

Grade Eight Religion Curriculum

Goal

Enable the students to trace the historical development of the Church from the time of Jesus to the present and to understand the mission and ministry of the Church to which we are called.

Outcomes

- To appreciate the rich heritage found in Sacred Scripture and Church history
- To outline the major period of Church history; cite important movements, developments, leaders, heroes/heroines, and saints within each period
- To understand the precepts of the Church
- To express creatively a comprehension of the liturgical year and cycles
- To demonstrate stewardship by completing class or school sponsored service projects
- To plan and participate in various types of worship and prayer service

Objectives

The students will...

Knowledge of Faith

1. develop an understanding that Church history begins with the experiences of the Hebrew people, progresses through the Apostolic Age, and continues to develop a profile of Christian life in the modern world.
2. examine the historical events, documents, and traditions of the Church as they contribute to the faith journey.
3. develop an understanding of doctrine, dogma, and tradition.
4. define vocabulary to include the following: blasphemy, catechumenate, cathedral, Church, conscience, conversion, Dark Ages, ecumenism, evangelization, four marks of the Church (one, holy, catholic, apostolic), Gospel, grace, holiness, Immaculate Conception, Incarnation, infallibility, martyr, Mary, ministry, monastery, oath, ordained minister, People of God, Reformation, social sin, encyclical, theology, tradition, Trinity, virtue.

Liturgical Education

1. develop and understanding of cultural diversity as it applies to liturgical celebrations and use of sacramentals.
2. examine the traditional devotions of the Catholic Church.
3. continue to participate in the sacraments.
4. participate in and plan liturgies and paraliturgies.

Moral Formation

1. continue to experience forgiveness and reconciliation especially through the Sacrament of Reconciliation.
2. develop a value of cultural contribution and diversity.
3. experience the responsibility of caring for others.
4. examine Catholic moral teaching on issues relevant to adolescent life.
5. develop skills to act for justice, peace, and human dignity in accordance with the call to holiness espoused by the Church's teachings.

Learning to Pray

1. continue to develop students' experience of prayer forms, prayers, liturgical songs and journaling.
2. explore the Creed as the basis of Catholic faith.
3. be introduced to the Liturgy of the Hours as the official prayer of the Church.

Educating for Community Life

1. grow in an understanding of the movement of the Holy Spirit as a means to discern a particular vocation in the world.
2. be encouraged to demonstrate stewardship by being servant-leaders and mentors in their family, school, and parish communities.
3. recognize the responsibility to continue to live a life in accordance with Baptismal promises.
4. be encouraged to accept and use the gifts of the Holy Spirit to live a mature Christian life.

Missionary Initiation

1. live out the tenets of Gospel service in everyday life.
2. develop an awareness of the true meaning of social justice so the students may apply those principles to everyday life.

Family Life

1. continue to develop a wholesome understanding of sexuality and its place in Catholic life.
2. understand responsibility in their personal lives and in the social realm.