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**Archdiocese of Milwaukee 175th Anniversary**

**Middle School Unit**

**Theme 4: Becoming an Archdiocese**

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

**Key Understandings:**

* **Demographic, geographic and political/social factors led to the eventual creation of the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.**
* **The Church’s Catholic social justice teachings were significant in meeting the challenges and demands of the Industrial Revolution.**
* **This period saw an expansion of Catholic parochial and high schools as well as establishing Milwaukee as a center for higher education.**

**Suggested Activities:**

**Research why the Diocese of Milwaukee was reconfigured in 1868 and made an archdiocese in 1875 (Fr. Steve Avella, *In the Richness of the Earth,* pp. 133-135).**

* **What population trends, geographic factors, political/social realities led to Milwaukee becoming the Archdiocese of Wisconsin?**

**Create visual representations to show the evolution of the Diocese of Milwaukee to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.**

**Compare and contrast the factors involved in forming parishes in the 1800’s to now.**

**Explain the significance of the Church’s Catholic social justice teachings and why they were a necessary outcome of the challenges and demands of the Industrial Revolution.**

**Research how religious orders were invited to sponsor and staff Catholic schools at all levels.**

* **Reflect on how sisters’ vocations where deeply and richly woven into the education of children.**
* **Compare and contrast how the Catholic universities of the archdiocese started to form.**

**Assessment:**

**Relate the social justice issues faced by the Church during this time period to specific Catholic Social Teachings. Evaluate each (or all) to the needs of our communities now.**

**Create a visual representation of the evolution of the Diocese of Milwaukee to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.**

**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:**

**Reflect on how the Archdiocese as a whole and/or individual parishes worked for worker’s rights, citizen’s rights, and for the poor so as to ensure freedom, democracy, equality, and justice for their parishioners during this time period. What does this social justice tradition call us to do in our own parish today?**

**Resources:**

[**Catholic Social Teachings**](http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/seven-themes-of-catholic-social-teaching.cfm)

**[“How Firm a Foundation,” by Steven M. Avella,](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Avella-133-135-Firm-Foundation.pdf)** [***In the Richness of the Earth*, pp. 133-135**](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Avella-133-135-Firm-Foundation.pdf)

**[Wisconsin Dioceses Boundaries 1843 to present](https://www.archmil.org/ArchdioceseofMilwaukee/history/Wisconsin-Diocese-Boundaries-By-County-2014-akn.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)**