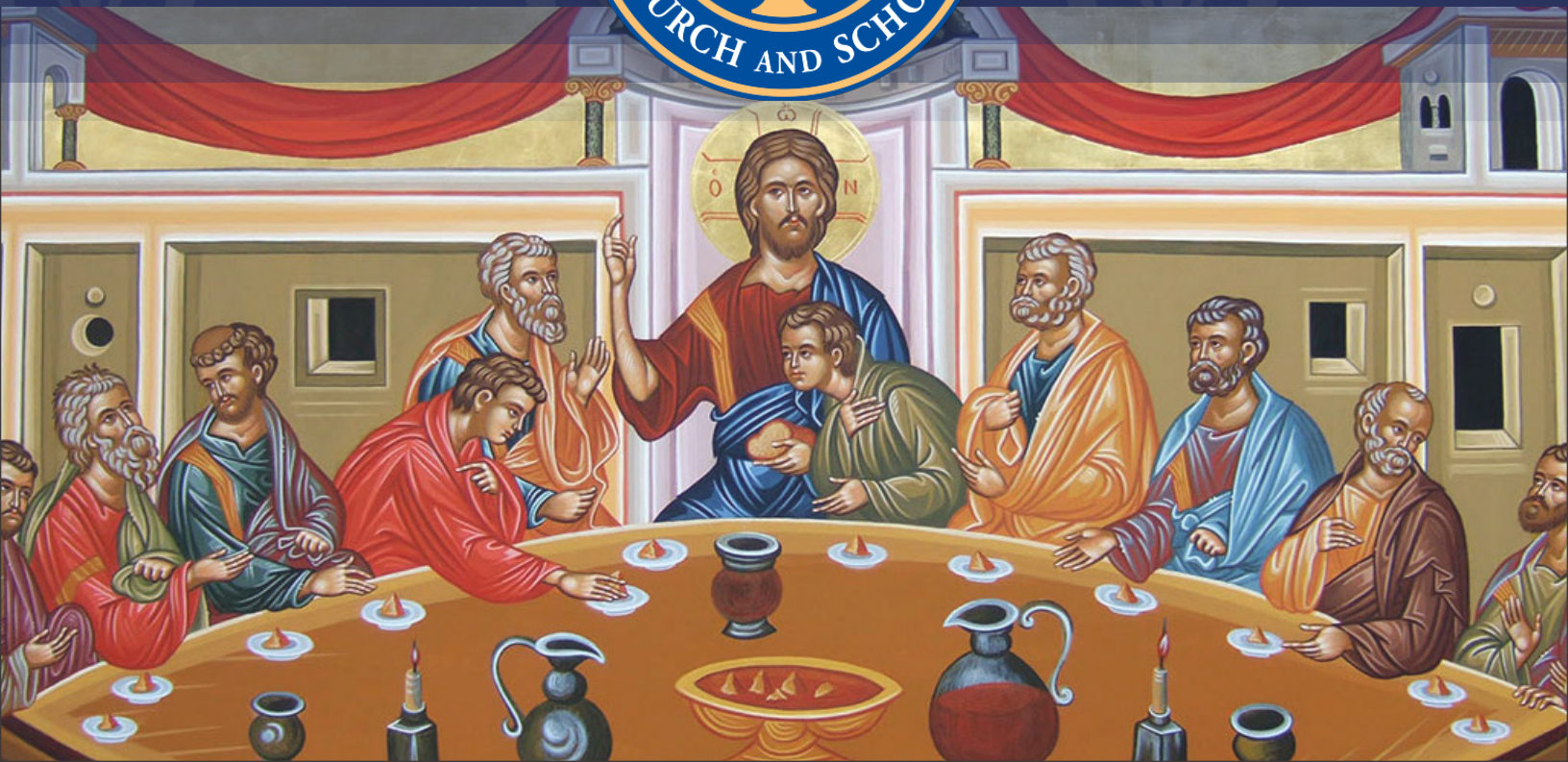
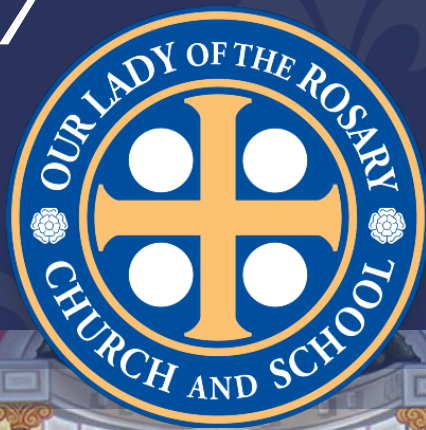


# Religion Curriculum

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*Grade 07*



# Course Overview

## Course Description

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This course leads students into the mystery of divine life: God became man so that man may become like God. Using Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, students will see how God reveals Himself through creation, covenant, and prophecy, and how His promises are fulfilled in Jesus Christ. They will learn that grace—the very life of God—is given through the Church and her Sacraments, enabling us to grow in virtue and share in His nature. Alongside this study, *The Son of Charlemagne* by Barbara Willard and *Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier* by Louis de Wohl will immerse students in the lives of Christian heroes who shaped history through faith and courage. Through Scripture, catechesis, and the witness of the saints, students will discover that grace is not merely a belief but a living power, calling them to holiness, service, and union with God.

## Why We Teach It...

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We teach the life of grace because it is the purpose for which God made us—to share in His divine life. In the Incarnation, God became man so that man might become like God, uniting Himself to our humanity and transforming us by His grace. Through Scripture and the Sacraments, the Church pours out this life, drawing souls into communion with Christ. By studying creation, covenant, prophecy, the Church, and the Sacraments, students see that grace is a living reality, enabling holiness and courage. The saints show that this transformation is possible in every age—and is the vocation of every Christian.

## Course Objectives

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*By the end of this course, students will be able to:*

-  Explain the central mystery of the Christian life: God became man so that man may become like God.



# Course Objectives | Continued...

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-  Trace salvation history from creation through covenant and prophecy to its fulfillment in Christ.
-  Define grace and explain its role in uniting us to God and transforming the soul.
-  Identify the seven Sacraments, their biblical roots, and the grace each imparts.
-  Describe the theological and cardinal virtues and how they grow through grace.
-  Recognize the Church as the Body of Christ and the means by which grace is shared.
-  Interpret key Scripture passages and sections of the Catechism on grace, virtue, and the Sacraments.
-  Summarize the lives of saints studied and the virtues they exemplified.
-  Connect the witness of the saints to their own call to holiness and discipleship.
-  Demonstrate habits of prayer, participation in the Sacraments, and daily life in grace.

## Source Material

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*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace (Ignatius Press, Student Text)*

*The Son of Charlemagne by Barbara Willard (Bethlehem Books)*

*Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier by Louis de Wohl (Ignatius Press)*

*The Holy Bible*

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*

*Selected prayers and Scripture passages from the liturgy*

*Supplemental saints' lives and Church history readings provided in class*



# Key Concepts

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<i>Creation</i>	<i>Virtue</i>	<i>Sin</i>
<i>Revelation</i>	<i>Theological Virtues</i>	<i>Mortal Sin</i>
<i>Covenant</i>	<i>Cardinal Virtues</i>	<i>Venial Sin</i>
<i>Salvation History</i>	<i>Church</i>	<i>Conscience</i>
<i>Prophecy</i>	<i>Apostolic Succession</i>	<i>Penance</i>
<i>Incarnation</i>	<i>Sacrament</i>	<i>Anointing of the Sick</i>
<i>Redemption</i>	<i>Baptism</i>	<i>Holy Orders</i>
<i>Grace</i>	<i>Confirmation</i>	<i>Matrimony</i>
<i>Sanctifying Grace</i>	<i>Eucharist</i>	<i>Sacramentals</i>
<i>Actual Grace</i>	<i>Real Presence</i>	<i>Blessed Virgin Mary</i>

# Central Themes

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**The Life of Grace** – *Grace is the very life of God shared with us, transforming the soul and making us partakers of the divine nature.*

**The Incarnation** – *God became man so that man might become like God, fulfilling His promises and uniting heaven and earth.*

**Covenant and Fulfillment** – *Salvation history unfolds through God's covenants, all of which find their completion in Christ.*

**The Church and the Sacraments** – *The Church, Christ's Body, dispenses grace through the Sacraments, drawing us into communion with Him.*

**Growth in Virtue** – *Grace strengthens the virtues, enabling us to live in holiness, justice, and charity.*

**The Call to Holiness** – *Every Christian is called to share in God's life and reflect His image in the world.*

**The Witness of the Saints** – *The saints reveal that living in grace is possible in every age, showing the fruits of God's life in the soul.*





# On Writing | The Progymnasmata

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All written work in this course is integrated with Classical Composition (Memoria Press), a program rooted in the ancient art of the progymnasmata—the graded exercises in eloquence used by the Greeks and Romans. In 6th Grade, students will continue building upon the skills gained in previous years with Fable and Narrative, now advancing to Chreia/Maxim. This stage trains students to develop a concise statement of wisdom or moral truth, expand it with examples, and defend it with reasoned argument.

In preparation for the 8th Grade study of the full sequence of the progymnasmata, students will also begin learning how these exercises provide the foundation for the Classical Oration—the structured form of essay writing used throughout the classical tradition. By practicing these forms, students will learn to write with clarity, order, and persuasive force, discovering that writing is not merely a skill but a means of seeking truth and communicating it rightly.

## Assessments

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### **Summative: 45 %**

- Unit Exams
- Classical Composition Projects (Fable, Narrative, Chreia/Maxim)
- Essays in the Classical Oration form
- Recitations
- Quizzes

### **Formative: 35 %**

- Weekly Classical Composition exercises
- Short written responses and narrations
- Draft components of Classical Oration
- Oral reading and performance practice
- Homework

### **Conscientiousness 20 %**

- Pop quizzes
- Homework
- Classwork
- Preparedness and participation



# Scope & Sequence

## Unit 1 | God's Creation & Revelation

2 Weeks

### Week 1-2 Overview

Students will see that God created the world and man out of love, revealing Himself so that we might share in His divine life. Creation is the first gift and the first sign of His desire to unite Himself to us; Revelation is His self-disclosure through which we come to know Him as Creator, Father, and Redeemer. This unit lays the foundation for the year by showing that from the beginning, God's plan has been to draw man into communion with Himself—a plan fulfilled in the Incarnation, where God became man so that man may become like God.

#### Central-One-Idea

*From the beginning, God reveals Himself so that man might share in His life and become like Him.*

#### Great Questions

- Why did God create the world and man?
- How does creation reveal God's power and love?
- What is Revelation, and how do we receive it?

#### Key Figures & Concepts

Creation; Image of God; Revelation; Natural Revelation; Divine Revelation; Sacred Scripture; Sacred Tradition; Inspiration of Scripture; Salvation History; Covenant; Incarnation.

#### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 1–2; The Holy Bible (Genesis 1–2; Psalm 19; John 1:1–18; Hebrews 1:1–3); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§27–73; 279–324; The Son of Charlemagne by Barbara Willard (as assigned reading)*



## Week 3-5 Overview

Students will learn that from the moment man fell into sin, God began to restore His friendship with us through covenants. These covenants reveal His faithfulness and prepare His people for the coming of Christ, the New and Eternal Covenant. Through the call of Abraham, the deliverance under Moses, and the law given at Sinai, students will see that God binds Himself to His people in love, shaping them for the fullness of His self-gift in the Incarnation—where God became man so that man may become like God.

### Central-One-Idea

*God's covenants prepare His people for the Incarnation, where His promise of union with man is perfectly fulfilled.*

### Great Questions

- What is a covenant, and how is it different from a contract?
- How did God's covenants with Abraham and Moses shape salvation history?
- How does the law of God lead His people to holiness?

### Key Figures & Concepts

Covenant; Abraham; Isaac; Jacob; Joseph; Moses; Pass-over; Exodus; Ten Commandments; Sinai; Law; Promise; Typology; Redemption; Incarnation.

### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 3–5; The Holy Bible (Genesis 12:1–9; Exodus 12:1–30; Exodus 19–20); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§51–73; 121–123; 2052–2073; The Son of Charlemagne by Barbara Willard (as assigned reading)*



# Unit 3 | Prophets & Fulfillment in Christ 4 Weeks

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## Week 6-9

### Overview

Students will see that God sent the prophets to call His people back to fidelity, to speak His truth, and to prepare the way for the Messiah. The lives and messages of prophets such as Elijah, Elisha, and Isaiah reveal God's plan to send a Savior who would unite divinity and humanity in Himself. This unit shows that prophecy is not merely foretelling events but proclaiming God's saving will, which finds its perfect fulfillment in the Incarnation—where God became man so that man may become like God.

### Central-One-Idea

*The prophets prepared the way for Christ, whose coming fulfills God's promise to unite Himself to His people.*

### Great Questions

- What is the role of a prophet in salvation history?
- How did the prophets prepare God's people for the Messiah?
- In what ways does Jesus fulfill the prophecies of the Old Testament?

### Key Figures & Concepts

Prophet; Prophecy; Elijah; Elisha; Isaiah; John the Baptist; Messiah; Promise; Fulfillment; Typology; Incarnation; Redemption; Kingdom of God.

### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 6–9; The Holy Bible (1 Kings 17–19; 2 Kings 2; Isaiah 7:10–14; Luke 1:26–38; John 1:19–34); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§522–534; 711–720; The Son of Charlemagne by Barbara Willard (as assigned reading)*





## Week 10-15 Overview

Students will learn that Christ established His Church to continue His mission on earth, teaching, sanctifying, and governing in His name. Through the Apostles and their successors, the Church safeguards the fullness of Revelation and dispenses God's life through the Sacraments. This unit will explore the nature of grace—God's own life in the soul—which enables us to live in holiness and grow in virtue. Students will see that the Church is not merely an institution but the Body of Christ, through which the Incarnation continues to touch the world, for God became man so that man may become like God.

### Central-One-Idea

*Christ founded the Church to share His life of grace with the world, making His saving work present in every age.*

### Great Questions

- Why did Christ establish the Church?
- What is grace, and why do we need it?
- How does the Church make Christ's life present to us today?

### Key Figures & Concepts

Church; Apostles; Papacy; Pentecost; Holy Spirit; Magisterium; Grace; Sanctifying Grace; Actual Grace; Virtue; Theological Virtues; Cardinal Virtues; Body of Christ; Communion of Saints.

### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 10–15; The Holy Bible (Matthew 16:13–20; Acts 2:1–41; John 15:1–11); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§748–945; 1812–1845; The Son of Charlemagne by Barbara Willard (as assigned reading)*



# Unit 5 | Sacraments: Coming to the Fullness 8 Weeks

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## Week 16-23 Overview

Students will study the Sacraments of Initiation—Baptism, Confirmation, and the Eucharist—through which we first receive and grow in the life of grace. They will see that in Baptism we are reborn as children of God, in Confirmation we are strengthened by the Holy Spirit to bear witness to Christ, and in the Eucharist we are nourished by Christ’s own Body and Blood. This unit will also examine the Mass as the source and summit of the Christian life, where the saving work of the Incarnation is made present to us. In all, students will discover that the Sacraments are Christ’s own actions, given so that God became man may be fulfilled in us and we may become like God.

### Central-One-Idea

*Through the Sacraments of Initiation, Christ shares His divine life with us and strengthens us to live as His disciples.*

### Great Questions

- How do the Sacraments of Initiation begin and strengthen the life of grace in the soul?
- Why is the Eucharist called the “source and summit” of the Christian life?
- How does the Mass make the Incarnation and Redemption present today?

### Key Figures & Concepts

Sacrament; Baptism; Confirmation; Eucharist; Mass; Real Presence; Paschal Mystery; Source and Summit; Grace; Gifts of the Holy Spirit; Fruits of the Holy Spirit; Communion; Sacrifice.

### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 16–23; The Holy Bible (Matthew 28:18–20; Acts 2:38–42; John 6:48–58; Luke 22:14–20); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§1212–1419; Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier by Louis de Wohl (as assigned reading)*



**Week 24-29 Overview**

Students will study the Sacraments of Healing—Penance and Anointing of the Sick—which restore and strengthen the life of grace when it is wounded by sin or weakened by suffering. They will also learn about the Sacraments of Vocation—Holy Orders and Matrimony—through which Christians are called to serve God and others in a particular state of life. This unit shows that Christ’s healing and call are personal, drawing each soul into His mission. In every sacrament, the grace of the Incarnation touches our lives, for God became man so that man may become like God.

**Central-One-Idea**

*Christ heals our souls and calls us to serve through the Sacraments of Healing and Vocation, making us more like Him.*

**Great Questions**

- How does Christ heal the soul through Penance and Anointing of the Sick?
- Why are Holy Orders and Matrimony called Sacraments of Vocation?
- How does each vocation serve the mission of the Church?

**Key Figures & Concepts**

Penance; Contrition; Confession; Absolution; Anointing of the Sick; Holy Orders; Bishop; Priest; Deacon; Matrimony; Vows; Covenant of Marriage; Grace of State; Service; Mission of the Church.

**Sources**

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 24–29; The Holy Bible (John 20:21–23; James 5:14–15; 1 Corinthians 7:10–16; Ephesians 5:21–33); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§1420–1666; Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier by Louis de Wohl*



## Week 30-31 Overview

Students will reflect on the life and role of the Blessed Virgin Mary in God's plan of salvation. Chosen to be the Mother of God, Mary's "yes" made the Incarnation possible, and her perfect cooperation with grace makes her the model for all disciples. As the first to share fully in Christ's divine life, she shows what it means to live in complete union with God. This unit will also explore Mary's titles, privileges, and intercessory role in the Church, revealing that her life magnifies the truth that God became man so that man may become like God.

### Central-One-Idea

*Mary, full of grace, is the model disciple and the first to share fully in the life of her Son.*

### Great Questions

- Why is Mary called "full of grace"?
- How does Mary's "yes" reveal perfect cooperation with God's will?
- What role does Mary have in the life of the Church today?

### Key Figures & Concepts

Mary; Annunciation; Immaculate Conception; Theotokos; Perpetual Virginity; Assumption; Intercession; Model of Holiness; Disciple; Mother of the Church.

### Sources

*Faith and Life Series, Grade 7: The Life of Grace, Chs. 30–31; The Holy Bible (Luke 1:26–56; John 2:1–11; John 19:25–27; Revelation 12:1–6); Catechism of the Catholic Church §§484–511; 963–975; Saint Joan: The Girl Soldier by Louis de Wohl*



# Course Catechism

This section is structured as a series of questions and answers—intended to cultivate wisdom, virtue, and a love of tradition in the soul of the reader. Drawing from classical education, Christian orthodoxy, and the accumulated insights of Western civilization, this catechism aims to form not only the mind but the moral imagination.



Each question is crafted to provoke contemplation, and each answer is more than mere information—it is a small liturgy of truth, designed to be memorized, internalized, and lived. In the tradition of ancient catechisms, this section assumes that learning is not just for passing tests, but for becoming someone.

## Section I | Unit I

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Questions: *x-x*

## Section II | Unit II

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Questions: *x-55*

## Section III | Unit III

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Questions: *56-73*

## Section IV | Unit IV

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Questions: *74-118*

## Section V | Unit V

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Questions: *119-184*





## **Section VI** | Unit VI

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**Questions:** *185-235*

## **Section VII** | Unit VII

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**Questions:** *236-240*



## Section IX | Recitations

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### **John 1:1–18 (Prologue to the Gospel of John)**

*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God...*

### **Philippians 2:5–11 (The Christ Hymn)**

*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though He was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped...*

### **2 Peter 1:3–8 (Partakers of the Divine Nature)**

*His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him who called us to His own glory and excellence, by which He has granted to us His precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature...*

### **Catechism of the Catholic Church, §456–460 (The Word Became Flesh)**

*With the Nicene Creed we confess that “for us men and for our salvation He came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit, He became incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and was made man...*



# Week 1

## Weekly Logos | To Become like Him...

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Before students can understand the life of grace, they must first see that God created the world and man out of love and with a purpose—to share in His divine life. Creation is the first gift and the first sign of His desire to unite Himself to us. Revelation is God’s act of making Himself known so that we may live in friendship with Him. This week, students will learn that to know God as Creator is to recognize His goodness in all things and to see themselves as made for communion with Him, a truth fulfilled in the Incarnation—where God became man so that man may become like God.

## What Are We Assessing? | The Facts

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- ▣ The definition of Creation and why God created the world.
- ▣ The meaning of man made in the image and likeness of God.
- ▣ The definition of Revelation (Natural and Divine).
- ▣ The two sources of Divine Revelation: Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.

## What Are We Assessing? | The Skills

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- ▣ Writing: Using narrative on the reading, “Son of Charlemagne”
- ▣ Reading: Annotating while we read
- ▣ Reading: Using Lectio Divina to learn to interpret Scripture
- ▣ Thinking: Using criticality to write and think with more theological precision

## What Are We Assessing? | The Truths

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*“The Gift of Grace is a Share in the very Life of God, Himself”*

**These truths unify every element of the lesson:**

- God created all things out of love and for His glory.
- Man was created to share in God’s life and to be transformed into His likeness.
- Revelation is God’s free act of making Himself known so that we might live in union with Him.



## Assessments | Suggested Types

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- ☞ Oral Recitation: Genesis 1:1–5
- ☞ Short Written Response: “Why did God create the world and man?”
- ☞ EoC: “How does creation prepare us for the Incarnation?”
- ☞ Progymnasmata: Provide a Narrative of what we did this week.

## Pacing | By Week

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<i>Day</i>	<i>Focus</i>	<i>Homework</i>
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Monday	Full lesson on the yearly Logos.	None
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Tuesday	Read Son of Charlemagne & Annotate	None
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Wednesday	Read Son of Charlemagne & Annotate	None
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Thursday	Write Narrative on Son of Charlemagne speak about most important	None
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Friday	Discussion: “How does knowing God as Creator affect how we live?”	None
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## Teacher Tips

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Begin the week by connecting creation to the course's central theme—show students that God's act of creating was the first step toward sharing His life with us.

Use visual aids, such as a globe, images of the natural world, or artwork of Genesis 1, to help students see beauty, order, and purpose in creation.

Emphasize that “image and likeness of God” means we are made for relationship with Him, not merely given physical traits.

When teaching Revelation, distinguish clearly between Natural and Divine Revelation, using simple, concrete examples (e.g., sunset for Natural Revelation, the Bible for Divine Revelation).

Connect the concept of Revelation to the Incarnation—God not only spoke but came among us so we could know Him personally.

Catechetical moment: tie Psalm 19 (“The heavens are telling the glory of God”) to the idea that all of creation is a sign pointing to the Creator.

