

# Lesson Plan, Grade 8 - Chapter 12

## Catechist Background

### Doctrinal Content

- All baptized Catholics are called to share in Jesus' mission as priest, prophet, and king to serve the mission of the Church. (CCC, 783,1591)
- All lay people are called to be "like leaven" in the world. Lay people support the life of the parish community and the parish's mission to serve others in Christ's name. (CCC, 898-906)
- The evangelical counsels are chastity, poverty, and obedience. Those in consecrated religious life take vows to live the evangelical counsels and serve an important role in the Church's mission. (CCC, 871-873, 915-916)

## Catechist Background

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, ... It is no longer good for anything ... You are the light of the world. ... Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly Father."  
—Matthew 5:13-14, 16

**Reflect** How can you use your gifts to serve the Church?

We are all an important part of the Church, all called to contribute our gifts and talents, and all needed for the building of Christ's Body on Earth. Some people are called to do this in a special way through ordained ministry and/or by taking vows and belonging to a religious community. Other baptized Christians are called to share in the Church's ministry through being a catechist, lector, lay parish administrator, and so on. Every member of the Church, lay and ordained, is responsible for doing the work of Christ according to the special gifts that they have received.

Today the laity are accepting their call to discipleship in exciting and dynamic ways. Some are dedicating themselves to professions within lay ecclesial ministry, such as youth ministry and religious education, while others perform volunteer liturgical or social service ministries within the parish. The opportunities are certainly there for any Catholic who wants to share in the ministry of the Church. All we have to do is seek them out and embrace the call.

**Reflect** How do you see your work as a teacher as being a response to the baptismal call to ministry?

## Catechist's Prayer

God our Father, you desire that no one be turned away from you. In all I say and in all I do, may I always express your welcoming, healing love. I ask this in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Sharing the Message**

### **How Eighth-Graders Understand Chapter Topics**

Eighth-graders often have not considered the talents and charisms they have to serve the Church both now and in the future. In fact, they may not realize that they can serve the Church at their young age. Learning about various types of work within the Church can open their eyes to possibilities and inspire them to serve the Church in their own ways.

### **Teaching Tip**

Make a list of all the ministries in your local parish. Find out which ministries allow eighth-graders to participate, either with or without their parents. Invite a couple of leaders in parish ministries to come and share with the group about their work and the opportunities for the young people.

### **Sharing the Message with Eighth-Graders**

An eighth-grader's experience of the parish has usually depended on that of their families. They are still forming their own identities as members.

- Young people respond when they are provided concrete opportunities to get involved in the Church. This provides both a sense of community and the chance to use their individual gifts.
- Many adolescents have the desire to serve, but they may not yet have the organizational skills. Organize opportunities for them, if needed.

## **Chapter Connections**

### **Tasks of Catechesis**

Helping children grow in a faith that is "known, celebrated, lived, and expressed in prayer" (NDC, 20). This chapter focuses on the following tasks of catechesis:

- Education for Community Life
- Missionary Initiation

## **NCEA IFG: ACRE Edition**

### **Communal Life**

- Objective: To know the origin, mission, structure, and communal nature of the Church; to know the rights and responsibilities of the Christian faithful

### **Missionary Spirit**

- Objectives: To recognize the centrality of evangelization as the Church's mission and identity embodied in vocation and service; to be aware of how cultures are transformed by the Gospel

## **Catholic Faith Literacy**

bishop, brother (religious), deacon, hierarchy, laity, parish, priest, religious life, sister (religious)

### **Catholic Social Teaching**

To integrate Catholic Social Teaching into your lesson, choose one of the following features: Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, pages 340–341; or Care for God's Creation, pages 346–347.

- Start the Live step of the process by talking about Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice on page 204. Then move directly to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Or, to expand the lesson, complete page 204, then move to the Catholic Social Teaching feature.
- Return to Chapter 12 for the prayer on page 205.

### **Music Option**

► Use one or more of the following songs to enhance catechetical learning or for prayer.

- "There Is a Light," Live, Page 205
- "God Creator, God Most High," Live, Page 205
- "You Are Light," Live, Page 205

# Catechist Instruction, Grade 8 – Chapter 12

## Invite Page 195

### Objective

- Reflect on God's personal invitation through Scripture

### ♥ Let Us Pray

Invite the youth to gather in the prayer space and make the Sign of the Cross. Read aloud the leader prayer, and ask a volunteer to read the Psalm verse. Prompt the group's response.

Have the young people move out of the prayer space and back to their seats. Explain that we are each called to share God's love with the world.

*Say:* Let's listen to God's Word on how we can be salt of the Earth and light to the world.

### † Scripture

Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection.

Invite the young people to be still, close their eyes, and focus on their breathing.

Encourage them to open their minds and hearts to what God is saying to them.

- Proclaim the Scripture and have the youth sit in silence.
- *Ask:* What did you hear God say to you today?
- Allow volunteers to share.

► You may play instrumental music to begin the reflection.

Remember, this is a spiritual discipline that takes practice. The young people will grow in their capacity to sit in silence. Throughout the year, build to four minutes.

### Have you ever thought...

*Say:* Young people, like you, can be active participants in the life of the Church, especially through the ministries of the school and parish. You are not too young to be a light to the world.

- Invite the young people to respond to the questions.

## Discover (1) Pages 198-199

### Objectives

- Recognize the importance of each member of the Church
- Explain that because of our Baptism, each member of the Church shares in Jesus' roles as priest, prophet, and king

Invite a volunteer to read aloud the question. Encourage the group to share their responses.

### **Priestly People**

Invite a student to read aloud the first paragraph.

### **Priest, Prophet, and King**

Have the young people silently read the first three paragraphs.

- Ask them to name the roles of different people who serve in the Church.
- Have a volunteer write their answers on the board.
- Read aloud the last paragraph in this section on page 198.
- Discuss with the group how all of the roles mentioned so far are all part of the same mission.

### **† Go to the Source**

Have the young people look up Acts 6:1–7 in the Bible. As they identify the different roles described in this passage, ask a volunteer to list each role on the board next to the roles written down from the text.

### **† Scripture Background**

#### **Acts 6:1–7**

The word Hellenists means "Greeks," but in this passage it does not mean there were Jews from Greece present in the new community. The Hellenists were Palestinian Jews who spoke only Greek. The Hebrews were Palestinian Jews who spoke Hebrew or Aramaic. Scripture commentators usually remark that the phrase "to wait on tables" probably does not refer to serving food, but rather to the keeping of the records of what was distributed to the needy. The division of labor that was established left the Apostles able to serve God's Word by interpreting and proclaiming what Jesus taught them.

### **The Church's Hierarchy**

Tell the youth the correct pronunciation of hierarchy [Hi-er-ark-ee].

After you have reviewed the content on pages 198 and 199, allow the young people to compare this new information with what they originally wrote in the chart on page 196.

- Encourage them to add any new points to the circle.
- Have the youth silently read the definitions for clergy and laity.
- Provide time for questions and comments.

### **Activity**

Allow the young people time to review the pictures and respond to the questions.

## Quick Review

Every member of the Church shares in the priestly, prophetic, and kingly offices of Christ. Each member of the Church's hierarchy has clearly defined roles and responsibilities and are ordained to serve the Church.

## Discover (2) Pages 200-201

### Objectives

- Describe the work of the laity in supporting the life of the parish community
- Describe the parish's mission to serve others in Christ's name

### Teaching Activity: Staying Connected

Participants will watch a video clip to illustrate how the Church's members stay connected to their parish while going out in the world to serve others.

### Before the Lesson

**Materials Needed:** ☉ Go to **aliveinchrist.osv.com** to play the *Gravity* Video Clip  
images of a capsule and items found on a capsule, cord, hooks (1 per participant)

### Preparation

- Cue up the *Gravity* video clip. *Gravity* Video Clip: [http://youtu.be/nS\\_XZbsdOBI](http://youtu.be/nS_XZbsdOBI)
- Search for images of a capsule and items found on a capsule on the Internet and print them out.
- Post the image of a capsule somewhere in the room. Attach a singular hook to somewhere near the image of the capsule. During the activity the participants will attach their hooks to this hook.
- Cut large pieces of cord long enough to tie around the participants' waists and extend far enough to tie them to the capsule.

### Activity Directions

*Say:* We have been learning that through our Baptism and Confirmation we, the laity, serve in our family, community, and parish. We are going to watch a scene from a movie. While you watch this, think about how this might connect to what we are learning.

Play the *Gravity* video clip.

*Say:* What might this have to do with Baptism or parish?  
Allow time for the participants to respond.

*Say:* Think about that space capsule. How desperate were those astronauts to get inside? They knew that being disconnected from that home-away-from home would be death. Your parish community is like that space capsule. It is your home away from

home, your real home, Heaven. Inside that capsule is all you need to keep you alive—your food, air, and communication with command. Inside your parish is what you need to stay alive—the things you need for your soul. What is your spiritual food? ***The Seven Sacraments, especially the Sacrament of Eucharist*** What is your air? ***God's very breath of his Holy Spirit*** What is your communication with command? ***The Word of God proclaimed and unfolded in the community of faith***

Post the images of things found in a capsule on the wall or board.

Say: We are responsible for the life of parish.

Share with the group some ministries that are available for work in the parish.

Say: The parish cares for her members and the world.

Have the participants stand and tie a length of cord around their waists. Ask them to tie the loose end to a hook you have hanging on or near the capsule.

Say: The parish sends you out into the world, like your family, to serve others and to bring the good news of Jesus to everyone. We serve the world while staying connected to our parish. As Catholics, we know that we are part of the Body of Christ and we must stay connected to it, to our parish, and to our Church or we risk being disconnected. Without that connection we risk dying in a world that can confuse us about what is God's truth.

## **Discover (3) Pages 202-203**

### **Objectives**

- Explain why the evangelical counsels are gifts that call people to a consecrated religious life
- Explore the different forms of consecrated religious life

Invite the young people to discuss the opening question with a partner.

### **Consecrated Religious Life**

Summarize the key points related to the evangelical counsels and vows:

- The evangelical counsels lived in a consecrated religious life are poverty, chastity, and obedience.
- For consecrated religious, the meanings tied to these vows are: poverty—owning nothing in one's own name; chastity—giving oneself to God completely by living a celibate life for the sake of the Kingdom; obedience—promising to serve God and neighbor in one's own religious community.

Ask: What do you own that might be keeping you from being closer to Jesus?

- Invite the youth to silently reflect on this question.

### **Many Forms of Religious Life**

Ask the young people to silently read this section. Have them underline or highlight the most important points they find in the text.

- Share some of your own experiences with faith-filled sisters, brothers, or priests.
- Invite the youth to share some of their experiences.

### **Activity**

Read aloud the activity instructions. Have the youth use a separate sheet of paper to write on.

- Invite the young people to work alone to make their lists and write a short prayer.

### **In Summary**

Have volunteers read aloud the opening sentence and each of the three summary points.

- Close by asking the young people to think about how they can play a larger role in helping to bring God's Kingdom to the secular world.

## **Live Pages 204-205**

### **Objectives**

- Explore the question of personal vocation
- Examine the faith life of Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice
- Offer the Prayer for Guidance

### **Our Catholic Life**

Have a volunteer read aloud the paragraph.

- Point out the photo and ask the youth to share how the people shown are bringing the love of God to others.
- Discuss, as a group, the different ways God calls us to serve.
- Invite the young people to read the closing questions and spend some time quietly reflecting on their own possible future

### **People of Faith**

Explain to the youth that Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice founded Catholic schools for troubled youth.



Ask a volunteer to read aloud the People of Faith paragraph.

- Review with the group the extra content provided in the People of Faith Background box.
- Invite the young people to pray for God's guidance and help in better hearing his call.

Here are some additional details about Saint Peregrine Laziosi to assist you in presenting this section:

- Blessed Edmund devoted his life to prayer and charitable work, particularly with the poor and marginalized.
- Edmund's Congregation of Christian Brothers was the first religious congregation of men in modern times to be founded by a layman.
- He was beatified by Pope Saint John Paul II on October 6, 1996.

### **Activity**

Read aloud the instructions.

- After the youth write their paragraphs, pray the vocation prayer together.

### **Prayer of Acknowledgement**

♥Select a volunteer to be the leader. Divide the group into two sides.

- Gather the young people around the prayer table with the leader standing in front of the group and the members of Sides 1 and 2 on either side of the table.
- Indicate to the leader when it is time to begin.
- Follow the order of prayer on the student page.

► Conclude by inviting the young people to sing or reflect on the song "There Is a Light," downloaded from **aliveinchrist.osv.com**. • Alternate Music Options: "God Creator, God Most High" or "You Are the Light"

### **Chapter Review**

If you are using eAssessments, remind the young people that they will need to be completed by the due date. Feedback is important at this age. For the tool to be used effectively provide feedback to the young people about their work.

# Chapter 12 Lesson Plan

Objectives	Process	Materials
<b>Invite, 15 minutes</b>		
<b>The Christian Faithful</b> Page 195	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Psalm 119:105</b> Pray the opening prayer.</li> <li> <b>Matthew 5:13–16</b> Guide the youth through the process of Scripture reflection.</li> <li>• Discuss Have You Ever Thought questions.</li> </ul>	
<b>Discover, 45 minutes</b>		
<b>Priestly People</b> Pages 198–199 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recognize the importance of each member of the Church</li> <li>• Explain that because of our Baptism, each member of the Church shares in Jesus’ roles as Priest, Prophet, and King</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Talk about how Christ wants all of us to serve as priests, prophets, and kings to carry out the Church’s mission.</li> <li> Read <b>Acts 6:1–7</b>.</li> <li>• <b>Activity</b> Identify people who are part of the ministry of the Church.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
<b>The Lay Faithful</b> Pages 200–201 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Describe the work of the laity in supporting the life of the parish community</li> <li>• Describe the parish’s mission to serve others in Christ’s name</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Teaching Activity</b> Participants will watch a video clip to help them understand how the Church’s members stay connected to their parish while going out in the world to serve others.</li> </ul>	Gravity Video Clip <input type="checkbox"/> images of items on a capsule, cord, hooks (1 per participant)
<b>Consecrated Religious Life</b> Pages 202–203 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Explain why the evangelical counsels are gifts that call people to a consecrated religious life</li> <li>• Explore the different forms of consecrated religious life</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss people who dedicate themselves to God’s service and the good of the whole Church.</li> <li>• <b>Activity</b> List things that would be appealing about living the consecrated religious life.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens <input type="checkbox"/> board or chart paper
<b>Live, 15 minutes</b>		
<b>Our Catholic Life</b> Page 204	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discuss the questions in the Catholic Life section.</li> <li>• <b>People of Faith</b> Learn about Blessed Edmund Ignatius Rice.</li> <li>• <b>Activity</b> Think and pray about personal vocation.</li> </ul>	<input type="checkbox"/> pencils or pens
<b>A Prayer for Guidance</b> Page 205	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Divide the group into two sides.</li> <li>• Follow the order of prayer.</li> </ul>	“There Is a Light”

## CATHOLIC FAITH WORDS

clergy, laity, consecrated religious life, evangelical counsels

## ASSESSMENT

Chapter Review, Page 206

[aliveinchrist.osv.com](https://aliveinchrist.osv.com) Customize and Download Assessments, Interactive Student Reviews, eAssessments

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Religious Orders

**The Benedictines (OSB)** Founder: Saint Benedict Women: Saint Scholastica

The Order of St. Benedict was founded around A.D. 530. Saint Benedict reformed the monastic movement. He wrote a “rule,” which is really a summary of guidelines, for his community that helped the monks live together in peace and grow in holiness. The rule stressed the need for both prayer and work. His monasteries provided education, the preservation of Scripture, liturgical prayer and music, hospitality for pilgrims, and help for the poor and ill.

**The Franciscans (OSF)** Founder: Saint Francis Women: Saint Clare

In 1205, Saint Francis of Assisi was called by God to rebuild the Church. Early in his ministry, Francis recognized the need to include people from all walks of life within his movement of reform and renewal. The work of following Christ in humility, love, and joy, which is the vocation of all Christians, could not be restricted to the traditional life of the Friars and Sisters.

**The Dominicans (OP)** Founder: Saint Dominic

Saint Dominic founded the Order of Preachers in 1215 to send preachers out to speak against the heresies that were threatening the Church. Dominic stressed the need for education as a way to combat false teaching. He is also known for his great devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**There are many other Religious Orders in the Church, but these three represent thousands of men and women who have chosen to follow Christ by living in a religious community. Read each situation involving different young people and decide which religious order they might want to join and why.**

Situation	Religious Order	Reason
Greg wants to do missionary work with very poor people.	_____	_____ _____
Tanya loves reading Scripture and participating in the liturgy.	_____	_____ _____
Eileen wants to be a Sister and a teacher.	_____	_____ _____
Jack thinks he'd like to live in a monastery where he could study and pray.	_____	_____ _____

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Match each description in Column A with the correct term in Column B.

## Column A

## Column B

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| ___ 1. The division of Church leaders according to their roles and responsibilities | a. clergy    |
| ___ 2. The visible successors of the Apostles in their own dioceses                 | b. laity     |
| ___ 3. Ordained men given sacred authority to serve, lead, and pastor the Church    | c. hierarchy |
| ___ 4. Those who serve in family life, in society, and in a parish                  | d. bishops   |

Circle the letter of the choice that best completes each sentence.

5. The evangelical counsels are \_\_\_\_.
- |                                     |                               |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| a. faith, hope, and love            | c. poverty, courage, and love |
| b. poverty, chastity, and obedience | d. past, present, and future  |
6. When you were baptized, you became part of the \_\_\_\_.
- |              |                                      |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| a. hierarchy | c. common priesthood of the faithful |
| b. laity     | d. clergy                            |
7. When Jesus showed us what a king should do, he used the image of a \_\_\_\_.
- |              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| a. shepherd  | c. carpenter  |
| b. fisherman | d. politician |
8. The vow to serve God and neighbor in one's religious community is \_\_\_\_.
- |               |              |
|---------------|--------------|
| a. chastity   | c. obedience |
| b. impossible | d. easy      |

Write a response on the lines below.

9. Name three roles lay people have in your parish that help the Church's mission.

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10. Explain what Jesus meant when he said we are supposed to be like leaven or yeast in the world.

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