

**Confirmation Syllabus**

9th Grade - Year 1

Classes Weekly at the Faith Formation Center

6:30-8:00 PM

*Dates in White and Yellow - required class dates**Dates in green recommended youth activities**Dates in blue Special Liturgical Dates and Holy Days*

Date	Material Covered	Concepts
September 27 Parish Community Center (PCC)	Faith Formation Opening Mass	•
October 5 <i>YOU</i> <i>Lesson 1</i>	Created for Love	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who Are You?</li> <li>• Not Meant to Be Alone</li> <li>• Man and Woman He Created Them</li> </ul>
October 7	Lifeline Mass at NET Center  <b>"Get Out of the Boat!"</b>  Kick-Off Mass with Fr. Nick VanDenBroeke Evening Program with Michael & Ali Hoffman	Every generation needs to be evangelized. EVERY ONE! God has NO grandchildren, He calls us each by name. The challenge is that most of the time He calls us, works us and brings us to Him... wait for it... through others. Others like YOU. When we look at the Saints we see that they are examples of a response to the calling in their lives to "Get out of the boat" and walk on the water with the Lord. And today God is calling THIS generation of disciples to be brave enough to "Get out of the boat" and be His hands, feet and voice for this generation!  The Father and Daughter team, the dynamic duo of <b>Michael and Ali Hoffman</b> captivate their audiences to take ownership of their faith, ignite their hearts for Jesus and step out of their boats in confidence to be a greater impact for Christ in this world. Through humor, interaction and a focused message, your heart will be pumped, your brain will be equipped and your funny bone will be revved up! ( <i>NET Ministries 2017</i> )
October 11 <i>YOU</i> Lesson 2 & 3	Naked Without Shame	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Original Innocence</li> <li>• Spousal Meaning of the Body</li> <li>• The Fall</li> </ul>
October 18	No Class MEA Week	
October 25 <i>YOU</i> Lesson 4	Love Defined	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Love as Attraction</li> <li>• Loving vs Using</li> <li>• Chastity</li> </ul>
October 28 Saturday Noon - 9:45 PM	<b>Archdiocesan Youth Day 2016</b> "He has done GREAT things for me." Luke 1:49	Kick off the 2017 school year right by celebrating the truth and joy of our Catholic faith at Archdiocesan Youth Day. Experience the community of World Youth Day locally with other teens from around the archdiocese for a day of excitement and spiritual growth.

November 1 Wednesday	All Saints Day (Holy day)	Instituted as a Feast Day to honor all Saints - both known and unknown
November 4 Saturday	Gift Expo Youth Needed!	This event is a fundraiser for youth activities sponsored by the parish, especially the Catholic Heart Mission Trip Youth volunteers and a youth presence is a great asset to this event.
November 4 Saturday	Lifeline Mass at NET Center  Praying the Mass Like Never Before (tickets are required)  Mass and Evening Program with Fr. Mike Schmitz	While many people go to Mass every week, very few people know what it is to worship. Certainly, we show up and do our best to pay attention, but for too many of us this just means we watch closely. You have been given a gift that you have most likely left unused. This gift is unused because it is largely unknown. This presentation will uncover this unknown and unused gift, so that you can stop watching the Mass and start worshipping at Mass.  Known for his passion, clarity and conviction, <b>Fr. Mike Schmitz</b> will inspire and challenge you as a Catholic disciple of Jesus! <i>(NET Ministries 2017)</i>
November 8  YOU Lesson 4	Hope and Redemption in Christ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The World We Live In</li> <li>• God, A Loving Father</li> <li>• Made for Heaven</li> </ul>
November 15  YOU Lesson 5	Truth and Freedom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Truth and Relativism</li> <li>• What is Freedom?</li> <li>• Virtue</li> </ul>
November 22	No Class - Thanksgiving Break	Enjoy your Holiday with family and friends. Do not forget to thank God for the blessings in your life and to keep your heart filled with a spirit of gratitude.
November 27 Sunday	Advent Begins	During Advent, we prepare our hearts for the Word who brought light into darkness. It is a particularly fitting time to welcome the light of God's forgiveness into the dark places of our sinful lives by celebrating the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Excerpted from <b>How to Celebrate Christmas as a Catholic</b> , copyright © 2005, Our Sunday Visitor Publishing Division, Our Sunday Visitor, Inc
November 29	Advent - Waiting and Longing	Classes meet at PCC
December 2	Lifeline Mass at NET Center  Connor Flanagan in Concert (Tickets Required)  Mass with Fr. Paul Shovelain	Following Mass, an amazing night lies ahead. In concert is <b>Connor Flanagan</b> . Connor is a dynamic, hip-hop Catholic recording artist known for his authentic stage presence and unique musical presentation! His very first full-length album "Close To You" landed in the topten iTunes Charts.  Since its release Connor has been performing extensively throughout the U.S. and is featured at many Catholic youth events including the Steubenville Youth Conferences. Committed to writing music that resonates with the human experience, Connor's story telling abilities paired with his unique hip-hop vibe are what sets him apart and allows him to connect with young people: Check him out: <a href="http://www.connorflanaganmusic.com">www.connorflanaganmusic.com</a> . <i>(NET Ministries 2017)</i>

December 6 YOU Lesson 6	Free, Total, Faithful, Fruitful Session will be split Men's Session / Women's Session	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total, Faithful, Fruitful</li> <li>• Contraception and Abortion</li> <li>• Overcoming Pornography</li> <li>• The Truth of Pornography</li> </ul>
December 8	Feast of the Immaculate Conception Holy Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A feast of the Conception of Mary began in the Eastern church in the 7th century. It came to the West in the 8th century and in the 11th Century it received the name, the Immaculate Conception. In the 18th century it became a feast of the universal church</li> <li>• In 1854 Pius IX issued the infallible statement: "The most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instant of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the savior of the human race was preserved free from all stain of original sin."</li> <li>• This privilege of Mary derives from God's having chosen her as Mother of the Savior; thus she received the benefits of salvation in Christ from the very moment of her conception. This great gift to Mary, an ordinary human being just like us, was fitting because she was destined to be the Mother of God. The purity and holiness of the Blessed Virgin Mary is a model for all Christians</li> </ul>
December 13 YOU Lesson 7	Language of the Body	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Language of the Body</li> <li>• Homosexuality</li> <li>• The Body Reveals Our Identity</li> </ul>
December 21	No Class (Christmas Vacation)	
December 25	Christmas ( Holy Day of Obligation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Celebrates the Birth of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the World</li> </ul>
December 28	No Class (Christmas Vacation)	
January 1	New Year's Day - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God (Holy Day of Obligation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• When Catholics celebrate the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God we are not only honoring Mary, who was chosen among all women throughout history to bear God incarnate, but we are also honoring our Lord, who is fully God and fully human. Calling Mary "mother of God" is the highest honor we can give Mary. Just as Christmas honors Jesus as the "Prince of Peace," the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God honors Mary as the "Queen of Peace" This solemnity, falling on New Year's Day, is also designated the World Day of Peace (David Bennett 8/15/2008 . Church Year. Net )</li> <li>• one of the oldest feasts of the Church, it was changed to this date following Vatican II, by Pope Paul VI in 1974</li> </ul>
January 3 Parish Community Center (PCC)	Catechist Appreciation No Class	Take a moment to say a prayer for your Catechists.

<p>January 6</p>	<p>Lifeline Mass at NET Center</p> <p><b>Obey Your Thirst</b></p> <p>Mass and Evening Program with Fr. Emanuel Mansford, C.F.R.</p>	<p>We often think of prayer as primarily asking God for something. We know we are supposed to pray every day and to make prayer an important part of our life. But if we're honest with ourselves, do we really know what prayer <i>is</i>? Do we know <i>how</i> to pray? Are we convinced that we <i>need</i> to pray?</p> <p>The truth is that our hearts deeply thirst for God. Our hearts deeply desire real intimacy with a real God. And only through a personal relationship with God found in prayer can our thirsty hearts be satisfied.</p> <p><b>Fr. Emmanuel Mansford, C.F.R.</b>, will speak with humor and passion about the mystery of coming to know God in prayer. A native of England, he currently lives in Harlem, NY, serving the poor and needy. He speaks to Catholic youth and young adults throughout the country at major Catholic conferences and parish missions (<i>NET Ministries 2017</i>)</p>
<p>January 10</p> <p>YOU Lesson 8</p>	<p>Marriage</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spousal Analogy</li> <li>• Qualities of a Healthy Marriage</li> <li>• Natural Family Planning</li> </ul>
<p>January 17</p> <p>YOU Lesson 9</p>	<p>Priesthood, Consecrated Life, and Celibacy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Priesthood</li> <li>• The Consecrated Life</li> <li>• Discernment</li> </ul>
<p>January 24</p> <p>YOU Lesson 10</p>	<p>Friendship, Dating, Family</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friends and Family</li> <li>• Dating</li> <li>• Discipleship</li> </ul>
<p>January 31</p> <p>(Chosen Lesson 1)</p> <p>(Chosen Lesson 2)</p>	<p><b>Why Am I Here?</b> (Chosen - Introductory Session)</p> <p><b>What Makes Me Happy?</b> (Discovering God as the Source)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expectations - Commitment - Challenges</li> <li>• Happiness in the World</li> <li>• Man's Desire for More</li> <li>• Come and See - God's Invitation</li> <li>• St. Anthony the Great</li> <li>• Challenge</li> </ul>
<p>February 3</p>	<p>Lifeline Mass at NET Center</p> <p><b>Follow Me</b> (No, Jesus isn't talking about Instagram)</p> <p>Mass and Evening Program with Archbishop Bernard Hebda and Fr. David Blume</p>	<p>Have any of the following questions ever entered your mind: Does It's the most important invitation you'll ever receive in your life. It's the invitation of Jesus who says to you, "Follow Me." It's the very same invitation Jesus extended to his first disciples. They were leading very ordinary lives. All of that changed when they encountered Jesus and responded to His invitation to "Follow Me." And the world has never been the same.</p> <p>Without fail, through the centuries of the Church, countless thousands upon thousands of courageous Catholic young men and women have responded to that same invitation. For some, it is a call to live a holy, faithful life in marriage or the sacred consecrated single life. But for others, Jesus extends a special call, a call to those willing to boldly serve the Church as a priest or religious brother or sister. (<i>NET Ministries 2017</i>)</p>

February 7 (Chosen Lesson 3)	<b>What's Your Story God?</b> (A Look at Salvation History)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God's Plan</li> <li>• Jesus is the fullest revelation of God</li> <li>• God gives the Church witnesses</li> <li>• Hearing and responding to the Gospel - a call to greatness</li> <li>• St. Francis de Sales</li> </ul>
February 14	<b>Ash Wednesday</b>	Beginning of Lent - 40 days of prayer, fasting and almsgiving - a time of penance and conversion, for cleaning out the old in our lives that hinders our relationship with Jesus Christ. It begins on this day with a signing with ashes and a call to turn from sin and live the Gospel. We are called to perform some actions that will be transformative as we approach Easter - both spiritually and physically, so that we may become more like Christ.
February 21 (Chosen Lesson 4)	<b>How do I know God is real?</b> (Understanding Divine Revelation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowing God through creation and human reason</li> <li>• Knowing God in Revelation (Scripture and Tradition)</li> <li>• Faith as a virtue</li> <li>• St. Thomas Aquinas</li> </ul>
February 28 (Chosen Lesson 5)	<b>Who is Jesus?</b> (The Person and Mission of Christ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• "But who do you say that I am?" Mt 16:15</li> <li>• Liar, Lunatic,... or Lord"</li> <li>• Why did Jesus come to earth and become human?</li> <li>• St. Theresa of Avila</li> </ul>
March 3	<p>Lifeline Mass at NET Center</p> <p><b>Catholic Marriage vs. the Secular Culture</b></p> <p>Mass with Fr. Michael Becker</p> <p>Evening Program with Nathan and Caroline Metzinger</p>	<p>In case you haven't noticed, the world's view of relationship between man and woman is a little different than the vision of Catholic marriage.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Give vs. Get:</b> Why we aren't going to win if we don't know what game we are playing</li> <li>• <b>More is More vs. Less is More:</b> Why God's math is better than ours</li> <li>• <b>Marriage Prep. vs. Wedding Prep:</b> Why we don't plan to fail, we just fail to plan</li> </ul> <p>On April 29th, 2000, an Australian Catholic musician married an American Catholic Air-Force brat...game on. Join <b>Nathan and Caroline Metzinger</b> eighteen years and six kids later as they reflect on the Church's vision for marriage through lessons learned as they strive to live a Catholic marriage in the midst of an increasingly secular culture. (<i>NET Ministries 2017</i>)</p>
March 7	<b>No Class</b> <i>Centennial Spring Break</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Enjoy yourself!</b></li> </ul>
March 14 (Chosen Lesson 6)	<b>Why Be Catholic?</b> (Discovering the Church Jesus Founded)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Catholic Church not just one of many "churches"</li> <li>• Why did Jesus establish the Church</li> <li>• Marks of the Church</li> <li>• St. Theresa Benedicta of the Cross (Edith Stein)</li> </ul>
March 21 (Chosen Lesson 7)	<b>Where am I going?</b> (A Look at the Four Last Things)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Death is a part of Life</li> <li>• Eternity is real</li> <li>• Purgatory is a state of purification</li> <li>• Every human being who ever lived will stand before God</li> <li>• St. Sebastian</li> </ul>

March 25	Palm Sunday	
March 28	No Class - Holy Week	
March 29-31	Holy Thursday - Good Friday - Passion and Death of Jesus Holy Saturday	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Triduum</li> <li>• Institution of the ordained Priesthood, and the Eucharist</li> <li>• Passion and Death of Jesus</li> <li>• <b>Easter Vigil - the Church begins to Celebrate the Light of the Resurrection</b></li> </ul>
April 1	EASTER	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Celebration of the Resurrection continues and will for the next 50 days</li> </ul>
April 4 Coon Rapids	Feed My Starving Children	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>
April 7	<p>Lifeline Mass at NET Center</p> <p><b>Am I Saved?</b></p> <p>Mass and Evening Program with Bishop Andrew Cozzens</p>	<p>Most of us have probably heard or have been challenged by some variation of these questions before:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If you were to die right now, where would you spend eternity?</li> <li>• Do you know with certainty that you will go to Heaven?</li> <li>• Have you found salvation in Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior?</li> </ul> <p>For sure the topic of salvation is very important. And since it deals with eternity – your eternity – it's <i>most</i> important.</p> <p>But what does it mean to be saved? Saved from what? Can anyone really know if they are saved? What is the Catholic understanding of salvation? (<i>NET Ministries 2017</i>)</p>
April 11 (Chosen Lesson 8)	<p><b>How do I get there?</b> (The Power and Purpose of the Sacraments)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• God created us to share in His life and gave us the Sacrament to give us that grace</li> <li>• The Sacraments are real signs of grace given to us by Christ</li> <li>• Sacrament overview</li> <li>• St. Terese of Lisieux</li> </ul>
April 18 (Chosen Lesson 9)	<p><b>When did my journey begin?</b> (Baptism, Your Initiation into God's Family)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water as a sign in Salvation History</li> <li>• Form, Matter and Effects of Baptism</li> <li>• Fruits of Baptism</li> <li>• St. Josephine Bakhita</li> </ul>
April 25	<p><b>CATHOLIC FAIR</b></p> <p><b>We pray that you have a Blessed and joyful summer!</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make sure you're prepared for your Catholic Fair booth and to be of service during the evening as needed</li> <li>• An evening of fun and activities</li> </ul>

<p>May 2 (Chosen Lesson 10)</p>	<p>Why tell my sins to a priest? (the Healing Power of Confession)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sin - What it is, its effects</li> <li>• God's law is freeing</li> <li>• Sin - mortal and venial</li> <li>• Nature of Sin - affects the person and the community</li> <li>• What is necessary to a Good Confession</li> <li>• St. Augustine of Hippo</li> </ul>
<p>May 5 Saturday Youth Event</p>	<p>Lifeline Mass at NET Center</p> <p><b>Made for Worship</b></p> <p>Mass and Evening Program with Fr. Jim Livingston</p>	<p>Following His death and resurrection, Jesus appeared to His disciples many times before He ascended to Heaven. The response of the disciples upon seeing Jesus fully alive following His cruel death is found in Matthew 28: "When they saw Him, <i>they worshipped Him.</i>"</p> <p>When you encounter the Living Lord in His glory, power, and merciful love you'll discover that you are made for worship. You'll discover your true purpose and mission. (Mt. 28:19).</p> <p>Are you ready? <i>(NET Ministries 2017)</i></p>
<p>May 5</p>	<p>RITE OF SENDING 9:00 AM SHIFT - 1/2 OF CLASS 4:00 PM SHIFT - 1/2 OF CLASS</p>	<p><b>Ninth Grade Confirmation Class prepares and serves dinner for Confirmands and their families and sponsors.</b></p>