BLEST ARE WE®			Scope & Sequence Grade Level 8		
UNIT THEME	What Catholics Believe	How Catholics Worship	How Catholics Live	How Catholics Pray	
UNIT 1 The Marks of the Church from the Beginning Early Christians built their communities around the celebration of the Lord's Supper and the Gospel message. Their belief in the Kingdom and in the ongoing presence of Christ sustained them through many times of trial and persecution.	<ul> <li><b>1. Apostolic: Founded on the</b> <b>Apostles</b> <ul> <li>Our faith, summarized in the Apostles' Creed, is the same as the faith of the Apostles.</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>SCRIPTURE STORY</b> <ul> <li>Peter and the Early Christian Community</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>RESPOND STORY</b> <ul> <li>Peter's Message Continues</li> <li><b>PRAYER CELEBRATION</b> The Apostles' Creed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>2. Holy: Jesus Christ in the Sacraments         <ul> <li>In the sacraments, we meet the Risen Christ. We become the Church—God's holy people.</li> <li>WORSHIP                 Breaking Bread Together</li> <li>RESPOND STORY                 Dave Brubeck</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION                 We Praise and Thank Our Father</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>3. Catholic: Open and Respectful of All</li> <li>The word <i>catholic</i> means "universal" or "open to all." Catholics are called to welcome all people.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY The Council of Jerusalem</li> <li>RESPOND STORY Pope Pius IX and Pope John XXIII</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION Prayer of the Faithful</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>4. One: Praying for Unity         God calls each person to use         his or her gifts and talents to         build up the Body of Christ, the         Church.     </li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY         Unity and Variety     </li> <li>RESPOND STORY         Saint Thérèse of Lisieux</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION         Prayer of Unity     </li> </ul>	
UNIT 2 THE GROWTH OF CHRISTENDOM Having endured persecution and internal strife, Christianity burst forth as the dominant religion of the Mediterranean world and the organizing principle of society. Great cathedrals and basilicas embodied the spirit of faith and optimism.	<ul> <li>5. Councils, Cultures, and Conflicts</li> <li>Twenty-two different Church traditions make up the universal Catholic Church.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY The Council of Nicaea</li> <li>RESPOND STORY Saint Helena</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION Nicene Creed</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>6. Liturgy and Unity, Worship and Beauty</li> <li>Throughout history, the essential signs and words of the liturgy have remained the same.</li> <li>WORSHIP Early Eucharist Celebrations</li> <li>RESPOND STORY Building a Cathedral</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION We Thank Thee, Lord</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>7. The Church and the Empire         <ul> <li>The Church reminds us that obedience to God comes before obedience to any civil authority.</li> </ul> </li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY         <ul> <li>Augustine and the Kingdom</li> </ul> </li> <li>RESPOND STORY             <ul> <li>Charlemagne</li> </ul> </li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION             <ul> <li>We Love God Above All Else</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>8. Prayer for Understanding         <ul> <li>Genuine prayer, in which we open our hearts and minds to the Holy Spirit, promotes healing and understanding.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY                 Prayer Expressed Through Art                 Respond STORY                 Making an Icon                 Prayer Celebration                 We Open Our Hearts</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>UNIT 3</b> <b>THE AGE OF FAITH AND</b> <b>BEAUTY</b> The medieval Church expressed its deep faith through glorious cathedrals and elaborate worship. We are called to use contemporary media to proclaim our Catholic faith.	<ul> <li>9. Faith Expressed and Lived</li> <li>We should keep ourselves open to receive God's gift of faith and continue to nourish it in ourselves.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY Saint Benedict: A Model of Faith</li> <li>RESPOND STORY Saint Thomas Aquinas</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION Lectio Divina</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>10. Mass in the Cathedral         The Eucharist is the Church's great offering of thanksgiving to God for the gift of salvation and the Eucharist.         WORSHIP             A Magnificent Mass         </li> <li>RESPOND STORY             The Gothic Cathedral         </li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION             Meditating with Julian of Norwich</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>11. The Ouest for Salvation         Jesus Christ commands us to             live in peace and to love all             people as our neighbors. We             are saved through Jesus Christ             and God's grace.            SCRIPTURE STORY             Defending God's Will            RESPOND STORY             Galileo's Daughter            PRAYER CELEBRATION             Praise God!</li></ul>	<ul> <li>12. Devotions         The Church recognizes popular devotions and private prayer as valuable ways to express and develop piety.         Scripture Story             The Imitation of Christ             Respond Story             A Wreath of Roses      </li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION             The Rosary         </li> </ul>	

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<b>UNIT 4</b> <b>REASON, REBELLION, AND</b> <b>REFORM</b> The Renaissance brought calls for reform in the Church. Martin Luther launched the Protestant Reformation when he nailed ninety-five statements of protest to a church door. The Church responded with the Counter-Reformation.	<ul> <li>13. The Counter-Reformation         True reform begins within each person's heart as he or she seeks God's truth.     </li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY         A Time of Division     </li> </ul>	h 14. Forgiveness and Reconciliation Reconciliation Reconciliation celebrates the fact that God is merciful and always welcomes us back. WORSHIP The Rite of Penance Develops RESPOND STORY A Penitential Celebration PRAYER CELEBRATION Our Prayer for Mercy	<ul> <li>15. Morality and Salvation</li> <li>We choose to accept or reject God's love based on the choices we make throughout our lives.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>16. Seeking a Common Prayer</li> <li>The Holy Spirit works in all Christian traditions to bring their members to the truth of the Gospel.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY</li> </ul>
	RESPOND STORY Saint Teresa of Ávila and Saint John of the Cross PRAYER CELEBRATION Praying with Saint John of the Cross		The Choice of Heaven <b>RESPOND STORY</b> Saint Robert Bellarmine and Saint Catherine of Siena <b>PRAYER CELEBRATION</b> Being with Jesus	Religion and Democracy <b>RESPOND STORY</b> Saint Rose Philippine Duchesne <b>PRAYER CELEBRATION</b> That They May All Be One
<b>UNIT 5</b> <b>RETURNING TO THE ROOTS</b> <b>OF CHRISTIANITY</b> Grounded in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, our faith is expressed in new ways in every age to meet the challenges of contemporary life. We are called to be part of this renewal of the Gospel.	<ul> <li>I7. Modern Ecumenical Councils         <ul> <li>The living God continues to reveal himself to us today through Scripture and Church Tradition.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY</li></ul></li></ul>	<ul> <li><b>18. Renewal of the Liturgy</b> <ul> <li>Sincere liturgical participation brings us closer to God and helps us experience Gods' own holiness.</li> <li><b>WORSHIP</b>                 An Age-Old Prayer</li> <li><b>RESPOND STORY</b>                 Deacon Tim Manning</li> <li><b>PRAYER CELEBRATION</b>                 Using Postures to Praise                 God</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul> <li>19. The Moral Struggle of a New Age</li> <li>Social justice is imperative for the survival of life, and is the Gospel of life Jesus preached.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY Moral Challenges for the Church</li> <li>RESPOND STORY Archbishop Oscar Romero</li> <li>PRAYER CELEBRATION Acting Out Jesus' Story</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>20. A Prayer for the Church         <ul> <li>Building the Church of             tomorrow begins with prayer             and action that shows respect             for all humanity.</li> <li>SCRIPTURE STORY                   A Church Blessed with                   Prayers of the Faithful                   Respond Story                   Your Own Prayers for the                   Church                   PRAYER CELEBRATION                   Praying for the Church's                  Concerns             </li> </ul> </li> </ul>