

# Religion

Jeremy Toth

[tothj@trinityknights.org](mailto:tothj@trinityknights.org)

## **Objectives**

The purpose of Religion Class at Trinity Catholic School is to create a dynamic, discussion-based, and intentional classroom environment focused on the study of God and the Catholic faith through Sacred Scripture and Tradition. Students will be given opportunities to:

- deepen and broaden their relationship with God and neighbor
- increase their understanding of themselves as created in His image and likeness
- grow in a greater understanding and ownership of the Catholic faith

## **Curriculum**

### ***6th Grade***

Students spend this year immersed in God's Word in Sacred Scripture, and explore how the Bible, written under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, records God's plan of salvation.

- Basics of how to use the Bible
- How and why we should pray with Scripture.
- How the Bible is different from other books.
- An overview of Salvation History through the lens of covenants

*Spirit of Truth: Sacred Scripture Student Workbook*, 2017, Sophia Institute for Teachers (ISBN: 978-1-622824-366)

### ***7th Grade***

Seventh graders explore Jesus and the Gospel message, with an emphasis on unifying themes in Scripture and an in-depth examination of the four Gospels.

- Personal growth: the origin, dignity, and destiny of the human person.
- An exploration of each Sacrament.
- Prayer: its elements, qualities, and challenges; ways of praying; Mary and the saints as models of prayer.

*Spirit of Truth: Living as a Disciple of Christ Student Workbook*, 2017, Sophia Institute for Teachers (ISBN: 978-1-622824-403)

### ***8th Grade***

Eighth graders build on their understanding of personal growth, with an emphasis on our vocation to love and our responsibilities to God and each other.

- Morality: conscience formation through prayer and an objective moral standard.
- Church History: our identity as Catholics; how the saints have shaped the liturgy, hierarchy, and doctrine of the Church.
- Citizen and Government: the natural rights of persons; the purpose of government.
- God's Plan for Marriage and the Family: our identity as male and female; purposes and abuses of sexuality; resisting temptation so as to avoid sin and grow in virtue.

*Spirit of Truth: The Communion of the Faithful Student Workbook*, 2017, Sophia Institute for Teachers (ISBN: 978-1-622824-441)

## **Grading**

Grades are based on a total points system. Points may be adjusted at the teacher's discretion based on number of questions or rigor of assignment.

Category	Description	Points
Weekly Packets	Packets provided by the teacher which include bellwork, notes, vocabulary information, and reflection questions for each lesson	10
Classwork	Work and activities completed in class in the student text	5
Quizzes	Quizzes are completed in class every other Friday and will cover material from class (Weekly Packets) and the student text	20
Summative Assessments	Projects completed at the end of a unit of study to show mastery	50

## **Supplies**

Students should bring the following to class each day:

- Religion Binder
- Religion Textbook
- Planner
- Pencil bag with pens, pencils, and colored pencils

## **Behavior**

Students are expected to behave in a way that is conducive to a productive learning environment. Any behavior which disrupts the learning environment may result in the following disciplinary action:

1. Student Behavior Reflection Form: If students persist in disruptive behavior (calling out, talking to their classmates during direct instruction, etc.) throughout class, they will be asked to fill out a form which is designed to help them reflect on their behavior and plan for improvement. This form will be signed by a parent or guardian. This form is only used by Mr. Toth for his class. It will not be forwarded to administration. If a student needs to fill out three or more in a quarter, it may affect their conduct grade.
2. Student Behavior Notification: If a student demonstrates behavior that is unacceptable during class (disrespectful behavior toward the teacher or peers, violence, destruction of school property, etc.), he or she will receive a Student Behavior Notification form (SBN). This form is filled out by the teacher and signed by the student and a parent or guardian. It is also forwarded to administration. A SBN will generally be accompanied by an additional consequence (detention, loss of privileges, etc.). Students who receive multiple SBNs in a quarter may be placed on behavior probation .

## **Communication**

### ***Google Classroom***

Google Classroom is a collaboration tool for teachers and students. Teachers create an online classroom, invite students to the class then create and distribute assignments. Within the Google Classroom students and teachers can have conversations about the assignments and teachers can track the student's progress. This is an organizational tool for the students to see all assignments and to-do lists in one place. Parents are able to receive communication as well to see what the students are working on.

### ***E-mail***

The most effective method of communication between teacher and parents is e-mail. Parents should expect to receive a reply from the teacher within 24 hours. Students may confer directly with the teacher to resolve any questions or concerns. Students may use their school-issued email account to communicate, if there is not an opportunity in class.

### ***Powerschool***

Parents and students are responsible for checking PowerSchool on a regular basis to monitor progress. Please bring concerns to the teacher's attention as soon as they appear. Parents and teachers will work together to promote student progress. Questions regarding access to PowerSchool should be directed to the front office.