

# **THOUGH MANY, WE ARE ONE**

## **UNIT 2**

### **Make Me an Instrument of Your Peace**

#### **Lesson 8**

#### **All Saints Day**

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### Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace

#### All Saints Day

##### Lesson Overview

A brief description of All Saints Day and a biographical project on a Saint.  
(2 or more class periods)

#### CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

##### Religious Education:

**Gr. 4 - LC2.4** Examine the lives of the saints and explain how they are examples of hope that inspire us to live a holy life.

**Gr. 5- LC2.1** Articulate how intercession to the saints draws the whole Church more firmly into the path of holiness (i.e. prayer and drawing upon the example of their lives of faith and service)

**Gr. 5 - CL3** Understand that the Liturgical year celebrates both the mysteries of Christ's life and memorial celebrations for the saints who are examples to us of Christ.

**Gr. 6 - ML2** Demonstrate an understanding of the importance of the formation of our conscience and describe the various ways in which this has been undertaken in the lives of holy men and women through the Tradition (i.e. teachers, saints, and martyrs).

#### ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS & CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

The **Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations** evident in this lesson include:

**CGE1h** Respects the faith traditions, world religions and the life-journeys of all people of good will.

**CGE5d** Finds meaning, dignity, fulfilment and vocation in work which contributes to the common good.

The **Catholic Social Teachings** evident in this lesson include:

Call to Family, Community, and Participation  
Rights and Responsibilities

#### Guiding Questions (coming out of the Big Idea)

**Big Idea:** The Saints have provided a framework for us to live our lives and exemplify how close we can come to God. Each student will research the life of a saint about whom they wish to discover further.

Through intercessory prayers and by their example, the saints lead us to a life of holiness.

**Scripture Passages:**

- Corinthians 1:2 *To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours.*

**LEARNING GOALS**

At the end of this lesson, students will know, understand and/or be able to:

- Share Jesus' message of hope and salvation as presented through the lives of Saints.
- Find inspiration in the lives of the saints, and use these stories to make their own lives more meaningful and help to spread the word of God.

**Success Criteria**, based on the Learning Goals, can be co-constructed as a class in language meaningful to students. The success criteria help students understand what to look for during the learning and what it looks like once they have learned. They identify the significant aspects of student performance that are assessed and/or evaluated (i.e., the "look-fors") in relation to curriculum expectations.

**INSTRUCTIONAL COMPONENTS AND CONTEXT**

**Terminology:**

All Saint's Day  
Patron  
Relics

**Special Note:**

One thing that separates Catholics from Protestants is the devotion to the Saints. Saints are men and women who followed the way of Jesus and lived exemplary lives. We as Catholics believe in life after death and that we can still interact with people who have gone before us through prayer just as we can ask our family to pray for us. If we have lived good lives we will share in the Resurrection of Christ when we die.

Patron Saints: Early churches were built over the burial sites of martyrs who became the patron saint of that parish. The martyr was then called upon to intercede with God on our behalf. Later churches were named for saints who had some connection to the local church or

**Materials:**

Chart paper  
Markers

**Text Resources:**

- Teaching Language with the Saints (Les Macfarlane, Novalis 2015)
- Clothed in the Word of God: Canadian Saints, Blesseds, and Venerables (Remi Bourdon, Novalis 2013)

**Internet Resources:**

- All Saints and All Souls (Catholic Education Resource Center  
<http://www.catholiceducation.org/en/culture/catholic-contributions/all-saints-and-all-souls.html>)
- Saints by name and by date – both printed information and sound file  
[www.americancatholic.org](http://www.americancatholic.org)
- Saints Stories for Kids - Loyola Press  
<http://www.loyolapress.com/saints-stories-for-kids.htm>

relics of that saint were held or buried at that church.	<b>Videos:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You Don't Know Jack About the Saints (Busted Halo)  <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-eZjWeRUw">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1-eZjWeRUw</a> </li> </ul>
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<b>MINDS ON</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishing a positive learning environment</li> <li>Connecting to prior learning and/or experiences</li> <li>Setting the context for learning</li> </ul>	<p>Watch the video "You Don't Know Jack About the Saints" (see resources)</p> <p>Divide the class into groups of 3 or 4. Have the students brainstorm words that come to mind when they hear the word "Saint".</p> <p>Lead a classroom discussion on some of the commonalities that you find in the writing. If your class had to describe a "Saint" in one word, what would it be?</p>
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<b>ACTION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introducing new learning or extending/reinforcing prior learning</li> <li>Providing opportunities for practice and application of learning (guided → independent)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Definition of a saint:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A person who has lived a good and holy life</li> <li>a person who is officially recognized by the Christian church as being very holy because of the way he or she lived (<i>Note: the Church doesn't <u>create</u> saints; canonization simply recognizes those who lived holy lives, are certainly in heaven, and are worthy of honour.</i>)</li> <li>a person who is very good, kind, or patient</li> </ul> <p>What is All Saints Day?</p> <p>It is a day to celebrate the lives of all the Saints who have made it into heaven. In many Catholic countries it is a holiday. It is a day when there is believed to be a prayerful spiritual bond between those in heaven and the living.</p> <p>Tell the students that they will be doing a biography on the Saint of their choice:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>40 mins (introduction to Saints + choice of Saints) laptops should be available</li> <li>Gather research in class</li> <li>Put it together on planning sheet (appendix A)</li> </ol>
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<b>CONSOLIDATION</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing opportunities for consolidation and reflection</li> <li>Helping students demonstrate what they have learned</li> </ul>	<p>The students share their Saint biographies with the class.</p> <p>Include prayers written by the Saints in your daily prayers this week.</p>
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	<b>CONTINUED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES</b>
	<p><b>Further extensions to this lesson might include:</b></p> <p>Turning the students' research into an essay, Facebook page, movie preview, etc. (See <i>Teaching Language with the Saints</i> (Les MacFarlane, Novalis 2015)</p> <p>Hold a Saint Fair – Each student creates a display about a chosen saint and may even dress as that saint.</p> <p>Explore icons of Saints. (See <a href="http://www.trinitystores.com">www.trinitystores.com</a> )</p> <p>Additional references and activities can be found at <i>The Catholic Toolbox</i> - <a href="http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.ca/2009/08/all-saints-dayfeastsaints.html">http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.ca/2009/08/all-saints-dayfeastsaints.html</a></p>

Appendix A

**Student Name:**

**Name of the Saint:**

Reason I choose my Saint:

<p>When and Where my Saint Lived</p> <p>Birth</p> <p>Death</p> <p>Year he/she become a Saint:</p> <p>Place of birth:</p> <p>Place(s) lived:</p>	<p>Early Life of Saint: (3 things)</p>	<p>Mid/Late Life: (3 things)</p>
<p>Special things my Saint did</p>	<p>Symbols of my Saint</p>	<p>A personal Drawing of my Saint</p> <p>Rough draft – use a large sheet of paper to make it. Remember to include personal symbols in the drawing to enhance meaning</p>
<p>What brought my Saint close to God:</p>	<p>Is this Saint a Patron Saint? Of what?</p>	<p>What I like about this Saint:</p>