

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: RCL Benziger: Faith & World Edition: Blest Are We, The Story of the Church, Bible, worksheets, internet, videos, promethean interactive whiteboard, overhead projection

Instructional Strategies: Lectures, discussion/questioning, viewing/listening/answering, independent learning through internet use, promethean whiteboard interaction activities, 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.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL
COURSE SYLLABUS

Syllabus Title: Religion
Family Life
Grade 8

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

Course Description: The course is designed to give students a deeper understanding of God's gifts of family, self, life, love, and community.

Course Content/Objectives:

- Students will examine ways to contribute to family happiness and develop the skills to show respect, affirmation and generosity as means of expressing gratitude. Students will:
 1. Explore the meaning of happiness
 2. Understand basic human needs and how to express gratitude
 3. Practice skills that can contribute to family happiness
- Students will examine the importance of moral formation, especially of our conscience, as necessary for direction in life. Students will:
 1. Appreciate the need for direction when feeling lost
 2. Understand how an informed conscience gives direction in life
 3. Examine how the gift of counsel guides us in our decisions
- Students will discover the influences upon a person's personality and how their personality affects their view on life and their decisions. Students will:
 1. Examine two major influences in our lives
 2. Understand the importance of self-knowledge
 3. Reflect on ways to grow in self-knowledge
- Students will examine the importance of our emotions and to develop the skills and techniques in handling them properly and morally. Students will:
 1. Examine how emotions affect our decisions
 2. Understand how to handle strong emotions in virtuous ways
 3. Identify ways to experience joy through good choices
- Students will understand the major threats to human life that plague society in order to evaluate attitudes towards life and the dignity of the human person. Students will:
 1. Examine how society views the value of human life
 2. Identify some major threats to human life
 3. Evaluate attitudes in order to promote change with action
- Students will investigate behavior and actions that are or can be harmful or dangerous to a person's health and identify strategies for making healthy choices. Students will:
 1. Explore the impact of choices to your health
 2. Understand the risks and dangers of harmful substances
 3. Create strategies for making healthy choices
- Students will learn ways to develop and deepen friendships using guidelines for healthy friendships through an understanding of Christian love. Students will:
 1. Examine how to best build lasting relationships
 2. Explore guidelines for nurturing healthy friendships
 3. Encourage living a life based on Christian love
- Students will explore God's plan for marriage and family by understanding the two purposes of marriage and learn ways to raise a healthy and holy family. Students will:
 1. Recognize that marriage is but one vocation
 2. Understand the two purposes of marriage
 3. Explore how the Fruits of the Holy Spirit guide family life
- Students will learn ways of choosing groups to belong to and identify the qualities of a good role model. Students will:
 1. Appreciate the benefits of belonging to a community
 2. Understand the importance of choosing friends and role models
 3. Identify social skills necessary for healthy relationships
- Students will reflect on our past to appreciate the growth experienced and anticipate the future maturity as we seek meaning and purpose in life. Students will:

1. Assess past experiences as readiness for the future
2. Understand how aspects of our lives give meaning and purpose
3. Make choices to use our resources in healthy ways

Materials: Text: RCL Benziger: Family Life 8, activity pages, review pages, promethean interactive whiteboard, overhead projections, unit reviews, end of course review, certificate to recognize achievement

Instructional Strategies: Lectures, discussion/questioning, viewing/listening/answering, promethean whiteboard interaction activities

Assessment: daily class discussions, homework, quizzes, tests

Student Expectations: Students are expected to be prepared for class each day. This includes arriving to class on time, with appropriate textbook, notebook, 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.