Capstone Project Ideas

The Afterlife

1. The Existence of Purgatory
2. Prayers for the Dead
3. Angels, distinction & role
4. Demons, origin
5. Demonic Possession & Exorcism
6. Indulgences
7. Do Animals go to heaven?
8. Existence of hell
9. Difference between heaven and resurrection
10. No Salvation outside of the Church

The Bible

11. Sola Scriptura
12. Sola Fide
13. The Gnostic Gospels (e.g. Judas, Thomas, Peter, etc)
14. Historical Reliability of the Gospels
15. OT rules no longer apply
16. The Canon, (process of selection, books left out/rejected)
17. Magisterial role of interpreting Scripture
18. Personal interpretation of Scripture

Church

19. Roles of Church Militant, Church suffering and Church Triumphant
20. What is Magisterial teaching
21. Christ founded Catholic Church
22. Importance of Ecumenical Councils

Heresies

23. Against Gnosticism (including examples of modern day Gnostics)
24. Against Arianism (including examples of modern day Arians)
25. Against Docetism (including examples of modern day Docetists)

Historical Controversies

26. The Inquisition
27. The Crusades
28. Galileo
29. Pius XII and the Jews
30. Pagan origins to Christianity
31. The Great Schism
Capstone Project Ideas

32. The Great Apostasy (Mormon & some Protestant theories of early church)
33. Banned Book List/Index
34. Didache and its importance
35. Protestant Reformation

Jesus Christ

36. Did Jesus really exist?
37. Was Jesus Really God (Liar, Lunatic, or Lord theory)
38. The Physical Resurrection of Jesus Christ (other theories are insufficient)
39. Is God a Trinity?

Mary

40. Mary’s Perpetual Virginity
41. Immaculate Conception
42. Intercessory Prayer to Mary & the Saints
43. The Assumption
44. Apparitions of Mary
45. Mother of God

Moral Issues

46. Contraception
47. Abortion
48. Premarital Sex
49. Divorce & Remarriage
50. Annulments
51. Homosexuality as a disordered desire
52. Virtue of chastity
53. Stem Cell Research
54. In-Vitro Fertilization
55. Sterilization
56. Human Cloning
57. Capital Punishment
58. Euthanasia/Assisted Suicide
59. Necessity of Good Works for Salvation
60. Voting for candidates who support objectively evil acts (e.g. abortion)
61. The Problem of Evil
62. Genetic manipulation

The Pope

63. The Infallibility of the Pope
64. Apostolic Succession
Capstone Project Ideas

65. The wicked popes (Borgias, etc)/impeccability
66. Peter as first Pope

Philosophy

67. Natural Law
68. Consequentialism (the ends justify the means)
69. Is Truth Objective or Subjective?
70. Can Truth be Known?
71. Church/State Separation (is it possible to separate morality from politics?)
72. Theory of Spiritual but not Religious
73. Problem of Moral Relativism
74. The Existence of God

Prayer

75. Is Prayer necessary?
76. Does the Type of Prayer Matter to God?
77. Is the Rosary, “vain repetition”?
78. Prayer as supplication (praying for others)

Priesthood

79. Priestly Celibacy, justification of
80. Priestly Celibacy, claim that it leads to pedophilia
81. Male Priesthood
82. Perceived misogyny (anti-women)
83. Priesthood vs. just being a pastor

Sacraments

84. The Validity of Infant Baptism
85. Confession to a Priest
86. Transubstantiation & The Real Presence
87. The Sacrificial Nature of the Mass
88. Mass on Sunday, rather than the Sabbath—Church’s authority to move it
89. Validity of Marriage (what makes a real marriage)
90. Healing power of anointing of the Sick

Sacramentals

91. Statues, Icons, Relics
92. Defense of using sacramentals in prayer (ie rosary, chaplet, holy water)
Capstone Project Ideas

**Misc.**

93. Theology of the Body  
94. Evolution  
95. Excommunication  
96. Are Catholics “Saved”  
97. What happens at the Apocalypse/Rapture  
98. The Stigmata  
99. Purpose/reason for human suffering (Redemptive Suffering)  
100. Do Miracles exist/what is their purpose