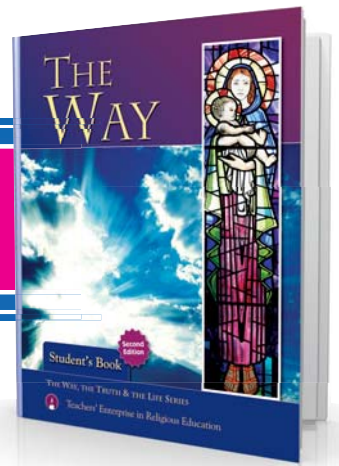




# THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE



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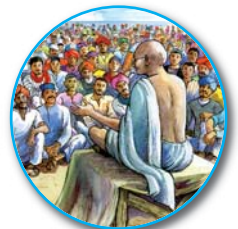
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## 7.1 REVELATION & FAITH

“The Scriptures are the living Word of God, written under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, received and faithfully handed on within the living Tradition and teaching of the Church” (Religious Education Curriculum Directory p. 14).

“In order to gather together scattered humanity God calls Abram from his country, his kindred and his father’s house, and makes him Abraham, that is, ‘the father of a multitude of nations’. ‘In you all the nations of the earth shall be blessed,’” (Catechism of the Catholic Church par. 59)

### Key learning objectives:

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

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

- Understand what the Bible is (*On the DVD*).
- Reflect on who God is and how he makes himself known to us.
- Reflect on how Abraham’s journey of faith in God began.
  - Think about our relationship with God.
- Understand that God made a covenant with Abraham and through him with us.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know that when God asked Abraham to sacrifice his only son, he was testing his faith.
  - Reflect on the meaning of this story for us.
- Understand that David was chosen by God to be a great leader.
  - Reflect on David’s response to God’s call and our own response.
- Know about David’s downfall.
  - Reflect on what this tells us about human nature.
- Reflect on how God kept his covenant with David and will keep his promises with us.

## 7.2 GOD'S PROMISES FULFILLED

“The action of God in the unfolding history of this covenant relationship and the variety of human response is revealed in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament.”

“God’s Self-Revelation and the covenant relationship reach their fullness in Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God” (Religious Education Curriculum Directory p. 14).

### **Key learning objectives:**

### **Attainment Targets 1 & 2**

- Understand the reasons for the exile of the Chosen People.
  - Identify similar aspects in the lives of people today.
- Reflect on the return from exile and God’s plan for the Chosen People.
  - Think about what it means for us.
- Know how the birth of John the Baptist was foretold.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from it.
- Deepen our understanding of the Annunciation and Visitation.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from them.
- Know and reflect on the prophecy of Zechariah.
  - Consider the message it has for us today.
- Deepen our understanding of the birth of Jesus and the visit of the shepherds and wise men.
  - Think about how these events have shaped our lives.

## 7.3 THE SAVIOUR

“Jesus is truly God and, as a man, truly human. His life, death and resurrection are the central event of all human history and at the heart of faith. His cross is a sign of his unique offering of himself for each and every human being. As truly God, Jesus reveals the truth and love of God; as truly human, Jesus reveals the perfect response to God and intimate communion with his Father – ‘Abba’.

“As human persons we desire the good, yet human nature bears the wound of original sin and is subject to temptation. It is in Christ that the gift of eternal life is assured. It is in him that the perfection of human dignity is revealed. It is he who teaches the way of happiness” for example, in the Beatitudes. (Religious Education Curriculum Directory pages 14 & 34).

### **Key learning objectives:**

#### **Attainment Targets 1 & 2**

- Deepen our awareness of the message of John the Baptist.
  - Reflect on the demands it makes on us.
- Know that Jesus came to show us that HE is the WAY to the Father.
  - Consider what this means for us.
- Understand that Jesus came to help all people come close to God.
- Understand that Jesus is the Messiah.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know that Jesus is truly God and as man, truly human.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Understand what Jesus asks of us.
  - Reflect on who Jesus is for us.
- Reflect on some people who lived for Jesus.
  - Think of what we can learn from them.

## 7.4 THE CHURCH

“The Church is the family of God, the people that God gathers in the whole world. The Church is the communion of Christ’s disciples brought together in Christ its Head by the Holy Spirit. It is the Body of Christ, the Temple of the Spirit. As the People of God, the Church is drawn into Christ’s praise of the Father and Christ’s mission in the world.”

“Christ gave his Church a structure in calling and choosing twelve apostles. With them and their successors he shares his mission, his power and authority. In the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost the Church was revealed and its mission (apostolate) to the nations begun. Through the ministry of the successors of the apostles, the Pope and bishops, the Holy Spirit guides and preserves the Church from error in matters of faith and morals.” [Religious Education Curriculum Directory p. 19]

### Key Learning Objectives

#### Attainment Targets 1 & 2

- Understand how the Church began.
  - Think about the message it has for us.
- Be aware of some of the challenges the first Christians encountered.
  - Reflect on the challenges we face today as Christians.
- Know that the Church is the People of God.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Understand that the Church is the Body of Christ.
  - Be aware of the commitment that this requires.
- Know some of the history of the early Church.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from it.
- Know that Jesus gave his mission, power and authority to the apostles and through them to the Church today.
  - Think about how we can contribute to the life of the Church.

## 7.5 SACRAMENTS

“A sacramental celebration is woven from signs and symbols which are drawn from the material creation and human culture. In the Church’s liturgy they are raised to a new level and become signs of grace of all the new creation in Jesus Christ. The seven sacraments touch all the stages and all the important moments of Christian life.

“In Baptism we are reborn as children of God in Christ and enlightened by the Holy Spirit ....

Reconciliation makes sacramentally present Jesus’ call to conversion, involves contrition for our sins, confession of them to a priest, and absolution spoken by the priest in the name of Jesus Christ. In the celebration of the sacrament we acknowledge (confess) God’s holiness and mercy and are reconciled to God and the community of the Church.

The Anointing of the Sick makes sacramentally present the compassion and healing power of Christ through the laying on of hands and anointing with oil.”  
[Religious Education Curriculum Directory p. 24]

### Key learning objectives

### Attainment Targets 1 & 2

- Deepen our understanding of the sacraments.
  - Reflect on how they relate to our human growth.
- Understand what the Sacrament of Baptism is and how it happens.
  - Reflect on what it does for us.
- Reflect on how Jesus explains God’s unconditional love for us.
  - Reflect on what it teaches us about God.
- Understand the Sacrament of Reconciliation;
  - Reflect on what it does for us.
- Know that Jesus has great compassion and love for all who are sick.
  - Reflect on what this means for us.
- Know about the Sacrament of the Sick.
  - Reflect on how it can help us.

## 7.6 CHRISTIANITY & OTHER FAITHS

“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” (Nostra Aetate, 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 truth which enlightens everyone.... It therefore calls upon all its sons and daughters with prudence and charity, through dialogue and co-operation with the followers of other religions, bearing witness to the Christian faith and way of life, to **recognise, preserve and promote** those spiritual and moral good things as well as the socio-cultural values which are to be found among them.” (Nostra Aetate, para. 2).

### Key Learning objectives

#### Attainment Targets 1 & 2

- Know how Christianity continues to spread throughout the world.
  - Reflect on the reasons for the spread of Catholic Christianity in many parts of the world.
- Be familiar with the experiences of some of the great missionaries.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from them.
- Know what the Catholic Church teaches about other Faiths
  - Think of ways in which we can work with young people of other Faiths
- Know about some of the major world religions.
  - Reflect on some values we share with them.
- Reflect on some of the bonds of friendship between people of different faiths.
  - Reflect on what we can learn from them.
- Know something about the life of Mahatma Gandhi.
  - Reflect on a personal experience of him.