

BIG IDEAS for Confirmation

1. Jesus Christ

- Jesus = "God saves"
- Christ = "Messiah" = "the Anointed One" = "mission"
- Jesus is fully God and fully man ("the God-man" = "the hypostatic union")

2. The Trinity

- one God, three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit
- one God, three natures: the *Creator*, the *Savior* and the *Sanctifier*

3. Sin

- an offence against God ([CCC 1850](#))
- disobedience to God ([CCC 1871](#))
- separation from God
- hell = eternal separation from God
- "concupiscence" = our tendency towards sin
- the "three-fold sins" *lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, pride of life*
- mortal v. venial sin
- Jesus teaches how to avoid sin

4. Thoughtful worship

- "Four Senses of Scripture": *Literal, Allegorical, Moral, Anagogical*
- seeking God and truth through the "Two Wings" of Faith and Reason
- prayer and praying thoughtfully, purposefully and actively; humility in prayer
- *lectio divina*: meditation on Scripture

5. Life in Christ

- Catechism of the Catholic Church
- Four Pillars of Catholic faith: *Creed, Sacraments, Commandments, Prayer*
- Sermon on the Mount and The Beatitudes
- Ten Commandments & Christ's clarifications & New Commandments
- seeking a State of Grace
- "Repent, and believe"

6. Christ as fulfillment of the Old Testament

- Jesus fulfills the "Old Covenant" and gives us the "New Covenant" (or "Testament")
- History of Salvation
- Typology: *The New is hidden in the Old, and the Old is revealed by the New*

7. The Mysteries

- works of the Holy Spirit: "the seen and the unseen"
- with a mystery, it is not so much *what it is*, but *that it is*
- using our "Wings of Faith" and recognizing the limits of Reason

8. Sacraments

- an "outward sign" instituted by Christ to give Grace
- the seen and unseen: "the visible sign of the hidden reality of salvation" ([CCC 774](#))
- we see the Sacramental Act, but our faith reveals the workings of the Holy Spirit
- types and purposes of the Seven Sacraments

9. The Catholic Mass

- "Real presence of Christ"
- knowing the Mass for thoughtful worship
- the "Five Precepts of the Church": *attendance, confession, Holy Communion, Holy days of obligation, days of fasting and abstinence*
- weekly attendance at Mass
- proper attire for Mass

10. The Bible

- reading the Word of God (the Bible) is prayer
- familiarity with the Bible, its parts and organization
- applying Biblical knowledge to the "Liturgy of the Word" at Mass