

# **Religion**

Bishop Hartley High School is a Roman Catholic school and our Religion Program consists of three components: knowledge, liturgy, and service. Our goals are:

*To proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ to all*

*To transform humankind into new life in Christ*

*To train individuals to live consciously  
faith-filled lives as children of God.*

The program's foundational principles, which come from the National Catechetical Directory, *Sharing the Light of Faith*, are:

1. A person's human development is the key to his or her capacity to form a faith relationship and intellectually understand the implications of that relationship.
2. The four tasks of message, community, service, prayer and worship form one interlocking ministry.
3. The program draws upon the four signs of sources of catechesis – biblical, ecclesial, liturgical and natural signs.
4. The program strives to enhance the school's academic nature, and develop the spiritual, personal, social and physical development of the student.

## **Religion Course of Study**

Our Diocesan Religion Course of Study for grades 9, 10, 11, and 12, is outlined in the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' documents *Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework for the Development of Catechetical Materials for Young People of High School Age* (2008), and *Catechetical Formation in Chaste Living* (2008).

In conjunction with this content, our classrooms incorporate *The Six Tasks of Catechesis* (as articulated in the *National Directory of Catechesis*), which provide each student with opportunities to:

1. explore and challenge his/her intellectual understanding of the Catholic faith;
2. reflect and grow in his/her spiritual development; and
3. acquire skills which can be applied to parish and community service.

The faculty and staff of Bishop Hartley share with the Religion Department the mission to proclaim Christ's message, to participate in community building, to lead people to worship and prayer, and to encourage and inspire service.

## **Religion 9**

### **Semester 1 – The Revelation of Jesus Christ in Scripture**

The purpose of this course is to give students a general knowledge and appreciation of the Sacred Scriptures. Through their study of the Bible, they will come to encounter the living Word of God, Jesus Christ. In the course they will learn the history of the formation of the Bible, authored by God through inspiration, and its value to people throughout the world. They will learn to read the Bible and will become familiar with its major sections, with a particular focus on the Gospels of the New Testament.

### **Semester 2 – Who is Jesus Christ?**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the mystery of Jesus Christ, the living Word of God, and the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In this course students will understand that Jesus Christ is the ultimate Revelation to us from God. In learning about who He is, the student will also learn who He calls them to be.

## **Religion 10**

### **Semester 1 – The Mission of Jesus Christ (The Paschal Mystery)**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand all that God has done for us through his Son, Jesus Christ. Students will learn that for all eternity, God has planned for us to share eternal happiness with him, which is accomplished through the redemption Christ won for us, and students will learn that they share in this redemption only in and through Jesus Christ. They will also understand what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

### **Semester 2 – Jesus Christ's Mission Continues in the Church**

The purpose of this course is to enable the students to understand that in the sacred nature of the Church in which they encounter the living Jesus Christ, that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him through the Holy Spirit. The students will know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today, with both divine and human elements.

## **Religion 11**

### **Semester 1 – Sacraments as Privileged Encounters with Jesus Christ**

The purpose of this course is to enable students to understand that they can encounter Christ today in a full and real way, in and through the sacraments, and especially through the Eucharist. Students will examine each of the sacraments. This course is designed to enable the student to understand and recognize God's presence in the world and become familiar with the ways God and people communicate with one another through symbols, rituals, and prayer.

### **Semester 2 – Life in Jesus Christ**

Students learn the moral concepts and precepts that govern the lives of Christ's disciples. This course enables the student to understand the principles that form the basis of Catholic Christian Morality, such as freedom, responsibility, conscience, conscience formation, and the difference between subjective and objective morality.

## **\*Religion 11 (Christian Leadership)**

Beyond covering the core topics outlined in the USCCB framework and the basic skills of the Diocesan curricular tasks, Religion 11 (Christian Leadership) challenges students to fulfill liturgical, prayer, and service leadership roles. The course involves an inductive approach to leadership formation by empowering students to plan, execute and evaluate activities and events throughout the Hartley community through the school year. Juniors plan and lead the Freshman retreat on campus and additional opportunities to learn and serve off campus are often available.

## **Religion 12**

### **Semester 1 - History of the Catholic Church**

The purpose of this course is to supply the students with a general knowledge of the Church's history from apostolic times to the present. They will be introduced to the fact that the Church was founded by Christ through the Apostles and is sustained by him throughout history through the Holy Spirit. The students will come to know that the Church is the living Body of Christ today and, as such, has both divine and human elements. In this course, students will learn about the Church's 2,000 years of history and about how the Church is led and governed by the successors of the Apostles.

### **Semester 2 - Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society**

The purpose of this course is to introduce students to the Church's social teaching. In this course, students are to learn how Christ's concern for others, especially the poor and needy, is present today in the Church's social teaching and mission.