

Faith and Life Series
Parish Lesson Plans

Grade 8
Our Life in the Church

Third Edition

OUR LIFE IN THE CHURCH
Parish Lessons

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BOOK EIGHT

Ignatius Press, San Francisco

The Lord's Presence

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Apostles' Creed - ST p. 181

Scripture: Ephesians 3:16-17, 21 - ST p. 11

Sacred art: *Christ and the Four Evangelists* - ST p. 12 / *The Annunciation* (detail) - ST p. 13

■ PROCLAMATION

Jesus Christ is always with us, even unto the end of the age.

■ EXPLANATION

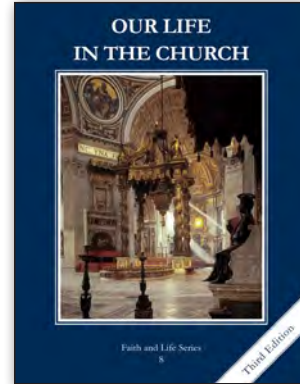
- Jesus is present in the Word of God and in a special way in the Eucharist.
 - Road to Emmaus prefiguration of Mass: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 2*
 - Jesus is present in the Eucharist: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 2*
- Jesus is present in his Church.
 - Jesus founded his Church: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 4*
 - Jesus' authority is present in the apostles: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 4*
 - Activity - **AB p. 2**
 - Structure and members of the Church: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 6*
 - Jesus' love for the Church: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 8*
 - More than any human institution: *Develop #3 - TM p. 8*

■ APPLICATION

- *Reinforce # 5 - TM p. 2*
- Discuss with the students how the Church's authority plays a significant role in a Christian's interaction with civil authority. For example, civil authority may have legal abortion, but in hearing the Church as our moral authority, Christians know that this is not morally good. Emphasize that civil authority and Church authority are not necessarily in conflict, but there may be times when we have to make a decision between the two. Remind the students from where the Church receives her authority. You may use Saint Thomas More as an example.
- *Reinforce # 4, 5 - TM p. 6*
- *Develop # 6 - TM p. 8*

■ CELEBRATION

- Saint: *Saint Joan of Arc - TM p. 9*
- Song: *The Church's one foundation - Adoremus Hymnal # 560*
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapters 2 & 3 - **ST pp. 15-24**
- Concluding prayer: Thank Jesus for his promise to be always with us. Pray the Act of Faith. - **ST p. 181**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 1, pp. 1-12
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 1, pp. 11-14
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 1, pp. 1-4

Notes: _____

Hierarchy of the Church

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Apostles' Creed -
ST p. 181

Scripture: Acts 1:26 -
ST p. 39

■ PROCLAMATION

Jesus gave the apostles the mission of baptizing and evangelizing the world, and instituted his Church with a hierarchy to continue that mission after the death of the apostles.

■ EXPLANATION

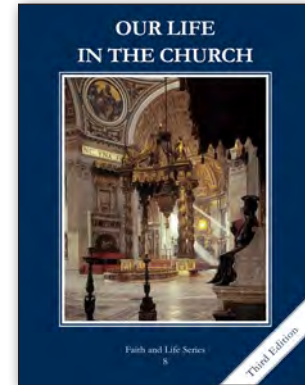
- Jesus gave the Church the mission to evangelize all nations. This implies the need for successors.
 - Selection of Matthias: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 64*
 - Apostolic succession: *Develop # 5 - TM p. 64*
 - Activity - **AB p. 21**
- The Church is divided into dioceses that are each led by a bishop who is assisted by priests and deacons.
 - Dioceses: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 66*
 - Role of the bishop: *Develop # 4, 5 - TM p. 66*
 - Priests: *Develop # 2, 3 - TM p. 68*
 - Deacons: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 68*
 - Monsignors: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 70*
 - Cardinals: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 70*
 - Electing a Pope: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 70*

■ APPLICATION

- *Reinforce # 3 - TM p. 66*
- Spend some time discussing how blessed we are to have a hierarchy in the Church, because it makes clear who our leaders are.
- *Reinforce # 3, 4 - TM p. 68*
- *Reinforce # 4 - TM p. 70*
- Discuss with the students the difference between a conclave and a political election, focusing especially on the activity of the Holy Spirit.

■ CELEBRATION

- Song: *God of our fathers, whose almighty hand - Adoremus Hymnal # 625*
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapters 7 & 8 - **ST pp. 43-60**
- Concluding prayer: Thank God for giving us an ordered hierarchy to lead the Church. Pray the Prayer for Vocations. - **ST p. 184**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 6, pp. 63-74
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 6, pp. 39-42
- Actiity Book (AB):**
Chapter 6, pp. 21-24

Notes: _____

Church History - The First Thousand Years

PREPARATION

Prayer: Apostles' Creed - ST p. 181

Scripture: Ephesians 1:15-16 - ST p. 74

Sacred art: *Saint Paul* - ST p. 75

PROCLAMATION

The Church grew and spread during her first thousand years. God raised up many saints in the midst of those who persecuted and challenged the Church. During this time monastic orders played an important role in the Church.

EXPLANATION

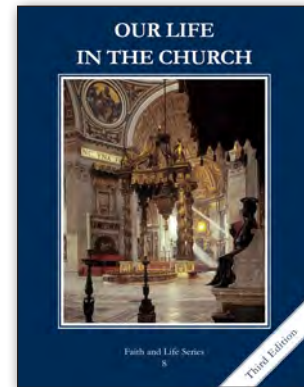
- The early Church grew and spread, but there were persecutions and many martyrs gave their lives for Christ.
 - Work of the apostles: *Begin & Develop # 2, 3, 4 - TM p. 132*
 - Persecutions: *Develop # 5 - TM p. 132*
- Even when Christianity eventually became legal, many saints of the Church still had to combat heresies that threatened the Church during their ages.
 - Christianity legalized: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 134*
 - Heresy: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 134*
 - Saint Athanasius: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 134*
 - Saint Augustine: *Develop # 5 - TM p. 134*
- Those called to a life of poverty, chastity, and obedience live in religious communities to serve Christ in this special way.
 - Monks: *Develop # 2, 3 - TM p. 136*
 - Activity - **AB p. 43**
- As the first millennium came to a close the Church faced threats from Islam, schism, and corruption of her clergy.
 - Islam: *Begin - TM p. 138*
 - Schism: *Develop # 2, 3 - TM p. 138*
 - Corruption of the clergy: *Develop # 4, 5 - TM p. 138*

APPLICATION

- *Martyrdom - TM p. 133*
- *Reinforce # 4 - TM p. 134*
- *Reinforce # 5 - TM p. 136*
- *Reinforce # 3 - TM p. 138*

CELEBRATION

- Song: *From all thy saints in warfare - Adoremus Hymnal # 592*
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 12 - **ST pp. 80-87**
- Concluding prayer: Thank God for always being with his Church. Pray the Apostles' Creed. - **ST p. 181**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 11, pp. 131-142
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 11, pp. 74-79
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 11, pp. 41-44

Notes: _____

Cardinal Virtues / Moral Virtues / Theological Virtues

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Our Father -
ST p. 181

Scripture: 2 Peter 1:5-7 -
ST p. 102

■ PROCLAMATION

Virtue enables a person to do good actions easily and to avoid doing bad actions.

■ EXPLANATION

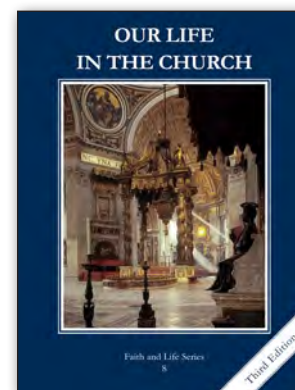
- Virtue is the disposition of the soul to do good.
 - Virtue: *Begin & Develop* # 2, 4 - **TM p. 184**
 - Activity - **AB p. 57**
- Cardinal virtues enable us to act rightly in our relationship with other men and created goods.
 - Cardinal virtues: *Begin & Develop* # 2 - **TM p. 186**
- The moral virtues help us to counteract our inclination to the seven capital sins.
 - Moral virtues: *Begin & Develop* # 3 - **TM p. 188**
- The theological virtues are supernatural virtues that are directed toward God.
 - Theological virtues: *Develop* # 2, 3, 4 - **TM p. 190**

■ APPLICATION

- *Develop* # 3 - **TM p. 184**
- *Reinforce* # 3 - **TM p. 184**
- *Reinforce* # 5 - **TM p. 186**
- *Reinforce* # 4 - **TM p. 188**
- *Reinforce* # 3 - **TM p. 190**

■ CELEBRATION

- Saint: *Saint Thomas More: An Example of Prudence and Justice* - **TM p. 187** / *Saint Maria Goretti: An Example of Temperance and Fortitude* - **TM p. 189**
- Song: *Be thou my vision* - **Adoremus Hymnal # 623**
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 16 - **ST pp. 110-114**
- Concluding prayer: Thank God for all of the virtues and the help he gives us to become virtuous. Pray the Prayer Before a Crucifix - **TM p. 187**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 15, pp. 177-188
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 15, pp. 69-72
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 15, pp. 57-60

Notes: _____

Vocations

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Our Father -
ST p. 181

Scripture: John 15:13 -
ST p. 115

■ PROCLAMATION

God calls each of us to a vocation that allows us to follow Christ most perfectly on earth.

■ EXPLANATION

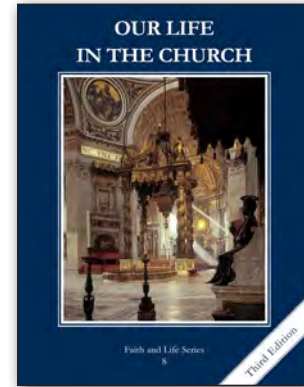
- God has a plan for every person.
 - God's plan: *Begin* - **TM p. 212**
 - Discerning vocations: *Develop # 2* - **TM p. 212**
- Religious life, by which one imitates Christ through the three evangelical counsels, is the highest state of life.
 - Vows: *Begin* - **TM p. 214**
 - Religious life: *Develop # 2, 3* - **TM p. 214**
 - Evangelical counsels: *Develop # 5* - **TM p. 214**
 - Religious communities: *Develop # 2, 3, 4* - **TM p. 216**
- Holy Orders is the vocation in which a man is called to serve the people of God.
 - Holy Orders: *Develop # 1, 2, 4, 6* - **TM p. 218**

■ APPLICATION

- *Reinforce # 3, 4* - **TM p. 212**
- We are all called to imitate Christ. How can we be poor, chaste, and obedient as students, in imitation of Christ?
- *Reinforce # 3* - **TM p. 216**

■ CELEBRATION

- Song: *Of the glorious Body telling* - **Adoremus Hymnal # 392**
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 18 - **ST pp. 121-123**
- Concluding prayer: Ask God to reveal your vocation to you. Pray the Prayer for Vocations. - **ST p. 184**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 17, pp. 211-222
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 17, pp. 115-120
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 17, pp. 65-68

Notes: _____

Marriage / Family

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Our Father -
ST p. 181

Scripture: Matthew 19:6 -
ST p. 124

Sacred art: *Holy Family* -
ST p. 125

■ PROCLAMATION

The vocation of marriage is ordered to the unity of the spouses and the creation of new life. Marriage also forms a new community, the family.

■ EXPLANATION

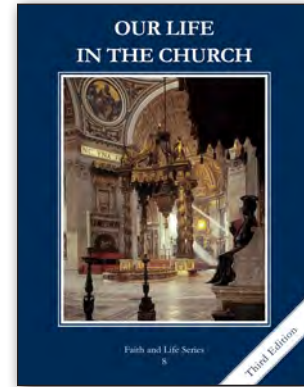
- Marriage is ordered to the unity of the spouses.
 - Vocation of love: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 236*
 - Mutual love: *Develop # 2, 5 - TM p. 238*
 - Exclusivity: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 238*
 - Mutual support: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 238*
 - Indissolubility: *Develop # 6 - TM p. 238*
- Marriage is ordered to the creation of new life.
 - Spouses equal in dignity: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 236*
 - Be fruitful: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 236*
 - Exclusivity of marital love: *Develop # 5 - TM p. 236*
- Marriage was elevated to be a Sacrament when Christ sanctified it.
 - Wedding at Cana: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 240*
 - Sacrament and grace: *Develop # 3, 4 - TM p. 240*
- A husband and wife form a new community - a family.
 - Vocation of marriage: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 242*
 - Duties of children: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 242*

■ APPLICATION

- *Reinforce # 3 - TM p. 236*
- *Reinforce # 3, 4 - TM p. 238*
- Jesus, Mary, and Joseph are called the Holy Family. What are some qualities of Joseph and Mary that made their marriage holy? Remember that, if you are called to marriage, these are the qualities you should seek in a spouse when the time comes.
- *Reinforce # 3, 4 - TM p. 242*

■ CELEBRATION

- Saint: *Saint Gianna Molla - TM p. 239*
- Song: *O Lord, the Giver of all life, - Adoremus Hymnal # 609*
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 20 - **ST pp. 129-133**
- Concluding prayer: Thank God for the gift of sacramental marriage. Pray the Prayer for Families. - **TM p. 239**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 19, pp. 235-246
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 19, pp. 124-128
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 19, pp. 73-76

Notes: _____

Social Order

PREPARATION

Prayer: Our Father -
ST p. 181

Scripture: John 3:17 -
ST p. 141

PROCLAMATION

As Christians we are obliged to help shape society so that public morality will be in conformity with Christian morality.

EXPLANATION

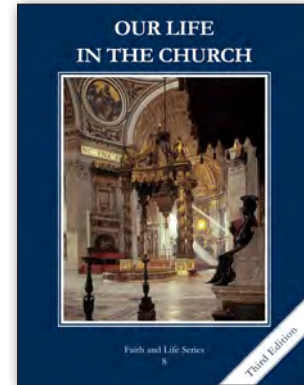
- The Church helps to shape society so that public morality will be in conformity with Christian morality.
 - Bringing people to Christ: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 274*
 - Shaping society: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 274*
- Man has a duty to protect human life.
 - God is the author of life: *Begin - TM p. 276*
 - Murder: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 276*
 - Abortion: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 276*
 - Euthanasia: *Develop # 4 - TM p. 276*
 - Just war: *Begin & Develop # 2 - TM p. 278*
 - Activity - **AB p. 86**
- Social justice establishes conditions in society that allow individuals or groups to obtain their due.
 - Social justice: *Develop # 2 - TM p. 280*
 - Evils that harm society: *Develop # 3 - TM p. 280*
 - Our care for others: *Develop # 4, 5 - TM p. 280*

APPLICATION

- *Reinforce # 3 - TM p. 274*
- Write a letter to one of your civil leaders asking him to recognize the great responsibility he has in his office, the injustice of taking innocent human life, and to base his political decisions about life upon this.
- *Reinforce # 5 - TM p. 276*
- Discuss with the students the importance of being well-informed about political history and events. It is only then that we can be in dialogue with our political leaders about just laws and the pursuit of peace.
- *Reinforce # 3 - TM p. 280*

CELEBRATION

- Song: *I heard the voice of Jesus say - Adoremus Hymnal # 579*
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 23 - **ST pp. 145-151**
- Concluding Prayer: Ask God to give us the wisdom and grace we need to help contribute to the just ordering of society. Pray the Anima Christi. - **ST p. 185**



- Teacher's Manual (TM):**
Chapter 22, pp. 273-284
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 22, pp. 140-144
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 22, pp. 85-88

Notes: _____

Prayer

■ PREPARATION

Prayer: Glory Be - ST p. 181

Scripture: Romans 8:26 - ST p. 147

Sacred art: *The Madonna of Humility* - ST p. 146

■ PROCLAMATION

We are called to unite ourselves with Christ in prayer.

■ EXPLANATION

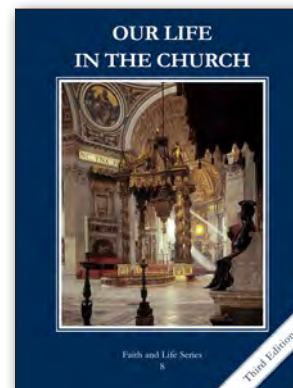
- Jesus taught about the necessity of prayer. There are five steps to prayer.
 - Necessity of prayer: *Begin* - TM p. 286
 - Jesus at prayer: *Develop # 2* - TM p. 286
 - Jesus’ teachings on prayer: *Develop # 3* - TM p. 286
 - Steps to prayer: *Develop # 4* - TM p. 286
- The two forms of prayer are mental and vocal.
 - Two forms of prayer: *Develop # 2* - TM p. 288
 - Formal: *Develop # 3* - TM p. 288
 - Informal: *Develop # 4* - TM p. 288
- There are many reasons for prayer. Some of these are adoration, thanksgiving, contrition, and petition.
 - Four reasons for prayer: *Develop # 2, 3, 4* - TM p. 290
- The prayers of the Church include the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours, as well as other formal prayers.
 - Formal community prayer: *Begin* - TM p. 292
 - Mass: *Develop # 2* - TM p. 292
 - Liturgy of the Hours: *Develop # 3* - TM p. 292
 - Our Father: *Develop # 4* - TM p. 292
 - Rosary: *Develop # 6* - TM p. 292

■ APPLICATION

- Recall that Jesus taught us how to pray. Remind students that the Our Father is our guide to prayer.
- *Reinforce # 4* - TM p. 286
- *Reinforce # 3* - TM p. 288
- *Reinforce # 4* - TM p. 290
- *Reinforce # 5* - TM p. 292
- Teach the students, based upon the steps to prayer, that a key to perseverance in prayer is consistency. Guide the students in setting aside a certain time each day for both vocal and mental prayer.

■ CELEBRATION

- Song: *Come down, O Love divine* - **Adoremus Hymnal # 440**
- Student reading for next lesson: Chapter 24 - **ST pp. 152-160**
- Concluding prayer: Ask God for the grace to be united to Christ in prayer. Pray the Our Father. - **ST p. 181**



- Teacher’s Manual (TM):**
Chapter 23, pp. 285-296
(Lessons 1-4)
- Student Textbook (ST):**
Chapter 23, pp. 145-151
- Activity Book (AB):**
Chapter 23, pp. 89-92

Notes: _____
