

Syllabus Grade 9 (Second and Fourth Sundays)

Date	Material Covered	Concepts
September 20	Pilgrimage to Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe - Bus to LaCrosse	"Optional" - Open to the parish - Gorgeous fall trip, along the St. Croix - attend traditional Mass at the Shine Church and explore the Shrine.
September 27	Welcome - Icebreaker activities - Class overview CALLED TO LIVE THE GOSPEL Session 1 - Who Do I Want to Become?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reflections by young people on who they would like to be as a part of the Body of Christ on where they are now in the journey aspiring to a life that is happy, healthy and holy
October 11	CALLED TO LIVE THE GOSPEL Session 2 - Who Do I Listen To?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where to look for guidance in living a moral life Goodness is an universal ideal Personal rights and responsibilities in a community
October 25	CALLED TO LIVE THE GOSPEL Session 3 - What Does Love Look Like?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exploring the moral vision of Jesus living the moral life requires one to respond to Jesus command to love as he loves scriptural sources for living a loving life
October 30-31	"BE NOT AFRAID" Conference <i>Building a Culture of Life and Love</i> Friday, October 30th • 7:00-9:30pm Saturday, October 31st • 9:00am-3:00pm St. John the Baptist Catholic Church 835 2nd Avenue. NW • New Brighton, MN	"Optional" -Prolife conference for youth and adults - Youth and families strongly encouraged to attend - look for flyer under Faith Formation or Register online. To view or to register, go to www.totustuuscyo.com
November 1	Sunday - All Saints Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instituted as a Feast Day to honor all Saints - known and unknown
November 2	Monday - All Soul's Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is a day of prayer and commemoration of all the faithful departed especially a time to pray for all souls in purgatory
November 8	CALLED TO LIVE THE GOSPEL Session 4 - How Do I Decide? CALLED TO LIVE THE GOSPEL Session 5 - Healing and Hoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand the moral vision of the Catholic Church is rooted in the Scriptures and the life of Jesus provide a process for moral decision making concept of formed and unformed conscience understanding of the effects of sin and the power of grace increase understanding that sin in thought or action is contrary to love and the will of God
November 22	SAFE AND SACRED PLACES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> speaker? video / discussion
November 29	Advent Begins	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Word who brought light into darkness. It is a particularly fitting time to welcome the light of God's forgiveness into the dark places of our sinful lives by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Excerpted from How to Celebrate Christmas as a Catholic, copyright © 2005, Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc

<p>December 8</p>	<p>Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day of Obligation</p> <p>(Mass 7:00 PM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A feast of the Conception of Mary arose in the Eastern church in the 7th century. It came to the West in the 8th century. In the 11th Century it received the name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal church • In 1854 Pius IX issued the infallible statement: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race was preserved free from all stain of original sin." • This privilege of Mary derives from God's having chosen her as Mother of the Savior; thus she received the benefits of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception. This great gift to Mary, an ordinary human being just like us, was fitting because she was destined to be the Mother of God. The purity and holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a model for all Christians
<p>December 13</p>	<p>THY KINGDOM COME - Matthew LESSON 1 - THE ROYAL FAMILY Introduction to Thy Kingdom Come and the Gospel of Matthew</p> <p>THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 2 - Arrows Pointing to the King</p>	<p><i>"The whole point of Thy Kingdom Come and the Gospel as a whole - is to introduce you to the very heart of God, in Christ Jesus. The gospels are intended to teach you not only 'what Jesus did and said' but who Jesus is - and who he calls you to become."</i> (Thy Kingdom Come Leader" Guide pg 1)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Importance of knowing the Gospel • Knowing Jesus Christ in head and heart • Matthew 1-3
<p>December 25</p>	<p>Christmas (Holy Day of Obligation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrates the Birth of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the World
<p>January 1</p>	<p>New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God we are not only honoring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Calling Mary "mother of God" is the highest honor we can give Mary. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace" This solemnity, falling on New Year's Day, is also designated the World Day of Peace (David Bennett 8/15/2008 . Church Year. Net) • one of the oldest feasts of the Church, it was changed to this date following Vatican II, by Pope Paul VI in 1974
<p>January 10</p>	<p>THE CHURCH ITS WISDOM, WORKS AND WORSHIP Session 1 - Characteristics of the Catholic Church</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review concepts of the faith and Catholic Christianity. • Invite young people to embrace the meaning of their Baptism • Discussion
<p>January 24</p>	<p>THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 3 - The King Comes of Age</p> <p>THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 4 - Just an Average Day in the Kingdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 4-7 • Matthew 8-15

February 14	THE CHURCH ITS WISDOM, WORKS AND WORSHIP Session 2 - The Wisdom of the Catholic Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore central beliefs of the Catholic faith and what constitutes a Catholic Identity
February 17	Ash Wednesday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beginning of Lent - 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving - a time of penance and conversion, for cleaning out the old in our lives that hinders our relationship with Jesus Christ. It begins on this day with a signing with ashes and a call to turn from sin and live the Gospel. We are called to perform some actions that will be transformative as we approach Easter - both spiritually and physically, so that we may become more like Christ.
February 28	THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 5 - The Kingdom is at Hand THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 6 - Who Will Enter the Kingdom?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 16 & 17 Matthew 18 - 25
March 12-13	HUNGER for Catholic Mission	Optional Activity: 30 hour fast and service retreat 6:00 Friday to 7:30 Saturday evening (breakout sessions, prayer, service experiences, Mass)
March 14	THE CHURCH ITS WISDOM, WORKS AND WORSHIP Session 3 - The Works of the Catholic Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> History and significance of the Nicene Creed Identification of values - correspondence with the vision and values of Jesus Christ Role of Church as servant and herald encounters with Jesus in the Sacraments
March 28 Palm Sunday	THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 7 - The King's Earthly Banquet and Coronation THY KINGDOM COME LESSON 8- The Triumph of the King	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matthew 26 & 27 Matthew 28
April 1-3	Holy Thursday - Good Friday - Passion and Death of Jesus Holy Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Triduum Institution of the ordained Priesthood, and the Eucharist Passion and Death of Jesus Easter Vigil - the Church begins to Celebrate the Light of the Resurrection
April 4	EASTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Celebration of the Resurrection continues and will for the next 50 days
April 11	THE CHURCH ITS WISDOM, WORKS AND WORSHIP Session 4 - The Worship of the Catholic Church	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Explore and awaken to the meaning and purpose of symbols and rituals, the nature of the sacraments
April 24	Rite of Sending	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ninth Grade Students prepare and serve dinner for Confirmation Students and their families Each student is expected to sign up to work a shift
April 25	THE CHURCH ITS WISDOM, WORKS AND WORSHIP Session 5 - Being Catholic, Being Church: Living Out Our Baptism	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What does it mean to be a Catholic Christian What happens as one makes the spiritual journey Resources are available for the journey