EIGHTH GRADE

Theme

The Catholic Church is our faith community given life by the Holy Spirit. It is Christ's presence in the world through the power of the Holy Spirit that gives glory and praise to the Father and brings His redeeming love to all. Jesus is the source of all teaching, sacramental life, our mission, and our ministries.

As people of God, we are called to continue the mission of Jesus through an active and committed life in the Church. The sacraments are specific faith actions of the Church empowered by Jesus through the guidance of the Spirit, to give grace.

Building a strong and realistic concept of oneself is based on Jesus' vision of being fully human. We have been created in His image and likeness and are called to holiness and eternal life in God's Kingdom. We are to develop relationships with peers, parents, and other adults based on honesty, love, and respect, thus leading us into a deeper life and faith and a life-giving relationship with Christ and His Church.

Knowledge of the Faith

Ŷ	The Holy Spirit prompts us to know the Father through the Son. The Spirit is the source of love, energy, and unity.	CCC 424; GDC 99, 100; NDC 1, 25.B
ŧ	The Church helps us to know Jesus and become more like Him.	CCC 426, 429; GDC 100; NDC 25.A
Û	Jesus' ministry had three aspects - priest (celebrating), prophet (proclaiming), and king (service).	CCC 436, 440, 680; GDC 102, 101; NDC 53
7	The Catholic Church is an invisible communion in the Spirit, and a visible community with a hierarchical structure, with the Pope at the head. These two components form one mystery, which can be recognized only in faith.	CCC 765, 771, 779; GDC 136; NDC 25.G, 54
Ŷ	The Church as Trinitarian (People of God, Body of Christ, and Temple of the Holy Spirit) mirrors the very unity of the Trinity.	CCC 782, 789, 797, 810; GDC 102; NDC 24.C, 25.B, 28.A
9	The Church is an organized structure, and different kinds of leadership roles exist within it, both clerical and lay.	CCC 873; GDC 43, 217-218
Ŷ	The Pope and the bishops in communion with him constitute the Magisterium of the Church. When they teach definitively, they enjoy the Church's infallibility. When they teach authoritatively, the faithful respond with a religious assent, an assent based on the trust one places in the Church as founded by Christ.	CCC 889-892; NDC 16.A
ŧ	The marks of the Church are one, holy, catholic, and	CCC 750; NDC 16.B, 51.A

apostolic.

Membership in the Church requires Baptism, full initiation through the celebration of Eucharist and Confirmation, and continuing participation in the life of the Church. CCC 782, 1212; GDC 65, 82; NDC 35.D, 36.A

The sacraments are a continuation of Jesus' ministry and presence to the world and a gift of strength and life to His people, the Church.

CCC 1115, 1116, 1123; GDC 50, 56, 65, 115; NDC 4.B, 35, 36

The Church's creeds are expressions of faith with their foundation in the belief of the early Church, developed in the early centuries in response to new doctrinal questions.

CCC 187, 192; GDC 83, 108, 114-117; NDC 20, 23, 24, 25.G-I

Tradition contains the collected teachings and lived experience of the Church and is understood in relation to a faith commitment to God manifested in Jesus Christ. CCC 78; GDC 30, 44, 105, 108, 115-117; NDC 4.B, 16.B, 18, 20

Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition, under the guidance of the Magisterium, contain the fullness of God's divine revelation. CCC 78; GDC 44, 109, 115-117, 127-130; NDC 4.B, 16.B, 18, 20

God in the Old Testament revealed Himself in the lives of the Chosen People through His forgiveness and reconciliation with them. CCC 1150, 54-64, 68-72; NDC 16.A

Jesus fulfilled the Old Testament prophecies about the Messiah whom the Chosen People were waiting.

CCC 711-716, 572; GDC 108, 115; NDC 16.A, 21.A, 28.A

Jesus is true God and true man.

CCC 464; GDC 109; NDC 4.B, 21.A, 25.E, 28.A

Christ is the head of the Church, His Body.

CCC 669; GDC 39, 42-45; NDC 4.B, 25.E, 28.A

The Bible is made up of the Old Testament (God's relationship with the Israelites) and the New Testament (writings about Jesus, God's incarnate Son, and the Church's beginnings).

CCC 120; NDC 24.B, 25.E, 51.D, 67.A

CCC 1021-1022, 1038-1041

Immediately after death, we will be judged in our particular judgment according to our life in Christ and enter into heaven or eternal damnation. The Last Judgment will take place at the end of the earth.

CCC 1023-1036

Those who die in God's grace and friendship and perfectly purified live in Heaven with Christ eternally, those imperfectly purified will undergo purification in Purgatory before entering Heaven, and those who die without repenting and accepting God's merciful love will remain separated from God eternally in Hell.

Liturgy and the Sacraments

Christ acting in the Church is the ultimate celebrant of every sacrament. CCC 1070, 1076; NDC 35

The Paschal Mystery is a real, historical event; yet it participates in eternity, so that it can be present to all times and places. CCC 1085; GDC 115; NDC 36.A.3

The fruit of sacramental life pertains to both the CCC 1134: NDC 33-34 individual and the Church as a whole. Thrist is present in the liturgy in the bishop/priest CCC 1088; GDC 224; NDC 33-34 (presider), the Word of God, in the assembly, and especially in the Eucharist under the appearance of bread and wine. Christian liturgy not only recalls the events that saved CCC 1104: NDC 33-34 us, but makes them present; in each celebration an outpouring of the Holy Spirit makes the Paschal Mystery present. ₱ In the liturgical celebration, we are joined to the CCC 1136-1139, 1187; NDC 33-34 heavenly liturgy. The Church celebrates in the course of the year the CCC 1194; NDC 4.B, 37 entire mystery of Christ from the Annunciation to the Ascension and the hope of the Second Coming. The main feasts in the liturgical year are: Annunciation, NDC 37, 38 Nativity, Easter, Ascension, Pentecost, Assumption, All Saints, All Souls, Christ the King. In the liturgy, and especially in the sacraments, there CCC 1205, 1209; GDC 207, 208; are unchangeable parts, which are divinely given, and NDC 33-34 parts that the Church has the authority to adapt to different cultures. Baptism Baptism and the Church are necessary for salvation. CCC 1257-1260, 1276-1277, 1281; However, martyrs for the faith (Baptism of Blood). NDC 36.A catechumens who die, and all those who seek God in ignorance of Baptism (Baptism of Desire) can be saved without Baptism by water. At Baptism a person becomes a member of the Body of CCC 1272; NDC 36.A Christ and is sealed with an indelible spiritual mark (character) of His belonging to Christ. The fruits of Baptism are forgiveness of original and CCC 1213, 1263; NDC 36.A personal sin and birth into new life in Christ. Baptism does not remove the inclination to sin called CCC 1426, 1849-50; NDC 36.A concupiscence. The inclination to sin (knowingly choosing to break our relationship with God) remains with us. The baptized are incorporated into the Church and CCC 1267-1269, 1279; GDC 27,231; share in the priesthood, prophetic mission, and kingship **NDC 36.A** of Christ. Penance ♣ For the faithful, "individual and integral confession of CCC 1484, 1497; NDC 36.B grave sins followed by absolution remains the only ordinary means of reconciliation with God and with the Church." Temptation is a choice between loves: love of God CCC 1730-1748, NDC 45.D

versus love of sin.

Conscience is the ability to distinguish good from evil.

CCC 1776; NDC 45.D

Ŷ	The Ten Commandments are given to us to help follow God's Laws.	CCC 2052-2557; GDC 115, 117; NDC 45
Ŷ	The essential elements of the Sacrament of Penance are:	
	o Examination of conscience	CCC 1454
	o Confession	CCC 1450, 1451, 1455-1456, 1458
	 Act of sorrow/contrition 	CCC 1480
	o Purpose of amendment	CCC 1451-1453
	o Penance and absolution	CCC 1459-1460
Eucha	rist	
Ŷ	The Eucharist is thanks giving to God the Father for all of creation.	CCC 1356-1361; NDC 36.A.3
Ð	The Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's Passover in the sense of recalling it to our minds. It not only recalls, but also makes it present.	CCC 1362-1367, 1409; NDC 36.A.3
Ŷ	in the Eucharist, the substance of the bread and wine is changed into the substance of the Body and Blood of Christ; this is called Transubstantiation. Christ is totally, completely, and substantially present in both or either form of the bread and wine.	CCC 1374-1376, 1413; NDC 36.A.3
û	The ultimate fruit of the Eucharist is the fullness of divine life and unity of the Mystical Body of Christ. Divisions in the Church are painful and we must pray for union of all peoples and their faiths.	CCC 1396, 1398; NDC 36.A.3
Confir	mation	
•	In Confirmation, a baptized person accepts fully God's grace that he received at baptism.	CCC 1302-1303; NDC 36.A.2
\$	The sacrament unites us more firmly to Christ and gives us special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith.	CCC 1303; NDC 36.A.2
Ť	Confirmation is sometimes called "the sacrament of Christian maturity." However, the sacrament does the maturing, and is not to be viewed as a reward for maturity.	CCC 1308
Ŷ	The gifts and the fruits of the Spirit enable us to develop our talents as members of the Church and strengthen us to serve God as He wills.	CCC 1829-1832; NDC 36.A.2
Anoint	ing of the Sick	
÷	The proper time for receiving the Anointing of the Sick is when a believer is seriously ill.	CCC 1513, 1514, 1527, 1528; NDC 36.B.3
Ŷ	Each time Christians fall seriously ill, they may receive the Anointing of the Sick, and also when, after they have received it, the illness worsens.	CCC 1515; NDC 36.B.3

The special grace of the Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick has as its effects strengthening, peace, and courage; can lead to healing of the soul and body if it is God's will; forgiveness of sins; and unification to the passion of Christ.

CCC 1521; NDC 36.B.3

Holy Orders

Holy Orders is a call to share in a unique way the priestly ministry of sanctifying, teaching, and preaching. CCC 888-896, 1546-1548, 1592; GDC 224; NDC 36.C.1

Christ is made visibly present in the community through the ordained ministries of bishop, priest, and deacon. CCC 1549; GDC 224,222; NDC 36.C.1

Called by God through the Church, priests are ordained to serve as co-workers with the bishop in serving the Catholic community. CCC 1551, 1562, 1578; GDC 222; NDC 36.C.1

Priests act in the person of Christ and in the name of the whole Church. CCC 1552-1553; GDC 224; NDC 36.C.1

The priesthood reaches its high point in the celebration of the Eucharist.

CCC 1566; NDC 36.C.1

Only baptized men may receive the Sacrament of Holy Orders after their suitability for the ministry has been recognized.

CCC 1577, 1598; NDC 36.C.1

Priests remain celibate for the sake of the Kingdom of Heaven.

CCC 1579; NDC 36.C.1

Matrimony

Christ is present in the graces of the Sacrament of Matrimony to enable a man and a woman to live out what might seem at times an impossible demand. CCC 1615, 1641-1642, 1648; NDC 36.C.2

Jesus taught that marriage is a permanent commitment and cannot be dissolved. CCC 1605, 1615, 1638, 1640-1641; NDC 36.C.2

By its very nature, marriage must be open to the procreation and education of children. CCC 1643, 1652-1653; GDC 227; NDC 36.C.2

Persons who are divorced and remarried without an annulment remain in the Church but cannot receive Communion.

CCC 1665; NDC 36.C.2

Moral Formation

All people are created in God's image.

CCC 355, 1700, 1702, 1934; NDC 43

Every Christian is called to holiness.

CCC 2013, 2028; NDC 43

Each person is unique and gifted.

CCC 1936-1937; NDC 43

Every person has the responsibility to develop a personal and communal (or ecclesial) faith relationship with Jesus.

CCC 2565; NDC 34

Catholic values, such as the corporal and spiritual works of mercy and the cardinal and theological virtues, shape our lives.

CCC 1804, 1805, 1812-1813, 2447; NDC 44, 45.G

P	Scripture provides selfless views of friendship.	CCC 1829; NDC 44
ŧ	There are role models local, global, and Historical who exemplify Catholic values.	CCC 828, 1717, 2030; NDC 43
Ŷ	The Ten Commandments are a gift, a revelation of God, and the privileged expression of the natural law. Moral and natural law find their permanent expression in the commandments.	CCC 2052-2082; NDC 45
P	Human sexuality is a gift from God to establish an intimate and life-giving family bond, within a life-long marriage between a man and a woman. This excludes masturbation, fornication, "living together", homosexual acts, and adultery.	CCC 2331-2333, 2350-2353, 2360, 2380-2381, 2390-2391, 2396, 2400
Ŷ	Pornography, prostitution, and rape degrade human sexuality.	CCC 2354, 2382-2385, 2396, 2400
Ť	Chastity is the appropriate expression of our human sexuality.	CCC 2337
ŧ	Every marriage must be open to having children; this excludes the use of artificial contraception.	CCC 2366, 2398-2399
4	Purity requires modesty, which recognizes and protects the dignity of the person.	CCC 2521-2522, 2533
Ŷ	Sexual acts outside of marriage are sinful.	CCC 2380

Worship/Prayer: GDC 85; NDC 20, 34

- ♣ Show reverence for the Bible.
- Participate in prayer at every gathering.
- ♥ Understand the Sign of the Cross as a public sign of our Catholic witness.
- ₱ Show reverence during all forms of prayer.
- P Recognize prayer as an experience to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus.
- Appreciate the need for the frequent reception of the sacraments of Penance and Eucharist as ways to deepen one's relationship with Christ and participate in the worship of the Church.
- Participate in different forms of prayer, i.e., quiet reflection, guided meditation, song, spontaneous, petition, thanksgiving, praise, and sorrow.
- Participate in formal prayer, i.e., Our Father, Hail Mary, etc.
- Participate in prayer services celebrating God's creation and His forgiveness.
- Participate with all other Catholics in Sunday Mass (or the vigil of Sunday Mass on Saturday) and holy days of obligation.
- Understand the priest as a person chosen by God to represent Christ in the Church and to God's

- disciples. The priest leads us in prayer at Mass.
- Participate in activities for Advent and Lent to appreciate the significance of these liturgical seasons, e.g., the Advent wreath, Stations of the Cross.
- Memorize required prayers of grade level.

Community: GDC 86, 106; NDC 20

- Be aware of God's creation, recognizing ourselves as unique and special parts of creation, wanting to be with God eternally.
- Understand ways that God has shown us love.
- ♣ Appreciate the different groups to which we belong: Church, parish, community, family, school.
- Value our own family and extended family and show love and respect to each member and God.
- ♣ Appreciate the Sacrament of Matrimony and the holiness of family life.
- P Become aware that Baptism makes us part of the larger family of God, the Church.
- Develop a sense of belonging to our parish community.
- Participate in special events with the parish such as the feast of the parish's patron saint, holiday customs, blessings, and social events.
- → Become aware of ministries in the parish; i.e., pastor, deacon, catechist, lector, cantor, Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, altar server.
- ♥ Continue Christ's mission by forgiving, healing, and reconciling with one another.
- Accept each person as unique and treat them justly.
- Live a spirit-filled Catholic response to social issues such as poverty, environmental abuse, violence, and racism.
- Recognize our talents as a part of God's plan and see how each person is called to share his/her talents.
- Practice the corporal and spiritual works of mercy, ways of showing love for Jesus who identifies with the poor and needy.
- Participate in service outreach projects that are appropriate to the student's age.
- Give witness to faith daily.
- Be responsible in supporting the Church financially according to each one's ability.
- ₱ Identify traditional Catholic saints whose lives were dedicated to service.

Be able to recognize steps that are needed to be taken to keep self safe in any situation.

Missionary Spirit: CCC 897, 1822-1829; GDC 86; NDC 20, 43.B-D

- P Become aware of the ways people care for us.
- Be able to perform good acts and give our best to others.
- DEEplore ways we can show that we care for all God's creation.
- ♥ Understand that we must love ALL people, even those different from us.
- Value Jesus as a model for the way we should live.
- ♥ Value all forms of life as a sacred gift.
- Understand saints as people who lived lives of holiness and service in God's name.
- Participate in Advent and Lenten activities that reach out to the wider community.
- Develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern one's vocation.
- Professed in a religious community.
- Recognize that all Christian churches are part of the People of God and have some, albeit imperfect, linkage with the Roman Catholic Church as the one true Church.
- Promote Christian unity by respecting persons of other faiths.
- Identify the cultural values that have influenced us through discernment and critical evaluation.
- The Care for and share one's time, talent, money, and possessions in good stewardship.
- ♦ Serve the needs of others by detaching oneself from material desires.

CONFIRMATION

Knowledge of the Faith

Ŷ	The Church's creeds are expressions of faith with their foundation in the belief of the early
	Church, developed in the early centuries in response to new doctrinal questions.

CCC 187, 192; GDC 83, 108, 114-117; NDC 20, 23, 24, 25.G.1

There are three persons in the Blessed Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

CCC 238-267; GDC 99, 100; NDC 28.1.1,2,3

God, the Father, is the loving creator of all things and keeps them in existence. CCC 293, 338; NDC 28.A.1

All of creation is the result of God's unconditional love. CCC 295-301; NDC 16

→ Happiness depends upon understanding who God created us to be.

CCC 283; NDC 16

Jesus is the Son of God, our brother, teacher, and redeemer. He was sent by God, the Father, to save us and to show us how the Father wants us to live.

CCC 436-451; GDC 98; 102; NDC 28.A.2

Jesus Christ possesses two natures, one divine and the other human, not confused, but united in one Person of God's Son. CCC 481; GDC 98-100; NDC 28.A.2, 25.H

Jesus' ministry had three aspects: priest (celebrating), prophet (proclaiming), and king (service). CCC 436. 440, 680; GDC 101-102; NDC 53

CCC 601-603, 635-636; GDC 102-103;

Jesus died and rose from the dead. Through his death and resurrection, he conquered sin and death and redeemed the world.

NDC 28.A.2

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Blessed Trinity who was sent by the Father and the Son to live within us and unite us.

CCC 686; NDC 1, 28.A.3

The Spirit strengthens our relationship with Jesus and empowers us to continue His mission through the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

CCC 737, 768; GDC 42-45; NDC 28.A.3

The Spirit empowers us to proclaim Jesus, the person and message to all people.

CCC 739, 1285; GDC 42-45; NDC 28.A.3

The Holy Spirit enlightens our choices so that we come to recognize the will of God in our lives.

CCC 1742, 1788; GDC 42-45; NDC 28.A.3

The marks of the Church are one, holy, catholic, and apostolic.

CCC 750; NDC 16.B, 51.A

Liturgy and the Sacraments

Sacraments are sacred rites giving expression to initiation, healing, and service. GDC 80, 83, 85, 231; NDC 35.A, B

Baptism, Confirmation, and Eucharist are the Sacraments of Initiation. Penance and Anointing of the Sick are the Sacraments of Healing. Matrimony and Holy Orders are the Sacraments of Commitment and Service. GDC 65, 224, 227,231; NDC 36.A.1-3; 36.B.1,3

P Baptism is immersion into the life of Christ.

CCC 537, 1214; GDC 82; NDC 36, 36.A.1

In the Eucharist, we receive the real presence of Christ. CCC 1374; GDC 85; NDC 36, 36.A.1

The reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace. CCC 1285; NDC 36.A.2

In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the confirmed are given "a special strength of the Holy Spirit to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross."

CCC 1303; NDC 36.A.2

Moral Formation

Because of the hope for heaven and eternal happiness, we live a moral life.

CCC 1817-1821, 1965-1974; GDC 23; NDC 42.A, 42.C, 44

Personal and social sins exist in our own life experience.

CCC 401, 1868-69; NDC 42.D

Our ability to choose good is empowered by the Holy Spirit. CCC 1788, 1811; NDC 36.B.1, 42.D

→ The Beatitudes are a guide to the values of God's Kingdom.

CCC 1716-1717; GDC 115: NDC 25.H, 44, 45.1

Through the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy, a person comes to the aid of their neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. CCC 1447; NDC 45.G

The moral and natural laws find their permanent expressions in the Ten Commandments.

CCC 2052-2547

Human sexuality is a gift from God to establish an intimate and life-giving family bond, within a lifelong marriage between a man and a woman. This CCC 2331-2333, 2350-2353, 2360, 2380-2381, 2390-2391, 2396, 2400 excludes masturbation, fornication, "living together", homosexual acts, and adultery.

Pornography, prostitution, and rape degrade CCC 2354, 2382-2385, 2396, 2400 human sexuality.

Chastity is the appropriate expression of our human sexuality.

Every marriage must be open to having children; this excludes the use of artificial contraception.

CCC 2366, 2398-2399

Purity requires modesty, which recognizes and protects the dignity of the person. CCC 2521-2522, 2533

Sexual acts outside of marriage are sinful.

CCC 2380

Worship/Prayer: GDC 85; NDC 20, 34

- Know prayer is listening and talking with God.
- Show reverence for the Bible.
- Participate in prayer at every gathering.
- Show reverence during all forms of prayer.
- Experience God's presence through song, dance, listening, gestures, reflections, and silence.
- Participate with all other Catholics in Sunday Mass (or the vigil of Sunday Mass on Saturday) where we hear God's Word and share the Body and Blood of Jesus.
- Participate in activities for Advent and Lent to appreciate the significance of these liturgical seasons, e.g., the Advent wreath, Stations of the Cross.

Worship/Community: GDC 86, 106; NDC 20

- Be aware of God's creation, recognizing ourselves as unique and special parts of creation, wanting to be with God eternally.
- Understand ways that God has shown us love.
- Appreciate the different groups to which we belong: Church, parish, community, family, school.
- ₱ Value our own family and extended family and show love and respect to each member and God.
- ☼ Know that through Baptism, the Church is a family of faith called to holiness, to offer support, guidance, and care for all.
- Know that Godparents and sponsors represent the Christian community and are models of faith.
- Identify traditional Catholic saints whose lives were dedicated to service.

Missionary Spirit: CCC 897, 1822-1829; GDC 86; NDC 20, 43.B-D

- Become aware of the ways people care for us.
- Be able to perform good acts and give our best to others.
- P Explore ways we can show that we care for all God's creation.
- Understand that we must love ALL people, even those who are different from us.
- Value Jesus as a model for the way we should live.
- Understand saints as people who lived lives of holiness and service in God's name.
- Develop a habit of daily prayer to seek guidance and discern one's vocation.
- Recognize that a vocation is God's call to a specific way of life: single, married, ordained, or professed in a religious community.
- Promote Christian unity by respecting persons of faith.
- dentify the cultural values that have influenced us through discernment and critical evaluation.
- Care for and share one's time, talent, money, and possessions in good stewardship.
- Serve the needs of others by detaching oneself from material desires.

Rite of Confirmation: NDC 36.A.2

Renewal of Baptismal Promises

The renewal of baptismal promises affirms the connection between the Sacraments of Initiation.

CCC 1298

The Christian life is one of continual conversion from sin to a life of grace.

CCC 1426

Extending hands over candidates

Since the time of the apostles this gesture has signified the gift of the Spirit.

CCC 1288, 1298

⊕ Each confirmed person is empowered by the gifts of Holy Spirit which gives him/her a special strength to spread and defend the faith by word and action as true witnesses of Christ, to confess the name of Christ boldly, and never to be ashamed of the Cross.

CCC 1303

Anointing with Oil

The anointing with oil signifies and imprints a spiritual seal, a sign of consecration, on each confirmand.

CCC 1293, 1294

Through Confirmation, each person who is anointed, shares more completely in the mission of Christ and the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

CCC 1294

Response of Candidate

The Amen is the candidate's personal affirmation of their desire to be a spiritual witness of Christ in the world.

CCC 1062, 1064

Scripture

<u>Passage</u>	<u>Description</u>

Exodus 10:1-7 Ten Commandments

Matthew 5:1-12 Beatitudes

Matthew 25:14-30 Service Through the Use of Personal Talents

John 14:26 Jesus Sends the Spirit

Matthew 31-46 The Judgment of Nations

Acts 1:4-5, 8 Jesus Instructs His Disciples

Acts 2:1-13 Coming of the Spirit

Acts 8:7-8, 14-17 Holy Spirit Comes upon Newly Baptized