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**Archdiocese of Milwaukee 175th Anniversary**

**Middle School Unit**

**Theme 3: Growth of Catholic Parishes and Schools in the Diocese of Milwaukee**

**Essential Question: How have people/events in Wisconsin history influenced the creation, evolution, and priorities of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee?**

**Key Understandings:**

* **Immigration led to the growth of Catholic parishes and schools.**
* **Parishes and schools were created in various neighborhoods to serve particular ethnic groups and provided a sense of identity and belonging.**
* **Parish organizations began to organize social welfare.**

**Suggested Activities:**

**Research the growth and importance of ethnic parishes and schools.**

* **Why did ethnic populations want to establish their own parishes/schools?**
* **What social outreach activities did the local parishes provide for their parishioners and the surrounding neighborhood?**

**Study the various neighborhood churches in the Archdiocese and why they have the specific ethnic influences strongly represented.**

* **How did these neighborhoods use the saints from their ethnic culture in their church architecture and why?**

**Distinguish local figures in the ethnic parishes who played a significant role in parish development.**

**Read issues related to the separation of Church and state as it applies in the Bennett Law (link below).**

* **Write an editorial supporting the Catholic school perspective in the argument for or against the Bennett Law.**
* **Compare and contrast public schools and Catholic schools during this time period.**

**Study Governor Robert E. LaFollette’s social welfare proposals and give evidence of the Church’s support.**

**Work collaboratively and discuss President Theodore Roosevelt’s conference on child welfare and discuss how it inspired archdiocesan institutions to develop and coordinate better care of youth (such as Camp St. Michael, Carmelite Sisters of the Divine Heart of Jesus).**

**Assessment:**

**Select a parish of your ethnic and cultural heritage and make drawings depicting the interior and/or exterior renderings.**

**Investigate what your Grade 4 class is doing for their unit on the history of your parish. Collaborate with them in any way you can.**

**Interview your parish St. Vincent de Paul Society members to learn about the many social outreach activities they provide currently and compare and contrast these to activities from the early 1900’s.**

**Produce a video or other multimedia presentation that is directly related to a key understanding in a unit theme. (See Rubric, Video Guidelines and Application below)**

**Reflection:**

**How does your experience as a student in a Catholic school influence your personal, social, and spiritual life compared to the experience of students in the early 1900’s?**

**Resources:**

[**Photographs of Institutions in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee**](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Grade-8-Theme-1-Standard-8-8.pdf)

[**Church Architecture**](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Grade-8-Theme-3-Standard-8-8.pdf)

[**"The Bennett Law" Summary by Rev. Steven Avella**](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Avella-185-187-Bennett-Law.pdf)

[**"A Protest of the Catholic Bishops of Wisconsin Against the Bennett Law"**](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/MC-011-Bennett-Law-Bishops-Protest.pdf)

[**Video Rubric**](https://schools.archmil.org/CentersofExcellence/DOCsPDFs/VideoRubric.pdf)

**[Archdiocese of Milwaukee 175th Video Submission Application](https://schools.archmil.org/CentersofExcellence/DOCsPDFs/175th/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee175thVideoSubmissionApplication.pdf)**

[**Video Guidelines and Submission Process**](https://schools.archmil.org/CentersofExcellence/DOCsPDFs/175th/VideoGuidelinesandSubmissionProcessFinal5.18.pdf)