**Eighth Grade Religion**

Mr. Warnstedt

Term: 2021-2022 school year (three trimesters)

Email: jwarnstedt@visitationschool.org

Office Hours: 3:00-3:30 Tuesday, Wednesday or by appointment

**Course Description: The Church: Then and Now**

The purpose of the Eighth-grade religion course is to understand, analyze, and discuss the Church founded by Jesus Christ. This course will deepen understanding and appreciation of the Church, while also helping to develop an understanding of this one, holy, Catholic, and apostolic Church. Additionally, the course will dive into the history of the Church and its continual growth into the modern Church it is today. Reading and analysis of the Bible will also be done in this course to give further context to what the textbook is saying.

**Textbook and Supplemental Materials**

Please make sure the textbook is covered as instructed in the supply list. Additionally, please don’t write in the textbook unless instructed otherwise. If the textbook is lost, the book will be **replaced at the student/parent’s expense.** The classroom has bibles that will be used as supplemental text to enhance our discussions. However, classroom bibles are not to be taken home and it is suggested that you have a copy of the bible at home as well.

Course textbook:

* **Christ Our Life:** *The Church Then and Now*

Supplemental texts:

* **The New American Bible**

**Approximate grading percentage**

Tests: 20%

Essays: 25%

Projects: 25%

Homework/Classwork: 10%

Service 10%

Participation: 10%

**Technology:**

Technology and the use of technology is a key component to education. Therefore, the use of Chromebook, Google classroom, and other electric resources will be used or provided throughout the class. However, using such resources, like Chromebooks is a privilege and if that privilege is abused the use of them will be taken away.

**Assessments**

To properly assess the student’s comprehension of each unit and to gage the success of each lesson, assessments will be given every unit. However, the style of the assessment will vary depending on what assessment will properly challenge the students to their highest potential. Nevertheless, each assessment will be beneficial to student success and access student creativity.

1. **Test**
	1. Tests formats will vary; however, they will comprise of some multiple choice, short answers, and or an essay.
	2. Tests will take place after completion of a unit and students will be given advanced notification of when the exam will take place.
	3. Students will be required to create a study guide to help them prepare for the exam and it will be collected prior to taking the test. Additionally, during class time the day before the exam, class will be dedicated to reviewing for the exam.
	4. Make up tests can be arranged with Mr. Warnstedt at his convenience and will take place during afterschool office hours. Make up exams must be completed no later than a week after returning to school.
2. **Essays**
	1. Essay lengths will vary depending on the topic. Grading of these essays will be based off of rubrics.
	2. Students will be given ample amount of class time to research, collect resources, write rough drafts, and peer review.
	3. Final copies must be typed in Times New Roman 12 font, double spaced, and due dates will be given way in advance.
	4. Essays turned in late will be accepted but, will only receive half credit.
	5. Students who are absent on the due date will be given one day after returning to turn in the final copy.
	6. Emailing Mr. Warnstedt, the final copy will only be accepted if given approval. All final copies, along with other materials must be turned in during class.
3. **Projects**
	1. The details of the project will vary based on each topic. Grading will be based off of rubrics.
	2. Depending on the project students will either work in groups or individually.
	3. Students will be given time in class to research and complete their projects. Additionally, due dates for each project will be given in advance.
	4. Projects turned in late will be accepted but, will only receive half credit.
	5. Students who are absent on the due date will be given one day after returning to turn in their final project.

**Service**

Jesus was a person who constantly cared for others. He always told his followers that out of love for God, we must love others and care for their needs. Each of us is given talents and gifts by God, Our Creator. As we grow and discover who we are and with what gifts we are blessed, each of us is then asked to respond in thanksgiving by sharing these gifts with others in need. Additionally, service is another way to practice and learn firsthand what we are learning in class daily. **All students are encouraged to complete twenty hours of service a year. Please note, that service is a part of your religion grade so if you do not complete the twenty hours it will impact your grade. Any form of community service is acceptable. However, a filled-out student service hour record sheet must be turned into Google Classroom for credit. Mr. Warnstedt will keep an up to date record of service hour completion in class.**

**Homework/Classwork**

Every class session will comprise of reading, note taking, discussions, and assignments that will be done during class. Students will be given ample amount of time in class to complete all assignments. However, if something is not completed by the end of class, it is the student’s responsibility to finish the work at home. Additionally, there will be no added homework. Students will be informed of all the required work for each lesson at the beginning of class. Every assignment will then be collected the next day for grading, unless stated differently by Mr. Warnstedt. Any homework/classwork that is turned in late will be accepted but, will only receive half credit. Students who are absent on the due date of any assignment, will be given one day after returning to school to hand in their homework for full credit. Furthermore, there will be no extra credit assigned for this class.

**General Information**

Refer to the student handbook for all Disciplinary rules and regulations. Additionally, look to the student handbook for all attendance policies and tardy regulations. Lastly, refer to the student handbook for all student uniform expectations.