

Grade 6 - Lesson 8

St. Michael the Archangel Parish

Proclamation:

The Catholic Church was founded by Jesus Christ to save souls and to teach all men the truth.



Catechetical Points

- Safe Environment
- Church Authority

Materials

- Catechism board game
- [Circle of Grace lesson plan](#)
- YouTube (Please bring your own laptop or tablet)
 - Wi-Fi: StMichaelGuest
 - Password: 6084375348
 - **Why Catholics Have a Pope** by Fr. Mike Schmitz:
 - <https://youtu.be/p4N0hSMCAIU>
 - **What is the Structure of the Church?** (3MC Episode 55) by Donjojohannes
 - <https://youtu.be/cHEzyxxlktY>

Before class starts:

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

[5 min] **Opening Prayer**

- Ask the students if there is anything they would like to pray for.
- Pray the **Memorare** (p. 151 in the student text / p. 262 in the teacher's manual.)

[30 min] **Safe Environment**

- Use pages 19-32 of the [Circle of Grace document](#) for this part of the lesson. There might not be enough time to cover everything, so choose which parts to focus on in your lesson.

[10 min] **Authority of the Church**

- **What was Jesus' mission on earth?** *To save souls, so that we could all go to heaven.*
 - Because of the great responsibility that the Church has in completing Christ's mission, Jesus needed to choose a leader who could carry out his mission.
- Read **Matthew 16:13-20**
 - **Who called Jesus the Messiah?**
 - **How did Peter know Jesus is the Messiah?**
 - **Who leads the Catholic Church?** *The Pope. Peter was the first Pope.*
- Read page 51 until the second to last paragraph in the student text (page 83 in the teacher's manual).
- Watch **Why Catholics Have a Pope** by Fr. Mike Schmitz:
 - <https://youtu.be/p4N0hSMCAIU>

[10 min] **Church Hierarchy**

- The Magisterium is the teaching office of the Church, which is made up of the Pope and bishops.
- Watch **What is the Structure of the Church?** (3MC Episode 55) by Donjojohannes
 - <https://youtu.be/cHEzyxxlktY>
- Finish reading page 51.
- The Church is spread throughout the world and is divided into various dioceses. We are in the Diocese of Madison, and our bishop is Donald Hying.
- Each diocese is divided into parishes. We belong to St. Michael the Archangel Parish, which is made up of Holy Redeemer and St. Ignatius churches.
- Read page 52.

- **Why is it important for the Church to have the authority to declare what is taught?**
- **Why do you think we call the Church “Holy Mother Church”?** *The Church gives us grace through the Sacraments; she guides us in the moral life; she tends to our needs.*
- **Why do you think priests don’t marry?** *The Church is our Mother and we call the priest Father. We can say that the priest is “married” to the Church, and he confers the life of grace on us by his service of giving himself entirely to the Church.*

[10 min] **Precepts of the Church**

- Read the Precepts of the Church on page 52.
 - Attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation.
 - Go to Confession at least once a year.
 - Receive the Eucharist at least during the Easter season.
 - Observe the days of fasting and abstinence.
 - Provide for the needs of the Church.
- **What do you think about these expectations for Catholics? Are there any challenges in living these out? How does following the precepts help us become holy?**

[10 min] **Closing Prayer**

- Pray a decade of the Rosary.