



8th GRADE RELIGION SYLLABUS

St. Cecilia Cathedral Grade School

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The Sacrament of Confirmation

Confirmation is the completion of baptism. For "by the sacrament of Confirmation, [the baptized] are more perfectly bound to the Church and are enriched with a special strength of the Holy Spirit" CCC 1285. This year, students have the opportunity to affirm and confirm their faith through the Sacrament of Confirmation, and fully live out the call to be disciples of Christ. Through the Sacrament of Confirmation, students make the decision to say "Yes" to their Catholic faith and put Christ at the center of their life.

Confirmation gives students the grace and strength of the Holy Spirit to make the Mission of Christ complete in their life.

Format

Each day class will begin with a prayer and the Saint of the Day. Following prayer, class will consist of a short lecture with a visual presentation on the board consisting of notes, key terms, and chapter objectives. Students are expected to follow along and take notes. Following lecture and notes, students will then participate in an activity, group work, scripture reading, or journal reflection.

Religion class for first half of the year will focus entirely on preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Homework assignments will be given 2-3 times per week and consist of one page reflections. As students prepare to make the sacrament of Confirmation, it is important that students spend time reflecting on who they are, their relationship with God, how they are called to live out their faith, and their invitation to live out their vocation.

Textbook

There is no textbook for Confirmation. There will be various handouts and reading packets, but those will all be printed and provided in class. Students will also utilize the Bible to read and reflect on scripture.

After Christmas, students will receive and reference the We Believe textbook. In general, students have the textbook as a resource. If they would like to do additional reading on their own from the textbook, students have the option to do so. Page numbers will be provided for each lesson. Otherwise, all content that students need to know will be presented in class via Prezi or PowerPoint.

Tests & Projects

There will be approximately four tests per quarter. Students will be provided with all necessary content in class from lecture and notes. In addition, prior to every test, a study guide will be provided and an in-class review will be held the day before.

There will be one major project while students prepare to make their Confirmation. This is their Saint Project. This will be a research and reflection based project to help students choose their Confirmation Saint. Projects for the remainder of the year will be detailed later.

Participation

Participation is required—both in and out of the classroom. Students must actively and respectfully contribute to class discussion and group learning. In addition, 8th grade students participate as Mass Mentors for the primary grades at weekday school Masses. All have the opportunity to attend and participate in Friday Masses and Sunday Masses. Students are invited to altar serve, lector, bring up the gifts, and cantor.

Required Daily Supplies

3 Ring Binder with dividers

1 composition notebook (for Saints and journaling)

1 spiral notebook (for notes)

Pens, pencils, eraser, highlighters, color markers, colored pencils, scissors, glue sticks

Textbooks

NONE for Confirmation
We Believe 8h Grade Edition
Bible (NAB)

Grade Breakdown

Tests
Notes
Reflection / Journal
Projects
Participation

My Philosophy of Education

The purpose of Catholic Education can be summed up by the words of St. Julie Billiart: "Teach the children what they need to know for life." In light of faith, I want to encourage students to think deeply about the world they live in and reflect how their faith and vocation play a role. I believe that teaching students what they need to know for life, rooted in the Catholic faith and values, is the purpose for a successful, holistic, and transformative education. We are all made in the image and likeness of God; all of us are beloved sons and daughters of Christ. In Christ, we are called, chosen, and destined for a purpose. I desire to help each student find and develop their gifts, so that they may become the hands and feet of Christ on earth. I pray that my students apply what they learn in the classroom to themselves—to be the difference in this world because of their faith. I pray that I may lead by example and reach all people, call seekers, form believers, and send disciples.