

# Final Performance Task Options for Unit 2

## Important Information for Both Options

The following are the main ideas you are to understand from this unit. They should appear in this final performance task so your teacher can assess whether you have learned the most essential content:

- The work of the early Church Fathers and Ecumenical Councils enhanced the stability and unity of the Church by articulating and defending Church teachings about the Trinity, Mary, and the Church's authority.
- Following the fall of the Roman Empire in the West, the Church faced many threats and experienced lasting and significant developments, including the development of monasticism.
- The rise and spread of Islam in the seventh century altered the political and religious composition of all of Arabia and North Africa, the Iberian Peninsula, and parts of Asia Minor, with catastrophic consequences for the Church.
- Charlemagne's rule as Holy Roman Emperor ushered in a period of conflict between secular and ecclesial interests that threatened the spiritual authority of the Pope as the leader of the People of God.
- Growing tensions and differences between the Eastern and Western Churches led to a decisive schism between the two in 1054.

## Option 1: A Children's Picture Book

Your small group is a team of authors hired by a major publishing company to write and illustrate a picture book teaching first- or second-graders about the history of the Church from the Age of the Fathers through the Early Middle Ages. The book should provide a summary of the key events and people from these eras, in a manner suitable for teaching younger children.

Your group will write and illustrate a 16-page book, including front and back covers. Your book must mention seven of the following characters and terms, devoting two pages to each topic:

- Church Fathers
- Ecumenical Councils
- The Roman Pope and Eastern Patriarch
- Pope Leo the Great
- Saint Benedict
- Monasticism and monks
- Islam
- Pope Gregory VII
- Charlemagne
- The Eastern Schism



Your children's book must demonstrate the following:

- an understanding of the four main concepts of the unit, as listed at the beginning of this handout
- a well-written story that flows chronologically
- illustrations suitable for children in first or second grade
- appropriate content and maturity level for teaching children in first or second grade

In addition, you must present a well-rehearsed reading of your story to your classmates.

## Option 2: A PowerPoint Presentation for a Parish Community

Your parish priest has asked you to prepare a presentation to teach a parish community about the Church in the Age of the Fathers and the Early Middle Ages. Working alone or with a partner, choose seven of the following topics, and develop a PowerPoint presentation and written script to teach your parish about these topics in the context of the Church during the Age of the Fathers and the Early Middle Ages.

- Church Fathers
- Ecumenical Councils
- The Roman Pope and Eastern Patriarch
- Pope Leo the Great
- Saint Benedict
- Monasticism and monks
- Islam
- Pope Gregory VII
- Charlemagne
- The Eastern Schism

Your presentation must include or demonstrate the following:

- an understanding of the four main concepts of the unit, as listed at the beginning of this handout
- a written script (750 to 1,000 words) for your presentation, suitable for both adults and children
- a PowerPoint presentation of at least eight slides, covering seven of the topics listed above
- at least one image for each topic in the presentation to help visual learners understand the Age of the Fathers and the Church in the Early Middle Ages
- appropriate content and maturity level for a high school religion class.

In addition, you must deliver your well-rehearsed presentation to your classmates and be prepared to answer questions.

