



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS *in the* ARCHDIOCESE *of* NEW YORK

Faith-Based.Future-Focused.

GRADE 8

OVERVIEW: The Human Person (Part 2)
Church History
Morality
Prayer

ROSARY: Review All Mysteries

SAINTS

SEMESTER 1: St. Maximilian Kolbe

SEMESTER 2: St. Katharine Drexel

ANYTIME: Patron Saint of your School and Region

The Religion Teacher

“The religion teacher is the key, the vital component, if the educational goals of the school are to be achieved. But the effectiveness of religious instruction is closely tied to the personal witness given by the teacher; this witness is what brings the content of the lessons to life . . . Most of all, students should be able to recognize authentic human qualities in their teachers. They are teachers of the faith; however, like Christ, they must also be teachers of what it means to be human . . . A teacher who has a clear vision of the Christian milieu and lives in accord with it will be able to help young people develop a similar vision, and will give them the inspiration they need to put it into practice.”

(Congregation for Catholic Education, *The Religious Dimension of Education in a Catholic School*, 1988)

A few notes on using the Pacing Guides...

- Passing on the faith to the next generation is a primary mission of the church, and Catholic schools have participated in this evangelizing mission from the very beginning.
- The Religion Pacing Guides are truly *guides* for instruction. They are not the Religion Guidelines, nor are they a curriculum. They are intended to help the teachers in organizing their instruction of the content of the Religion Guidelines.
- The **Sadlier** and **Sophia Institute** textbooks/resources are not curriculums. Therefore, the Pacing Guides do not follow the order of any textbook. Hence, in the **Resources** column of the Pacing Guides, chapter numbers from the Sadlier textbook appear inconsecutively and multiple times.
- As of September 2024, online assessments are administered three times each year: beginning of the year, mid-year, and end of year. The end of year assessment is the final exam for grades 3 – 8. Online assessments are administered via Clever/Connect.
- The liturgical calendar notes are not part of the instructional content; they are included simply so teachers can be aware of celebrations in the life of the Church to inform the life of their classroom and instruction.



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Prayers of the Mass: Simple Responses Noted in the Pacing Guide for Each Month as **MR**

Review in Grade 8

1. And with your Spirit
2. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy
3. Penitential Rite: I confess to Almighty God
4. Glory to God in the highest
5. Alleluia
6. Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ
7. The Nicene Creed
8. Lord hear our prayer
9. Preface Dialogue Responses
 - The Lord be with you* – And with your Spirit
 - Lift up your hearts* – We lift them up to the Lord
 - Let us give thanks to the Lord our God* – It is right and just
10. Holy, Holy, Holy
11. We proclaim Your death O Lord
12. The Lord's Prayer: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are Yours
now and forever
13. Sign of Peace
14. Lamb of God
15. Lord I am not worthy
16. Dismissal – Thanks be to God

Available Resources

Sadlier Religion - Free Supplemental Online Resources

[Religion.SadlierConnect.com](https://religion.sadlierconnect.com) Home to all eBooks, online assessments, and Sadlier's Catholic Identity Links, an online virtues & values program, featuring 52 weeks of lessons and family components

[Sadlier.com/religion/we-believe](https://sadlier.com/religion/we-believe) Weekly blog featuring prayers and resources to supplement *We Believe*

[Sadlier.com/religion/resources](https://sadlier.com/religion/resources) Sadlier's Religion Publications Center featuring downloadable lessons, prayer cards, and more

[Sadlier.com/religion/](https://sadlier.com/religion/) You can shop online and preview programs here, as well as link to all the other sites

Sophia Institute for Teachers - Free Supplemental Online Resources

- **The Catholic Curriculum Exchange:** This searchable database of lessons enables teachers across the country to share lesson plans and offer reviews and tips about what worked and what didn't work in the classroom. Hundreds of lesson plans are available at every grade level and in every subject matter. The Catholic Curriculum Exchange can be found at the following link: sophiainstituteforteachers.org/curriculum
- **Sophia Sketchpad:** Sophia SketchPad is an innovative, engaging, and accessible video series to help young people better understand and live the Catholic Faith. The Sophia Sketchpad videos can be found at the following link: <https://sophiateachers.org/video/sketchpad-eucharist/>

SEPTEMBER

VALUE: Hope

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.54-56 MR 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Nature and Purpose of Relationships The Value of Relationships 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 3, 4, 6
WEEK 2 GL 8.56-60 MR 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family and Friends in the Human Community Our Relationship with God and Church 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 1,2, 4, 5
WEEK 3 GL 8.60-61 MR 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Responsibility 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 17-19
WEEK 4 GL 8.64-66 MR 1-2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. The Journey of the Church from the Time of Jesus to 100 AD 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 7

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Ordinary Time
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter and Christmas), Martyr
September 3	St. Gregory the Great
September 5	St. Teresa of Calcutta
September 8	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary
September 9	St. Peter Claver
September 13	St. John Chrysostom
September 14	Exaltation of the Holy Cross
September 15	Our Lady of Sorrows
September 16	Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian
September 17	St. Robert Bellarmine
September 20	Sts. Andrew Kim Tae-gon and Paul Chong Ha-sang
September 23	St. Pius of Pietrelcina (Padre Pio)
September 26	Sts. Cosmas and Damian
September 27	St. Vincent de Paul
September 29	Sts. Michael, Gabriel and Raphael, Archangels
September 30	St. Jerome

GL = Religion Guidelines (Rev. ed. 1998)

Mass Responses are on page 3.

OCTOBER

VALUE: Respect All Life

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.82-83 MR 3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus' Teaching on the Commandments Jesus' Teaching on Love 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 2, 4-6
WEEK 2 GL 8.66-68 MR 3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> II. Journey Continues from 100 – 500 A.D. 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 8
WEEK 3 GL 8.68-69 MR 3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Life Lessons (see link in next column) 	RESPECT LIFE LESSONS: https://archny.org/teachers-and-parents/ Refer to <i>Resources for Teaching</i> in this Pacing Guide (page 4)
WEEK 4 GL 8.68-69 MR 3-4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Journey Continues from 500 – 1000 A.D. Early Middle Ages 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 9

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Ordinary Time
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter and Christmas), Martyr
October 1	St. Thérèse of the Child Jesus
October 2	The Holy Guardian Angels
October 4	St. Francis of Assisi
October 7	Our Lady of the Rosary
October 9	St. Denis
October 11	Saint John XXIII, Pope
October 15	St. Teresa of Ávila
October 17	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr
October 18	St. Luke
October 22	St. John Paul II, Pope
October 28	Sts. Simon and Jude, Apostles

NOVEMBER

VALUE: Charity

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.70- 72 MR 5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feast of All Saints In depth study of St. Maximilian Kolbe and the patron saint of the school. Special activities based on saints 	GRADE 8/Saint Cards p.17
WEEK 2 GL 8.70- 72 MR 5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IV. Journey Continues from 1000 A.D. – 1500 A.D. High and Late Middle Ages 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 10-11
WEEK 3 GL 8.73- 76 MR 5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> V. Journey Continues from 1500 A.D. – 1800 A. D. 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 12-14
WEEK 4 GL 8.73- 76 MR 5-6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Season of Advent Journey Continues from 1500 A.D. – 1800 A. D. (continued) 	SADLIER: p. 277-280, We Believe – Chapters 12-14

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Ordinary Time/Advent
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter and Christmas), Martyr
November 1	All Saints
November 2	All Souls
November 3	St. Martin de Porres
November 4	St. Charles Borromeo
November 10	St. Leo the Great
November 11	St. Martin of Tours
November 12	St. Josaphat
November 13	St. Frances Xavier Cabrini
November 17	St. Elizabeth of Hungary
November 21	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
November 22	St. Cecilia
November 23	Feast of Christ the King

November 24	St. Andrew Dung-Lac and Companions
November 30	First Sunday of Advent

DECEMBER

VALUE: Faith

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.76-78 MR 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VI. Journey Continues from 1800 - Present Modern Era 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 15-16
WEEK 2 GL 8.76-78 MR 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VI. Journey Continues from 1800 - Present Modern Era (continued) 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 15-16
WEEK 3 MR 7-8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding the Christmas Season Within a Catholic Context 	SADLIER: We Believe – p. 281-284 SOPHIA: See Sophia Institute free online supplemental resources.
WEEK 4	Christmas Recess	

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

LITURGICAL SEASON:	Advent, Christmas
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
December 3	St. Francis Xavier
December 6	St. Nicholas
December 7	Second Sunday of Advent
December 8	The Immaculate Conception of the BVM (Holyday of Obligation)
December 9	St. Juan Diego
December 12	Our Lady of Guadalupe
December 13	St. Lucy
December 14	Third Sunday of Advent
December 21	Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 25	Christmas
December 26	St. Stephen
December 27	St. John
December 28	The Holy Family

JANUARY

VALUE: Justice

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1	Review/Re-teach lessons from the First Semester as needed (based on teacher discretion)	Refer to <i>Resources for Teaching</i> in this Pacing Guide (page 4)
WEEK 2	Review/Re-teach lessons from the First Semester as needed (based on teacher discretion)	Refer to <i>Resources for Teaching</i> in this Pacing Guide (page 4)
WEEK 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Life Week (Week of Jan. 23, 2023) Respect Life Lessons (see link in next column) 	RESPECT LIFE LESSONS: https://archny.org/teachers-and-parents/ Refer to <i>Resources for Teaching</i> in this Pacing Guide (page 4)
WEEK 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Definition of Morality 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR

LITURGICAL SEASON:	Christmas, Ordinary Time
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time , Advent , Lent , Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
January 1	Solemnity of Mary, The Holy Mother of God
January 2	Sts. Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen
January 4	The Epiphany of the Lord
January 5	St. John Neumann
January 6	St. André Bessette
January 11	The Baptism of the Lord
January 17	St. Anthony, Abbot
January 21	St. Agnes
January 22	Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children
January 24	St. Francis de Sales
January 26	Sts. Timothy and Titus
January 28	St. Thomas Aquinas
January 31	St. John Bosco

FEBRUARY

VALUE: Prudence

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.82 MR 9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Basis of Catholic Morality in the Life and Teaching of Jesus 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2
WEEK 2 GL 8.82 MR 9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus' Relationship with God the Father 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 2, 4-6
WEEK 3 GL 8.83-84 MR 9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus' Vision of the Kingdom Jesus' Invitation to His Disciples Lent – Season of Renewal: Prayer, Penance and Fasting 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 19-23, p. 285-288 See Sophia Institute free online supplemental resources.
WEEK 4 GL 8.84-86 MR 9-10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fundamental Choices Definition of Conscience Lent – Season of Renewal: Prayer, Penance and Fasting (continued) 	SADLIER: We Believe – p. 285-288 See Sophia Institute free online supplemental resources.

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Ordinary Time, Lent
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
February 2	The Presentation of the Lord
February 3	St. Blaise
February 5	St. Agatha
February 6	St. Paul Miki and Companions
February 10	St. Scholastica
February 11	Our Lady of Lourdes
February 14	Saints Cyril and Methodius
February 18	Ash Wednesday
February 21	St. Peter Damian
February 22	First Sunday of Lent

MARCH

VALUE: Temperance

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 MR 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Development of Conscience Lent – Season of Renewal: Prayer, Penance and Fasting (continued) 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2, p. 285-288 See Sophia Institute free online supplemental resources.
WEEK 2 GL 8.86-88 MR 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elements of a Moral Decision 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2
WEEK 3 GL 8.88-90 MR 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Process of Making a Good Moral Choice 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2
WEEK 4 GL 8.89-90 MR 11-13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with Temptation Failure to Choose the Good as God Sees It 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 2, 6

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Lent
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
March 1	Second Sunday of Lent
March 3	St. Katharine Drexel
March 4	St. Casimir
March 7	Sts. Perpetua and Felicity
March 8	Third Sunday of Lent
March 9	Saint Frances of Rome
March 15	Fourth Sunday of Lent
March 17	St. Patrick
March 18	St. Cyril of Jerusalem
March 19	St. Joseph, Husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary
March 22	Fifth Sunday of Lent
March 25	The Annunciation of the Lord
March 30	Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

APRIL

VALUE: Fortitude

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.91- 92 MR 14- 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Personal Prayer and Openness to the Holy Spirit The Witness of the Community Holy Week/Easter 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 22-24; Resources for the Family R39-R48 Prayers and Practices p. 305-308
WEEK 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sacraments as Nourishment and Strength Communion of Saints 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapters 22-24
WEEK 3 GL 8.92 MR 14- 16	Easter Recess (week varies)	
WEEK 4 GL 8.95 MR 14- 16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer: Relationship The Nature of Friendship 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 22 Resources for the Family, R39-R48 Prayers and Practices p. 305-308

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Lent / Easter
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
April 2	Holy Thursday
April 3	Good Friday
April 4	Holy Saturday
April 5	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord
April 12	Sunday of Divine Mercy
April 29	St. Catherine of Siena

MAY

VALUE: Humility

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1 GL 8.95-98 MR 14-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nature, Elements, and Ways of Prayer Qualities of Prayer 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 22 Resources for the Family, R39-R48 Prayers and Practices, p. 305-308
WEEK 2 GL 8.98-101 MR 14-16	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Distractions in Prayer People Who Show Us How to Pray In depth study of St. Katharine Drexel 	SADLIER: We Believe – Chapter 22 Resources for the Family, R39-R48 Prayers and Practices, p. 305-308 GRADE 8/Saint Cards p.11
WEEK 3	Review	Refer to Resources for Teaching in this Pacing Guide (page 4)
WEEK 4	ADNY End Year Religion Assessment Testing Window	

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Easter
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
May 1	St. Joseph the Worker
May 2	St. Athanasius
May 12	Saint Pancras
May 13	Our Lady of Fatima
May 14	Ascension Thursday (Holyday of Obligation)
May 22	St. Rita of Cascia
May 24	Pentecost Sunday
May 25	The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church
May 26	Saint Philip Neri
May 27	St. Augustine of Canterbury
May 31	The Most Holy Trinity

JUNE

VALUE: Reflection

WEEK	CONTENT	RESOURCES FOR TEACHING
WEEK 1	ADNY End Year Religion Assessment Testing Window	

THE LITURGICAL CALENDAR	
LITURGICAL SEASON:	Easter
COLOR KEY:	Ordinary Time, Advent, Lent, Feast (including Easter & Christmas), Martyr
June 1	St. Justin, Martyr
June 3	St. Charles Lwanga and Companions
June 5	St. Boniface
June 7	The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi)
June 11	St. Barnabas
June 12	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus
June 13	St. Anthony of Padua
June 24	The Nativity of St. John the Baptist
June 29	Sts. Peter and Paul, Apostles