

Level 6 Catechism (Living in Christ) Unseen Warfare
Saint Raphael School, within Scholé Academy
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Objective

Grow in love for God and His Church through deeper knowledge of Theology, Scripture, Saints, History, and Spirituality in order to live and share these truths.

Overview

This is a year-long advanced Catechism guided reading and seminar on *Unseen Warfare*, by St Theophan the Recluse (Available from www.svspress.com). Each class meeting will follow this “liturgical format,” consisting of a prayerful atmosphere in the classroom upon entering, a brief welcome 2-3 minutes, a prayer 2-3 minutes, then a “spiritual reflection” presentation by a student and any discussion that follows 5-7 minutes, “house keeping” (reminders and questions regarding assignments and the class in general) lead by the teacher 3-5 minutes, a “synopsis presentation” (overview of the reading and a kick off question) by a student 5-7 minutes, a discussion lead by the instructor 45 minutes, an introduction to next week’s reading 2 minutes, a time for free Questions and Answers 15 minutes, and then a closing prayer 1-2 minutes. I’ll be available for office hours following class and by appointment.

Students commit to keeping the fasts and feasts, praying morning and evening, participating in the sacraments of confession and communion carefully and regularly, reading the Holy Scriptures daily, and sharing with parents and other family members the reading and discussions of the class as well as praying for me and for each other. These activities are not part of the evaluation but are truly the most important part of the class.

Assignments

The following assignments will be submitted through the learning portal Schoology:

Weekly - Synopsis Outline – outline the points of the reading carefully and accurately, include at least one short quote and respond to it.

Essays, 500-700 words, with the outline and draft submissions deadlines, three each semester

Semester – *Students will schedule themselves for these brief presentations*

Spiritual Reflection – A 2-3 minute verbal devotional presentation of a spiritual experience whether in liturgy, prayer, reflection, service, study, repentance.

Synopsis Presentation – at least once each semester each student will provide the class a brief verbal overview of the reading (or a part of the reading) assignment for the week (around five minutes) plus a reading-based discussion question.

Service Project – Theology is not just ink and pixels, thoughts and feelings, it must be lived... so each of you should take on a special task at church. With your parents' guidance, work out with your priest what special project you can do to help your parish and grow in your faith. I challenge you to get out of your comfort zone: organize a team to clean the church, make Prospora, Artos, Kollyva, cooking a meal for someone, visiting a sick parishioner, organize an event, give an announcement or sermonette, help with Sunday School, start singing in the choir, read the epistle, organize an educational or service or outreach event, or anything that will “stretch” your service.

Self-Evaluation – at the end of each semester students will give themselves a “grade” and will write a paragraph explaining the rationale reflecting upon their assignments, attendance, participation, and attitude.

Teacher’s Assistants: please reach out to me to express your interest and why you think you can help with the following:

Timer – help me manage the time periods of the class and make sure the class is being recorded.

Secretary – schedule presentations and communicate them with me and with the students, also may need to keep the class moving in case of a momentary technology issue.

Editorial Representative – encourage sharing of excellent writing from the class with the SRS Journal Editors.

May our time together in cyber-space bring us deeper into God's presence in Christ's Holy Orthodox Church through the Holy Spirit by the prayers of St. Raphael, St. John Climacus, and all the saints! Amen!!!

+ Fr. Noah

Schedule of Classes, Readings, and Assignments Draft Below:

Holy Cross Term 2021:

September 3 - Parent-Student Orientation

September 10 – 1.1-2

September 17 – 1.3-8

Essay 1: Outline – Distinguishing between False and True Humility

September 24 – 1.9-11

Essay 1: Draft and Peer Review

October 1 – 1.12-13

October 8 – 1.14-15

Essay 1: Final Draft

October 15 – 1.16-18

Essay 2: Outline – Where and How is the Unseen War Fought

October 22 – 1.19-20

Essay 2: Draft and Peer Review -

October 29 – 1.21

Essay 2: Final Draft -

November 5 – 1.22-23

November 12 – 1.24-25

Essay 3: Outline - Write your own “spiritual life manual” (Can be a group assignment)

November 19 – 1.26

Essay 3: Draft and Peer Review

November 26 – THANKSGIVING BREAK – NO READING OR CLASS

December 3 – 1.27-30

December 10 – 1.31-32

Essay 3: Final Draft

December 17 – NO READING: Presentations: “spiritual manual”, Service Projects

LAST DAY TO TURN IN ASSIGNMENTS and CLASS EVALUATION and SELF EVALUATION

Theophany Term 2022:

January 14 – 1.33-34

January 21 – 1.35-37

January 28 – 1.38-40
Essay 4: Outline – Virtue: What is it and why is it essential

February 4 – 1.41-43
Essay 4: Draft and Peer Review -

February 11 – 1.44-45

February 18 – WINTER BREAK – NO READING OR CLASS

February 25 - 1.46-47
Essay 4: Final Draft -

March 4 - 1.48-50
Essay 5: Outline – How is Prayer helpful in Spiritual Warfare

March 11 - 1.51-53
Essay 5: Draft and Peer Review -

March 18 – 2.1-2

March 25 - 2.3-4
Essay 5: Final Draft -

April 1 – 2.5-6
Essay 6: Outline – letter to a new Christian, introducing spiritual warfare (Can be a group assignment)

April 8 – 2.7-8

April 15 – 2.9-15
Essay 6: Draft and Peer Review –

April 22 – HOLY WEEK – NO READING OR CLASS

April 29 – Bright Week – No Reading But Review Discussion and Paschal Fellowship
Catch up with your assignments!!!

May 6 – 2.16-16-19
Essay 6: Final Draft –

May 13 – 2.20-23

May 20 – 2.24-27

NO Reading: Presentations: “salvation metaphors”, Service Projects

LAST DAY TO TURN IN ASSIGNMENTS and CLASS EVALUATION and SELF EVALUATION