

Grade 8 Religion - please read the entire document, assignment is at the end.

Welcome to 8th grade Religion. For many of you, this is your Confirmation year. Whether or not you are making your Confirmation it is important to know and understand that God calls us to be of service to one another. You may have already completed some service hours during the 7th grade. You are being asked to complete a minimum of 15 hours during the 8th grade year. Please keep track of these hours if you do things over the summer, including names and phone numbers of people who may be contacted regarding your service.

For Confirmation candidates, you should be thinking about your choice for a sponsor. The confirmation sponsor should be a person who has been a strong role-model as a faith-filled Catholic. This person will be a companion in your faith journey and will vouch for your readiness to receive the sacrament. In the beginning of the year each Confirmation candidate will receive a folder of forms, one being a sponsorship form. Your sponsor will need to get a sealed approval from their Church.

Some things to consider when choosing your service:

Be regularly involved in social justice activities. An awareness of the importance of and vital need for performing service to others is critical in preparing the candidates for Confirmation. Throughout Scripture we are called to love our neighbor and stand up for justice and peace. Since service and justice are so important to who we are as Catholics, we ask that the candidates make his/her service projects a priority. Serving others is not something we do "to get it over with". Service is something that we do because we recognize the presence of Jesus in all persons and in all of God's creation. Therefore it is encouraged that the candidates get involved in a new service activity which is ongoing and a regular commitment. Some things to think about when considering your service are:

- What are people's needs or problems and what can I do to help?
- Who would benefit from time, effort, work or service from me?
- What unique gifts or talents has God blessed me with that I can use to serve others? Once you identify where service is needed, make specific plans and follow through with those commitments.

SUMMER RELIGION GRADE 8 ASSIGNMENT is as follows:

- This must be typed and printed out. It should reflect the work of an 8th grader. It will be your first grade for Religion class and should be brought with you on the first day of school.
- Writing assignment should have the proper MLA heading, no font bigger than 12
- Note that there are 2 choices depending on whether you will be making your Confirmation or not.

If making your Confirmation:	Not making your Confirmation:
<p>Essay should include all of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • parish and city of parish that you are a member of • Give at least two reasons why you would like to receive the sacrament of Confirmation. • Tell about the service that you have completed in preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation to this point. • Explain what you gained by completing this service. • Tell me the name of the saint that you chose for your Confirmation name and why you chose it. 	<p><i>Jesus asked his disciples, "Tell me, who do people say I am?"</i> <i>They answered, "Some say that you are John the Baptist. . . .</i> <i>others say that you are Elijah, while others say that you are one of the prophets."</i> <i>(Mark 8:27–28)</i></p> <p>Your essay will include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What answers could you give to Jesus regarding who people say that Jesus is? <p>Research one world religion, such as Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, Shinto, or Hinduism, and write a paragraph explaining what you think its followers would say about Jesus.</p> <p><i>In the next verse, Jesus asks, "What about you? Who do you say I am?"</i> <i>(Mark 8:29)</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Write a brief paragraph answering Jesus' question. Who do YOU believe Jesus is to you and to the world?