



Religion 7th Grade Syllabus

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TOB (1st Trimester)

Course Overview

Theology of the Body (TOB) by Saint Pope John Paul II has 6 units. Each unit has 5 lessons so it will last roughly a week as some of the lessons will take 2 days within our 3x 45-minute period per week.

TOB follows this pattern:

Day 1 The Lesson

Day 2 Kalos (Greek for beautiful, good, excellent, worthy)

Day 3 Discussion

Day 4 Experience

Day 5 Beyond the Classroom

(See following pages for the themes and goals of each unit)

Graded Categories

1st Trimester grades will be based on:

- +participation
- +memory work of Reflecting your Brightness
- +journal completion
- +note taking
- +Mass paper
- +quizzes after each unit
- +final test

Parents can help their middle schooler by helping him/her memorize Reflecting your Brightness (listed below) and study for the quizzes and tests. Quizzes will occur after each unit and the test will be given on or around November 22.

Mass reflection papers will be given 1 per trimester. Based on notes taken at Mass the 7th graders will research one idea and write a 1 page paper explaining the Church's reason behind it.

Reflecting Your Brightness by William of Saint Thierry

Loving you, O God, brings its own reward here on earth, as well as the eternal reward of heaven. And failure to love you, even when we can offer a thousand excuses, brings its own

punishment. By becoming mirrors of your love, by wearing a mask of your likeness, and by allowing you to make us perfect, we can know the joy of heaven, even while we abide here on earth. Our consciences are sullied by our many sins; cleanse them, that we may reflect your infinite brightness. Amen.

Faith and Life (2nd/ 3rd Trimester)

Course Overview

The second curriculum being taught to 7th grade is *The Life of Grace*, the Faith and Life Series by Ignatius Press. There are 31 lessons taught in 1-2 class periods.

Course Sequence

1. Knowing God through Creation
2. Divine Revelation
3. Creation
4. God's Plan of Salvation
5. The Holy Prophet Moses
6. God's Special Spokesmen-The Prophets
7. Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
8. The Saving Mission of the Jesus
9. The Priesthood of Jesus
10. Christ, Source of All Grace
11. Jesus Founds His Church
12. The Church in our Time
13. Doctrine of Grace
14. Faith, Hope, and Charity
15. The Cardinal Virtues
16. The Seven Sacraments
17. God calls Us to Reconciliation
18. The Rite of Baptism
19. The Sacrament of Confirmation
20. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit
21. The Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist
22. The Eucharistic Sacrifice
23. The Eucharist in Our Lives
24. Sin and Mankind
25. God's Mercy and Forgiveness
26. The Sacrament of Penance
27. The Sacrament of the Anointing of the Sick
28. The Sacrament of Holy Orders
29. The Sacrament of Matrimony
30. Sacramentals
31. Mary

Graded Categories

2nd /3rd Trimester Grades will be based on:

- +participation
- +note taking
- +mass reflection papers
- +quizzes
- +tests.

Quizzes and/or tests will be spaced evenly throughout the curriculum and the final test will be a final given May 25.

Along with the explained curriculum concepts and grades, the 7th graders will participate in a variety of other experiences along their faith journey at St. Jerome which include:

A virtue of the month (Pride awards will be given to 1 seventh grader each month)

Mass Readings

Mass Journal

Penance Services (Advent/Lent)

Adoration

Practice and performing the Lenten tradition of Seven Last Words

Class Expectations

Students at St. Jerome will demonstrate **P.R.I.D.E.**

Personal Best

Students will come to school knowing this is a safe and caring place in which they can succeed in academics and the way they will become productive citizens and people with high morals. Missed work will be made up by going to the "What did I miss?" folders.

Students will come prepared to class with the needed materials to finish daily tasks.

Students will have a growth mindset, the idea that they can do anything if they keep trying.

Respect

Students will be encouraging with what they say and do toward each other. If it is not going to build up another person, they will stay silent. Everyone is made in God's image to be good, true and beautiful and we will treat our teachers and peers that way.

Integrity

Students will choose courage over comfort, what is right over what is fun, fast or easy, and to practice our values rather than simply professing them. Brene Brown

Determination

Student will understand that mistakes are a part of learning and they must consider revisions and feedback as a means to get better and be better.

Excellence

Students will work to excel in all academic areas, whether it is easy or hard, as St. Jerome is a school with high academic rigor.

Students will also strive to be what they were called to be by God, good and holy. And to understand that, though we fall, we are blessed with the communities we live in and the school we attend to lift us back up because even Jesus fell 3 times on his way to salvation.

Please see the student handbook for more information. Consequences to not uphold P.R.I.D.E. will be determined by Mrs. Gattman and Mrs. B

Other Class Expectations

>Email is the best way to get in touch with me: sberthiaume@stjeromeschool.org

>Late is expected to be turned in as 0 pts will be awarded if it remains in your possession. Work will lose points as each day passes.

>Bathrooms will be used before/after class. Class periods are only 45 minutes long and students will be engaged throughout the whole period.

>No cell phones (or any other personal devices) are allowed in the classrooms or to be used during school hours. If a cell phone is out, it will be confiscated and returned to a parent.

>Students will be in class on time (unless excused by Mrs. B) everyday.

7th Grade

TOB Unit 1: Man of Concupiscence

In this unit, the student will be introduced to the nature of sin and its effects. Sin not only impacts me but also my relationship to God, others and the world. Reflecting on what happened to Adam and Eve in original sin helps us to reflect on our own life, for the pattern of sin and redemption is the same for us.

The concepts in this unit:

- The depth and consequence of original sin to see more fully the glory of redemption
- What it means when we say “We don’t live in a perfect world” and why we say it.
- True freedom isn’t doing whatever I want, it’s the ability to live in the truth and choose the good.
- Sin doesn’t totally corrupt man’s nature, though it wounds it.
- Why we inherit original sin even though we did not commit that sin ourselves.

Saint Mary Magdalene (Feast Day July 22)

Unit 2: Redeemed and Called

In this unit, the nature of redemption will be explored. Doing so reveals more about who God is, for it shows his faithfulness to humankind even when man turns away from him. It also reveals more about who the human person is, for man is not totally corrupted after sin and is able to be transformed by God’s saving grace.

The concepts in this unit:

- God’s generosity in the gift of creation is continued (and surpassed) in the gift of redemption.
- Redemption affirms the original goodness of creation but also acknowledges it is broken and needs to be transformed.
- Christ conquers sin and death in the Paschal Mystery.
- The saving grace of Christ is offered to all through the Church.

Saint Columba of Ireland (Feast June 9)

Unit 3: Law and Love

In this unit, the student will be introduced to the purpose of God’s law and how it is connected to man’s good. The relationship between law and freedom isn’t only something that applies to God’s law, but is often seen in many natural realities (such as the discipline of learning a language, sport or musical instrument).

The concepts in this unit:

- God’s law is an expression of his mercy and is given in order to help man live a good and happy life.
- Law and love are not opposites
- Structure and form can help man be freer.
- Give some explanation for why following the law is difficult and why it sometimes feels like a burden.
- Christ teaches us that following the law is about living right relationship with God, ourselves, others and the world, not just performing external activities.

Saint Thomas Aquinas (Feast January 28)

Unit 4: Life According to the Spirit

In this unit, we will unpack what it means that in Christ we have put off the “old self” and take on the “new self”. As Christians, the Spirit of God lives in us in a new and powerful way, bringing his gifts and helping us to live with freedom and purity of heart. The Holy Spirit gives us the strength and moral courage to live a life of integrity, a life where our words and actions correspond.

The concepts of this unit:

- As a Christian, God lives in me in a new and powerful way.
- The special role of the Holy Spirit in my life and the gifts he gives me.
- Living purity of heart means having our words and actions correspond, and living according to the true good.
- Why it is “worth” avoiding sin and how doing so helps me be more free.

Saint Fidelis of Sigmaringen (Feast April 24)

Unit 5: The Heroism of Love

In this unit, we will discover the importance of self-mastery and how it helps us treat others and ourselves as we ought. Students will learn to differentiate between loving someone and using someone as a means to an end. Oftentimes doing this requires heroic effort, but we are not alone in our efforts and we are given help by Christ and his Church.

The concepts of this unit:

- Why it is often difficult to love as we ought.
- Love and use or opposites
- Self-mastery is needed in order to treat others as we ought and allows us to make a sincere gift of self.
- Christ models and reveals true love, and by uniting with him we have the strength to live that way too.
- To be selfless and love truly often requires courage and heroism.

Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross (Feast August 9)

Unit 6: Spousal Meaning of the Body

In this unit, the student will learn about how the body speaks a language without words. The meaning the body communicates is that man is gift, that he is created from and for others. We are creatures made for relationship. The body helps remind us of our identity and our mission.

The concepts in this unit:

- What the “language of the body” means and how the body speaks without words.
- How the body, just by existing, reminds me that my life is a gift.
- the filial meaning of the body reminds me that I didn’t create myself, that from the beginning I am set in relationship with others.
- The spousal meaning of the body highlights the fact that I am made for a gift of self that is fruitful, generous, and life-giving.
- The way Christ loves and relates to the Church sets the standard for what spousal love means.

Saint John Bosco (feast January 31)