

SACRED HEART SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS

Syllabus Title: Religion
Grade 8

Teacher Information: Nancy Pescatello
Grade 6 Homeroom
e-mail: pescatellon@sacredheartgroton.org

Course Description: The purpose of the eighth grade program draws students to believe more deeply in Jesus and to commit themselves to Him through a study of His Church and teachings.

Course Content/Objectives:

- Students will deepen their understanding and appreciation of the Church. Students will:
 1. Explore the Church as a mystery and reflect on the biblical images of the Church
 2. Make an overview of salvation history and come to understand Scripture and Tradition
 3. Take a closer look at the origins of the Church and its early stages
 4. Ponder the importance of prayer, what it is, and various types of prayer
 5. Explore the meaning of unity
 6. Learn how the Holy Spirit led the Church to holiness, especially through sacramental life
 7. Study ways in which the Church is catholic, or universal
 8. Be introduced to their apostolic heritage
- Students will be able to identify key people and events in the Church's history. Students will:
 1. Learn how the Holy Spirit guided the Christians of the first century as the Church took shape and spread the Good News
 2. Consider the Roman persecutions that threatened to eliminate the Church and the heresy that divided her
 3. Receive an overview of the Church in the Middle Ages
 4. Study the problems of schism, plagues, the Renaissance, and the worldliness of some Church leaders that harmed the Church
 5. Consider how the Church, having lost economic and political power, emerged as a spiritual leader.
 6. Become familiar with the beginnings of the Church in North America
 7. Be introduced to the need for change in the Church, which is alive
- Students will realize what it means to live a Christian life. They will desire to live by Christ's moral standards. Students will:
 1. Study the obligation of their covenant with God
 2. Reflect on what it means to love God above all things
 3. Consider the Sabbath, the liturgical year, and holy days of obligation.
 4. Consider obedience as a way of loving and serving God
 5. Make a study of their duty to be honest and truthful
 6. Be helped to realize their call to use their natural and supernatural gifts in serving the Church
 7. Learn to make decisions that respect the gift of sex according to the teachings of Christ and the Church

Materials: Text: Loyola Press: Christ Our Life: The Church Then and Now, Bible, worksheets, internet, videos, overhead Projection

Instructional Strategies: Lectures, discussion/questioning, viewing/listening/answering, independent learning through internet use, videos

Assessment: Required community service hours, chapter tests, chapter quizzes, daily class discussions, homework

Student Expectations: Students are expected to be prepared for class each day. This includes arriving to class on time, with appropriate textbook, assignment book, writing instrument and homework due that day. The following classroom rules are expected from all students: 1. Speak and act respectfully toward all staff, adult supervisors, and peers. 2. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself. 3. Raise your hand and wait to be recognized before speaking. 4. Remain seated unless otherwise instructed. 5. Be respectful of school property and pick up after yourself.