

**Marion Catholic Jr/Sr High School**  
**8th Grade Religion Course Syllabus 2008-2009**

Instructor: Mr. David Bennett

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Textbook: *Church History* (Sadlier Press)

Quarters I, II, and III: Church History

This course covers the history of the Church from the time of Pentecost until the present day. Students will learn about major historical events, figures, movements, Church councils, heresies, and doctrines.

*Topics Covered / Class Outline:*

- Introduction to Church History
- The beginnings of the Church (AD 33-312)
- Christianity Made Legal (313- 476)
- The Medieval Church (476-1054)
- Trials and Reform (1046-1305)
- Late Middle Ages: Crisis and Challenge (1305-1517)
- Protestant Reformation (1517-1603)
- Council of Trent and the Counter-Reformation (1545-1648)
- Between Reformation and Revolution (1648-1789)
- Revolution and Humanism and Vatican I (1789-1914)
- Vatican II and 20th-21st Century Catholicism (1915-present)
- Catholicism in the United States (1565-Present)

Quarter IV: The Ten Commandments

Students will learn the 10 commandments and their meaning and implications.

*Topics Covered / Class Outline:*

- First Commandment: No god but God
- Second Commandment: Using God's name in vain
- Third Commandment: Resting in God (Sabbath)
- Fourth Commandment: Honoring our parents
- Fifth Commandment: Thou shalt not murder
- Sixth Commandment: Do not commit adultery
- Seventh Commandment: Don't take what isn't yours
- Eighth Commandment: Do not lie
- Ninth and Tenth Commandments: Desiring what isn't yours
- 10 Commandment Wrap-Up

### General Expectations

Even though it is impossible to grade a person's spirituality, the study of religion includes facts, dates, ideas, etc. This course is a full-credit course, and students are expected to complete the work and put in a good effort. If a student takes notes, makes a good effort when writing journals, and completes homework, he or she should do well. Students will be asked to learn about Catholic Teaching and understand the implications of this Teaching in their own lives and in their relationships with others.

### Grade Values

The values of assignments breaks down as follows:

Note Check	10 points
Journal Check	10 points
Homework	Varies
Quizzes	20-50 points
Tests	50-100 points
Papers/Projects	Varies
Other Assignments	Varies

### Student Notebook or Binder

Students are expected to have either a religion notebook or binder, containing about 100-150 pages. They are expected to keep all running class work in this binder or notebook. This is so that all of the material needed on the test is available to them. Notes, journals, and assignments are to be kept here.

### Notes and Journals

Notes will be checked regularly and graded to ensure students are keeping up. Students are expected to take notes whenever they are presented in class. Failure to pay attention/take notes will result in low note grades. Quizzes and Tests are primarily derived from notes.

Students write in journals occasionally. Journal entries will be reflection upon a topic, song, video clip, Scripture reading, prayer, etc. For a full grade students are expected to write at least a 1/2 page response, and show that they put effort into the process.

### Homework

Homework is given frequently and will often be graded. Students are expected to turn in homework. If not, a zero grade will be given until something is turned in. Late homework is accepted, but for a reduced grade.

### Quizzes and Tests

These will be given regularly to evaluate student progress. Some will be open-notes, some open-review-sheet, but others will not be. In order to do well on the quizzes and tests students must keep up with their coursework.

### Projects and Research Papers

Quarters I-III - Students will choose one person or topic related to Church History and research this particular person or topic. Students will turn in a paper of appropriate length and present what they have learned to the class.

Quarter IV - Students will be expected to do apply the ten commandments to a modern situation or concern. They will do the necessary research and write a paper of appropriate length.

### Extra Credit

Participating in Mass, leading the class in prayer, and answering the trivia question of the day are ways to earn extra credit. Students may only earn 15 points of extra credit from the trivia question per quarter. Extra credit is only given in small amounts, but can add up to help the overall grade.

### Missed Work / Make-Up Work

Students are to turn in assignments on the day they are due, unless excused. If they are excused due to an approved absence, they are to get the assignment from the instructor on their first day back. They will have one day per day missed to make up work. This means that they may have to turn in make-up work on a day when they do not have religion class.

Late work is accepted, but at a reduced point rate. The reduction is taken off their earned grade. The late point values are below:

Turned in by the end of the class	10 % reduction
Turned in by end of day	25% reduction
Turned in by the next	35% reduction
Turned in before 5 days before end of quarter	50% reduction