



8TH GRADE GUIDE FOR PARISHES

Unit Outlines/Overviews for 3-One Hour Lessons



Recommended Opening Short Exercise: Teacher's Guide Page xvii, start on the page where it says "SET UP COMMON PLACE BOOKS."

GRADE 8 LESSON 1: Unit 1: Vocation and Gift — ONE HOUR

- 1. Prayer:** *Lectio Divina* on Mark 1:16-20; 3:13-19
 - a. Teacher's Guide page 4/Commonplace Book pages 8-9
 - b. For how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide.
- 2. Reading & Comprehension Questions**
 - a. Reading: Teacher's Guide page 5-7/Commonplace Book pages 10-13
 - b. Comprehension questions & an answer key available to print at ruahwoods institute.org/parish
- 3. Activity:** "Show" & Tell (modified) Teacher's Guide pg. 12/Commonplace Book pg. 23
- 4. Saints & Heroes:** St Isaac Jogues: Teacher's Guide pg. 14/Commonplace Book pg. 24 + student reflection on saint pg. 25.

GRADE 8 LESSON 2: Unit 3: Sacrament of Marriage — ONE HOUR

- 1. Prayer:** *Lectio Divina* on Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-11, 15-16, 21-33
 - a. Teacher's Guide page 34/Commonplace Book pages 50-51
 - b. For how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide
- 2. Reading and Comprehension Questions**
 - a. Reading: Teacher's Guide pages 35-37/Commonplace Book pages 52-55
 - b. Comprehension questions & an answer key available to print at ruahwoods institute.org/parish
- 3. Activity:** Icon: The Wedding Feast at Cana Teacher's Guide pgs. 41-42/Commonplace Book pgs. 58-59
- 4. Saints & Heroes:** Sts. Zelig and Louis Martin Teacher's Guide pg. 45/Commonplace Book pg. 66 + student reflection on saint pg. 67.

GRADE 8 LESSON 3 Unit 6: Resurrection of the Body — ONE HOUR

- 1. Prayer:** *Lectio Divina* on John 11:17-27, 32-44
 - a. Teacher Guide page 81/Commonplace Book pages 112-113
 - b. For how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide.
- 2. Reading and Comprehension Questions**
 - a. Reading: Teacher's Guide pages 82-84/Commonplace Book pages 114-117
 - b. Comprehension questions & an answer key available to print at ruahwoods institute.org/parish
- 3. Activity:** Happily Ever After: Teacher's Guide pg. 87/Commonplace Book pg. 120-121
- 4. Saints & Heroes:** Pope St. John Paul II Teacher's Guide pg. 91 Commonplace Book pg.128 + student reflection on saint pg.129.

NOTE TO CATECHIST: If you ever need a substitute activity or an extra activity in any of the three lessons above, you can introduce Gratitude Journaling to your students at any time by reading the directions on page 15 of your Grade 8 Teacher's Guide.





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GRADE 8 LESSON 1 – Unit 1: Vocation and Gift – ONE HOUR

Recommended Opening Short Exercise: Teacher's Guide Page xvii, start on the page where it says "SET UP COMMON PLACE BOOKS."

Objectives

- Describe what holiness is.
- Identify the two states of life in which human persons live out holiness.
- Give examples of how people can display holiness in their lives.

Materials

- Grade 8 Teacher's Guide (1 per catechist)
- Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist (1 per catechist)
- Grade 8 Student Commonplace Book (1 per student)
- Comprehension Questions (1 per student)
- Notecards (1 per student)
- Writing utensil (1 per student)
- Catechist should review Issue Connections pg. 8 in the Teacher's Guide before class to prepare for some anticipated student questions.

Unit Outline

1. PRAYER: *Lectio Divina* on Mark 1:16-20; 3:13-19

Lectio divina scripture passage can be found in the Teacher's Guide on page 4 with student reflection page in the Commonplace Book on page 8. For an explanation on how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide.

2. READING AND COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- a. Read the text on pages 5-7 in the Teacher Guide's which can be found on pages 10-13 in the Commonplace Book also for the lesson's reading. Then answer the following comprehension questions with your students. A page with just the comprehension questions can be found at ruahwoodsinstitutue.org/parish





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GRADE 8 LESSON 1 – Unit 1: Vocation and Gift Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist

1. Who is called to holiness?

- All people are called to holiness.

**Catechist Note: Holiness is the first and fundamental vocation of every human person.

2. How does the Church describe holiness?

- According to the Church, holiness is loving God and loving other human persons.

3. The Church believes that there are two paths, state of life, to live out holiness. What are those two states of life?

- According to the Church, marriage and virginity for the sake of the kingdom are the two states of life that human persons have to live out holiness.

**Catechist Note: These two states of life are specific ways God calls us to be a gift of self.

4. Within the two states of life, God still has more specific ways he calls his children to be a gift of self. List two ways per state of life that a human person is called to be a gift of self.

- Marriage
 - A human person may be married but also has a job, such as a dentist or teacher, in which they are a gift of self to others.
- Virginity for the sake of the kingdom
 - A human person who is a virgin for the sake of the kingdom may become a religious sister who is a gift of self by caring for the elderly or ministering to the poor in a specific city.
 - A human person who is a virgin for the sake of the kingdom may be a priest who is a gift of self by administering the Sacraments to those in his parish.

**Catechist Note: These are some sample answers. There are more possible answers.

5. How are our vocations unique and unrepeatable?

- Every human person's vocation is unique and unrepeatable because every human person is unique and unrepeatable. There will never be another human person just like you. This means that the love you show is unique and unrepeatable. No one will ever be able to show love just like you do in your specific vocation.

3. ACTIVITY: “Show” & Tell (modified)* page 12 of Teacher’s Guide *(except the students will write what they want to tell about on the note cards) & have students reflect on this activity on page 23 of their commonplace book

4. SAINTS & HEROES: St. Isaac Jogues Teacher’s Guide pg. 14/Commonplace Book pg. 24 + student reflection on saint pg. 25 (if time permits).





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GRADE 8 LESSON 1: Unit 1 Vocation and Gift Comprehension Questions for Students

Name

1. Who is called to holiness?

2. How does the Church describe holiness?

3. The Church believes that there are two paths, state of life, to live out holiness. What are those two states of life?

4. Within the two states of life, God still has more specific ways he calls his children to be a gift of self. List two ways per state of life that a human person is called to be a gift of self.

5. How are our vocations unique and unrepeatable?





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GRADE 8 LESSON 2 – Unit 3: Sacrament of Marriage – ONE HOUR

Objectives

- State that from the beginning marriage was created to be a sign of God's love.
- State examples of how love in a marriage is like God's love.
- Explain what it means to state that marriage is a Sacrament.

Materials

- Grade 8 Teacher's Guide (1 per catechist)
- Grade 8 Student Commonplace Book (1 per student)
- Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist (1 per catechist)
- Comprehension Questions (1 per student)
- Printed Image Icon of the Wedding Feast at Cana found on ruahwoods institute.org/parish (1 per student)
- Passage John 2:1-11 found on ruahwoods institute.org/parish (one copy for Catechist to read)
- Writing utensil (1 per student)
- Catechist should review Issue Connections pgs. 38-40 in the Teacher's Guide before class to prepare for some anticipated student questions.

Unit Outline

1. PRAYER: *Lectio Divina* on Ephesians 5:1-2, 8-11, 15-16, 21-33

Lectio divina scripture passage can be found in the Teacher's Guide on page 34 with student reflection page in the Commonplace Book on page 50. For an explanation on how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide. **

CATECHIST NOTE: Explain that a wife "being subject" to her husband means she is just "placing herself under his loving care"-it does NOT mean he is the boss of her or anything like that! After all, husbands are called to being willing to give their life/selfish ways up for their wife!

2. READING AND COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- a. Read the text on pages 35-37 in the Teacher's Guide which can be found on pages 52-55 in the Commonplace Book also for the lesson's reading. Then answer the following comprehension questions with your students. A page with just the comprehension questions for students can be found at ruahwoods institute.org/parish





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GRADE 8 LESSON 2 — Unit 3: Sacrament of Marriage Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist

1. Why is it good that God created Eve?
 - It is good that God created Eve because Adam was no longer the only human person alive. He was not alone and had another human person to love, be a gift of self to.
**Catechist Note: Adam's body and Eve's body only makes sense in light of each other. When they are together, they are able to use their body to be a gift of self to the other. This is living out the spousal meaning of their body.
2. How are the differences between Adam and Eve good?
 - The differences between Adam and Eve are good because it helps them to realize their unique differences. These unique differences allow them to give and receive love in a unique way that only a man and woman can.
3. From the beginning, what was marriage created to be a sign of?
 - From the beginning, marriage was created to be a sign of God's love to the world. Marriage allowed people to see what God's love looked like.
**Catechist Note: Due to original sin, marriage does not always fully display the love of God. However, marriage is still the best example on earth of the love of the Trinity.
4. Why does marriage need to be redeemed?
 - Marriage needs to be redeemed due to sin entering into the world. Because of sin, human persons struggle to love like God in a marriage. It can be difficult to see God's love displayed between a man and woman in marriage.
5. What is the good that comes from Jesus raising marriage to a Sacrament?
 - It is good that Jesus raises marriage to a Sacrament because now in a Sacramental marriage a man and woman participate in God's love. This means a man and woman are given a share in God's divine love and love each other with the love of God himself. They are given the grace to do things they could not do before.
**Catechist Note: A Sacrament is a visible sign of an invisible reality that brings about what it signifies.
6. The text states that God's love is total, faithful, generous, and fruitful. Since marriage was created to display God's love to the world, the love in a marriage is to be total, faithful, generous, and fruitful. Complete the chart below by giving examples of how God's love and love in a marriage can be shown in these four ways.

****Catechist Note: Answers may vary. Here are some possible answers (see next page).**





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	God's Love	Love in a Marriage
Total (means to love the whole person, not just parts; means to give all of yourself to another)	God loves all of us, not just parts of us. Jesus gave his whole body to us on the cross.	A husband loves all of his wife, even the parts of her body that she is self-conscious about. A wife gives all of herself to her husband by sharing all her money in a mutual bank account.
Faithful (means to love 24/7; never ending)	God will never stop loving us, even when we turn from him.	A wife shows love to her husband every day. A husband heats up his wife's coffee every day as a way to show her love.
Generous (means to freely show love, not forced)	God freely chose to die on the cross out of love for us.	A husband freely chooses to help his wife make dinner. A wife freely chooses to help her husband wash the dishes after dinner.
Fruitful (means love brings life to others)	God gives us new life by dying on the cross for us.	The love between a husband and wife can bring new life, a baby, into the world.

3. ACTIVITY: Wedding Feast at Cana Teacher's Guide page 41-42/Commonplace Book pages 58-59 for reflection on activity. **PREP:** Printed Image Icon of the Wedding Feast at Cana (1 per student) & scripture passage John 2:1-11 (1 for Catechist to read) both available at ruahwoodsinsitute.org/parish

4. SAINTS & HEROES: Sts. Zelig and Louis Martin: Teacher's Guide pg. 45/Commonplace pg.66 + student reflection on saint pg. 67 (if time permits).





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GRADE 8 LESSON 2: Unit 2 Sacrament of Marriage Comprehension Questions for Students

Name

1. Why is it good that God created Eve?
2. How are the differences between Adam and Eve good?
3. From the beginning, what was marriage created to be a sign of?
4. Why does marriage need to be redeemed?
5. What is the good that comes from Jesus raising marriage to a Sacrament?
6. The text states that God's love is total, faithful, generous, and fruitful. Since marriage was created to display God's love to the world, the love in a marriage is to be total, faithful, generous, and fruitful. Complete the chart on the next page by giving examples of how God loves and love in a marriage can be shown in these four ways.





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Love in a Marriage				
God's Love				
	<p>Total (means to love the whole person, not just parts; means to give all of yourself to another)</p>	<p>Faithful (means to love 24/7; never ending)</p>	<p>Generous (means to freely show love, not forced)</p>	<p>Fruitful (means love brings life to others)</p>





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GRADE 8 LESSON 3 — Unit 6: Resurrection of the Body — ONE HOUR

Objectives

- State how Christ has transformed suffering and death.
- State when bodies will be reunited with the soul.
- Recognize that the body is good.

Materials

- Grade 8 Teacher's Guide (1 per catechist)
- Grade 8 Student Commonplace Book (1 per student)
- Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist (1 per catechist)
- Comprehension Questions with Space for Answers (1 per student)
- CS Lewis' Chapter 16 from *The Last Battle* (1 per catechist) found on ruahwoods institute.org/parish (15-minutes to read)
- Writing utensil (1 per student)
- Catechist should review Issue Connections pgs. 85-86 in the Teacher's Guide before class to prepare for some anticipated student questions.

Unit Outline

1. PRAYER: *Lectio Divina* on John 11:17-27, 32-44

Lectio divina can be found in the Teacher's Guide on page 81 with reflection page in the Commonplace Book on page 112. For an explanation on how to lead *lectio divina*, refer to pages viii-ix in the Teacher's Guide.

2. READING AND COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

- a. Read the text on pages 82-84 in the Teacher's Guide which can be found on pages 114-117 in the Commonplace Book also for the lesson's reading. Then answer the following comprehension questions with your students. A page with just the comprehension questions for students can be found at ruahwoods institute.org/parish





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GRADE 8 LESSON 3 — Unit 6 Resurrection of the Body Comprehension Questions & Answers Provided for Catechist

1. In this world, we experience suffering and death as an effect of sin. How has Christ transformed suffering and death?
 - Christ has transformed suffering because suffering can be redemptive.
 - Christ has transformed death because physical death on earth is the path to eternal life in heaven. We do not have to fear physical death anymore.
2. When human persons experience a physical death, there is a complete separation of body and soul. When will the bodies and souls be reunited?
 - The bodies of those who have experienced death on earth will be reunited with their souls when Christ comes again, the Second Coming.
3. What can we learn about the body from the fact that one day it will be reunited with the soul?
 - The body is good.
 - The body is not a cage or prison we are stuck in.
 - The body has a special dignity. Thus, you should respect your body.
 - The body lets others see what is invisible, our soul.
4. What does the fact that human persons will not be married to each other in heaven reveal about human persons?
 - On earth males and females coming together in marriage is good. In heaven there will not be marriage because there is a new and higher meaning of the body.

**Catechist Note: The fact that the marriage of male and females does not exist in heaven does not mean marriage is bad.

**Catechist Note: The union of man and woman on earth in a marriage is a sign to the world that all human persons are called to a union with God, which happens in heaven. God is the bridegroom and humanity is the bride. In heaven, humanity will be one with God.

3. Activity: Happily Ever After: Teacher's Guide pg.87/Commonplace Book pg. 120-121

PREP: For #2 in the directions, print a copy of CS Lewis' Chapter 16 from *The Last Battle* (1 per catechist) to read (15-minute read) available at ruahwoodsinsitute.org/parish

4. Saints & Heroes: Pope St. John Paul II Teacher's Guide pg. 91 Commonplace Book pg.128 + student reflection on saint pg.129. the following questions to discuss the activity.





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GRADE 8 LESSON 3: Unit 6 Resurrection of the Body Comprehension Questions for Students

Name

1. In this world, we experience suffering and death as an effect of sin. How has Christ transformed suffering and death?
2. When human persons experience a physical death, there is a complete separation of body and soul. When will the bodies and souls be reunited?
3. What can we learn about the body from the fact that one day it will be reunited with the soul?
4. What does the fact that human persons will not be married to each other in heaven reveal about human persons?

