

A

# CATHOLIC

## Pilgrimage

through **American**

# HISTORY



People and Places that Shaped the  
Church in the United States

**TEACHER RESOURCE GUIDE**

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# 1 THE FIRST PARISH OF AN EMERGING NATION

*Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine • 38 Cathedral Place • St. Augustine, Florida, 32084*

## Chapter Preview

The Spanish who settled on the east Florida coast and established a Church community there, naming it St. Augustine, are now credited with founding the first Catholic parish in the United States. The Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine, which was constructed between 1793–1797, was designated a national United States historical landmark in 1970. The Basilica was granted minor basilica status by Pope Paul VI in 1976. It remains an active parish and the seat of the Catholic Diocese of St. Augustine.

## Informational Websites

The Cathedral Parish of St. Augustine

Faith & Footsteps: The Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine

History of the Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What is the origin of the name “Florida” in Spanish?
2. Who was Ponce de León?
3. Who were the first European colonists in Florida? What happened to them?
4. What happened to the first two Catholic churches built in St. Augustine?
5. Explain how Catholics returned to St. Augustine after the British had taken over the colony in the eighteenth century.
6. What was the result of the property rights dispute between the Church and the United States involving Church property at St. Augustine after the United States took control of Florida in 1819?
7. What position did Bishop Augustin Verot take on slavery in his sermon at the Church of St. Augustine on January 4, 1861?
8. Who provided major funding when the church was again struck by fire in 1887?
9. When did the Cathedral of St. Augustine become a minor basilica?

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## Journal or Discussion

What is your family’s history at your parish?

What do you find meaningful about belonging to a parish community?

## Assignment

Early life in the colonial community of St. Augustine provided a “melting pot of ethnic groups.” Name a contemporary parish you know of that provides a similar type of melting pot. What are the similarities you see to the description of early colonial St. Augustine?

## 2 THE CATHOLIC PLYMOUTH ROCK

*Brick Chapel of 1667 • 18751 Hogaboom Lane • St. Mary's City, Maryland 20686*

### Chapter Preview

The first brick chapel in Maryland's then-capital city, St. Mary's City, was built in 1667. It was called St. John's Chapel, and it was approved by Lord Baltimore as a symbol of freedom of religion in the colony of Maryland. Catholics could freely worship at the Brick Chapel from 1667 until 1704 when it was disassembled brick by brick and Catholics could no longer worship in public. The Brick Chapel was reconstructed and rededicated in 2012.

### Informational Websites

Historic St. Mary's City (includes videos)

The Brick Chapel of 1667 and the Mystery of the 3 Lead Coffins

Maryland's Religious Freedom Byway

Maryland Catholic History

### Reading Comprehension

1. How did Maryland come to be named Maryland?
2. Where was the first Mass in a British North American colony celebrated?
3. What was Cecil Calvert's instruction to Leonard Calvert about how Catholicism should be practiced in Maryland?
4. What impact did the dispute between the Roundheads and the Cavaliers have on Catholicism in Maryland?
5. What is significant about St. Mary's parish in Prince George's County that was once known as Piscataway Church?
6. Who are two important descendants of the Maryland-based Carroll family?
7. What was discovered in the three coffins found at the site of the Brick Chapel of 1667?

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### Journal or Discussion

Who is a family member from the past or present that best models your family's religious faith?

Cite an example of religious intolerance today. Explain the lengths you would go to fight against this intolerance.

### Assignment

Create a family tree going back four generations. Include dates, places of birth and death, and each person's religion if you can. Write three to four paragraphs explaining where your family's first Catholic ancestor (if you have Catholic ancestors) settled in America, and also include something about the history of the Church in that location.

# 3 THE ABENAKI TRIBE AND FR. RÂLE'S WAR

*Sébastien Rôle Memorial • 470 Father Rasle Road • Madison, Maine, 04950*

## Chapter Preview

Before Europeans settled in Maine, the area was inhabited by many American Indian tribes, one of which was the Abenaki tribe. In the early years of European settlers, it was the French Jesuit and Recollect Fathers who had a hand in shaping Christianity in this region. The missionaries in this region, like other regions, were involved not only in spreading the Catholic Faith but also in politics. In the 1700s, Fr. Rôle began his work with the Abenaki tribe, and he was always trying to learn more about their life and culture. Unfortunately for Fr Rôle, Maine was a disputed territory at the time, which led to growing tensions between France and Great Britain, and ultimately ended in violent conflicts.

## Informational Websites

Father Rasle Monument

Father Rasle's Demise in the Maine Woods (includes video)

Abenaki Tribe Website

A History of the Abenaki Tribe (includes video)

Encyclopedia Britannica Online on the Abenaki People

## Reading Comprehension

1. How many Jesuits came from France during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries to minister in North America?
2. What river did Fr. Pierre Biard explore in the early 1600s?
3. What was Fr. Rôle's goal as he worked with the Abenaki tribe?
4. How did Fr. Rôle adapt his ministry to the rhythms of Abenaki life?
5. What document did Fr. Rôle create that shows his great familiarity with Abenaki life?
6. Which European country maintained control of the Maine region during the 18th century?
7. Which religion dominated the Maine region during the 18th century?
8. What are some of the reasons that Fr. Rôle may have encouraged the Abenaki tribe to resist control by the English?
9. How many Indians died at the Battle of Norridgewock?
10. Fr. Rôle was killed at the foot of a specific object. What is this object and where is it today?
11. What was the state of Catholicism in Maine when Maine's statehood was granted in 1820?
12. How is Fr. Rôle legacy remembered?

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## Journal or Discussion

Fr. Rôle was able to adapt his ministry to the rhythms of Abenaki life without changing the nature of the Catholic Faith. What can be learned from this example for Christians today?

Often in everyday life, faith and politics clash. What is a faithful Christian to do in these situations? What should a Christian politician do in these situations? What should a priest or religious do in these situations?

## Assignment

Research the modern Abenaki tribe. Where do they live and work today? How has their tribal life been shaped by European colonialism?

# 4 A FRANCISCAN ADVENTURE IN ALTA CALIFORNIA

*Mission San Diego de Alcalá • 10818 San Diego Mission Road • San Diego, California 92108*

## Chapter Preview

On the southern coast of Spain in 1713, a man was born who would later become the famous Fr. Junípero Serra. After joining the Franciscan order and completing his education, he set sail for Mexico and Alta California. Once in New Spain, Fr. Serra set to work at once building missions. These missions were not always well received due to the nearly 200-year-old tensions between the Spanish and the Native Americans. However, Fr. Serra's legacy lives on in the many remaining missions in the area. Fr. Serra was ultimately canonized by Pope Francis in 2015.

## Informational Websites

Mission San Diego de Alcalá

Mission San Diego History (includes video)

California Missions: San Diego de Alcalá

Mission San Diego de Alcalá: Visiting California's First Mission

Mission San Diego de Alcalá—A Virtual Reality Experience (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What order did Miguel Joseph Serra join and what name did he take?
2. Why is the coast of California named after Franciscan Saints rather than Jesuit Saints?
3. What physical disability did Serra suffer from during his time as a missionary?
4. What was the dual purpose of the California Missions?
5. Which explorer first came to the San Diego Bay and in what year?
6. What was the first California mission and when was it established?
7. Why was San Diego nearly abandoned in 1770? What stopped it from being abandoned?
8. Who was California's first Christian martyr?
9. How many missions were constructed in this region during the period of Franciscan supervision?
10. Who was the first person to be canonized on American soil and when did this occur?

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## Journal or Discussion

Franciscan friars in the missions felt called to care for both the spiritual AND physical needs of their people. Why is this an important approach? How does the Church do this same thing today?

Fr. Junípero Serra was the first person canonized on American soil. What do you think he has to teach the Church in the United States?

## Assignment

Pick one of the missions founded by St. Junípero Serra that is still standing today and research its beginnings.

# 5 CATHOLIC GATEWAY TO THE WEST

*Basilica of St. Louis, King of France • 209 Walnut Street • St. Louis, Missouri 63102*

## Chapter Preview

The city of St. Louis was founded as a trading post on the mouth of the Mississippi and was envisioned as a city with a church at its heart. The very first church was a simple log hut. It was replaced by a second larger log church in 1776. This structure was soon made the Cathedral of the New Orleans Diocese. A third church was constructed in 1818 and another in 1831. During this same time period, Catholicism began to flourish in St. Louis as it became a diocese in its own right. After St. Louis officially became part of the United States, it was a peaceful trade zone which would open the west to further expansion. Finally, in 1914, the “new” Cathedral was built.

## Informational Websites

Old Cathedral Website (includes video)

Museum at the Gateway Arch (includes video)

Behind the Scenes of the Cathedral Basilica of Saint Louis (includes video)

The Old Cathedral in downtown St. Louis (includes video)

American Catholic History #062: Basilica of St. Louis, the King (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What is the origin of the city of St. Louis?
2. Why did the second log church in St. Louis become a cathedral so early in its history?
3. What religious order of sisters arrived in St. Louis in 1818? Which Saint was their leader?
4. When was St. Louis made into its own diocese? Who was its first bishop?
5. The Chouteaus helped to form St. Louis into a “peaceful free trade zone” in the early 1800s. What were some of their commercial activities and where did they trade?
6. Who led the famous expedition which was supplied by the Chouteaus in 1804?
7. The cornerstone for a new cathedral was laid in St. Louis in 1831. Describe this new building.
8. When and why was a “new” cathedral built in St. Louis?
9. Explain the continuing importance of the Old Cathedral.

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## Journal or Discussion

Imagine yourself on the journey with Lewis and Clark. What would you most hope to discover in this new territory?

As Laclède was laying out the groundwork for this new city, he understood the importance of the Church in society. Why do you think he thought the Church’s interaction was important in society? Do our leaders believe this today?

## Assignment

Research the Chouteau family and write a brief explanation of how they were formative in the creation of St. Louis as a major city.

# 6 GROUND ZERO FOR CATHOLIC NEW YORK

St. Peter's Church, Manhattan • 22 Barclay Street • New York, New York 10007

## Chapter Preview

During the colonial era and continuing through the Revolutionary War, the New York region was unfavorable towards Catholics. Nonetheless, a small band of faithful Catholics persisted in the area. Fr. Charles Whelan, an Irish Capuchin, arrived in Manhattan in 1785 and shortly thereafter he laid the cornerstone for the first church, St. Peter's. This fledgling community quickly found itself embroiled in the "trustee controversy." When the worst of the "trustee controversy" was behind them, Fr. William O'Brien became pastor. Throughout the ensuing years both Fr. O'Brien and St. Peter's saw many notable historical occurrences. In 1840, a new, much larger St. Peter's was finished. It was to this very building that men and women went for comfort after 9/11.

## Informational Websites

St. Peter's Church History

Our Parish Remembrance of September 11, 2001 (includes video)

New York City: The Catholic Memorial at Ground Zero

9/11 Catholic Memorial at St. Peter's Church Offers Place to Reflect

The Church that Rose When the Towers Fell

American Catholic History #002: Fr. Anthony Kohlmann, SJ, and the Seal of Confession (includes podcast)

American Catholic History #035: Pierre Toussaint (includes podcast)

A Look at the Path to Sainthood for Former Slave Pierre Toussaint | EWTN News Nightly

## Reading Comprehension

1. Who became governor of the New York colony in 1682 and why was this significant?
2. What happened to the Catholics of New York during Leisler's Rebellion?
3. Why was there more support for Catholics in New York in 1784 when Fr. Charles Whelan arrived?
4. When and where was the cornerstone for the first church in Manhattan laid?
5. What was the "trustee controversy"?
6. Who is the first American-born Saint? What is she known for?
7. What principle of religious liberty was enshrined in New York law after a note-worthy confession to Fr. Anthony Kohlmann?
8. Who is Pierre Toussaint?
9. When was the cornerstone laid for the new St. Peter's? Describe the new building.

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## Journal or Discussion

Pierre Toussaint is an important figure because he shows the racial diversity in the American Church. Why is it important for all people to have saints to look up to who look like them?

Americans usually take our religious liberties for granted. Imagine a situation where the practice of your faith was prohibited. What would you be willing to sacrifice?

## Assignment

Spend some time researching Pierre Toussaint and write a brief persuasive essay as to why you think the Catholic Church should either further his cause for canonization or not do so.

# 7 THE PRINCE OF PENNSYLVANIA: FR. DEMETRIS GALLITZIN

*Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel • 321 St. Mary Street • Loretto, Pennsylvania 15940*

## Chapter Preview

The foundations of Catholicism in Pennsylvania date back to 1785 when several Catholic families congregated around Sportsman Hall under the leadership of Fr. Brouwers. Following a difficult period of time, Fr. Gallitzin, a former Orthodox Russian prince, was given control of large tracts of land. He dispersed the land to poor Catholic families, founded a new town on it, and built the first St. Michael Parish. Fr. Gallitzin then passed on his legacy to Fr. Peter Lemke, and, during his tenure, the towns of St. Benedict, Gallitzin, and Carrollton were born, as was the nation's first Benedictine Monastery. Years later Charles Schwab, U.S. Steel Titan, was raised in Loretto and educated by the Sisters of Mercy. His family was tied to the Catholic Church and his property came into the hands of St. Francis College. This area is still unmistakably Catholic, and St. Michael's has now been recognized by the Vatican as a Basilica.

## Informational Websites

Basilica of St. Michael the Archangel

Cause for the Canonization of Servant of God Demetrius Gallitzin

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown: About Prince Gallitzin

The Pastoral Courage of Demetrius Gallitzin

St. Michael's Christmas Loretto, PA (includes video)

St. Michael Basilica in Loretto, PA (includes video)

American Catholic History #010: Prince Gallitzin (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What was Sportsman Hall?
2. How did Demetrius Gallitzin come to be a priest?
3. Who was the second priest to be ordained in the United States?
4. What was McGuire's Settlement?
5. What did Fr. Gallitzin name this new town and why?
6. Describe the first St. Michael church built by Fr. Gallitzin.
7. Who replaced Fr. Gallitzin in Pennsylvania after his death?
8. How many Catholic families were there in Cambria County in 1840?
9. Who built the first Benedictine Monastery in the United States and where did they build it?
10. Discuss the evolution of the church buildings in Loretto.
11. How did Charles Schwab become the president of the first billion-dollar company in America?
12. How did St. Francis College come to own the Schwab estate?

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## Journal or Discussion

Fr. Gallitzin was hesitant to have a town named after himself. Would you want to have a town, a building, etc. named after yourself or would you prefer to remain anonymous?

Fr. Gallitzin was so well-loved that mourners filed past his body for four days after he died. Who can you think of who has been equally well-loved? Why were they so well-loved?

## Assignment

Research Charles Schwab and U.S. Steel. What impact did U.S. Steel have on Pennsylvania during its heyday?

# 8 PROMPT SUCCOR FOR ANDREW JACKSON

*The Ursuline Convent, New Orleans • 1100 Chartres Street • New Orleans, Louisiana 70116*

## Chapter Preview

Fleeing from undue financial control by the French government, the Ursuline Sisters left France and signed a contract with the Company of the Indies in 1727 in order to resettle in New Orleans. As ownership of Louisiana transferred to the United States, the Ursuline Sisters received assurances directly from President Thomas Jefferson that their religious freedoms would be respected. During the final battle of the War of 1812, the Sisters offered aid to both sides even though their loyalties lay with the Americans. They turned their prayers to Our Lady of Prompt Succor. Despite being badly outnumbered, Andrew Jackson's forces prevailed. Later Andrew Jackson publicly thanked the Ursuline Sisters for their prayer and recognized the "heavenly intercession" that led to his victory. The Ursuline Sisters continue to offer Masses of thanksgiving on the anniversary of this victory and their chapel in New Orleans is called the National Shrine of Our Lady of Prompt Succor.

## Informational Websites

Visit the Old Ursuline Convent Museum

Old Ursuline Convent Museum

NOLA History: The Old Ursuline Convent in the French Quarter

Battle of New Orleans: Old Ursuline Convent

The Unsinkable Ursulines

Old Ursuline Convent Tour Video: St. Louis Cathedral in New Orleans (includes video)

The Old Ursuline Convent: A New Orleans Museum (includes video)

The Nuns that Made New Orleans (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. Why can it be said that the final battle of the War of 1812 actually took place after the war was over?
2. What was the first Catholic religious institute dedicated to the express purpose of educating girls?
3. Why did the Ursuline Order sign a contract with the Company of the Indies in 1727? What did the contract state?
4. Describe the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor.
5. What two events in New Orleans's history are credited to the intercession of Our Lady of Prompt Succor?
6. Where is the statue of Our Lady of Prompt Succor housed today?

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## Journal or Discussion

When Louisiana became part of the United States, the Ursuline superior, Mother Therese de St. Xavier, wrote to President Thomas Jefferson asking if their religious freedom would be protected. How do we still honor religious freedom in this country today? Are there any ways in which we violate religious freedom today?

The Ursuline Sisters turned to Our Lady of Prompt Succor as the Saint to ask for intercession in their time of need. Who is your favorite Saint to turn to in need? Why? If you do not have one, look up a few Saints and find one you might pray to the next time you are in need.

## Assignment

Research the Battle of New Orleans. Find a figure who was a particular hero during this battle and write a brief report on what made the hero's actions heroic.

# 9 CATHOLICISM ON THE BOURBON TRAIL

Church of St. Thomas • 870 St. Thomas Lane • Bardstown, Kentucky 40004

## Chapter Preview

Kentucky is known both for its Catholicism and for its whiskey. One of the early Catholic settlements in Kentucky was the Howard Estate, which was created by former Marylanders moving west. When the Diocese of Bardstown was created, it encompassed not only Kentucky but also Tennessee and other neighboring territories. In the early 1800s there was a lack of clarity as to who actually owned land, which caused no shortage of problems. Once ownership was clarified, Bishop Flaget occupied the former Howard's homestead, and it doubled as St. Thomas Seminary. Bishop Flaget invited the Sisters of Nazareth to minister with him in this area, and several other religious congregations also grew up in the same region. When the seat of the diocese was transferred away from St. Thomas, the building fell into disrepair; however, it still exists today as a humble country church.

## Informational Websites

St. Thomas Parish History: Cradle of Kentucky Catholicism

Archdiocese of Louisville: St. Thomas Parish

Kentucky's Holy Lands

Sisters of Charity of Nazareth Website

The Sisters of Charity of Nazareth: Kentucky Life (includes video)

Bishop Flaget comes to Bardstown (includes video)

American Catholic History #043: Kentucky Catholics and Bourbon (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What was the first state west of the Appalachian Mountains? When did it become a state?
2. What made Kentucky an ideal place for the production of bourbon?
3. How many Catholic churches were there in the United States when Catholics began moving to Kentucky?
4. Four new dioceses were created in 1808 by Pope Pius VII. Name the diocese created to serve the Kentucky region and its first bishop.
5. From whom did this new diocese inherit land?
6. Describe St. Thomas Seminary in the nineteenth century.
7. Who built the chapel designed by Maximilian Godefroy and when was it completed?
8. How did the Sisters of Charity of Nazareth get their name?
9. Who was Catherine Spalding?
10. How many dioceses were formed out of the former Bardstown diocese?
11. What two other religious institutions got their start in the same year that the Sisters of Nazareth were founded?

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## Journal or Discussion

Consider the monastic lifestyle of the early seminarians at St. Thomas Seminary. Do you think you could adjust to living in this manner? Why or why not?

The Sister of Nazareth showed great trust when they lost their home. Think of a time when you were called to show great trust. Do you feel you did a good job trusting that God would take care of you? What could you do better next time?

## Assignment

Research the "Holy Land of Kentucky". Make a brochure inviting visitors to come visit this region of Kentucky and explain to them what spiritual benefits they might receive by visiting these pilgrimage sites.

# 10 A HURRICANE SURVIVOR ON THE GULF COAST

*St. Mary's Cathedral Basilica • 2011 Church Street • Galveston, Texas 77550*

## Chapter Preview

St. Mary's Church is a historical Galveston cathedral which showcases a beautiful fifteen-foot statue of "Mary, Queen of the Sea." Part of the story of Catholicism in Texas begins in Barrens Colony, Missouri where Fr. Joseph Rosati founded a seminary which trained priests such as Jean-Marie Odin and John Timon. At the time, the Franciscans were running missions in New Spain, until the region declared independence from Mexico in 1836 and then Texas was annexed by the United States in 1845. With the change of government came a change in ecclesiastical leadership, and Timon and Odin were sent to Texas. Once Odin was made Bishop, he began to construct St. Mary's. During Odin's tenure as bishop, Galveston's population would swell with immigrants. Later, as population in Houston grew, the Diocese would be renamed to "Galveston-Houston." Later, St. Mary's Cathedral would be struck by deadly hurricanes in 1900 and 2008. Through it all St. Mary's Cathedral has survived and stands as a protectress of the city of Galveston.

## Informational Websites

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston: St. Mary Basilica Cathedral

St. Mary Star of the Sea Takes Back to Galveston Skies

The Alamo

Odin, Jean-Marie

A Look Back at the Devastating 1900 Galveston Hurricane (includes video)

The Texas Bucket List - Bishop's Palace in Galveston (includes video)

American Catholic History #026 St. Mary's, Galveston (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When was the "Mary, Star of the Sea" statue erected?
2. Where did the future Bishop Jean-Marie Odin meet the future Bishop Antoine Blanc?
3. What did Jean-Marie Odin say when he first encountered the American institution of slavery?
4. When and where was the first Franciscan Mission in Texas established?
5. What nationalities were represented in the Church in Texas in the 1830s?
6. When was the first Mass said in the Church of St. Mary and what was the occasion?
7. Describe the design of the new St. Mary's as proposed by architect Theodore Giraud.
8. When did the Diocese of Galveston hold the opening of its first diocesan synod?
9. How many people lived in Galveston at the turn of the twentieth century?
10. When did the deadliest hurricane in American history hit Galveston and what was its death toll?
11. What second great tragedy struck St. Mary's and when?

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## Journal or Discussion

Have you ever had to live through an extreme weather event? If so, describe that experience.

Bishop Odin was clearly a man of his time. He never made a clearly condemning statement against slavery, but he was clearly troubled by the way his fellow humans were treated. How would you like him to have responded?

## Assignment

Research the events of the Alamo. How did this start a chain of events that resulted in Texas becoming the twenty-eighth state of the United States?

# 11 FAITH AND FOOTBALL AT OUR LADY'S LAKES

University of Notre Dame • Notre Dame, Indiana 46556

## Chapter Preview

Fr. Stephen Badin was the first Catholic priest ordained in the United States, and he promptly took to his horse to begin a journey as a missionary and a land speculator. In the early 1800s, the Catholic Church was not permitted to acquire property, so individual priests would buy property in their name for the benefit of the Catholic Church. One property Fr. Badin acquired would one day become the University of Notre Dame. Ownership of this land transferred through a succession of bishops until it was granted to The Congregation of the Holy Cross in the trust of Fr. Edward Sorin. The first Lourdes grotto was introduced on Notre Dame's campus in 1877 as a devotion to our Lady. In the 1920s, a wave of anti-Catholicism swept the country while the Rockne's football team was bringing home national championships. Notre Dame capitalized on these victories to rally Catholic support nationwide and coined the term "Fighting Irish." The connection between football and Catholicism was forged and the term "Hail Mary" was even introduced by the Fighting Irish players into American football!

## Informational Websites

University of Notre Dame: Campus Ministry

University of Notre Dame Campus Tour (includes video)

Integrity on the Gridiron Part One: Opposition to the Klan at Notre Dame (see also Part Two and Part Three)

American Catholic History #007: Knute Rockne (includes podcast)

Knute Rockne and His Fighting Irish (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What are the spiritual hearts of Notre Dame's Campus?
2. Who first called Notre Dame "Sainte-Marie-des-Lacs" or St. Mary of the Lakes?
3. Who ordained Fr. Stephen Badin the first priest in the United States and in what Cathedral?
4. Fr. Badin was called a "circuit-rider par excellence." How many miles was he said to have traveled on his horse?
5. How did Fr. Stephen Badin acquire the land that became the campus of Notre Dame?
6. When was the College of Notre Dame officially chartered by the State of Indiana and who was running the institution?
7. Who started Our Sunday Visitor Press and what was the purpose for the founding of this religious press?
8. When did the Fighting Irish win their first national football championship and who was their lead coach?
9. Name the two major motion pictures that have been filmed on the campus of Notre Dame.
10. When was the first Lourdes Grotto constructed on Notre Dame's campus and when was the current grotto completed?
11. Who wanted Notre Dame to be thought of as the "Catholic Harvard"?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

The land upon which the University of Notre Dame is built was taken by the government from the Potawatomi Native American tribe, among others. Do you believe that the University of Notre Dame owes compensation to this tribe? Explain your answer.

Archbishop Noll created Our Sunday Visitor Press to counter the anti-Catholicism of the 1920s. What do you think the role of media is today to teach us and shape our beliefs about religion? Do you go to social media to learn and share about your religion and your faith? Why or why not?

## Assignment

Research South Bend, the University of Notre Dame, and the Ku Klux Klan. Explain the role that the University of Notre Dame and its students had in driving the Klan out of South Bend.

# 12 "NO HOLIER PLACE IN THE NEW WORLD"

*Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics • 2291 St. John's Road • Maria Stein, Ohio 45860*

## Chapter Preview

In the early 1800s, the newly claimed Ohio area drew German Catholics to settle in the rich farmland. At the time, there was a shortage of priests in the area, so Bishop Purcell asked for the help of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood. On their journey to the United States the Precious Blood Fathers were protected by Our Lady of the Rock, who then became their patroness. Later, the Sisters of Precious Blood joined them in their work. When trouble arose in Rome and many antiquities and relics were being lost, Fr. Garner diligently collected what he could. He learned that there was already a collection with Fr. Brunner and the Missionaries of the Precious Blood at Maria Stein. This shrine is currently the second largest collection of relics in the United States. This important shrine is still an important pilgrimage spot for Catholics.

## Informational Websites

Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics

Ohio History Connection: John Purcell

Welcome to the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics! (includes video)

Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics (includes video)

American Catholic History #113: Land of the Cross Tipped Churches (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. How many relics are housed in the Maria Stein Shrine of the Holy Relics? Is this considered a large collection?
2. When did Ohio become a state and what number state was it to be added to the Union?
3. Who did Bishop John Purcell invite to the Diocese of Cincinnati in 1842 and what did he think of them when he first met them?
4. What was the significance of the painting of Our Lady of the Rock for Bishop Purcell as he crossed the English Channel?
5. When did the first Precious Blood Brothers arrive in Cincinnati? When did the first Precious Blood Sisters arrive?
6. How many Catholic churches were built in the United States between 1820 and 1850?
7. Who collected the relics that ended up in the Maria Stein Shrine and why?
8. Describe the shrine built in the 1890s that was specifically built to house this collection of relics.
9. When and by whom was this new chapel dedicated?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

When Bishop Purcell first met the Missionaries of the Precious Blood, he was unimpressed by them. Think of a time when you misjudged someone by their appearance. Why do you think you made this error? How can you change your thinking in the future?

Why is it important to preserve holy relics?

## Assignment

Research St. Anthony's Chapel in Pittsburgh. It houses the largest collection of relics outside of the Vatican. Do a brief report and explain how many relics it contains, how they came to be there, and how someone can go and visit them.

# 13 THE PUZZLE OF THE POPE'S STONE

*The Washington Monument • 2 15th Street NW • Washington, DC 20024*

## Chapter Preview

With the growth of a new nation came the desire to show off the strength and beauty of this new government and people. After Washington, D.C was named the capitol of the nation, a desire arose to build a grand monument celebrating the first president. This was a costly goal which the federal government was unable to accommodate. The problem was solved by asking states and foreign powers for gifts of marble. When the gift from the pope arrived, some Americans grew displeased by the gift-givers due to the anti-Catholicism and Nativism of the day. The so-called pope's stone was eventually stolen, never to be recovered. However, a twentieth century priest sought to right this historical wrong.

## Informational Websites

National Parks Service: Washington Monument

Guide to Visiting the Washington Monument

This Day in History: Washington Monument Completed

The Pope's Stone: Part One

Inside the Washington Monument (includes video)

A special look inside the newly restored Washington Monument, set to reopen Thursday (includes video)

American Catholic History #134: The Pope's Stone (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When was the District of Columbia created by Congress and for whom was it named?
2. Describe the conditions in Washington, D.C. in the 1800s.
3. When was the cornerstone laid for the Washington Monument and who was hired as the architect?
4. How did it come to pass that in October 1853 a block of marble engraved with the words "from Rome to America" arrived on the worksite of the Washington Monument?
5. How was the gift of marble from Pope Pius IX received by the American public?
6. How many Catholic church buildings were in the entire country in 1820?
7. What was the political program of the American Party?
8. What happened to the stone donated by Pope Pius IX?
9. What record did the Washington Monument hold when its capstone was put in place in 1884?
10. What was done in 1982 by Fr. James Grant to try to right the wrong of the pope's stone?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

During the anti-Catholicism of the 1850s, people were afraid of the very presence of Catholic churches because they feared control or violence as this group grew. This seems to happen any time a new group enters the country and begins to grow. Why is this? What can we do to stop this national tendency and welcome the stranger?

Where do you think the "Pope's Stone" is today? Will it ever be recovered?

## Assignment

Research the "Know-Nothings" Party. Create a political flyer stating the main beliefs of this political party as if you were inviting people to join it.

# 14 A CHRISTMAS RIOT AT THE CORNER OF EIGHTH AND PLUM

*Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains • 325 W. 8th Street • Cincinnati, Ohio 45202*

## Chapter Preview

The Nativist movement of the 1850s left the United States ripe for conflict between old American stock and newly arrived Germans. This tension, which at least in name was based in Catholic and Protestant religious disputes, erupted in Cincinnati when Lyman Beecher published an anti-Catholic tract. The arrival of Archbishop Bedini added fuel to these fires. Archbishop Bedini, who was merely visiting as a diplomat, had been erroneously accused of violence in Europe and was viewed by many with skepticism and fear. When he arrived in the United States the scene was set for conflict.

## Informational Websites

Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains

Archdiocese of Cincinnati: Cathedral Basilica of St. Peter in Chains

Cincinnati's St. Peter in Chains Cathedral Granted Minor Basilica Status

The Pope's Stone, Part Two: The Bloody Bedini Background

Saint Peter In Chains Cathedral (includes video)

Saint Peter in Chains designated as Minor Basilica (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. Who were the leaders of the 1853 Christmas Riots?
2. Who was the Protestant preacher whose arrival "signaled a turning point in the debate between Protestants and Catholics in Cincinnati" and what is the title of the tract he published?
3. Why was Archbishop Bedini called the "bloody butcher of Bologna?"
4. What were the dual reasons for which Archbishop Bedini came to the United States?
5. Name at least 3 of the American cities where Archbishop Bedini traveled on his trip.
6. When did Archbishop Bedini arrive in Cincinnati?
7. At ten o'clock on Christmas day, how many protestors and policemen clashed at the corner of Eighth and Plum?
8. How did Archbishop Bedini leave the country in February 1854?
9. When were full diplomatic relations between the United States and the Vatican finally established? Which US President made this happen?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Think of a time when you have allowed something you have heard about a person to impact the way you treated them. Did you treat them better or worse due to the information you received? What might you do differently if presented with this situation in the future?

Think of a time when a celebrity or another well-known person was mistreated by the media. What did you notice about how they were treated? What should our Christian response be when we hear that a well-known person has done a terrible thing or committed a crime?

## Assignment

Research the life of Archbishop Gaetano Bedini. Write a one-page report about his early life prior to this trip to the United States.

# 15 THE FIRST ARCHITECT OF THE NORTHWEST: MOTHER JOSEPH

*PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center • 400 NE Mother Joseph Place • Vancouver, Washington 98664*

## Chapter Preview

In the 1840s, the Pacific Northwest was still part of the Oregon Territory, and its ownership was disputed between British Canada and the United States. In this timeframe, Esther Pariseau (later Mother Joseph) was born and began her work. In this same time period, John McLoughlin of the Hudson Bay Company began inviting Catholic priests and missionaries into the area. As this new area grew, the Sisters of Providence and Mother Joseph, were asked by Bishop Blanchet to make the long journey to come to serve in this territory. In this new territory, these brave sisters built St. Joseph Hospital. Mother Joseph is still a highly respected figure in Washington State today.

## Informational Websites

PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center

Pioneer, Leader, Woman of Faith

Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart (includes video)

Mother Joseph of the Sacred Heart, A Miraculous Vancouver Life

Mother Joseph Tour (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. Where was Esther Pariseau born and in what year?
2. What did the Chinook locals call John McLoughlin and why?
3. What were the populations of Washington and Oregon in 1860?
4. Who accompanied Florence Nightingale in her nursing service during the Crimean War?
5. When and where was the first modern hospital opened in the United States? Who staffed it?
6. How many Catholic hospitals were in the United States by 1875?
7. When was St. Joseph Hospital opened? What is significant about it?
8. What did the sisters display at every Catholic bedside?
9. What are two nicknames often given to Mother Joseph?
10. When did Mother Joseph die?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Why do you think that religious sisters were some of the earliest nurses and staff on battlefields and in hospitals?

Mother Joseph and her Sisters of Providence felt that the spiritual care of their patients was equally important as the physical care. Do you agree or disagree? Why?

## Assignment

Pick a local Catholic hospital near where you live and learn about its origins. Who was the leading figure that was the driving force behind the hospital? Write a brief account of how they managed to create the hospital.

# 16 A HERMIT AND A HOLY HILL

*The Basilica and National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians  
1525 Carmel Road • Hubertus, Wisconsin 53033*

## Chapter Preview

The area of Wisconsin was first explored by Europeans when French explorers and missionaries began navigating the Mississippi River as they came down from the Great Lakes in the early 1600s. By the mid-1700s, the region passed from French control to British control as a result of the French and Indian War. Shortly thereafter it became part of the United States. For a time, missionary activity ceased in the region until there was an influx of Catholic immigrants. Once Catholics began to live in the region, priests soon followed. After a series of miracles atop Butte de Bois, the land was purchased for the Church and a chapel was constructed. This small chapel grew from a local prayer spot to a grand and internationally known Basilica which draws nearly 500,000 pilgrims each year.

## Informational Websites

Welcome to Holy Hill (includes videos)

Holy Hill: The Basilica & National Shrine of Mary, Help of Christians (includes video)

American Catholic History #063: Holy Hill Basilica and Shrine (includes podcast)

Jean Nicolet and Green Bay, Wisconsin (includes video)

History Painting: Landfall of Jean Nicolet Wisconsin

## Reading Comprehension

1. When did Jean Nicolet first make contact with Wisconsin's Indigenous peoples at Green Bay?
2. Prior to the 1840s, the primary economic activities were related to fur trapping. What gradually replaced this?
3. During what years were there no Catholic priests serving in Wisconsin?
4. When was the Diocese of Milwaukee created and why?
5. Why did Butte des Bois or Lapham's Peak come to be called St. Mary's Hill or Miracle Hill?
6. How did Miracle Hill come to be owned by the Catholic Church?
7. Describe the first chapel on Miracle Hill. When was it dedicated?
8. Who is the "Hermit of Holy Hill"?
9. When was the Marian statute placed on Holy Hill and by whom?
10. When was St. Mary, Help of Christians formally designated as a Catholic shrine and by whom?
11. When was the third and largest St. Mary, Help of Christians Church declared a Basilica and by whom?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Places are very important in worship. Where is the place where you feel nearest to God? What is the reason that this is your special place?

The Catholic Church has a variety of approved Marian apparitions. Which Marian apparition is your favorite and why? If you don't have a favorite Marian apparition, look one up and learn about it.

## Assignment

Find a Basilica near where you live. Research its history and create a poster board to share its history with your class.

# 17 GENERAL ABSOLUTION BEFORE BATTLE

*Monument to Fr. William Corby, CSC • Gettysburg National Memorial Park  
Hancock Avenue • Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, 17325*

## Chapter Preview

Fr. William Corby was a young Irish second-generation immigrant when he arrived at the newly formed University of Notre Dame as a student. After discernment, he decided to join the Congregation of the Holy Cross as a priest. When the Civil War broke out, he volunteered his services as a military chaplain for the Union army, and went on to serve with great distinction. One of his most notable acts occurred on the morning of the Battle of Gettysburg. Fr. Corby realized the gravity of the situation and took the rare step of granting a general absolution to his troops before they marched into battle. After the war, Fr. Corby returned to the University of Notre Dame, where he assumed leadership roles.

## Informational Websites

The Battle of Gettysburg: Fr. William Corby

The Battle of Gettysburg: Fr. Corby at Notre Dame

Watertown History: Rev. W. Corby

Who was Fr. William Corby? (includes video)

[1863] The Battle of Gettysburg (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When and where was Fr. William Corby born?
2. What did Fr. William Corby do after becoming a priest?
3. What is the name of the unit that Fr. Corby was assigned to as a chaplain?
4. How many religious sisters served as nurses in the Civil War? What percent was this of all Catholic sisters at the time?
5. How many Catholic priests served in the Union army? How many served in the Confederate army?
6. Why did Fr. Corby decide to grant a general absolution rather than doing individual confessions?
7. What happened to Fr. Corby after the Civil War?
8. Did Fr. Corby ever return to the site of the Battle of Gettysburg?
9. How is Fr. Corby's act of general absolution still remembered today in Gettysburg?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Fr. William Corby has been lauded as a hero on the battlefield. Who is a person who is a hero in your life? Why?

The Sacrament of Confession has the power to be a transformative moment in a person's life. Discuss a time when you have felt the power of forgiveness in your own life.

## Assignment

Research another hero of the Battle of Gettysburg. Write a brief report on how their actions on the battlefield that day showed great courage.

# 18 A CATHOLIC CONSPIRACY TO KILL A PRESIDENT?

Grave of Dr. Samuel Mudd • St. Mary's Catholic Church  
13715 Notre Dame Place • Bryantown, Maryland 20617

## Chapter Preview

The exact happenings on the night of the Lincoln assassination have been a topic of great interest for nearly two hundred years. Some key players in this mystery were Dr. Samuel Mudd (a known Southern sympathizer) John and Mary Surratt (tavern and boardinghouse owners whose patrons included priests and sisters), and John Wilkes Booth (the man known to have shot Lincoln). The many links that these key players had to Catholicism led some to suspect that the assassination had actually been a Catholic plot. In the years following the Civil War and the sentencing of the conspirators, many figures stirred up the controversy about a Catholic plot. The question of whether or not Dr. Samuel Mudd willingly participated in such a plot remains unanswered to this very day.

## Informational Websites

St. Mary's Catholic Church: History of St. Mary's Cemetery

How Samuel Mudd Went from Lincoln Conspirator to Medical Savior (includes video)

Dr. Samuel A. Mudd House Museum (includes a virtual tour)

Dry Tortugas: Dr. Samuel Mudd & the Civil War

The Trial of the Lincoln Assassination Conspirators: An Account (includes video)

On The Trail of John Wilkes Booth (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When and where was Dr. Samuel Mudd born?
2. Where did Dr. Samuel Mudd's loyalties lie during the Civil War? How do we know this?
3. The state of Maryland abolished slavery in 1864. How did this change Dr. Samuel Mudd's life?
4. When were John Wilkes Booth and Dr. Samuel Mudd seen together?
5. Who were John and Mary Surratt?
6. Describe Mary Surratt's relationship with the Catholic Church.
7. What play was Abraham Lincoln watching at Ford's Theater when he was shot?
8. How many conspirators were tried and found guilty in the Lincoln assassination and what were their punishments?
9. What were some of John Surratt's Catholic connections that were used to fuel rumors of a Catholic plot in the Lincoln conspiracy?
10. What act did angry Protestants pass in Congress as a result of the rumors of Catholic involvement in the Lincoln assassination?
11. Who wrote the book that has been called the first "systematic development" of the assassination as a "Catholic grand conspiracy?" What was this book's title?
12. What happened to Dr. Samuel Mudd?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Do you believe that Dr. Samuel Mudd was a willing accomplice to the Lincoln assassination? Why or why not?

Several of the convicted conspirators were hanged for their part in the Lincoln assassination. Do you think this was a fitting and just punishment for their crime? Why or why not?

## Assignment

Dr. Samuel Mudd still has descendants who are alive today. Try to find out something about one of these people and report back to your class what you found.

# 19 A SISTER OF CHARITY IN THE WEST

*Sr. Blandina Gardens • 133 N. Commercial Street • Trinidad, Colorado 81082*

## Chapter Preview

The woman who was to become Sr. Blandina was born in Italy in 1850 and immigrated to the United States as a young girl. Once the American Southwest became the property of the United States and was tied to trade through the Santa Fe trail, the need for Catholic sisters grew in the region. Accordingly, Sr. Blandina was assigned to work with the Catholics of Trinidad. One of Sr. Blandina's first assignments upon arriving in Trinidad was to see to the education of the children; however, teaching in this rough frontier was not at all easy. Her work even led her to a legendary encounter with Billy the Kid. Later, she returned home where she continued her work with the poor and vulnerable.

## Informational Websites

Mt. Carmel: Sr. Blandina Wellness Gardens

Sister Blandina's Wellness Garden Dedication (includes video)

Making the Case for the Next American Saint

Sister Blandina and the Road of Sainthood

Sister Blandina Segale, SC Opening the Cause of Sainthood Press Conference, Albuquerque (includes video)

American Catholic History #057: Sr. Blandina – The Fastest Nun in the West (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What was Sr. Blandina's name at birth, where was she born, and when?
2. How did a hospital come to be founded in 1865 in New Mexico?
3. How many Catholic sisters were working in the American West by 1900?
4. When was Santa Fe founded and what was its full name?
5. How did the Santa Fe trail come into existence?
6. How did Sr. Blandina describe the church when she arrived in Trinidad?
7. Who paid for and maintained the school where the Sisters of Charity taught?
8. How did Sr. Blandina come to know Billy the Kid?
9. What did Sr. Blandina do after her time in the Southwest?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Sr. Blandina took an incredible leap of faith, left her family and friends, and went west to live in the dangerous frontier. Have you ever had to make a leap of faith like that? Do you think that you could make the choice to leave all you know to serve others?

Sr. Blandina chose to meet the violence she encountered with Billy the Kid with peace and love. Discuss an instance in your life or in the world today when someone has responded with peace and gentleness to violence and anger.

## Assignment

Research Sr. Blandina's vision for her first Catholic settlement house. Write a statement imagining that you are trying to explain her mission to investors who may invest in expanding her Catholic settlement house social work system.

# 20 THE MURDER OF AN ARCHBISHOP IN ALASKA

*Archbishop Charles John Seghers' Burial Site • St. Andrew's Cathedral  
740 View Street • Victoria, British Columbia V8W 1J8*

## Chapter Preview

The young Seghers seemed born for missionary life, and at the tender age of 24 he found himself aboard a ship bound for the Diocese of Vancouver Island. He was welcomed by Bishop Demers and quickly made a reputation for himself. After the death of Bishop Demers in 1871, he was made Bishop of Vancouver Island. His new title of bishop gave him the freedom to begin his personal missionary activity in Alaska. Shortly after his first successful missionary trip to Alaska, Seghers was named the Bishop of Oregon City. However, despite his success in Oregon, he begged to be returned to his missionary activity in Vancouver. He made a final and fatal journey to Alaska in 1886.

## Informational Websites

St. Andrew's Cathedral

Tour of St Andrew's Cathedral Victoria BC (includes video)

The Life and Death of Missionary Bishop Seghers

Victorian Beauty: A Visit to St. Andrew's Cathedral

Laurel Bill on Alaska Story Time with Aunt Phil, The Miners' Code (includes video)

American Catholic History #018: Archbishop Charles John Seghers – Apostle to Alaska (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When and where was Seghers born?
2. Explain the national and ethnic makeup of the city of Victoria when Archbishop Seghers arrived.
3. What were the three new dioceses erected in the Oregon Territory in 1846 and who were their first bishops?
4. What was the first western nation to establish contact with Alaska?
5. When did Alaska become part of the United States?
6. In 1878, Seghers returned to Victoria after his first trip to Alaska. Approximately how many Alaskan natives did he make contact with during that trip?
7. When Seghers was Bishop of the Diocese of Oregon City, which city was it based in and what territory did the diocese cover?
8. Who was in the party with Seghers on his final voyage?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Seghers truly had a missionary zeal and passion. Discuss something that you are extremely passionate about in your life. Consider what you are willing to sacrifice for that passion.

Consider the role of trust in the relationship between Fuller and Seghers. Seghers was told not to trust Fuller, but he made the fateful decision to do so anyway. How do you decide which people around you to trust?

## Assignment

Research the purchase of Alaska from Russia by the United States government. Create a flyer advertising the sale of Russia using the historical facts (including the price, best features, etc).

# 21 A CATHOLIC MISSION AND AN INDIAN TRAGEDY AT WOUNDED KNEE

*The Heritage Center on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation  
100 Mission Drive • Pine Ridge, South Dakota 57770*

## Chapter Preview

In the early years of European activity in America, many different heroic men and women worked in incredibly difficult circumstances to evangelize the Native Americans. As more European immigrants flooded the United States, many financial resources were siphoned away from this important missionary activity. Thankfully, Katharine Drexel was coming of age around this same time. She saw this need and used her significant wealth to help the Church. One such place where she used this wealth was in South Dakota at the Drexel Mission. When violence broke out due to misunderstandings, the Lakota fled and burned government buildings, being careful to spare the Drexel Mission at the request of their elders. The Lakota medicine man, Nicholas Black Elk, survived this battle, and went on to become Catholic.

## Informational Websites

Red Cloud Indian School

The Heritage Center at the Red Cloud Indian School

Saint Katherine Drexel: A Life of Caring and Service (includes video)

Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament: St. Katherine Drexel

A Journey to Pine Ridge (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When did the Battle of Wounded Knee (the Wounded Knee Massacre) happen and who were the participants?
2. How much money was left to the Drexel sisters as an inheritance?
3. When did Katharine Drexel become a religious sister? What was the name of her new order?
4. How did Katharine behave as the superior of the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament?
5. What celebrated Jesuit priest continued the work of earlier Catholic missionaries and (re)established a Catholic connection with the Sioux and Ogalas? During what years did he do so?
6. What was the Drexel Mission?
7. What event in early December started the chain of events that led to the Battle of Wounded Knee?
8. Who was Fr. Francis Craft?
9. Who was Nicholas Black Elk?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

If you were left with a large inheritance, like the Drexel sisters, but had the one stipulation that you must use it to better the Catholic Church, how would you spend the money? Why?

Nicholas Black Elk is a person whose life was completely changed by Catholicism. Who is someone you know, either personally or through stories, whose life has completely changed because of an encounter with Christ and/or the Church?

## Assignment

Research the Battle of Wounded Knee (the Wounded Knee Massacre) and create a map to show the important places in this battle.

# 22 "THERE ARE NO BAD BOYS"

Boys Town • 14100 Crawford Street • Boys Town, Nebraska 68019

## Chapter Preview

The idea for Boys Town first began when Fr. Edward Flanagan saw that many of the troubled men that he was currently serving were often past the point of his help. He believed that if he began working with boys before they found themselves in bad environments, he could help mold the boys into well-functioning adults. His health and work had him stationed in Omaha, so he began his work there. He began with a small group of young boys and rapidly had such success that he had to move from a two-story house to a 94-acre property. His legacy lives on in the many boys he mentored and those who are still part of the Boys Town organization today.

## Informational Websites

Boys Town Website

The continuing legacy of Boys Town (includes video)

Fr. Flanagan League

Nebraska Studies: Father Edward J. Flanagan (includes video)

The Life, Legacy and Canonization Cause of Boys Town Founder Father Edward Flanagan

## Reading Comprehension

1. Why was Fr. Flanagan sent to Omaha?
2. When was the first religious structure built in Omaha and what was its name?
3. What caused Nebraska's population to soar from 29,000 people in 1860 to half in million in 1890?
4. When and where was Fr. Flanagan ordained?
5. Who were the first residents of Fr. Flanagan's first two-story brick boardinghouse on Dodge Street? Who were the people on the staff?
6. What was one of the first ways Fr. Flanagan aimed to raise money, awareness, and goodwill for the new Overlook Farm property?
7. What year did Boys Town become the Village of Boys Town and why?
8. Why was Fr. Flanagan named "American's Number One War Dad"?
9. Although Boys Town has expanded its ministry, who has always held the position of executive director?

The answer keys for this text are available online. Go to [resources.avemariapress.com](http://resources.avemariapress.com), and click on the cover of the *Teacher Guide for A Catholic Pilgrimage through American History*.

## Journal or Discussion

Fr. Flanagan was influential in the lives of many of the boys of Boys Town. Who has been an influential figure in your life? Why?

You are in the position to influence those around you, either for good or for bad. What can you do in your everyday life to be a good influence on those around you, especially for those who may look up to you?

## Assignment

Research Fr. Edward Flanagan and write a summary of his life, being sure to include what made him such an influential figure.

# 23 THE CHURCHES OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS, AND THE FIRST BLACK PRIEST

*Fr. Augustus Tolton Gravesite • St. Peter Cemetery  
3300 Broadway Street • Quincy, Illinois 62301*

## Chapter Preview

Augustus Tolton began his life on a plantation in Missouri, where he and his parents were enslaved. Through the courage of his mother, they escaped into the safety of Quincy during the Civil War. Even once they had crossed into the north in Quincy, the Toltons continued to face discrimination and racism. As Tolton began to feel acceptance from encouraging priests, he set out on the rough path of becoming a priest. One rejection after another from domestic seminaries led him to finally being permitted entry into the College of the Propaganda Fide in Rome. After completing his seminary training, Fr. Tolton returned to Illinois, where he was made a pastor at St. Joseph's. He served there faithfully for many years despite on-going criticism and trials until he was transferred to Chicago. The cause for his canonization is on-going.

## Informational Websites

Catholic Travel Guide - Quincy, Illinois: Grave of Father Augustus Tolton

Tolton Pilgrimage Explores Illinois and Missouri Sites

Biography of Fr. Tolton

Archdiocese of Chicago: Augustus Tolton – News

From Slave to Priest: The Augustus Tolton (includes video)

Cause for Sainthood Opened for Fr. Augustus Tolton Ten Years Ago Today (includes video)

American Catholic History #122: Fr. Augustus Tolton (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. What are the four churches in Quincy that have a connection to Fr. Augustus Tolton?
2. Who were Fr. Tolton's parents and how many children did they have together?
3. What is the estimation of how many enslaved persons escaped through the underground railroad?
4. Describe Martha and her family's escape from slavery.
5. What happened when Martha tried to enroll Tolton in the St. Boniface parish school?
6. What was Fr. McGirr's attitude towards the racism he encountered at St. Peter's?
7. Why did the American seminaries reject Tolton as a candidate for the priesthood?
8. What were the seven steps to Holy Orders in the pre-Vatican II period?
9. When and where was the first Mass in the United States celebrated by the first African American priest?
10. When did Fr. Tolton transfer to the Archdiocese of Chicago?

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## Journal or Discussion

There is always a group in our society that is looked down upon. Who is that group right now? What might you do to reach out to them and show them a genuine Christian welcome?

Fr. McGirr stood up against the popular opinion of the time and fought for Fr. Tolton. Who is someone you know, either personally or through stories, who has stood up and spoken the truth even when it was unpopular? Were they well received? Why or why not?

## Assignment

Research and find an additional African American or Black American Catholic who is being considered for canonization. Write a brief report about their life and how they handled the discrimination they faced in this country.

# 24 THE SAINT OF IMMIGRANTS: MOTHER CABRINI

*The National Shrine of St. Frances Cabrini, Chicago*  
2520 N. Lakeview Avenue • Chicago, Illinois 60614

## Chapter Preview

St. Frances Cabrini was born in Italy in the mid-1800s. She helped to create a new missionary order which she hoped would one day establish missions in China. As plans changed, she turned to the Italian immigrants in the United States as her mission field. The United States had seen a huge influx of Italian immigrants during this era, many of whom were living in great poverty, facing communities that viewed them with suspicion, and needing spiritual and material aid. Her early efforts were met with success, and she moved her charitable efforts westward. One of her most notable achievements was opening the Chicago Columbus Hospital. Mother Cabrini's tireless work has given her the auspicious honor of being the first United States citizen to be canonized by the Catholic Church.

## Informational Websites

The National Shrine of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini Opens in Chicago (includes video)

Mother Cabrini: The First American Citizen to be Named a Saint

Mother Cabrini Shines as Example of Care for Immigrants (includes video)

Mother Cabrini Shrine

American Catholic History #120: St. Frances Xavier Cabrini (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When and where was Frances Cabrini born?
2. When did Cabrini leave the order of the Sisters of Providence and what religious institute did she help to form?
3. When and why did Mother Cabrini add the name "Xavier" to her name?
4. Who gave Mother Cabrini the mission to go "not to the East, my daughter, but to the West," and what did they mean?
5. When did Mother Cabrini and her sisters arrive in New York?
6. How many Italian immigrants entered the United States between 1820 and 1920?
7. How were Italian immigrants treated in the late 1800s in the United States?
8. What are some of the ministries that the MSC undertook in their early years in New York?
9. Why is Chicago called the "Emporium of the West"?
10. When did Chicago's Columbus Hospital open and where was it located?
11. What was one of the miracles attributed to Mother Cabrini during her cause for canonization?

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## Journal or Discussion

Like Mother Cabrini, we do not always get to choose our own path. Have you ever had your heart set on something only to be told that you must do something else? How did you react?

Mother Cabrini insisted that both work and prayer were to be an important part in the lives of her sisters. How does prayer play a role in your own life?

## Assignment

Look into your family's history and find, if you can, a member of your family who immigrated to this country. What was it like for them? Who or what helped them as they made the transition to living in a new country?

# 25 THE BIRTH OF A POLITICAL DYNASTY

*John F. Kennedy Birthplace • 83 Beals Street • Brookline, Massachusetts 02446*

## Chapter Preview

Americans have long been fascinated by the political dynasty of the Kennedy's. The Kennedy and Fitzgerald families were united by the marriage of Rose and Joe, and this family would continue through their son, John F. Kennedy, who was born at 83 Beals Street. The Kennedy family is a famously Catholic family who maintained their practice of the Catholic Faith even though individual members of the family varied in their level of devotion. Throughout the years, the Kennedy family suffered both tragedy and triumph. Of course, one of the greatest triumphs occurred when Kennedy was elected as the youngest president ever. Unfortunately, his presidency was tragically cut short when he was assassinated. The Kennedy family legacy lives in on our nation through Joe and Rose's grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

## Informational Websites

National Park Service: John Fitzgerald Kennedy (includes virtual tour)

Visiting the JFK Birthplace – A National Historic Site

John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum (includes video)

Kennedy Special: JFK & The Pope (includes video)

JFK: The legacy of America's 35th president (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. Who was John F. Kennedy's fraternal grandfather and what elected roles did he serve?
2. Who was John F. Kennedy's maternal grandfather and what elected roles did he serve?
3. How did Rose and Joe meet and when were they married?
4. List the names and birth years of all of Rose and Joe's children.
5. How many Irish people immigrated to the United States during the famine years and what percentage of that group was Catholic?
6. Who was the greatest religious influence in the Kennedy home and what did they do to encourage the practice of the Catholic Faith?
7. How are the Special Olympics connected to the Kennedy family?
8. When was Jack first elected to the US House of Representatives? When was he first elected to the Senate?

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## Journal or Discussion

In this historical narrative, we again find an intersection between faith and politics. How can a person be both a good politician and a good Catholic?

It can be hard coming from a large family, especially one that has something "in their genes." Do you ever feel pressured by the successes of your grandparents, parents, or siblings to follow in their footsteps? If so, how does that feel?

## Assignment

Research one of the Kennedy children (other than John). Share some of the things that were tragedies or triumphs in their lives with your class.

# 26 PEACOCKS AND PROVOCATIVE PROSE

Andalusia Farm • 2628 North Columbia Street, Highway 441 North • Milledgeville, Georgia 31061

## Chapter Preview

Flannery O'Connor was born in the 1920s in Georgia. Georgia's Catholic community was still nascent at the time; Catholic immigrants had only recently arrived there after a period of Catholicism being illegal in the area. O'Connor was a typical young girl who loved the country. After her father's death from lupus, she attended college and graduate school and then began her career as a writer, which would bring her much fame. Her writings are still read widely today. After a brief time at the Yaddo artist colony, she made her home in New York and often met with other well-known authors. At the young age of 26, she was diagnosed with lupus and returned to Andalusia, where she died several decades later.

## Informational Websites

Andalusia Farm

Georgia College: Andalusia (includes virtual tour)

Andalusia Farm a Priceless Historic Gem in Milledgeville (includes video)

Andalusia Farm Named National Landmark (includes video)

## Reading Comprehension

1. When and where was Flannery O'Connor born?
2. What is significant about Milledgeville, Georgia?
3. Name the two important groups of immigrants, and their approximate dates of arrival, who entered Georgia and led to the creation of the first Catholic diocese in the State.
4. What did O'Connor's earliest writing instructor say about her?
5. How did the farm come to be known as "Andalusia" Farm?
6. Where did O'Connor attend college? Where did she attend graduate school?
7. What is the title of O'Connor's first novel?
8. When did O'Connor move to the Andalusia Farm? What was the reason for the move?
9. Describe O'Connor's typical daily schedule while living at the Andalusia Farm.
10. What did O'Connor purchase in October 1952 which became almost as famous as O'Connor herself?

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## Journal or Discussion

The theme of place was very important to O'Connor, and many of her stories take place in the South, with which she was very familiar. How has living in your own hometown in this time period shaped who you are as a person?

Write out or discuss your typical daily schedule. Is this your ideal schedule? What would your ideal schedule look like?

## Assignment

Find one of Flannery O'Connor's short stories and read it. What do you think about her writing? Would you recommend her writing to others?

# 27 A COLD WARRIOR IN THE SPACE PROGRAM

*The Moon Room • Catholic Central High School  
2550 Cherry Street • Toledo, Ohio 43608*

## Chapter Preview

Inside Catholic Central lies a small chunk of lunar rock taken from the moon during an *Apollo* mission. The story of why this rock is in a high school in Ohio begins with Gene Kranz, a young boy from Ohio and former Catholic Central student, who had a fascination with aviation. After high school and college, Kranz joined the Air Force and served for a tour in Korea. Next, he joined Project *Mercury* and played a critical role in a number of early space flights. By 1965, Kranz had risen in the ranks to be a flight director of the “white-team” at NASA. His “white-team” was the one on duty at the time of historic moon-landing by Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong. He finished his career at NASA as the director of Mission Operations and was later given a piece of moon rock, which he donated to Catholic Central.

## Informational Websites

Central Catholic High School: Moon Room

Central Catholic’s ‘Moon Room’ Houses Moon Rock from Alumnus and Apollo 11 Flight Director Gene Kranz (includes video)

Central Catholic shows off ‘Moon Room’ artifacts donated by Gene Kranz (includes video)

‘We Need a Habitat on the Moon,’ says Former NASA Flight Director

American Catholic History #042: Gene Kranz (includes podcast)

## Reading Comprehension

1. Where did Gene Kranz go to high school and college?
2. How did Kranz’s mother support her family after the death of her husband?
3. Who did Kranz meet in Texas and when were they married?
4. When was *Sputnik 1* launched and by what country?
5. Who was the first man ever sent into space and when?
6. What was Kranz’s job on *Mercury-Redstone 3* and other early flights?
7. What was the “ultimatum” that President Kennedy issued in his famous speech on May 25, 1961?
8. How did Kranz integrate his faith into his professional life?
9. How did Gene Kranz get a small chunk of moon rock to donate to Catholic Central?

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## Journal or Discussion

Kranz faced many setbacks in his life, yet he still went on to achieve great things. What are the things that you feel are holding you back from achieving your goals, and how could you overcome these things?

If you could have piece of rock from any one place, where would that be? Why?

## Assignment

Research one of the *Apollo* missions. Why was this particular mission important in the journey of getting a man to the moon?