



TIMELINE

Timeline Activities

These activities will help your students explore the *Catholic Chicago* timeline. They are flexible and designed to give you a range of options. Choose the one that best addresses the needs of your students and modify it to fit your curriculum. If your students have access to the Internet, we recommend that they use the electronic *Encyclopedia of Chicago* (www.encyclopedia.chicagohistory.org) to help with their research.

Elementary Students

- Invite students to review the timeline and choose one entry that they find interesting. In a short essay assignment or during a class discussion, ask them to **share their entry and the reasons they chose it.**
- Divide students into small groups and assign each group one of the timeline entries. Ask them to find out more information about the event (or events) listed for that year by using the school library or the Internet. On an index card, instruct students to **write an expanded timeline entry** based on the new information they have found. Hang the timeline on your bulletin board and add the students' index-card entries around it. Invite each group to share their completed entry with the entire class. If time and space allow, students can **add pictures** (either drawn themselves or found from other sources) around their expanded entries.
- Review the timeline with students and ask them to **organize the entries into types of information by creating categories** (possible categories include people, places, celebrations, education, et cetera). As a class, discuss what the timeline teaches us about Chicago's history. Then ask students to think about their own lives. For each of the categories they created for the *Catholic Chicago* timeline, ask students to **write an entry for their own life.** Have students transfer their entries onto a personal timeline and share their timelines during a class discussion.

Middle and High School Students

- Ask students to review the timeline and **identify topics** or themes found in the entries, such as school, activism, or leadership. Have students select and research one of the topics. Remind them **to consider the date of the timeline entry connected to their topic and cite events that happened just prior to and just after the timeline date.** Students should pay particular attention to instances where religion played a role in shaping or affecting the topic. Ask students to present their findings to the class.
- Invite students to select an entry from the timeline to investigate further and think about ways this event may have been documented or recorded. Based on their choice, have students **write a diary entry, newspaper headline and article, extended photograph or film caption, or radio interview clip.** Students must convey how the event, person, or organization is important and relevant to Chicago's Catholics and non-Catholics. Ask students to exchange their work with one another, read their classmates' entries aloud, and discuss.
- Ask students to **make a list of local organizations or programs** in which they participate, such as a community center or library; Gallery 37, Habitat for Humanity, or the Girl or Boy Scouts. Have students, either in pairs or individually, select an organization from the list and lead a discussion to address the following questions: How does the organization affect your life? How does it affect the life of your community? Why is it important that this organization exist? Find similar organizations on the timeline. How do you think these groups affected young people and their communities?

Portrait of Jean Baptiste Point DuSable



1780s: Jean Baptiste Point DuSable arrives in Chicago. Considered the area's first permanent settler, DuSable is a merchant, trader, farmer, and a Catholic.



1780s

1834



1834: Chicago is incorporated as a town. St. Mary's Church, the area's first Catholic parish, is established.

St. Mary's Church, c. 1834

Children painting in a Hull-House art class, 1924



1889: Jane Addams opens Hull-House on the Near West Side. Mother Frances Cabrini arrives from Italy to serve Chicago's immigrants.



1889

1893



1893: The city hosts the World's Columbian Exposition and the World's Parliament of Religions. Students from Holy Family parish display work at the exposition.

The Ferris wheel at the World's Columbian Exposition, 1893

Mass at Holy Name Cathedral, Eucharistic Congress, 1926



1926: The 'L' experiences the single busiest day in its history during the Eucharistic Congress. Held in Chicago, the international event attracts more than one million Catholics.



1926

1930



1930: The Catholic Youth Organization (CYO) is founded in Chicago. CYO sponsors after-school activities and sports for middle and high school students.



Embroidery class at a CYO community center, c. 1950

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. accepts an award from the Catholic Interracial Council, 1964



1946: Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestra is established. The Catholic Interracial Council is formed in Chicago.



1946

1955



Cardinal Cody with a group of schoolchildren, c. 1970



1966: Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. leads open-housing marches in Chicago. Archbishop Cody speaks at a rally for the Chicago Freedom Movement.



1966

1979



Cardinal Bernardin in a private chapel, 1990



1983: Harold Washington is elected mayor. Archbishop Joseph Bernardin is elevated to the rank of cardinal.




1983

1996



1955: Richard J. Daley is elected mayor. Daley is a graduate of two of Chicago's Catholic schools, De LaSalle High School and DePaul University.



Richard J. Daley's high school graduation picture, 1919

1979: Winter brings the greatest total snowfall in city history (89.7 inches!). The following October, one million people attend Pope John Paul II's open-air mass in Grant Park.



Poster celebrating the Pope's visit to Chicago, 1979

1996: The Chicago Bulls capture their fourth NBA title. Cristo Rey Jesuit High School opens. It is the first in a network of urban schools to provide an affordable, college-preparatory education.



Chicago Bulls fan helmet, 1998