

Grade 7 - Lesson 2

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

The account of Salvation history is found in Scripture, which is inspired by God and free from error. Tradition guides us in living Christ's teachings. The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church, which is infallible in matters of faith and morals.



Catechetical Points

- The Blessed Trinity is One God in three Divine Persons
- God reveals himself through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
- History of Divine Revelation
- Scripture is the inspired Word of God.
- The Magisterium is the teaching authority of the Church, which is infallible in matters of faith and morals.

Materials

- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348
 - **Ways to Read the Bible** by Fr. Mike Schmitz
 - <https://youtu.be/6hb7nSL1gKU>
 - **3MC - Episode 55 - What is the structure of the Church?** By Donjojohannes
 - <https://youtu.be/cHEzyxxlktY>

Catechist Prayer before the lesson:

God, the Father of life, help me to set a good example for my students. Help me to keep my actions and my words consistent with one another and with the teachings of the Church. I ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Before class starts:

- Students who arrive early can play Train Wreck with students from the other grades.

[1 min] **Opening Prayer**

- Ask the students if there is anything they would like to pray for. Pray an **Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be** together. (Student text page 175)

[5 min] **Icebreaker Discussion - Would You Rather**

- Would you rather get up very early or stay up very late?
- Would you rather make a movie of your life before you were twenty-one or a movie of your life after the age of twenty-one?
- Would you rather play a villain or a hero in a movie?
- Would you rather have hands instead of feet or feet instead of hands?
- Would you rather not be allowed to wash your hands for a month or your hair for a month?
- Would you rather play video games or play outside?
- Would you rather get good grades or be good at sports?
- Would you rather not use your computer for a month or not eat junk food for a month?
- Would you rather be invisible or be able to fly?
- Would you rather have live one hundred years in the future or one hundred years in the past?

[15 min] **The Blessed Trinity**

- Ask: **“How do we know anything about God?”**
 - Divine Revelation is the way God tells humans about himself and makes his plans known. God reveals himself to us through Sacred Scripture and Sacred Tradition.
- Ask: **Who created God?** *No one. God always existed. God lives outside of time in eternity. He always was, is, and will be.*
- The greatest mystery of our faith is the Blessed Trinity.
- Read about the Trinity on page 16 of the Student Text.
- Read or summarize the 6 facts about the Trinity on page 6 of the Teacher’s Manual.
- Draw the Trinity diagram on the whiteboard found in the sidebar on page 6 of the Teacher’s Manual.
- Have the students close their eyes while you read the following story about St. Augustine and the Trinity:

St. Augustine was walking by the seashore one day thinking and trying to understand the mystery of the Holy Trinity when he saw a small boy running back and forth from the water to a spot on the seashore. The boy was using a seashell to carry the water from the ocean and place it into a small hole in the sand. St. Augustine approached him and asked, "My boy, what are you doing?" "I am trying to bring all the sea into this hole," the boy replied with a sweet smile. "But that is impossible, my dear child, the hole cannot contain all that water" said Augustine. The boy paused in his work, stood up, looked into the eyes of the Saint, and replied, "It is no more impossible than what you are trying to do – understand the immensity of the mystery of the Holy Trinity with your small intelligence." The Saint was absorbed by such an intelligent response from that child, and turned his eyes from him for a short while. When he glanced down to ask him something else, the boy had vanished. Some say that it was an Angel sent by God to teach Augustine a lesson on pride in learning. Others say it was the Christ Child Himself who appeared to the Saint to remind him of the limits of human understanding before the great mysteries of our Faith.

- Ask: **Why can't we completely understand the Trinity?**

[10 min] **Silent Prayer**

- Bring the class into church for a few minutes of silent prayer.
- Before praying, give the students some ideas of what to pray for:
 - Is there someone you know who needs God's help?
 - What graces do you need to help you in your life this week?
 - What are you grateful to God for?

[15 min] **History of Divine Revelation** (p. 18)

- God exists outside of time. Eternity is a single moment that contains all time. Time began with creation, and it will one day come to an end.
- Because we exist within the boundaries of Time, God reveals himself to us gradually throughout human history. He tells us a story about who he is, his creation, who we are, and our relationship with him. This story is called Salvation History.
- Read **History of Divine Revelation** on pages 18-19 in the Student Text.
- **Why is it important to know the history of our Faith?**

[15 min] **The Holy Bible** (p. 19-20)

- Read **The Holy Bible** on pages 19-20 in the Student Text.
- **Ways to Read the Bible** by Fr. Mike Schmitz
<https://youtu.be/6hb7nSL1gKU>
- **What are the different ways of reading the Bible?** Book of stories, inspirational quotes, answer book, spiritual writings inspired by God (Note: Read the Scripture Interpretation box on page 15 of the Teacher's Manual for more details on the literal and spiritual interpretations of the Bible.)

[15 min] **The Magisterium** (p. 21)

- **If there are different ways to read the Bible, does that mean that we can interpret the Bible in any way we want?**
- Read **The Protector and Teacher of Divine Revelation** on page 21 of the Student Text.
- Watch **3MC - Episode 55 - What is the structure of the Church?** By Donjojohannes
<https://youtu.be/cHEzyxxlktY>
- **Who is the current pope?** *Pope Francis.*
- **Who is the bishop of the Diocese of Madison?** *Bishop Robert Morlino.*
- **Why does the structure of the Church have a hierarchy?**

[1 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Prayer the Apostles Creed (p. 175 in the Student Text / p. 317 in the Teacher's Manual)