

Course Title: Theology 8: God and His Church/ Our Bodies, God's Gift (part 1)

Course Description Students will explore the Mystery of God as revealed through Sacred Scripture (Old and New Testaments) and the Tradition of the Church. Students will learn how the Church, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, has continued to grow and renew itself. Students will also gain an understanding of their emerging sexual identity as a unique gift deserving respect and protection (virtus) as well as concrete ways to resist the social pressures that are contrary to Divine Revelation.

Course Objectives:

1. Reflect on and respond to the timeless question Jesus asked: "Who do you say that I am"?
2. Know some of the proofs for the existence of the historical Jesus and explain the continuity between "the Jesus of history" and the "Christ of faith".
3. Reflect on their growing relationship with Jesus, especially through journal writing, prayer, and meeting him in others---especially the poor.
4. Explore the geographical, historical and literary context of the New Testament.
5. Explain how the various gospels differ as to theology, audience, and authorship.
6. Understand the major events and mysteries associated with the life of Jesus, i.e. infancy narratives, genealogy, Paschal Mystery, key moral teachings, miracles, etc.
7. Hear, understand, and discuss the message of Jesus, especially the components of unconditional love, forgiveness, conversion, faith, and response in service.
8. Connect the Old Testament to the fulfillment of Jesus' life on earth.
9. Reinforce positive decision making and explore results of those decisions.
10. Develop an understanding of personal boundaries and resources/course of action available in the event those boundaries are crossed.

Texts:

1. Morality: Life in Christ (Faith First – Legacy Edition, RCL)
2. Mystery of God (Faith First – Legacy Edition, RCL)
3. The Catholic Youth Bible (St. Mary's Press)
4. The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Edition: 2nd 03, US Catholic Church/ Image)

Expectations: Students are expected to:

1. Be present and participate in class discussion.
2. Be respectful of everyone in the classroom.
3. Report to class on time with all required materials and be seated when the bell rings.
4. Take notes
5. Keep pace with the required readings
6. Maintain a separate Religion notebook
7. Complete the specific reading, homework, projects and research assignments by the due dates.
8. All papers must be turned in by 8:00 AM on the due date using Turnitin.com, a hard (paper) copy will also be required to be turned in during class.

Service: Last June all students received a brochure explaining the service requirements for the academic year. Students are required to complete at least 15 hours of service independent of class service projects or club related service. Hopefully your student has completed their service which was due in December. This service should be focused on the student's church or other community organizations and institutions. If students are in contributing parishes they are expected to give back to their parish. In addition, students will complete an additional 5 – 10 hours of directed service as part of their theology class. Each student will write a reflection paper on their service as part of their theology exam.

Class Retreat: Students are required to attend their regularly scheduled class retreat. Students who do not attend their scheduled class retreat must attend an alternate day of reflection. If students do not attend the alternate retreat, their term grade in theology will be deducted by 10 points.

Materials: 1” loose leaf binder, loose-leaf paper, marble composition book, pens (blue or black ink only), inexpensive 3-hole puncher (optional)

Make – up Work: Work assigned prior to the student’s absence will be due when the student returns. Work assigned during a student’s absence will be due on a date agreed upon by the teacher and the student. Planned approved absences require the student to inform the teacher in advance and develop a plan for completing all work to be missed.

Missed tests and quizzes will be made up after school on the date of return unless otherwise coordinated with the teacher.

Late Policy:

Major assignments – Lose 20% the first day, another 10% the second day. After two days the grade is a zero. Minor Assignments/Homework-- Students will lose ten points per day for late assignments. After the third day a zero will be given.

Grading: The Peninsula Catholic High School grading scale will be used.

Evaluation:

30% - Classwork/Homework
30% - Quizzes/Minor Projects
40% - Tests/Major Projects
One major project per each half term will be assigned.
Completion of service is required in order to receive credit for this course.

Exams:

Midterm and end-of- term exams will be administered.
Exams will count for 20% of the half-term grades.

Intellectual honesty, Integrity, and Respect: Students are required to abide by the highest moral and ethical standards of conduct in the preparation and presentation of graded materials. Such standards are founded on the basic concepts of honesty, integrity, and respect for self and others. Any participation in (to include unreported knowledge of) plagiarism or cheating will be referred to the Honor Council.
The Honor Code statement is provided in the Student Handbook.

To contact teacher: Parents please feel free to contact your child’s teacher with any concerns that you might have or if you wish to schedule a meeting during the duration of the course. We will get back to you within 24 hours. E-mail address: wgargaro@peninsulacatholic.com

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Please sign and return by January 27th.

I have read and discussed the class syllabus with my son/daughter. I understand the requirements for this course.

Name of Parent (Print) _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____

Name of Student (Print) _____

Student Signature _____ Date _____

Parents’ e-mail address _____

Parents’ contact phone number _____