

9th Grade Mini-Course Descriptions for 2019-2020

Fall/Winter 2019

The Liturgical Year

Why doesn't the church year coincide with the calendar year? Ever wondered why Easter isn't the same date every year? Or, why are some days Holy? What about the priests robes? Green, white, purple – is there meaning behind that or is it just a fashion statement? All of these questions and more will be answered in this mini-course.

Wednesdays 7:00 – 8:30pm
October 2, October 9, October 16, October 23

Life Lessons from 2 Francises

Pope Francis gets LOTS of attention in the media. Ever wonder why everyone seems so interested in Pope Francis? This mini course will introduce participants to Pope Francis and the inspiration for his chosen name, St. Francis of Assisi. What can be learned from these two men and how can those lessons be embodied by today's Catholic teen? Core values of humility, love and care and concern for the least among us will be discussed.

Sundays 6:30 – 8:00pm
October 20, October 27, November 3, Nov 10

Encounters with Jesus in the Gospels

The Gospels are the Word of God which offer us an invitation to meet Jesus. In this mini course participants will read and reflect on several encounters others had with Jesus in Biblical times.

Through classroom discussions and activities students will reflect on these interactions and see how they are relevant to their everyday lives and the world around us.

Mondays 7:00 – 8:30pm
November 25, December 2, December 9, Dec 16

Winter/Spring 2020

Introduction to Catholic Social Teachings

Often called “the best kept secret of the Catholic Church” - the principles of social justice are rooted in the Gospel and have deep implications on how we should live – both as individuals and as a society. This course will examine the major themes of Catholic Social Teaching.

Wednesdays 7:00-8:30pm
January 15, January 22, January 29, Feb. 5
If weather cancels a session we will meet Feb 12

Religion & Science

This course will look at several instances where religion and science seem to conflict and try to see how the competition has helped both. From before Galileo's heliocentric universe to Big Bang to the intelligent design vs. evolution debate, we will briefly look at the arguments and refer to scripture for guidance. We will reconcile the ultimate scientific pursuit of the “theory of everything” with the ultimate truths we gain from our faith.

Sundays 6:30 – 8:00pm
March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22
If weather cancels a session we will meet March 29

Answering God's Call – What is a Vocation

High Schoolers spend lots of time thinking about what they want to “do” and what they hope to “be”. Often defining success through a specific college, work or career path. Vocation and career get used as interchangeable words – but understanding your vocation – your calling from God - is much deeper and is designed to lead a person toward holiness. This mini-course will introduce youth to the Church teachings on Vocations.

Mondays 7:00-8:30pm
March 16, March 23, March 30, April 6

Safe Environment Training (required annually) - Select 1 of the following

Wednesday, October 16th at 6pm Sunday, November 3rd at 5:30pm Monday, December 9th at 6pm

Training sessions will last approximately 45 minutes and will be multi-grade sessions.
Each training is held immediately prior to the start of a scheduled Fall mini-course session.
Please be sure to SIGN UP for your preferred date during enrollment – space will be limited in each session.