Our Lady Queen of Peace

8th grade Religious Education preliminary calendar for 2023-2024

All Classes are 12:30–2pm in the Parish Center unless otherwise noted.

(topics on a particular day may change due to availability of speakers.)

Regular class sessions are in **black**, family sessions are in **green.**

Sunday, October 8- questions? What do you know? What do you want to know?

If we're taking the year to look at your faith tradition in contrast to other faith traditions – well.... what do you know about your faith tradition?

Sunday, October 22 - Catholicism and the search for answers....

a SCAVENGER HUNT to see how well you know your faith – and your faith community! We're hoping to make this a competition event this year – between students & any parents brave enough to join us!

Sunday, November 5 - Are Catholics Christians? Are All Christians Catholic?

We'll look at some other Christian denominations – and see what we have in common with other Christian faiths and where Catholicism is different. We'll talk about what the Catholic church means in the world and to the world today. And we will talk about heroes – about heroes in our culture – and the church's heroes

Sunday, November 12 - Living your Circle of Grace –

- Because we believe in Protecting God's Children

Knowing that each of our young people is a precious and beloved child of God, the church wants you to stay safe and strong and the new Safe Environment program, "Circle of Grace" wants to give you tools to help. Watch for more information on this new Diocesan program AND on a session we plan to offer parents during Faith Formation on the same topic....

Sunday, November 19 - Catholicism and the search for answers....Part 2

We will take the opportunity to look at and talk about the Scavenger Hunt – what did you learn and who had the most answers right? (Yes, there will be prizes!!!!)

Sunday, December 3 – Reconciliation Service especially for our Religious Education Family

Parents and other family members are especially welcome....

Sunday, December 3: An extra invitation

On December 3, 2023 all families are invited to the State Capitol for the
Capitol Christmas Pageant featuring students from Our Lady Queen of Peace Parish.
Performances are at 4pm and 5:15pm in the Capitol Rotunda.

Sunday, December 17 Advent, Christmas, Christianity & Catholicism

What makes Catholicism special and what do we share with the rest of the Christian Community? (Here's a hint – one of the answers has to do with our class on December3rd and one has to do with the Feast Day on December 8!) We will also take a look at our Liturgical calendar and talk about how the Feast of the Incarnation (that would be Christmas!) fits into it! AND we will anticipate in joy the season of Christmas by going to a Christmas Pageant presented by our youngest parishioners!

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Sunday, January 7– Celebrating Epiphany – letting YOUR light shine!!!

"Christ leads us to go out from ourselves more and more, to give ourselves and to serve others."

---Pope Francis via twitter, June 1, 2013

Today we will focus on Catholic Social Justice teaching – what better way to mark this season of giving? Come hear from some of our high school students about their immersion trips, Mission Trips, their faith journey and consider some of your own New Year's Resolutions regarding how you live your faith!

Sunday, January 21st – Catholic Christianity and the 3 monotheistic & Abrahamic traditions

This is part of our ongoing exploration of the 3 Abrahamic monotheistic faiths (and if you don't know what that means – you definitely need to come join us!). Where did the original divisions come from? What do we have in common – like parts of our Scriptures and the Ten Commandments…

Sunday, February 4 - Making the connections …..

We'll take a look at some of the most basic beliefs held by those who are Jewish and by those who are Muslim. How much do you know – and how much do you THINK you know?

Sunday, February 18 - The Big Picture

We will look at the connections between elements of the faiths – how did the Passover lead to the Last Supper? And what does that have to do with why, in the Mass, we refer to Jesus as the 'Lamb of God'? We will look at what makes Catholicism unique and true – and the oldest of all Christian traditions.
We will look at what we have learned about our faith….how it is similar to and different from other faiths – and how it can help us to live every day to be the people God created us to be…..

Sunday, March 3 – Reconciliation Service especially for our Religious Education Family

Parents and other family members are especially welcome….

Saturday (yup, Saturday), March 16 You choose the time with your family

This session, called **Feed My Sheep**, is for whole families to be able to help prepare a total of over 100,000 meals to be sent to families in need across the globe. This project, hosted by the Catholic Multicultural Center, is a collaborative event between many of the Westside Parishes.

Sunday, March 17 - Lent, Holy Week and the Easter Season – what truly divides us from the other faiths

We will look at Lent, (which begins on February 14) Holy Week and the Easter event – in film, in tradition and in Scripture. We will look at how and why it sets us apart from the other major faith traditions we have been studying – and how it calls us to live every day!

Sunday, March 24 – If you did it all again….

If you were to do the Scavenger Hunt from the beginning of the year – how would you do? What have you learned this year…..Come find out by playing Jeopardy!!! (Insert theme song here!).

Sunday, April 7 – How well do you know what you know?

This session invites you to take a look at what you know – and what the Church ***hopes*** you know by the end of 8th grade year!

Sunday, April 21 - 12:30-2pm A celebration to honor Easter & the end of the RE year!

OK – trust me when I tell you that this is going to be fun!!