**The third-grade program** of the *Christ Our Life* series, *We Believe*, presents the main truths Catholics believe and express in the Apostles' Creed.

## Grade 3

Unit	Chapter	Theme	Scripture	CCC References
<b>God Calls Us</b> <b>to Faith</b> The children will realize they are called to be one of God's holy people. They will desire to	1. God Calls Us	We are called to believe in God and to do what God asks.	Genesis 12—21; The Book of Ruth; Mark 16:15	144–146, 2156–2159, 2653
	2. God Gives Us Gifts	We each have unique gifts to praise God and serve others.	1 Samuel 16:1–13; 1 Samuel 17:4–52; Matthew 25:14–29; Romans 12:6	1936–1937
	3. We Are God's Holy People	God calls us to be holy—to know, love, and serve him.	John 14:7–11; Acts 2:42–47; 1 Peter 1:15–16; Isaiah 49:6	823-825, 2013
	4. God Called Mary	Mary said yes to God.	Luke 1:26–38; John 19:26–27; Luke 1:30	484, 494, 971
live like Jesus.	5. Jesus Calls Us to Follow	Jesus called the apostles, the disciples, and us to carry on his work.	Mark 1:16–20; Luke 10:1–2; Acts of the Apostles 9:1–19; John 13:35	858–859, 873, 1506
2 God Is Great and Good The	6. We Believe in God	God our Creator saved the Israelites from slavery to bring them to the Promised Land. Through his Son, Jesus, God saved the world from sin to bring us to himself.	Genesis 12:7, 15:13–16; Exodus 3—15; Exodus 12:11–13; Luke 1:45	62, 193–195, 253–255, 1023–1029
children will understand some of the	7. God Is Powerful and Loving	God showed power and love by sending manna and giving the Law.	Exodus 10—15:21; Exodus 16:1–35; Exodus 19—24; Psalm 136, John 6:51; John 14:15	218–221, 1334, 2060–2061
characteristics of God. The	8. God Is Holy and Great	Our holy God is everywhere, especially with us, and knows all things.	Exodus 3:1–6; Psalm 139:1–12; 1 Kings 18:16–39; Exodus 4:12	27, 205–209, 300, 2143–2144
children will respond to God with love and respect and desire to be with God.	9. God Is Just and Merciful	Our just and merciful God forgives us and asks us to show justice and mercy.	Psalm 103; Luke 15:8–10; Luke 16:19–31; John 10:1–18; Ephesians 4:32	210–211, 218–219, 1465
<b>3 God's Plan</b> Is a Plan of Love The children will appreciate	10. God Created People to Share His Life	After the first people disobeyed, God continued to offer his life and love to us through Jesus.	Genesis 3; Psalm 8; Romans 5:5	356, 374–375, 404–407, 410, 1996–1999
	11. God Sent His Son Jesus to Live Among Us	Jesus, the Light of the World, leads us to God.	Luke 2:1–14; Luke 2:15–20; Luke 2:22–38; John 8:12; John 1:3–4	48, 422–423, 529, 854, 2199
God's plan that enables us to belong to the	12. Jesus Revealed the Kingdom of God	Through miracles and parables, Jesus taught us about the Kingdom of God, which we are called to belong to and spread.	Matthew 3:13–17; Matthew 4:1–11; Matthew 13:45–46; Mark 4:30–32; Matthew 13:34	535–536, 538–540, 546
kingdom. They will be familiar with some of Jesus' parables	13. Jesus Came to Give Life	Jesus cured people and brought them back to life as a sign of the new life he brings us.	Mark 1:40–45; Luke 7:11–16; Luke 8:40–56; Luke 18:35–43; John 14:12	547–549, 2609, 2616
and miracles and their meanings.	14. God's Kingdom Is a Kingdom of Love	Jesus taught us to love one another.	Matthew 5—7; Galatians 5:22–23	1723–1724, 1889, 2608
4 Jesus Brings Us to the Kingdom	15. Jesus Suffered and Died for Us	Jesus makes a New Covenant and offers himself to save us.	Matthew 27; Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19; Mark 11:1–11; Mark 14:22–26; Mark 14:32–42; Mark 14:43–46; Luke 19:41–44; 1 Peter 2:21	559–560, 610–612, 616, 2742
of God The children will deepen their understanding of Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection. They will appreciate being members of the Church and will try to be good members.	16. Jesus Is Risen	We believe that Jesus rose from the dead and will bring us to life everlasting.	John 20:19–23; Romans 6:9; 1 Corinthians 2:9; Revelation 1:17–18, Revelation 21:3–4	638, 651–655, 1010–1013, 2304
	17. Jesus Christ Is Lord and King	Jesus ascended to heaven and will come again in glory to judge the world by its love.	Psalm 47; Matthew 25:31–46; Matthew 28:16–20; Luke 24:50; Acts of the Apostles 1:4–8; Acts of the Apostles 3:1–10; Luke 12:49	659, 671, 678, 1038, 2447–2449
	18. Jesus Gives the Spirit to the Church	The Holy Spirit helps us live and work as members of the kingdom.	John 15:26–27; 16:7–14; Acts of the Apostles 1:8, Acts of the Apostles 2:1–4	683, 721–726, 731, 1266
	19. We Belong to the Kingdom	The members of the Communion of Saints are one in Christ. They honor Mary, his Mother, as queen of heaven and earth.	Acts of the Apostles 1:12–14; 1 Corinthians 13:4–8; Ephesians 4:4–6	954–959, 966, 969
5 Jesus Is with Us on Our Way The	20. God Shares the Wondrous Life of Grace	Even after sin, God shares divine life with us through the sacraments.	Genesis 3:1–19; John 3:1–21; 1 Corinthians 2:9, 1 Corinthians 12:13	27, 404–405, 1024, 1257, 1266, 2566
children will learn how Jesus helps us be holy through the sacraments. They will celebrate the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation and the Eucharist	21. The Holy Spirit Lives Within Us	The Holy Spirit within us helps us to follow Jesus by doing good and avoiding evil.	Mark 10:17–21; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:16–26; John 14:26	562, 2003, 2846–2849
	22. God Blesses Contrite Hearts	God forgives us when we are sorry for our sins.	Luke 7:36–50; Luke 15:4–7; Luke 18:10–14; Luke 19:1–10; Luke 22:31–62; 1 John 1:9	588–589, 1429, 1439, 1484
	23. God Forgives Us	We are reconciled to God and the Church in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation.	Luke 15:11–24; Psalm 103:8	1448–1449, 1468–1469
	24. God's Family Celebrates the Eucharist	Jesus is present in our celebration of the Eucharist and speaks to us in the Liturgy of the Word.	Matthew 7:12; Matthew 7:21; Matthew 7:24–27; Matthew 13:33; Luke 6:43–45; Luke 24:30	610, 1323, 1337–1340, 1349
with greater understanding.	25. The Eucharist Is a Gift	At Mass, we celebrate Jesus' offering of himself to the Father and receive him in the Eucharist.	John 17:18–23; 1 Corinthians 10:17; John 6:51	1350, 1362–1368, 1396

## The children should

- grow in the power to make decisions in the light of God's Revelation and the redemptive acts of Jesus.
  come to a knowledge and an appreciation of the mysteries of their faith expressed in the Apostles' Creed.

- Prayer in this grade
  Act of Faith, Hope, Love (adapted)
  Come, Holy Spirit (adapted)
  The Apostles' Creed
  Rosary

- Morning Offering
  Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel
- Act of Contrition

Catholic Social Teaching Themes	Words Learned	Saints and Holy People*
Family and Community, Solidarity		Abraham, Sarah, Ruth, Naomi, Saint Mark
Work and Workers	psalm	David, Saint Nicholas
God's Creation, The Poor and Vulnerable		Saint: Francis of Assisi, Clare of Assisi, Martin of Tours
	Annunciation, Rosary, sacramental	Our Lady of Fatima, Saint: Philip, James
Family and Community	synagogue	Paul, Peter, Andrew, James, John, Julie Billiart
God's Creation, Solidarity	Apostles' Creed, creed, Hebrews, Israelites, mystery	Moses, Saint Ignatius of Loyola
Rights and Responsibilities, Family and Community, The Poor and Vulnerable, God's Creation	Covenant, worship	Saint Catherine of Siena
Life and Dignity, Rights and Responsibilities	Yahweh	Saint: Elizabeth Ann Seton, John Bosco
The Poor and Vulnerable	justice	Saint: Vincent de Paul, Louise de Marillac, Martin de Porres
 Life and Dignity	charity, Redeemer, devil, Scriptures, hope	Adam and Eve, Saint Francis of Assisi
Family and Community, The Poor and Vulnerable	Immaculate Conception, Incarnation	Simeon and Anna, Saint Joseph husband of Mary
 The Poor and Vulnerable, Work and Workers	Kingdom of God, Revelation, Messiah, Satan, mission, Son of God, parable	John the Baptist, Saint Henry
Life and Dignity		Saint Blaise
Solidarity		Saint Thérèse of Lisieux
	Sacrifice of the Mass	Saint Agnes
Solidarity		Saint Patrick
The Poor and Vulnerable	Ascension, evangelize, Paschal Mystery, witness	Saint Matthew
	Abba, Lord, Pentecost	Saint: Kateri Tekakwitha, Luke
Solidarity	Assumption, Communion of Saints, purgatory	Mary, Queen of Heaven; Our Lady of Guadalupe, Saint Teresa of Ávila
Life and Dignity		Nicodemus, Saint Louise de Marillac
	personal sin	Saint: Dominic Savio, Francis de Sales
	conscience, examination of conscience	Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton
		Saint Philip Neri
	benediction, blessing, epistle, Homily, <i>Lectionary</i> , Liturgy of the Word	Saint Bede the Venerable
Family and Community	Liturgy of the Eucharist	Saint Boniface

\* Information on more saints can be found in Saints and Feast Days, pages T419–T426.