

Religion Standards

Eighth Grade

1. The Faith Professed

Doctrine	
8.F.1	Explain that the Holy Trinity is the greatest mystery of the Catholic faith.
8.F.2	Analyze the role of divine revelation and human reason in understanding faith and loving God.
8.F.3	Define hypostatic union and explain that Jesus is one Person with a human and a divine nature.
8.F.4	Describe some ways that the Holy Spirit acts in the world.
8.F.5	Explain the Catholic view of death.
8.F.6	Explain the particular and general judgement, distinguishing between the two.
8.F.7	Explore the nature of angels using the Catechism and explain their roles according to Scripture and Tradition.
8.F.8	Describe the essence of heaven, hell, and purgatory.
8.F.9	Explain the purpose of plenary indulgences.
Scripture	
8.F.10	Explain the importance and purpose of daily reading and praying with Scripture.
8.F.11	Analyze the necessity of the Church in teaching and interpreting Scripture.
8.F.12	Distinguish between literal details and inspired realities in the Biblical text.
Old Testament	
8.F.13	Review familiar texts, explaining how each sheds light on the mystery of sin, God's promise to send a savior, and his journey with Israel to prepare them for Jesus.
New Testament	
8.F.14	Analyze significant themes in the Acts of the Apostles.
8.F.15	Recognize the growth of the Church in the Acts of the Apostles and the Epistles.
8.F.16	Identify and explain significant elements of the Book of Revelation.

2. Sacraments and Liturgical Life

Sacraments	
8.S.1	Explain how the sacraments meet one's needs in every moment of life.
8.S.2	Identify where Jesus institutes each sacrament in Scripture.
Baptism	

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8.S.3	Explain the effects of baptism.
8.S.4	Explain the nature and relevance of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit.
Reconciliation	
8.S.5	Explain effects of the sacrament of Reconciliation.
8.S.6	Explain why the Church has the power to forgive sins.
8.S.7	Identify the essential elements of a good confession.
8.S.8	Conduct an age-appropriate examination of conscience.
Confirmation	
8.S.9	Summarize the effects and responsibilities of Confirmation.
8.S.10	Explain how Confirmation strengthens and completes Baptism.
8.S.11	Give a convincing argument for the relevance and Biblical roots of Confirmation.
8.S.12	Explain what must be present for a valid Confirmation.
Matrimony	
8.S.13	Identify the necessary components of a sacramental Christian marriage.
8.S.14	Explain God's design for marital love and describe the ways that married love is designed to be an image of the relationship between Jesus and his Bride, the Church.
8.S.15	Summarize the effects of the sacrament of marriage.
8.S.16	Define and explain the purpose of annulments.
Holy Orders	
8.S.17	Explain the effects of the sacrament of Holy Orders.
8.S.18	Identify the what must be present for the sacrament of Holy Orders.
8.S.19	Identify and explain the three levels of Holy Orders, their purpose, and the physical symbols that signify their office.
8.S.20	Explain the value and develop the habit of praying for priests.
Anointing of the Sick	
8.S.21	Explain the effects of the sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick.
8.S.22	Explain who can receive Anointing of the Sick.
8.S.23	Identify what must be present for a valid Anointing.
8.S.24	Define viaticum.
Sacramentals	
8.S.25	Define and explore the use of sacramentals to augment personal and communal prayer.
Liturgical Life	
Liturgical Calendar	
8.S.26	Identify and participate in the seasons of the Church year.
8.S.27	Recognize the value of entering into the Church's liturgical calendar and incorporating acts of rejoicing or penance into daily life accordingly.
8.S.28	Explain what it means to reverently and faithfully observe Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.

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8.S.29	Recognize the significance of various feast days.
Eucharistic Liturgy	
8.S.30	Describe Mass as the greatest prayer and weekly participation in Mass as the foundation of Catholic life.
8.S.31	Identify and explain the meaning of key components of the liturgy.
8.S.32	Explain the meaning of Jesus' sacrifice in the Mass.
8.S.33	Describe the lectionary and sacramentary.
8.S.34	Explain the necessary preparation for receiving Holy Communion and summarize its effects.
8.S.35	Participate in liturgical planning within the school.
Liturgical Gestures & Para-Liturgical Celebrations	
8.S.36	Demonstrate appropriate participation and behavior in the Eucharistic liturgy.
8.S.37	Explain the importance of proper appearance at Mass.
8.S.38	Demonstrate and explain the significance of appropriate liturgical gestures.

3. Living in Freedom

8.L.1	Understand that morality is coming to recognize God's loving call and responding in freedom.
8.L.2	Explain the Catholic understanding of joy, freedom, and free will and apply it to daily living.
8.L.3	Identify object, intention, and circumstances as what define the morality of an action.
8.L.4	Recognize the Ten Commandments, Beatitudes and Jesus' law of Love as the keys to living a life of happiness and holiness as they uphold respect for God and the dignity of the human person.
8.L.5	Practice a healthy obedience that leads to increased freedom.
8.L.6	Explain the meaning of conscience and recognize how to form it correctly.
8.L.7	Identify elements of natural law in the Ten Commandments.
8.L.8	Develop the habit of engaging in the spiritual and corporal works of mercy.
8.L.9	Define virtue and explore the practice of the theological virtues and cardinal virtues.
8.L.10	List the seven capital sins and identify the theological and cardinal virtues that combat the sin.
8.L.11	Identify and practice steps for good decision making, including prayer to the Holy Spirit, guardian angel and saints.
8.L.13	Explain temptations and identify ways to overcome them.
8.L.14	Make distinctions between personal sin, social sin, and original sin and how they affect the life of grace.

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8.L.15	Recognize the role of Confession in living a life of ongoing conversion, virtue, and grace.
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4. Prayer

8.P.1	Define prayer and describe the power of prayer in daily life.
8.P.2	Describe the role prayer plays in conversion and forming one's conscience.
8.P.3	Explain and practice various forms of prayer.
8.P.4	Recognize that prayer can be spontaneous or formal, personal or communal, meditative and contemplative.
8.P.5	Recognize the role of the Holy Spirit in prayer.
8.P.6	Develop a personal plan of daily prayer and spiritual exercises.
8.P.7	Identify major obstacles to prayer and ways to overcome them.
8.P.8	Analyze memorized prayers and explore their meaning and history.
8.P.9	Memorize and pray age-appropriate prayers.
8.P.10	Participate in Stations of the Cross, May Crowning, the rosary, Adoration, Benediction and other prayer celebrations in the Church.

5. Church: The Body of Christ

8.C.1	Summarize the events that provided the foundation for the early Church.
8.C.2	Identify the work and place of Mary in salvation history and the Church.
8.C.3	Compare and contrast the Catholic Church with other rites, with Protestant churches, and with the Jewish religion.
8.C.4	Explain the role of the Holy Spirit in guiding and strengthening the Church.
8.C.5	Defend the Catholic understanding of the pope using the Scriptures and Fathers of the Church.
8.C.6	Explore the four marks of the Church and find them in the Nicene Creed.
Church in Heaven	
8.C.7	Explain the meaning of the Church Triumphant
8.C.8	Identify and explain the titles of Mary, relating them to the doctrines about Jesus that they protect.
8.C.9	Examine the lives of the saints for encouragement and models of holiness.

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Church in Purgatory	
8.C.10	Explain the Biblical basis for the Church's understanding of purgatory.
Church on Earth	
8.C.11	Explain the meaning of the Church Militant.
8.C.12	Explain the Church's hierarchy and how it manifests God's authority.
8.C.13	Describe the significance of papal infallibility and the magisterium.
8.C.14	Explain the meaning of stewardship and identify ways to apply it as a child and as an adult.
8.C.15	Explain the growth and development of the Church under the apostles.
8.C.16	Discuss the formation and growth of the Church under the Roman persecutions.
8.C.17	Identify early heresies, discuss their historical context, and explain the councils that addressed them.
8.C.18	Discuss the rise of various forms of religious life and its impact on the Church.
8.C.19	Discuss and explain the historical context of the Eastern Schism, the Crusades, the Inquisition, and the Reformation.
8.C.20	Outline the missionary work that founded and led to the growth of the Church in America.
8.C.21	Explain the historical events and significant theological and cultural outcomes flowing from Vatican I and Vatican II.

6. Christians in the World

Catholic Social Teaching	
8.W.1	Explain and defend the place of faith in public life.
8.W.2	Explore the ways Gospel values should drive social, economic and political choices.
8.W.3	Explore the role and value of natural law and the common good in a just society.
8.W.4	Analyze the connection between human rights and individual responsibility.
8.W.5	Retell stories of those who had a special ministry with the poor.
8.W.6	Describe and apply the seven themes of Catholic social teaching.
8.W.7	Participate in age-appropriate service projects that build up life and show respect for God's creation.
8.W.8	Take age-appropriate action to work for justice and peace in public and political life.
Evangelization	
8.W.9	Charitably and prudently explain and defend Catholic teaching.

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8.W.10	Discuss why living with integrity is important when it comes to sharing faith.
8.W.11	Identify missionary calls in the lives of the saints.
8.W.12	Explain that every Catholic is called to have a missionary spirit.

7. Theology of the Body

8.T.1	Deepen a sense of the personal dignity based on being made in God's image and likeness.
8.T.2	Explain that conception is the beginning of human life, where a new person, body and soul, is created and loved by God.
8.T.3	Explain how one's God-given intellect, will, and emotions interact, and how they affect one's actions.
8.T.4	Describe the uniqueness and complementarity of males and females and how one's sexuality affects the whole person.
8.T.5	Identify the role of the Church in teaching her people to use their gift of sexuality.
8.T.6	Identify appropriate ways to show affection and attraction.
8.T.7	Develop strong relationships and friendships using Jesus as a model.
8.T.8	Recognize that physical and emotional maturity occurs in individuals at different rates and analyze how this can affect relationships.
8.T.9	Identify the basic rights of all human persons.
8.T.10	List some helpful choices to aid in a chaste lifestyle and their positive effects.
8.T.11	Recognize some offenses against chastity and their negative effects.
8.T.12	Identify one's gifts and talents and discover ways to use these talents, eventually in one's vocation.
8.T.13	Compare and contrast the benefits and challenges of each vocation.
8.T.14	Compare and contrast God's plan for marriage and the way the media portrays marriage.
8.T.15	Explain how the great commandment should be applied to friendships and married love.
8.T.16	Identify and explain components of true love.
8.T.17	Explore the stages of human life present in a family and the human dignity of persons at each stage.