

Sophomore Theology  
Class Syllabus

**Instructor:** Mr. Anthony Spellacy

**Description:** This class will be split in to two parts. The first part will be a study the moral teaching of the Church. We will study the virtues and moral decision making. We will also look at the Church's teaching on certain "hot button" issues. Finally we will apply what we have learned to certain situations in the form of case studies.

In the second part we will study the Sacraments of the Church. This will include a study of what the Sacraments are, how they occur, their history, and their importance to the life of the Church. This section will be a fairly in-depth study into the Seven Sacraments as well as the sacramentals that occur at the celebration of every Sacrament. Because the Sacraments are very visual and tactile, practical participation in some of the Sacraments will be required during the semester.

During the year the students will also participate in spiritual exercises. These will include Participation in Friday adoration, prayers during class, Scripture Reading and meditation. Students will also be given an opportunity to participate in their religion outside of school.

**Goals:** At the end of the first semester of this course students should be able to clearly articulate the Church's positions on certain issues, and state how one make sound decisions, and sound moral judgments. Morality is an important part of not only a Catholic's life but every person's life.

At the end of the Second semester of this course, students should be able clearly articulate what the Seven Sacraments of the Church are. They should also be able describe each of the Sacraments and what occurs both physically and sacramentally. The student should also be able to identify the actors, celebrants, actions, objects, and receiver of all the Sacraments.

Over the entire year the student should develop a deeper and more complete understanding of their faith.

**Text:** Stoutzenberger, Joseph. *Morality: A response to God's love.* (2005, Harcourt Religion Publisher) ISBN: 978-0-159-01486-8

Driedger, Patricia. *Our Sacramental Life: Living and Worshipping in Christ.* (2002, Ave Maria Press) ISBN: 0-87793-719-2

The Bible (NAB)

**Required Supplies:**

One note book (Anything that is comfortable for the student to take notes in)

One notebook for assignments (this notebook should have perforated sheets) (not needed if the first notebook has this.)

Writing instruments (blue or black ink pens, or a pencil)

**Classroom Etiquette:** Every student should treat the other students and the teacher with respect. Only those conversations relevant to the course should be taking place during class time. Interruptions and disrespect will not be tolerated.

Students should be attentive during class. This means paying attention during movies and videos, not talking to their neighbors during class, doing work when assigned, and all other rules that normally apply in a classroom.

Students are to complete all work on time. Without a reason, late assignments will lose ten (10) points per day if graded, or will lose half credit on homework and other non graded assignments. In general, homework will not be graded but will be checked for completeness, tests will be graded (students will be told before hand if the assignment will be outside of this rubric).

Academic dishonesty will be treated with the harshest possible punishment. The assignment will automatically be given a zero (0) and the matter will be referred to the administration. The following (but not limited to) crimes will be treated as academic dishonesty: cheating on any assignment, copying other's work, handing in work for another class, not properly citing other's work, discussion of answers during tests, and using unauthorized materials to complete work. Academic Dishonesty is a severe crime in education and will not be tolerated. Please **DO NOT** attempt anything that would fit into this definition.

**Assignments:** Written assignments are to be completed with proper spelling and by applying proper grammar rules. Points will be taken off if spelling and grammar are not up to the standards of a high school student of your caliber. If you have trouble with this, you are more than welcome to turn the assignment in early and I will allow you to correct the mistakes (however the deadline is still to be met, so turn the assignment in at least two (2) days early). Class work will be graded on a slightly lighter scale, allowing for the required time limit. With this said, students are still expected to have decent grammar and spelling.

Those assignments that are typed are to be 12pt. Times New Roman, with 1 inch margins. Any deviation may result in academic dishonesty charges. Assignments should also be properly cited when needed. Citation style can be CMS, APA, or MLA, and can be done in Parenthetical, footnote, or endnotes. This should be done on any assignment that you use a source.

**Grading Scale:** Class participation: 10%  
Homework and Classroom assignments: 25%  
Tests: 40%  
Quizzes: 25%

**Make Up Work:** A student is responsible for any work missed due to absence. Any assignment that is given during the student's absence they are responsible for getting and turning in the assignment. The due date will be no later than the number of days the student is absent. Any assignment due during their absence is due in the day of return.

Please sign this page and return it to class no later than September 11, 2009. By affixing your signature you are indicating that you have read and agree to abide by all rules set forth in this document. You further agree that you will abide by all rules set forth in the Student Handbook while in this class. Specifically you acknowledge that you have reviewed the Academic Dishonesty policy stated in this document and in the Student Handbook, and agree to follow this policy.

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Print Student's Name

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Student's Signature

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Date

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Parent's Signature

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Date