**Seek the GOOD, the TRUE, and the BEAUTIFUL.**

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**7th and 8th Grade Religion 2018-2019 Mrs. McGraw**

 **mmcgraw@saintrita-school.org**

 **My hours: Mon–Fri 8:00–12:00**

**Parents, the quickest overview of the most important points of McGraw Religion ☺**

* **Grading Structure: 100% Tests, Quizzes, Papers, and Projects. EVERYTHING that gets handed in, gets graded. Big and little assignments alike. “Do all that is asked and do it on time.” *Weighting* of test/quizzes/assignments etc. will differ based on importance.**
* **Students Agenda: PLEASE check this nightly – or as often as necessary for your child – to ensure your child is using this daily tool. They are responsible to know what they have for homework (HW) and what happened in class.**
* **Powerschool: PLEASE regularly check Powerschool to find information on upcoming assignments, AND, to find information on all graded work thus far. (A “0” in Powerschool is a flag for you as a parent to ask your child what’s happening. I try to be timely with inserting a “0” so you will know that something did not get handed in.**
* **Teacher Pages: PLEASE regularly check my teacher page to find out what we are doing in class each week, to access important links, and to read lots of great information about our Faith!**
* **Teacher Communication: Please ask your child first about missing work, their grades, etc. – by doing this we teach them and reinforce with them, that this is *their* job. Many of your questions can be answered by Please feel free to email me and I’ll get back to you in 24 “business” hours.**

**The remainder of this document is for you to review - your children and I have covered this already in class.**

**Expectations:**

1. **You were made in the image of God - be ladies and gentlemen. Think Well. Speak Well. Do Well.**
2. **You are blessed with body, mind and soul - be timely, be prepared, be attentive, be ready to work.**
3. **You are blessed with imagination and a sense of humor – find joy in what we do. As our Holy Father said, there are no sad saints!**
4. **You are human – ask questions and test for understanding. Together we will explore the mysteries of our Faith.**
5. **You have been given much, much will be expected of you – participate, assist, lead, succeed.**

**Important points about religion class:**

* 1. **What happens in religion class stays in religion class. There is an expected level of confidentiality among the students and teacher.**
	2. **You will be graded on your knowledge / level of understanding of the material (prayers, terms, church history, doctrine, etc.). Your religion grade is not a reflection of, nor a judgment upon, your Faith, spiritual life, prayer life, or your relationship with God. These are things a teacher cannot and should not judge nor grade.**
	3. **We will always be reverent in our outward actions in order to create a prayerful and reverent atmosphere for all.**
	4. **My job as your teacher is to instruct you in the Faith, and to role model “faith in action” in all I do and say. As they say, you and I will do our best– and let God do the rest!**

**Weekly Structure:**

1. **Mondays: Religion class with Father Bork**
2. **Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: Religion class with Mrs. McGraw**
3. **Tuesday: Confession during Study Hall**
4. **Wednesday: Mass at 8:30 am and Confession and Adoration during lunch recess (no class)**

**Daily Structure:**

1. **Intentions and Prayer**
2. **Saint of the Day – building a library of saints! AND 2 Min 2 Virtue – follow the Gospel through the Liturgical Year**
3. **Lesson**
	1. **Text book and supplemental materials**
	2. **Identify, define, and understand the “words to know” from each chapter (or other material)**
	3. **Catholic vocabulary, scripture, concepts/doctrine, prayers, “making it real”**
	4. **Taking good notes is key!! I like to reinforce good note taking by giving open notebook tests/quizzes**

**Homework:**

1. **It is imperative that you complete the reading and other home work assignments in order to have a productive discussion in class**
2. **Reading comprehension is key! If you aren’t reading and asking questions, you are missing out – and so is the class as a whole**
3. **The challenge for you is “time management” week to week, as we do not have class everyday – hence, *studying needs to be a daily focus – reviewing old material and preparing for new material***

**Summary: As with other subjects, in religion we need to learn core terms, concepts, historical information, and we need to memorize prayers, definitions, etc. There are no easy A’s just because it is religion class. It is very important to understand that it is an academic course that requires work just like any other subject. However, obviously, there is so much more to learning the Faith, than just working for a good grade. I feel it is imperative that I do all I can, along with your parents, to instill in each of you:**

 **a love of God, a love of the Faith,**

**a love of the Church, and a desire to seek God’s will.**