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| **Lifelong Christocentric Theme:**  ***Growing Closer to God through Jesus Christ by Means of the Spirit Alive in the Church*** |
| **Early Childhood – Childhood 6:**   * Parish catechists’ formation - before beginning Unit #1. [Hours TBD by DRE/PCL] * Beginning of the year goals - (2-3 sessions recommended)   + **Get-acquainted Activities**/ Administrative Procedures – get to know the catechist, peers, the pastor, and parish’s patron saint   + **Building a Faith Community** Activities – inquiry/discernment activities to discern where learners are on their faith journey   + **Bible Usage -** inquiry/discernment activities to know how well learners can *use* the Bible [Early Childhood Essential Question: *Why do we read the Bible?* Childhood 1-6 Essential Question: *Why and how should Catholics read the Bible?*]   + **Disciple/Follower of Jesus Christ –** introduction to the above theme and the unit Big Idea questions for the 4 units of study |
| **Unit #1 BIG IDEA – Who is Jesus Christ?**  [Recommended for **Childhood 1-6**: *Minimum* of 2 Sessions + Unit Evaluation ] |
| **Early Childhood** (Age 3 to Kindergarten):   * Essential Question #1 – *Who is God?* * Essential Question #2 - *Why did God make you and me?* * Essential Question #3 - *Why did God make everything?* * Essential Question #4 – *Who is Jesus Christ?*   **Childhood** (Grades 1-6):   * Essential Question #1 – *What do you know about the life of Jesus Christ on earth?* * Essential Question #2 – *What does Jesus Christ teach you about God?* * UNIT EVALUATION (Mystogogy/ Reflection on the Big Idea): *Who is Jesus Christ?* |
| **Additional Sessions**:   * Blessed Virgin Mary (during the month of October) – Essential Question: *Why and how do Catholics honor the Blessed Virgin Mary?* * Feast of All Saints/ All Souls – Essential Question: *Why and how do Catholics celebrate All Saints’ (and All Souls’) Day?* * Childhood Grades 4-6 – Essential Question: *Why and how should you pray the Rosary?* (depicting the life of Jesus Christ) |

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| **Unit #2 BIG IDEA – How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?**  [Recommended for **Childhood 1-6**: *Minimum* of 5 Sessions + Unit Evaluation] |
| **Early Childhood** (Age 3 to Kindergarten):   * Essential Question #1 – *Why do we pray?* * Essential Question #2 – *When and how do we pray?* * Essential Question #3 – *Why do we go to Mass?* * Essential Question #4 – *What happens at Mass?* * Flexible Essential Question – *Why do we read the Bible?*   **Childhood** (Grades 1-2):   * Essential Question #1 – Part 1: *How does praying help me know and love Jesus Christ?* * Part 2: Session on age-appropriate common prayers * Essential Question #2 – Part 1: *How does going to Mass help me know and love Jesus Christ?* * Part 2: Session on age-appropriate Mass responses and/or church tour * Essential Question #3 – *How do the sacraments help me to know and love Jesus Christ?* * UNIT EVALUATION (Mystogogy/ Reflection on the Big Idea) – *How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?*   **Childhood** (Grades 3-6)   * Essential Question #1 – Part 1: *How does praying help me know and love Jesus Christ?* * Part 2: Session on age-appropriate common prayers * Essential Question #2 – Part 1: *How does going to Mass help me increase my faith in Jesus Christ?* * Part 2: Session on age-appropriate Mass responses and/or church tour * Essential Question #3 – *How do the sacraments help me increase my faith in Jesus Christ?* * UNIT EVALUATION (Mystogogy/ Reflection on the Big Idea) – *How do we get to know and love Jesus Christ?*   **Additional Sessions:**   * Liturgical Seasons of Advent and Christmas:   + Essential Question (Early Childhood): *Why do we celebrate (Advent and) Christmas?*   + Essential Question (Childhood 1-6): *Why and how do Catholics celebrate Advent and Christmas?* * Time to pause and allow catechists to provide feedback on the implementation of Units 1 & 2 AND to prepare for Units 3 & 4 |

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| **Unit #3 BIG IDEA – How does Jesus Christ teach us to live a moral life?**  [Recommended for **Childhood 1-6**: *Minimum* of 3 Sessions + Unit Evaluation] |
| **Early Childhood** (Age 3 to Kindergarten):   * Essential Question #1 – *Why does Jesus want me to love myself and others?* [Circle of Grace lessons (Safe Environment)] * Essential Question #2 – *Why does Jesus want me to make good choices?*   **Childhood** (Grades 1-6):   * Essential Question #1 – *How do God’s commands (rules) guide my life?* * Essential Question #2 – *Why and how does Jesus Christ want me to make good choices?* * Circle of Gracelesson(s) – Consider using this EQ to frame lesson(s): *Why and how does Jesus Christ expect me to love and respect myself and others?* * UNIT EVALUATION (Mystogogy/ Reflection on the Big Idea) – *How does Jesus Christ teach us to live a moral life?*   **Additional Sessions:**   * Liturgical Seasons of Lent and Easter:   + Essential Question (Early Childhood): *Why do we celebrate (Lent and) Easter?*   + Essential Question (Childhood 1-6): *Why and how do Catholics celebrate Lent and Easter?* * Optional Sessions:   + Session on Penance & Reconciliation   + Session on the Stations of the Cross |

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| **Unit #4 BIG IDEA – How are we called to become missionary disciples of Jesus Christ?**  [Recommended for **Childhood 1-6**: *Minimum* of 2 Sessions(including Discipleship Project) + Unit Evaluation + End-of-the-Year Gathering] |
| **Early Childhood** (Age 3 to Kindergarten):   * Essential Question #1 – *Why does Jesus want me to help others?*   **Childhood** (Grades 1-6):   * Essential Question #1 – *Why and how am I called to follow Jesus Christ?* [Use this EQ whether doing a lesson or a project-based learning activity] * Essential Question #2 – *How do I follow Jesus Christ?* [Use this EQ whether doing a lesson or a project-based learning activity] * UNIT EVALUATION (Mystogogy/ Reflection on the Big Idea) – *How are we called to become missionary disciples of Jesus Christ?*   **Additional Sessions:**   * Liturgical Season of Easter (Reflect on Triduum and the Season of Easter) * Blessed Virgin Mary (during the month of May, if not addressed in October) - Essential Question: *Why and how do Catholics honor the Blessed Virgin Mary?* * Cross grade-level sharing of discipleship/service projects |