



# SPIRIT of TRUTH PARISH EDITION

## Grade 8 Scope and Sequence

Sessions	Key Concepts	Scripture Studied	Vocabulary
<b>Unit 1: Christ and the Church</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 1: The Nature and Mission of the Catholic Church</li> </ul>	<p>Jesus accomplished His mission of salvation of souls by His threefold office, or role, as Priest, Prophet, and King. Jesus established the Catholic Church during His earthly life and gave her His same mission. The Church carries out this mission in the same way Christ did, by exercising His priestly (liturgical), prophetic (doctrinal), and kingly (hierarchical) offices.</p>	<p>Isaiah 22:22; Matthew 16:18-19; 18:17-18; 25:31-46; 28:18-20; Luke 10:16; John 14:16; 17:20-21; 20:23; Romans 1:11-12; 12:9-18; 1 Corinthians 11:23-24; 13:4-7; 16:13-14; Ephesians 4:25-27; Colossians 3:8</p>	<p><i>Ecclesia</i>; Hierarchy; Liturgy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 2: The Apostolic Age</li> </ul>	<p>The Apostles preached the Good News throughout the ancient world, to Jew and Gentile alike. The early Church was made up of communities that become local churches. Christian morality stood in stark contrast to the ethics of Roman paganism. Christianity flourished because of the faith, courage, and fortitude of the Apostles.</p>		<p>Apostolic Fathers; Didache; Martyr; <i>Pater Noster</i>; <i>Pax Romana</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 3: The Early Witnesses of the Church</li> </ul>	<p>Jesus set St. Peter apart in a special way as the head of His Church on earth. St. Paul's missionary journeys and his numerous epistles make him one of the most important figures in all of Christianity. St. Stephen, the first martyr, boldly preached the message of Christ in the face of hostility and is a model of Christian forgiveness.</p>		<p><i>No Vocabulary</i></p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 4: "To the End of the Age": The Future of the Church</li> </ul>	<p>The Church is both a visible society and a spiritual community. Jesus desired that His Church be indefectible (indestructible), which means that the Church will last until the end of time and that her liturgy, doctrine, and hierarchy will not be corrupted. Jesus commanded His Apostles, and therefore the Church, to make disciples of all the nations.</p>		<p>Disciple; Evangelization; Indefectible</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 5: The Four Marks of the Church</li> </ul>	<p>Christ founded one Church and desires unity among His faithful. The Church is holy because her origin and founder, her purpose, her Sacraments, and her saints are holy. The Church is catholic, which means "universal." The Church is apostolic, which means that she is founded upon the teaching and authority of the Apostles.</p>		<p>Apostolic Succession; Catholic; Holiness; Unity</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 6: The Precepts of the Church</li> </ul>	<p>The precepts of the Church present the bare minimum required for Christian living. Because we know the Church will endure forever, we know that saints are still being made today. Jesus calls us all to be saints.</p>		<p>Precepts of the Church</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 7: Living the Life of the Church</li> </ul>	<p>Our time on earth is given to us for a purpose: to prepare for our time in eternity with God. God reveals to us what the purpose of time is. The Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy are guidelines to help us prepare for our time in eternity. The Church has sanctified time with a calendar of liturgical celebrations.</p>		<p>Corporal Works of Mercy; Spiritual Works of Mercy; Liturgical Calendar; Sacraments</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Session 8: The Four Last Things</li> </ul>	<p>The four last things are death, judgement, Heaven, and Hell. We will all be judged by Christ at the moment of our death and again at the Final Judgment. There will be a New Heaven and a New Earth established by God.</p>		<p>Heaven; Hell; Last Judgment; Particular Judgment; Purgatory</p>



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<b>Unit 2: Morality</b>			
• Session 9: What Is Morality?	Morality is the quality of our actions whereby they are right or wrong. Actions that are in accordance with God's law and will are right. Because we are free, we are morally responsible for our actions. Objective truth exists; right and wrong exist.	Genesis 1:1-3, 27; 3:1-7; Exodus 19:1-9; Deuteronomy 5:1-5; Psalm 107:28-30; Isaiah 14:12-14; Matthew 5:3-11, 17-29, 43-48; 6:9-13, 19-21; 10:28; 19:16-26; 22:36-40; 26:26-28; Luke 23:33-34; John 1:1-5, 14, 18; 4:14-15; 8:12, 31-32; 13:1, 35; 14:6, 13-14; Romans 6; 12:1-3; 1 Corinthians 13:1-13; 2 Corinthians 3:17; Galatians 5:19-23; Philippians 4:6-8; Colossians 2:9; Hebrews 7:28; James 2:26; 1 Peter 1:16; 2:15-17; Revelation 12:3-4	Free Will; Morality; Responsibility
• Session 10: Freedom and Choice: The Human Person	Man is the only one of God's creatures made in His image and likeness. That means we have intellect, free will, and the capacity to love. Our free will means we can freely choose to act or not to act. There is no freedom except in service of what is good and just. Because we are free to make choices, we are responsible for those choices.		Christian Anthropology; Freedom; Human Person
• Session 11: Conscience and Our Obligation to Form It	Conscience is God's voice in our hearts, which helps us to choose the good. The conscience is not the source of moral law, but it must be well formed by Christ's teaching. We have a solemn obligation to form our consciences.		Conscience; Intellect
• Session 12: The Ten Commandments	A type is a thing or person in the Old Testament that foreshadows something or someone in the New. The story of the Exodus is the type for our liberation from slavery to sin. God is the source of the moral law. The Ten Commandments have their fullest meaning in the context of covenant.		Typology; Ten Commandments
• Session 13: Jesus Is the Model of Holiness	Eternal, divine, natural, and human law have distinct meanings. The Eternal Law is God Himself. Jesus Christ is the Incarnate Word of God. Jesus is the fullness of God's revelation. Jesus is the end of the moral law and the perfect model of holiness.		Law
• Session 14: Jesus' Teaching on the Ten Commandments	Jesus came not to abolish the law but to fulfill it. Christ's twin commandments summarize the Ten Commandments. There is continuity of the law from the Old Testament through the New Testament until the end of time.		No Vocabulary
• Session 15: Jesus Teaches Us to Love	The cardinal virtues are prudence, justice, temperance, and fortitude. The theological virtues are faith, hope, and love. Christ teaches us what love is. Love is the highest virtue.		Agape; Charity; Eros; Faith; Fortitude; Hope; Justice; <i>Philia</i> ; Prudence; <i>Storge</i> ; Temperance; Virtue
• Session 16: Jesus Gives Us the Beatitudes	Worldly happiness and true happiness are not the same thing. The Sermon on the Mount is the heart of Jesus' moral teaching, and the Beatitudes are the heart of the Sermon. The Beatitudes teach us the character of the Christian life; they are "paradoxical promises" of hope.		Beatitude; Perfect Happiness; Sermon on the Mount
• Session 17: Elements of a Good Moral Decision	The three parts of a moral act are: (1) the act itself, (2) our intention, and (3) the circumstances. We are free to choose good or evil. We are capable of having a relationship with our Creator.		No Vocabulary



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<b>Unit 2: Morality (continued)</b>			
• Session 18: The Process of Making a Good Moral Choice	To make good moral choices we must acknowledge and understand good and evil. Good moral decisions are guided by specific steps. Making good moral decisions is helped by developing habits of virtue and not simply by following a checklist.		Consequentialism; Relativism; Sin
• Session 19: Temptation and the Reality of Sin	Human nature is wounded because of Original Sin. Satan tempted Adam and Eve and Jesus, and he tempts all of us in the same way. Jesus gives us a model, and St. Paul gives us advice, for resisting temptation.		Concupiscence; Temptation; Will
• Session 20: Structures of Sin and Social Sin	Sin is "an utterance, a deed, or a desire contrary to the eternal law" (CCC 1871) that offends God. Mortal sin severs our relationship with God and, if unrepented, results in eternal separation from Him. The seven capital sins are pride, greed, lust, envy, anger, gluttony, and sloth. Personal sin contributes to social sin.		Capital Sins; Personal Sin; Mortal Sin; Social Sin; Venial Sin
• Session 21: Justification, God's Mercy, and Grace	Justification cleanses us of sin and communicates God's righteousness to us. Justification is conferred in Baptism. Justification is an act of God and requires our free cooperation. Jesus Christ has merited our justification through His Passion.		Grace; Justification; Mercy; Merit; Sanctity
• Session 22: Prayer and Openness to the Holy Spirit	Prayer is a gift, covenant, and communion. The Holy Spirit calls us to prayer and prompts us to do God's will. There are ways to cultivate openness to the Holy Spirit. Prayer is a battle, and Scripture provides guidance on how to triumph.		Communion; Covenant; Holy Spirit; Prayer
• Session 23: Support for Moral Living	The Church is the entire body of believers and a community of souls; the baptized are members of the Body of Christ. We need the seven Sacraments to grow in holiness. The saints are holy models for us to imitate.		Church; Sacrament
<b>Unit 3: The Citizen and the Government</b>			
• Session 24: Society	Relationships are a necessary and valuable part of human life and help us to understand ourselves, others, and God better. A society is a voluntary association of individuals for a common end. Solidarity is the unity of a society that is based on friendship with Christ. It is a demand of discipleship.		Society; Solidarity
• Session 25: The Citizen and Government	All people have equal rights. Our rights flow from our dignity as persons created in the image and likeness of God. All authority comes from God. Citizens are not bound to obey unjust laws.		Natural Law; Right
• Session 26: Just War	Original Justice was lost due to the Original Sin. Human beings no longer live in harmony, but in conflict. War can sometimes be unavoidable. In that case, the Church offers guidance called Just War Doctrine. At the end of time, Jesus' Kingdom will come in all its fullness, and perfect justice will be restored.		Just War Doctrine



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<b>Unit 4: God's Plan for Love and Marriage</b>			
• Session 27: Male and Female: The Imago Dei	To understand what it means to be made imago Dei, "in the image of God," we must know who God is and what He is like. Human beings are made in the image of God not only as individual persons, but most perfectly as male and female in a common union (communion) of love. The image of God is made visible in and through the body.	Genesis 1:31; 2:23-25; Deuteronomy 7:9; John 1:3-5; 3:16; Romans 6:23; 8:37-39; Philippians 2:7-8; 1 John 4:19	Femininity; <i>Imago Dei</i> ; Masculinity; Sex
• Session 28: Theology of the Body	Jesus invited us to reflect on God's original plan for sexuality and the dignity of the human person through His teaching about divorce and remarriage. We can examine the original condition of human beings in three ways: original solitude, original unity, and original nakedness.		Person
• Session 29: Expressions of Love	The marital union of man and woman is an icon of the Trinity. Passions (or emotions) are normal functions of life and are neither morally good nor morally bad. Sexual feelings, like any other emotion, are normal and are neither morally good nor morally bad, until they are directed by reason. We are all called to practice chastity.		Chastity; Sexuality
• Session 30: The Sacrament of Marriage	Marriage is the primordial sacrament. The unitive and procreative purposes of marriage are essential for a marriage to be a marriage. God's love for us has four components: it is free, total and self-giving, faithful, and fruitful. The love shared between spouses in marriage, or marital love, is a reflection of how God loves.		Purposes of Marriage; Goods of Marriage
• Session 31: Offenses against Chastity and Marital Love, Part 1	Each person is called to cultivate chastity according to his or her state of life. The Church's teaching on sexual sin logically and faithfully follow the truths of human sexuality. The sins of adultery, fornication, masturbation, and homosexual activity offend the unitive and procreative purposes of marriage and diminish the goods of marital love.		Adultery
• Session 32: Offenses against Chastity and Marital Love, Part 2	The sins of pornography, prostitution, rape, the use of contraception, and abortion offend the unitive and procreative purposes of marriage and diminish the goods of marital love.		Abortion; Contraception
• Session 33: Friendship and Protecting against Lust	The virtue of chastity blossoms in friendship and shows us how to follow and imitate Christ. Friendship is a relationship between two or more people brought together for a common reason or purpose. Lust is the disordered desire for or inordinate enjoyment of sexual pleasure.		Friendship; Lust