

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

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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