thanking God for all the marvels of the world He created for our pleasure.

Day 1

Religion for Young Catholics: p. 9, The Hail Mary. Read the page to your child. ☐



Religion for Young Catholics: p. 10. Show the picture on p. 10. Explain the picture, identifying Our Lady, the Angel Gabriel, and the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove. Emphasize how special the prayer is in that the first part is taken from the words of the Angel. Stress the importance of bowing our heads whenever we hear or say the Holy Name of Jesus. ☐

Use the same method in teaching the Hail Mary as you did for the Lord's Prayer. This prayer will be easier to learn for your child if it is part of morning and night prayers and the holy Rosary. Then your child will be familiar with it. Take the time this week that your child needs to learn the prayer. Use opportunities throughout the day to reinforce it (e.g., travel prayer in the car).