

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8A.1

Strand: Prayer and Spirituality

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Prayer and Spirituality	Develop a positive Catholic spirituality.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Know the importance of the Paschal mystery (dying/rising of Jesus) in Catholic spirituality.</li> <li>2. Know that spirituality calls us to continual conversion.</li> <li>3. Be aware of helps in our Catholic tradition for enriching one’s spirituality.</li> <li>4. Recognize the variety of Catholic spiritual traditions.</li> <li>5. Realize that spirituality is a lifelong journey influenced by many experiences and people.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8A.2

Strand: Prayer and Spirituality

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement	
Prayer and Spirituality	Understand the meaning and importance of prayer in the Christian life.	
Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe various forms of liturgical and private prayer.</li> <li>2. Explain how using various prayer forms can help believers grow spiritually.</li> <li>3. Understand liturgy as the prayer of the community.</li> <li>4. Discover your own preferred prayer style.</li> <li>5. Recognize that service is action rooted in and flowing from prayer.</li> <li>6. Talk about some of the obstacles to prayer.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8A.3

Strand: Prayer and Spirituality

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Prayer and Spirituality	Be familiar with Catholic tradition of prayer.

Performance Indicators
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Pray the Divine Office.</li> <li>2. Develop a series of meditations on the mysteries of the rosary.</li> <li>3. Explain the importance of adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as a form of prayer.</li> </ol>

Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8B.1

Strand: Liturgy/Sacrament

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Liturgy/Sacrament	Celebrate the sacraments with understanding and awareness.

Performance Indicators
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Talk about how the celebration of the sacraments is essential to the life of the Church.</li> <li>2. Describe Jesus as the Sacrament of God – the visible sign of God’s love.</li> <li>3. Explain how the Church as people of God is the Sacrament of Christ.</li> </ol>

Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8B.2

Strand: Liturgy/Sacrament

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Liturgy/Sacrament	Become more deeply aware of the meaning of the Eucharist.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe the Eucharist as food for the journey of Christian living.</li> <li>2. Understand that receiving the Body of Christ in Communion calls us to become the Body of Christ in the world.</li> <li>3. Realize that the celebration of Mass sends us forth to bring the good news to the world.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8B.3

Strand: Liturgy/Sacrament

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Liturgy/Sacrament	Understand liturgy and the liturgical year as central to the Church’s life of worship.

Performance Indicators
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe how the Church celebrates the Paschal Mystery during the Triduum.</li> <li>2. Recognize how liturgy builds up the community.</li> <li>3. Talk about how liturgical prayer has changed throughout history.</li> <li>4. Describe various forms of liturgical prayer.</li> </ol>

Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8B.4

Strand: Liturgy/Sacrament

Strand	Benchmark Statement
Liturgy/Sacrament	Deepen awareness and understanding of the sacraments as central to Catholic spirituality and community life.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Recognize and relate how Confirmation strengthens us in the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>2. Describe the gifts of the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>3. Identify the fruits of the Holy Spirit are present in my life.</li> <li>4. Talk about why we receive Baptism and Confirmation only once.</li> <li>5. Explore ways that we can be a support or healing presence in the local community to those who are sick or suffering.</li> <li>6. Discuss the meaning and importance of repentance.</li> <li>7. Discuss the Sacrament of Matrimony as the grace-filled union between man and woman.</li> <li>8. Explain the difference between the priesthood of all the baptized and ordained priesthood.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8C.1

Strand: Morality and the Christian Life

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Morality and the Christian Life	Understand the nature and scope of Catholic morality.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Illustrate how Scripture and the teaching authority of the Church guide us in developing an informed conscience.</li> <li>2. Outline and demonstrate the steps involved in making responsible moral decisions.</li> <li>3. Understand that morality is about who we are and become as well as what we do.</li> <li>4. Name and describe some of the virtues central to Catholic moral living.</li> <li>5. Talk about the relationship between morality and spirituality.</li> <li>6. Discuss why practicing virtue is important to becoming a moral person.</li> <li>7. Understand the meaning of natural moral law and some of its guiding principles.</li> <li>8. Recognize how family and community support Christian living.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8C.2

Strand: Morality and the Christian Life

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement	
Morality and the Christian Life	Understand that Scripture is the basis for Catholic morality.	
Performance Indicators		
1. Understand how the Old Testament vision of morality encompasses justice, peace, equality and stewardship. 2. Understand the necessity of ongoing conversion in the Christian moral journey. 3. Explain the attitudes and conversion of heart to which we are called by the beatitudes. 4. Describe how believers are called to die and rise with Jesus – the Paschal mystery – on the journey of becoming his disciples. 5. Show how Jesus challenges the greed and consumerism in our culture.		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8C.3

Strand: Morality and the Christian Life

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Morality and the Christian Life	Learn to make good moral decisions.

Performance Indicators		
1. Talk about moral dilemmas that young people face. 2. Critique the values promoted by the media. 3. Know that living a moral life leads to joy and fulfillment. 4. Describe the virtues Christians are called to live. 5. Name people who can help you make good decisions.		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8C.4

Strand: Morality and the Christian Life

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Morality and the Christian Life	Understand and apply the moral principles of love and social justice.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify ways to promote responsible and generous stewardship of God’s creation.</li> <li>2. Understand how justice issues are interrelated.</li> <li>3. Explain what is meant by the fundamental option for the poor.</li> <li>4. Explain the meaning of solidarity and why Catholics are called to solidarity.</li> <li>5. Discuss how non-violence and peacemaking are integral to justice.</li> <li>6. Show how poverty, hunger and oppression are the root of social injustice.</li> <li>7. Evaluate issues of homelessness, hunger, poverty, illiteracy and discrimination in the light of Catholic Social Teachings.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8C.5

Strand: Morality and the Christian Life

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Morality and the Christian Life	Demonstrate a deep appreciation of and respect for God’s gift of life.

Performance Indicators
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discuss ways young people could give witness to the belief in the sacredness of life especially through respect of others.</li> <li>2. Explore ways for Christians to exercise their responsibilities to support and promote life.</li> <li>3. Discuss Catholic moral teaching concerning abortion.</li> </ol>

Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8D.1

Strand: Scripture/Revelation

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Scripture/Revelation	Become familiar with how to use and understand the Bible.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Become familiar with Bible reference books and their specific uses: Bible commentary, concordance, and Bible dictionary.</li> <li>2. Understand what it means to say the Bible is true, that it contains religious and moral truth, but not necessarily historical or scientific truth.</li> <li>3. Discuss the literary form and truth of the creation stories.</li> <li>4. Contrast the fundamentalist and Catholic approaches to interpreting the Bible.</li> <li>5. Explore what it means to interpret a Bible passage such as the creation story in a manner accepted by the Catholic Church.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8D.2

Strand: Scripture/Revelation

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Scripture/Revelation	Understand and appreciate the Old Testament.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand the Old Testament Exodus story as a journey from slavery to freedom in God’s love.</li> <li>2. Examine how the message of the prophets reveals the mysteries of God’s mercy and justice.</li> <li>3. Describe how the prophets called the people to true worship.</li> <li>4. Explain how the Old Testament story is also our story of being forever called from slavery and sin to freedom and love.</li> <li>5. Tell the story of salvation history as portrayed in the Old Testament, including some important names and events.</li> <li>6. Describe how the messages of the prophets still speak to us today.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8D.3

Strand: Scripture/Revelation

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Scripture/Revelation	Understand and appreciate the New Testament.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Explain why the gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke are called synoptic.</li> <li>2. Show ways that John’s gospel is different from the synoptic gospels of Matthew, Mark and Luke.</li> <li>3. Explain that the Acts of the Apostles tells about the spread of Christianity under the guidance of the Holy Spirit.</li> <li>4. Describe core themes and events in the Acts of the Apostles.</li> <li>5. Talk about the importance of the destruction of the Jewish temple in 70 A.D.</li> <li>6. Talk about the kind of writing found in the book of Revelations.</li> <li>7. Describe Paul’s approach to law and the new freedom in Christ.</li> <li>8. Articulate Paul’s understanding of Body of Christ as a metaphor for the Christian community.</li> <li>9. Explain Paul’s teaching about salvation as including all people – Jews and gentiles alike.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8D.4

Strand: Scripture/Revelation

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement	
Scripture/Revelation	Know the story of Jesus, his ministry and teaching, as told in the four Gospels.	
Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Talk about Jesus’ relationship to his Father and intimacy with God as core to the Christian journey.</li> <li>2. Emphasize what Jesus teaches about discipleship through the witness of his life.</li> <li>3. Discuss the death-Resurrection of Jesus as the central story of New Testament.</li> <li>4. Relate how and when Jesus prayed and what his ways of praying teach us about discipleship.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8E.1

Strand: Doctrine/Tradition

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Doctrine/Tradition	Understand the foundations of Catholic faith and doctrine.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Understand that we deepen our understanding of revelation through the teachings of the Church.</li> <li>2. Illustrate how creation is continuing throughout history.</li> <li>3. Tell a story about how you have experienced grace, the miracle of God’s love.</li> <li>4. Talk about the meanings of the various beliefs as articulated in the creeds.</li> <li>5. Describe how the beliefs, teachings and traditions of the Church have developed through the years.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8E.2

Strand: Doctrine/Tradition

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Doctrine/Tradition	Articulate Catholic teachings on Trinity and the nature and work of the three persons in one God.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe how the Spirit is present throughout the Bible, in the Old and New Testament.</li> <li>2. Describe how Jesus is the most profound revelation of who God is.</li> <li>3. Talk about how the Incarnation reveals the goodness and sacredness of being human.</li> <li>4. Give examples of how the Holy Spirit is present and active in our lives.</li> <li>5. Give examples of how the Holy Spirit is present in the Church and in the world.</li> <li>6. Describe how the Trinity is the central mystery of the Christian faith.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8E.3

Strand: Doctrine/Tradition

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Doctrine/Tradition	Become aware of basic Catholic beliefs about Mary and the Saints.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Articulate the Church’s teaching about the Virgin Birth.</li> <li>2. Explain Catholic belief in the Immaculate Conception and Assumption of Mary.</li> <li>3. Describe the role of Mary in salvation as found in Catholic teaching.</li> <li>4. Explain the meaning and importance of the Communion of Saints.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8E.4

Strand: Doctrine /Tradition

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Doctrine/Tradition	Know the Catholic Church’s teaching on Salvation and the afterlife.

Performance Indicators		
1. Discuss how the Catholic view of redemption/salvation differs from some other Christian religions. 2. Talk about Jesus as the savior of the world. 3. Describe the Holy Spirit’s role in salvation. 4. Describe Catholic teachings on the resurrection of the body and the last judgment. 5. Know that Jesus brought about our salvation through his death on the cross.		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8F.1

Strand: Family Life/Human Sexuality

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Family Life/Human Sexuality	Understand Catholic values and teaching regarding human sexuality.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acknowledge the importance and benefits of sexual abstinence before marriage.</li> <li>2. Contrast the sexual values portrayed in the media with Catholic values regarding sexuality.</li> <li>3. Discuss Catholic moral teachings of <i>Humanae Vitae</i> regarding contraception and use of artificial birth control.</li> <li>4. Discuss ways to express sexual feelings in ways that are in accord with Catholic teachings.</li> <li>5. Discuss sexuality transmitted diseases, their manner of transmission, and effects.</li> <li>6. Realize that sexual activity is intended by God as an expression of love in order to create new life and promote intimacy.</li> <li>7. Understand that sexual intercourse involves the giving of our whole selves our mind, heart and will.</li> <li>8. Realize that sexual attraction may be the beginning of an intimate relationship, but love and commitment create growth.</li> <li>9. Discuss Catholic teaching regarding homosexuality.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8F.2

Strand: Family Life/Human Sexuality

Strand	Benchmark Statement
Family Life/Human Sexuality	Describe the nature and role of family in Christian living and the life of the Church.

Performance Indicators		
1. Explain ways that personal and social growth takes place within the family. 2. Understand church community is an extension of family community.		
Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8G.1

Strand: Church/Church History

Strand	Benchmark Statement	
Church/Church History	Demonstrate a basic understanding of the Catholic Church, its meaning, identity and mission.	
Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify and explain the marks of the Catholic Church: one, holy, Catholic, apostolic.</li> <li>2. Discuss some important images of Church.</li> <li>3. Describe what is meant by Magisterium, the teaching authority of the Church.</li> <li>4. Explain the meaning of papal infallibility.</li> <li>5. Explain that the mission of the Church is to bring about the Kingdom of God on earth.</li> <li>6. Know about some of the major beliefs of other great world religions (especially Judism, Buddhism, Hinduism and Islam).</li> <li>7. Understand the meaning of Ecumenism, as well as its importance for the Church.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources

## Diocese of Jefferson City Curriculum Guide

Content Area: Religious Education  
 Grade Range: 8  
 Section/Heading: 8G.2

Strand: Church/Church History

Diocesan Standard	Benchmark Statement
Church/Church History	Become aware of important people and events in the history of the Catholic Church.

Performance Indicators		
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Describe what the Church was like in the Middle Ages.</li> <li>2. Choose 10 key events in church history and explain their significance in the development of Church.</li> <li>3. Describe the response of the Church to the Protestant Reformation.</li> <li>4. Understand the vision and importance of Vatican II in the history of the Church.</li> <li>5. Specify how Vatican II brought renewal to the Church, especially in the understanding of Church, liturgy, role of laity and openness to the world.</li> </ol>		
Suggested Activities	Assessment	Resources