

Sacraments, Church and Liturgy (Theology IIb) —

Ms. Maria Pollia

Immaculate Heart High School

First Semester 2010

OBJECTIVE This course offers the opportunity for students to explore the rich tradition of the Catholic Church through its sacramental theology and practice. The course seeks to engage students in an encounter with this essential dimension of Catholic life, with a special emphasis on liturgy. The sacramental experience of reality fosters an awareness of the relationship between Jesus and the Church, as well as an appreciation of the sacredness of God's creation. Students will gain a comprehension of Church history and the renewal brought by the Second Vatican Council, the deeply scriptural nature of the seven sacraments. Catholic sacramental theology is not about otherworldly phenomena but rather, an earthy, concrete, personal experience of God's grace which is available to all.

- ❖ Each student should be able to recognize God's loving presence in our lives through a sacramental awareness that discovers what is beyond the literal, obvious facts of our existence
- ❖ Each student should be able to understand celebration as a way of life, a way of appreciating God's gifts and rejoicing in them
- ❖ Each student should be able to understand that sacramental celebration is not a private experience, but rather is shared by the community
- ❖ Each student should recognize that to live a sacramental life means to take Christ into the world, to *be* sacraments of love and service to others, as Jesus was
- ❖ Each student should be able to understand that the sacramental life of the Church allows us as a community to experience the Paschal Mystery together, as we pass through death to new life
- ❖ Each student should be able to clearly express her perspective on given topics through her journal

REQUIRED Text: *Celebrating Sacraments* by Joseph Stoutzenberger

COURSE OUTLINE

Week 1

Chapter 1 Sacraments

- Sacramental Awareness
- Grace as God's Loving Presence in the World
- Receiving God's Offer of Friendship

Test #1

Week 2

Chapter 2 Symbols

- Communicating Through Symbols
 - Different Kinds of Symbols
 - Literal Thinking Versus Symbolic Thinking
 - Symbols and the Sacraments
- Test #2*

Week 3

Chapter 3 Ritual

- Rituals as Actions that Serve as Symbols
 - Characteristics of Rituals
 - Rituals and Worship
- Test/Quiz #3*

Week 4

Chapter 4 Prayer

- Sacred Time and Space
 - Paths to Intimacy with God
 - Praying “All Ways”
 - Being Rooted and Uprooted by Prayer
- Quiz/ Project*

Week 5

Chapter 5 Jesus Christ and the Church

- Jesus, fully Divine and fully Human
 - The Church as Sacrament of Christ to the World
 - The Seven Sacraments
- Test #4*

Week 6

Chapter 6 Sacraments in History

- Church and Sacraments before 400C.E.
 - The Dark Ages
 - The High Middle Ages
- Test #5*
- After the Council of Trent
 - The Twentieth Century and VaticanII
- Test #5*

Week 7 and 8 *Beginning the Sacraments of Initiation*

Chapter 7 *Baptism*

- Initiation
 - The Ritual of Baptism
 - The History of Baptism
 - Baptism and Salvation
- Test #6

Week 9

Chapter 8 *Confirmation*

- Lifelong growth in the Spirit
 - The Ritual of Confirmation
 - The History of Confirmation
 - Toward full initiation
- Test #7

WEEK 10 and 11

Chapter 9 *Eucharist*

- Remembering love shared, life poured out
 - The Ritual of Eucharist
 - Eucharist's history
 - Linking past, present and future
- Test #8
Project: *Initiation*

WEEK 12 *Beginning the Sacraments of Healing*

Chapter 10 *Reconciliation*

- Acknowledging our sin; Telling our stories
 - The Ritual of Reconciliation
 - The History of Reconciliation
 - Toward healing the whole person
- Test : #9

Week 13

Chapter 11 *Anointing of the Sick*

- God's loving concern
 - The Ritual of the Anointing of the Sick
 - The History of the Anointing of the Sick
 - God's healing in our lives
- Test #10
Project: *Healing*

Week 14

Beginning the Sacraments of Vocation

Chapter 12 *Matrimony*

- Celebrating the Covenant of Love
 - The Ritual of Matrimony
 - The History of Matrimony
 - A joyful hope for the world
- Test #11

Week 15

Chapter 13 *Holy Orders*

- A doorway to Sacred Mystery
 - The Ritual of Holy Orders
 - The History of Holy Orders
 - Challenges ahead
- Test #12
Project: Vocation

Week 16

Conclusion: The Sacrament of YOU

- Sacramental celebration
 - Sacramental community
 - Sacramental service
 - Sacramental life
- Test #13
Project: My Sacramental Life



GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

It is expected by sophomore year that each student is to come to class prepared with all necessary materials, that is, her textbook, journal, paper, something to write with, and any homework or other assignments due for that day.

Attendance is taken each day promptly at the beginning of the period. Students are expected to be on time to class with all essential books and materials. Should a test be missed, the student ordinarily will be expected to take the test on the day of her return to school during the regular class period.

Each student is responsible for material covered when absent, including homework, projects and journal topics assigned, and reading material. Students are expected to check the website each evening and do the homework assigned. If an assignment is based upon an in-class discussion or activity, the student is given one extra day to be advised as to the activity so she can approach the assignment to the best of her ability.

It is expected that all students will adhere to the Academic Integrity Policy on Pg. 11 of the Parent / Student Handbook. Any infringement upon this policy will not be tolerated and will be subject to receiving no credit for the test or assignment.

GRADING

Participation is extremely important in this class. Each student is encouraged to contribute thoughtful and integrative statements to the discussions and will be expected to listen, without prejudice, to the thoughts of her classmates.

Students are expected to keep up with the assigned reading. Students are expected to complete, on time, all assignments required.

Tests and quizzes are indicated on the syllabus.

Each student is required to keep a personal journal that will trace her growth over the semester's time. She is to include in this journal her responses to questions posed in class as well as any other related materials she finds interesting in relation to the topics of loving, relating, and life decision-making. Each student is required to write a reflection paper based on her growth and understanding as documented in her journal. Papers are to be typed, double-spaced, Times New Roman font (or equivalent), 12 point font size, with standard default margins (1" on all four sides).

GRADING SCALE

Class Participation	10%
Quizzes and Homework	10%
Tests	30%
Projects / Reflection Paper	30%
Final Exam	20%

Students will have the opportunity to hear guest speakers and see videos and other media that are relevant to the topic under discussion. A field trip to the Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral is being planned

Ms. Pollia's office hours are posted on her website.

