**J.E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School**

**Ms. Curry-8th Grade Religion**

**2017-2018**

**School-wide Learning Expectations:**

**Catholic Identity**

* -Develop a Christ like spiritual life through prayer, regular participation in mass
* and active involvement in the Catholic faith community.
* -Demonstrate a solid understanding of the Catholic faith, traditions.
* -Develop and practice gospel formed behavior and virtues.

**Cognitive Development**

* -Exhibit a solid foundation of basic skills and knowledge in required core
  1. subjects
* -Display competence in oral and written language.
* -Apply higher level thinking skills while solving problems both critically and
* -Implement useful study habits, while producing quality work and striving for
* academic excellence.

**Character**

* -Learn and practice effective decision making skills and assume responsibility
* for behavior.
* -Develop respect for self and respond compassionately to the needs of others.

**Civic Responsibility**

* -Recognize the value of stewardship, the service to others in the local and
* broader community.
* -Respect diversity and develop an understanding of critical global issues.

**Classroom Expectations:** My number one classroom expectation is that respect is shown at all times. A classroom where students exhibit respectful behavior allows for optimal learning to take place; thereby allowing the teacher to teach and the students to learn. Respect ensures a safe environment for all students, academically, spiritually and socially.

Students will also need to come to class prepared with all learning tools in hand.

**Discipline:** Students will be given a verbal warning in the event they have broken a classroom and /or school rule, with the exceptions of major offenses, which will result in a referral. After a warning is given, checks will be used. Three checks equal lunch in with me, if another three are received, parents will be contacted for a student-teacher- parent conference, and if another three are received for a total of nine, Mrs. Hunt will join us in a meeting and appropriate discipline actions will be taken. If behavior continues, a referral to Principal Hunt will be given.

Positive reinforcement is given to those who are on task and ready to learn.

**Homework:** Homework is to be turned in on its due date. If a student is absent due to an excused reason, class work/homework will be due two days from the day he/she returns to school. Any late homework will be worth 50% of the original point value the first quarter, 25% the second quarter, and 0 points will be given in the 3rd and 4th quarter. Although credit will not be given, work still needs to be turned in to ensure the material was understood.

**Scheduled tests and quizzes are to be made up the day a student returns from an excused absence.**

**Communication:** The easiest way to reach me is by email; however, you may call the front office and leave a message or voicemail. I will respond to emails within 24 hours, although a reply will usually be received by 4:00pm. jcurry@cosgriff.org

**Religion Content:** The 8th Grade studies church history in depth, morality and the sacrament of Confirmation. They will be preparing for Confirmation, which will occur in the spring. Students who have already been confirmed or are not Catholic will still be participating in the Confirmation lessons, as they are the teachings of the Catholic Church, which is part of the curriculum, and help students develop on a spiritual level. The Decision Point text book is part of the Confirmation preparation; however, this programs focuses a great deal on decision making, choices, and being the best version yourself, therefore preparing all students, regardless of denomination, in how to live a life of good morals and character. Participation is a big part of religion class, as discussions are used to reinforce teachings and build a community of spiritual and academic learners. Effort/Conduct grades are considered based on student behavior **and** participation, thus, to earn an Honors (H) conduct grade in my class, students need to not only show appropriate behavior, but also participate in discussions. An end of quarter participation grade is included with the test, classwork, and homework grades.

Text- Church History A course of the People of God-Sadlier

DECISION POINT-Author Matthew Kelly, DynamicCatholic.com

Confirmation Candidates:

\*\*Information for Confirmation will go home as it is received from the parish. Students should be thinking of a name of a saint for their Confirmation name and who they would like to have as their sponsor, as this person will be a spiritual connection throughout the Confirmation preparation process. There is a Confirmation meeting for parents and the Confirmation candidate at 7:00, on September 27th, in the Vaughn Center. Please bring baptism certificate and sacramental fee (for materials).

I am looking forward to a faith-filled and wonderful year with your child.

Jill Curry

I have read the 8th grade religion disclosure, received a copy, and will follow the policies it includes.

I acknowledge that my child will be taught the Right Relationship curriculum.

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Student Name Student Signature

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Parent Name Parent Signature