

# 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PREP Lesson Calendar 2020-2021

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## Welcome

Welcome parents and students to our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PREP class!

Just when we thought we had a great rhythm going and our materials were developed enough to provide an engaging time for your kids on Sunday mornings, 2020 struck! We have reworked our schedule to allow for the more dynamic discussion for the in-class courses and most interactive opportunities when working virtually.

We also have 3 children in the program (3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> Grades) and we are a high-risk household, so please be assured that we take all the precautions for safety in the classroom very seriously and we expect that all the students coming into the classroom will be respectful of those safety requirements as well.

In 8<sup>th</sup> grade, our time together is generally abbreviated as the children will move into Confirmation classes in February. This course is conducted as a bridge between the church-and-faith-centered materials that your children have been learning through their religious education to an explorative conversation focused on applying those lessons of the Catholic faith into their interpersonal relations, personal experiences, and practical life-skills.

Rather than using a textbook, our course utilizes a phenomenal series of videos called "Chosen" as our guide to various topics taught by real people and dynamic clergy to relate the ancient texts to everyday situations and application of faith. In class, we pick up on those topics by introducing and exploring topics related to history, philosophy, physics, chemistry, sociology, pop culture, business concepts, and current events. This should lead to a more practical, dynamic, and hopefully thought-provoking exploration of faith as it relates to your child's daily interactions and personal growth. We encourage you to further discuss the materials we cover with your child as a family to help them instill your faith traditions and belief structure into the conversation.

The annual "For the Sake of God's Children" lesson will be conducted in the Spring as part of the confirmation class so we have scheduled a total of 12 classes between now and end of January (7 at SMM & 5 fully virtual). Note that the Thanksgiving week class on November 22 will be virtual as well. For those students participating fully from home, we will be doing our best to maintain a lively conversation every class. Active participation is key to success this year.

On the Calendar starting on page 3, please note that we color-coded the **Blue Days for In-Building** and **Green Days for Virtual**.

A Google Classroom Invitation to join the 8PREP Classroom will be sent to all parent emails on file by September 18<sup>th</sup>.

- If your student is logging in on your account, no action is needed.
- If your student is going to log in on their account, they need to make sure we know what name and email will be logging in or they will not be admitted to the class.
  - o As an example, our son uses "The Great Egg" as his Zoom name and minermaster@ as his email. His teachers would not know to admit him into their class without knowing that info first.
- Lastly, please advise if you want us to send correspondence to you only or to you with them in copy.
  - o Note that no communication will be sent from us to your student without you in copy.
  - o Your student should also make sure to copy you on any correspondence as well.

## Materials

- **Notebook, Pen, Paper** – Bring with you each week or have at your desk at home. You will be expected to take notes, write prayers, and participate in Q&A. Bring spares just in case.
- **Doodle Book** – We've found over the years that our 13 and 14-year old students sometimes struggle with sitting still for an hour so we have always tried to have some sheets for them to work on during class while watching videos. Now that we are spending 1.5 hours and much of it online, we felt it best to provide them with a fun, inspiration, yet passive activity to keep them occupied during videos and lecture periods. Please be sure to bring this with you to class or use this at home to help keep focus on the course material in place of other distractions.
- **Coloring Pencils, Crayons** – For your Doodle Books.

## Expectations

- **Attendance** – Our time is limited so it is imperative that we start on time each week (in-class and virtually). Please be logged in prior to our start time each day. Advise if you are not planning on attending in advance whenever possible.
- **Active Participation** – Think of this class as the graduate level course for their religious education experience at PREP. As in business and in life, none of us have all the answers, but by sharing our thoughts, taking risks, and comparing experiences, we can all learn from each other. Our goal is to navigate the ship, but we need the crew to engage fully in order for everyone to achieve the best results.
- **Phones** – For in-person, phones must be completely away and not accessible or pulled out during class. If at home, please keep the same rules.
- **Computer / Alternate Screens** – When on in virtual classroom, we expect everyone to be focused. No 2<sup>nd</sup> screen with Roblox; No browsing around or watching youtube. We can not control this remotely and need parent help to keep your children actively participating in class
- **Prayers** – In past years, we have read from a book we have called "Dreams Alive; Prayers by Teenagers." This year, we are going to take a more active role in having your children spend 5 minutes each class to process the day's lessons and write their own prayer. We will ask them to share their prayers with the group and use those as part of our closing prayers for the days lessons.
- **Saint Presentation** – As practice for Confirmation, every student needs to pick a Saint of their choosing and put together a short Google Slide presentation to present to the class. The presentation needs to be emailed to us by Friday night the week it is due so we can add it into that week's presentation. The presentation should include the following at minimum:
  - o Why they chose this Saint
  - o Context of the Time period and what was going on at the time where they lived (not everyone may be familiar with medieval Turkish political landscape as an example)
  - o Early Life
  - o Catalyst to Faith
  - o Miracles performed, before and after death
  - o Include a Prayer and/or Novena for the saint to share with the class which we will pray together
  - o Presentations should include photos, images, references whenever possible
- **Taking It Home** – Additional reading materials or activities will be provided to you and your child each week at the end of class. These are typically 3-to-4 page summaries of relevant discussion materials to reinforce the content. This year, with everything moving online, we will plan to also send you each a summary of the content discussed each week. These materials should give you and your child the opportunity to include some new topics for conversation at the dinner table through the week and we look forward to getting yours and your child's feedback for the next week's discussion.

<b>September</b>		
20 <sup>th</sup>	Material Pickup	Last Names – A to K
27 <sup>th</sup>	Material Pickup	Last Names – L to Z
<b>October</b>		
<b>4</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<p><b>Class 1</b>  <b>Intros, Class Flow, Saint Stories, Note Taking, Writing your own Prayers</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – SMART Goal Setting, Faith in your daily Life, Temptations</li> <li>† Lesson 1 -Segment 1 (2:15) – What are you looking for? My five personal goals – what do you want out of life?</li> <li>† Lesson 2 segment 1 (4:06) – What Makes me Happy? we asked what your goals were; is there a difference between being rich and famous and being happy? Have your goals changed over time?</li> <li>† Lesson 2 segment 3 (3:39) Are We on our Own? Do you know anyone you see as a happy person? What do you think makes them that way? Who is someone that you admire? What do you think is the most admirable about that person? Story of the monk and the pearl from the ocean.</li> </ul>
<b>11</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<p><b>Class 2</b>  <b>Eve and Mary, Devotion to Mary across Faiths,</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – Mary as The Second Eve, Mary as viewed by various Faiths</li> <li>† Lesson 3 segment 1 (9:28) – What is your favorite movie? What makes the story good? If you were asked to sum up the story of Christianity, what would you say?</li> <li>† Lesson 3 segment 2 (7:03) – Eve and Mary were different in how they trusted God. Talk about how they differed and what your impression is of each woman. When you hear, "God is love," what does it mean?</li> </ul>
<b>25</b>	<b>Virtual Class</b>	<p><b>Class 3</b>  <b>Reading the Bible, Salvation History, Intro to the Apostles after Christ</b></p> <p>Discussions – Verses or Verses, Laudate, Halloween Fun</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Lesson 3 segment 3 (9:09) – What are some things that make salvation history a good story? If you had to diagram it as a story – plot, characters, etc. – how could you? How does it impact YOUR life?</li> <li>† Lesson 4 segment 2 (8:16) – Scripture and Tradition – Do you read the Bible? Why/why not? You don't need a Bible; it's all on your phone (Laudate app) Why is tradition important to us as Catholics?</li> </ul>
<b>November</b>		
<b>1</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<p><b>Class 4</b>  <b>Proving Faith(?), Trust, Jesus around the World</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – Chemistry, Physics, String Theory, &amp; Intelligent Design. Trust. Jesus, the man.</li> <li>† Lesson 4 Segment 1 (9:18) – pretend you are talking to someone who doesn't believe. How can you "prove" God's existence to them?</li> <li>† Lesson 4 Segment 3 (8:56) – Do you know anyone here who doesn't believe in God? Why? Do you have a hard time trusting God? How can you change that?</li> <li>† Lesson 5 Segment 1 (4:29) – Who is Jesus? What role does Jesus play in your life?</li> </ul>
<b>8</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>
<b>15</b>	<b>Virtual Class</b>	<p><b>Class 5</b>  <b>Evidence for Jesus, Living Like Jesus</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – The Apostle Paul and the Corinthians, Jesus around us and within us.</li> <li>† Lesson 5 –Segment 2 (3:40) – Evidence for Jesus</li> <li>† Lesson 5 - Segment 3 – Why did Jesus come to us? (3:40). What is the evidence for Jesus? Would you die for someone? Why? Why do we know Jesus isn't just a nice guy? Why did God choose to become human? How can we respond to God's love?</li> </ul>

<b>November</b>		
<b>22</b>	<b>VIRTUAL</b>  <b>NOTE that other classes are in building this week, but we will be virtual</b>	<b>Class 6</b> <b>The Catholic Church; The Institution and The People</b> † Discussions – Catholic Church History, Eastern & Western Rites, People of the Church from Bishops to You † Lesson 6 –Segment 1 – (9:22) - Why Be Catholic? (Discovering the Church Jesus Founded) What does the term “cradle Catholic” mean to you? Do you know anyone who converted to become a Catholic? Why might someone want to become Catholic? † Lesson 6 - Segment 2 – Apostolic & Catholic (4:06) If you started a club or a business, would it be important to establish an organized, visible, and structured leadership? What role do the laity play in the Church’s structure? † Lesson 6 - Segment 3 – The Church is holy (What are some ways the Church makes Jesus real today? How would you respond if someone questioned the Church’s holiness? Emphasis – Church, not men!
<b>29</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>
<b>December</b>		
<b>7</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<b>Class 7</b> <b>Mary and the Saints</b> † Discussions – Mysteries of the Rosary, Praying the Rosary † Lesson 19 segment 1 (6:30)– ways you can pray for others. If you could talk to a saint, what would you ask him/her to pray for? † Lesson 19 segment 2 (8:18) – the four dogmas of Mary – did any of these surprise you? Which ones? Isn’t it interesting that the people were calling on the Church to make these official statements? † Lesson 19 segment 3 (4:41) – when and how do you pray through Mary? How can devotion to Mary and the saints help strengthen your relationship to God? How can you begin to develop that relationship?
<b>13</b>	<b>Virtual Class</b>	<b>Class 8</b> <b>Where Am I Going, Heaven, Hell, &amp; Purgatory</b> † Discussions – The Game of Real Life † Lesson 7 – Segment 1 – Play to 3:06, then start at 10:15 (4.89 more, about 8 total)– if you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what would be on your bucket list? Have you lost someone you cared about? What impression did it make on you? † Lesson 7 – Segment 2 – Heaven and hell – start at 3:50 (6:00)– why does God, who loves us, allow people to go to hell? What do you think heaven is like? Is there anywhere here on earth you imagine heaven is like? † Lesson 7 – Segment 3 – Purgatory (5:05)– how is this a sign of God’s mercy?
<b>20</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<b>Class 9</b> <b>Living with Grace, The Seven Sacraments, Zacchaeus</b> † Discussions – Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation, Marriage & Orders † Lesson 8 – segment 1 (8:12)– the gift of grace – describe grace in your own words. † Lesson 8 – segment 2 (6:40)– what is a sacrament? Why do we need sacraments? Why did God give them to us? † Lesson 8 segment 3 (9:33)– the seven sacraments – how do the sacraments help us fulfill our purpose in life? (note – we have bodies; we need tangible reminders of God’s care for us. Without them, faith is more how we “feel” about God.)
<b>27</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>

<b>January</b>		
<b>3</b>	<b>Virtual Class</b>	<p><b>Class 10</b>  <b>Welcome to the Family, Actions Have Consequences</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – Baptism, Anointing of the Sick, Werewolves</li> <li>† Lesson 9 segment 1 (4:12) &amp; 2 (3:09) – actions have consequences; original sin. What does Baptism do? How can we hurt others when we exercise our free will?</li> <li>† Lesson 10 segment 2 – what is sin? What does it mean that no sins are private? Do you understand how sins affect more than you think? Why doesn't Baptism change this? (students will see segments 1 &amp; 3 at Confirmation class and retreat)</li> <li>† Lesson 11 segment 3 (6:15)– the Anointing of the Sick – do I know anyone who has received this? How might this sacrament help someone who is losing hope? Why is Christmas a sign of hope for the world?</li> </ul>
<b>10</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<p><b>Class 11</b>  <b>The Holy Spirit, Living in Faith</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – Finding Strength in Tough Times, Our Moral Compass</li> <li>† Lesson 12 – Segment 1 (6:20)– Who is the Holy Spirit? (Meeting the Third Person of the Trinity) Who is the Holy Spirit? – what are some images of the Holy Spirit? What do they teach us about this member of the Trinity? What are some ways we experience the Holy Spirit?</li> <li>† Lesson 12 - Segment 2 (3:05) – Our guide and map</li> <li>† Lesson 12 - Segment 3 (2:10)– The Holy Spirit in your life. How can I open myself more fully to the Spirit every day? How can I pray directly to the Holy Spirit?</li> </ul>
<b>17</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>
<b>24</b>	<b>In-Building</b>	<p><b>Class 12</b>  <b>Sacrifice, Mass</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>† Discussions – Personal Sacrifice, Engaging in Life, What Can you Do?</li> <li>† Lesson 15 – segment 2 (11:39) (see segment 1 in Confirmation) – what do you think about the connection to the Passover meal and THE mass? Do you understand it better now? What did you think of Walter's sacrifice, and his wife's sacrifice in return?</li> <li>† Lesson 15 – segment 3 (6:56)– what does it mean to prepare for Mass? What is full, active, conscious participation in the Mass? I prepare for things that are important to me – tests, sporting events – so why wouldn't I do the same here? Do these suggestions on how to prepare seem like too much for you? Which ones and why?</li> </ul> <p><b>This is the Last Day of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade PREP Class (Confirmation Classes Start in February)</b></p>
<b>31</b>	<b>No Class</b>	<b>No Class This Week</b>