



MIDDLE SCHOOL RELIGION:

The foundation of the curriculum is Religious Education in support of our Mission Statement. Knowledge is based on skills previously introduced, which are reinforced in the following grade and built upon. Please check the curriculum for the prior years to get a complete picture of your child's curriculum. Students in Grades Pre-K through Grade 8 attend Mass each Friday and on Holy Days of Obligation. Students in all of the grades are active participants; acting as lectors, gift bearers and singing with the choir.

The Profession of Faith

The learner will be able to:

Explains: That Jesus is alive in and through those who believe in Him because He is present to them as Risen Lord.

Draws from the student a personal answer to Jesus' question: "Who do you say that I am?"

Explains the two major divisions of the Bible and their meaning.

Examines the four Gospels and the special emphasis of each Evangelist.

Guides students in the skill of locating Biblical passages.

Describes God's fidelity to His promises by citing historical examples.

Describes the Church

The learner will be able to:

Recognizes the four identifying marks of the Church (one, catholic, apostolic and holy) and explains how each member is called to make these signs visible.

Presents the Nicene Creed as the Church's formal statement of belief.

Explains the coming of Christ "in Glory" in the context of Eschatology and Final Judgment.

Presents eternal destiny in light of Christ our hope, ----death, judgment, Purgatory, Heaven or Hell.

Life in Christ

The learner will be able to:

Identifies love as the basis and inner core of order and law.

Provides opportunities for the development of the capacity to make moral judgments based on inner convictions.

Explains the meaning of sins of omission/commission.

Explains the call to change one's life to be more in accord with the will of God.

Defines "Stewardship".

Explains concept of "just war" and non-violent resistance.

Distinguishes the relative importance of the different bases of love, (e.g., commitment, fidelity, respect, emotional and physical reactions.)

Presents the concept of a consistent ethic of life as opposed to a culture which promotes death.

Christian Prayer

The learner will be able to:

Explain that the Scripture is the Word of God.

Express knowledge and understanding of formal prayers: Magnificat, plus all those listed under the Kindergarten - Grade 2 and the Grade 3 - Grade 5 Curriculum.

MIDDLE SCHOOL LANGUAGE ARTS:

Listening - Includes identifying and distinguishing between sounds and patterns in sounds, constructing meaning from information verbally, and understanding and responding to verbal information.

The learner will be able to:

Extend personal interest through listening.

Improve personal interest through listening.

Listen to informational presentations according to personal preference.

Listen to nonfiction according to personal preference.

Listen to fiction according to personal preference.

Listen to drama according to personal preference.

Listen attentively.

Ask pertinent questions in listening situations.

React to cues which are non-verbal.

Demonstrate comprehension by asking questions, summarizing and paraphrasing.
Use effective listening behaviors for a variety of purposes.
Demonstrate understanding of a speaker's feelings when engaged in a discussion.
Listen for a variety of purposes.
Listen out of curiosity.
Apply effective listening strategies.
Recognize a preference for listening to informational presentations.

Reading Operations - Includes constructing meaning from fiction and non-fiction selections at comprehension, application, analysis, synthesis, and judgment levels of understanding. It includes skills which address identifying, discussing, and comparing both concrete and abstract elements of selections.

The learner will be able to:

Recall, inform or organize ideas from text by summarizing and/or paraphrasing.
Use literary knowledge as a basis for understanding him/herself.
Read for one's own pleasure.
Investigate a variety of prose, poetry and nonfiction to develop personal reading preference.
Explain or show how phrase, sentences or passages relate to one's own life.
Analyze and explain the use of symbolism and figurative language in fiction and nonfiction.
Apply reading processes effectively.
Construct meaning from a variety of sources.
Refine, expand, and extend knowledge and skills gained with more complex texts, assignments and tasks.
Use literature to enrich personal viewpoints or experiences.
Use literature to pursue personal interests.
Use literature to seek out answers to questions of personal importance.
Construct meaning from reading selections using many different comprehension strategies.
Extend and apply knowledge of pre-reading strategies and skills to increasingly complex reading selections, assignments and tasks.
Use literary knowledge as a basis for understanding him/herself.
Respond to literature by applying it to his/her own life.

Speaking - Focuses on techniques and strategies to convey meaning and to present information and opinions to groups. This unit includes formal and informal communication, debate skills, and verbal/nonverbal communication.

The learner will be able to:

Apply a rating sheet to compare and contrast effective and ineffective presentations for the use of volume, stress, pacing and pronunciation.
Speak for a variety of purposes.
Stress words appropriately to communicate with others.
Apply effective speaking strategies.
Speak for a variety of audiences.
Make comments which reflect understanding.
Speak for a variety of occasions.

Vocabulary - Includes studying and applying knowledge of word structure, concrete analogies, synonyms, antonyms, and syllables. It also includes applying knowledge of connotation, denotation and words with multiple levels of meaning.

The learner will be able to:

Expand his/her vocabulary in a systematic way.
Investigate word origins and the factors which contribute to the evolution of word meaning.
Understand word origins and the historical factors which contribute to the evolution of word meaning.
Expand knowledge and skills learned in previous grade to more complex texts, assignments, and tasks.
Build upon his/her existing vocabulary and increase knowledge of specific content area terms.

Writing - Focuses on each stage of the writing process: prewriting, writing, revising, and publishing. It includes skills covering a variety of organizational formats and purposed for writing.

The learner will be able to:

Choose and apply a form of writing that suits the audience, purpose and occasion, including narrative, persuasive, and expository forms.
Proofread written work to modify convention errors in mechanics, usage, and punctuation, using dictionaries, handbooks, and other resources, including teachers or peers.
Examine a variety of prewriting strategies to accommodate his/her individual learning style.
Demonstrate comprehension of content of at least a sixth grade level from a variety of media by writing notes, outlines, comments, and observations.
Examine and revise written work to develop by adding or deleting details and explanations, clarifying difficult passages, rearranging words, sentences, and paragraphs to improve meaning.
Develop and elaborate a topic by applying the use of supporting ideas, details, and facts found in a variety of sources.
Apply writing as a process concepts effectively.

Write in persuasive form.
Write in a variety of forms for different audiences.
Write for meaningful purpose.
Produce writing which demonstrates insight into the writing situation.
Demonstrate commitment to a topic.

Language Expressions - Focuses on language conventions, structure, usage, and language study. It also addresses parts of speech, figures of speech, syntax, paragraph and sentence structure, word agreement, modifiers, and grammar.

The learner will be able to:

Correctly use parts of speech including subject and verb agreement, noun and pronoun agreement, possessive forms, and comparative and superlative forms of adjectives and adverbs.
Understand and apply sentence variety in his/her writing.
Understand the nature of language.
Demonstrate a foundational understanding of language.
Identify and edit for the incorrect use of parallel structure.

Language Mechanics - Includes comprehending and applying the rules that govern punctuation and capitalization when writing and editing written work.

The learner will be able to:

Apply knowledge of the conventions of punctuation, including the use of commas, colons, semicolons, quotation marks, and apostrophes.
Apply knowledge of the conventions of capitalization, including the names of organizations, nationalities, races, languages, and religions.
Apply fundamental punctuation rules to written work.

Genres - Includes identifying and comparing key characteristics of literary genres, as designated by a work's subject, theme, style, and time period.

The learner will be able to:

Recognize and comprehend elements of the authors craft, including symbolism, figurative language, flashback or foreshadowing.
Understand how using figurative or sensory language contributes to the mood or meaning of a poem.

Media - Includes the study of information and entertainment communications. Topics include: advertising, art, journalism, film, and media messages, forms and productions.

The learner will be able to:

Comprehend how the tools of graphics, pictures, color, motion, music, and computer technology affect communication across forms of media.

Study and Research Skills - Includes developing organization and research skills needed to find appropriate resources, to judge resources as relevant or not relevant to a given topic, to categorize and synthesize information, to take class notes, and to study for exams.

The learner will be able to:

Use print and electronic sources to find books, documents and articles.
Extend knowledge and skills learned in previous grades to more complex, assignments, and tasks.
Obtain and analytically use information from a wide range of sources for many purposes.
Locate, organize, and interpret information to perform school tasks.
Locate, organize, and interpret information to conduct classroom research.
Locate, organize, and interpret information to perform real world tasks.
Locate, organize, and interpret information to make decisions collaboratively.

Problem Solving - Addresses strategies applicable across the curriculum for approaching problems, diagnosing problems, generating possible solutions, and testing possible solutions for validity.

The learner will be able to:

Identify emotional and logical arguments in written, oral, and visual forms of communication.

Technology - Addresses technological applicable to all content area. It includes educational technology, hardware, software, programming, communications, word processing.

The learner will be able to:

Develop an understanding of how technology can be used for communication.

Viewing/Representing - Focuses on constructing meaning from visual sources and conveying meaning through visual representation. Meaning is conveyed by applying writing processes to visual representations of information.

The learner will be able to:

Apply effective viewing strategies.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MATHEMATICS

Based on the Standards and Benchmarks of the Diocese of St. Petersburg, St. Patrick Catholic School has the following expectations for the students in Middle School.

Algebraic Concepts - focus on algebraic equations and operations. Students explore the symbolic nature of

algebraic concepts by identifying and extending patterns in algebra, by following algebraic procedures, and by providing theorems with properties.

The learner will be able to:

Determine and discuss what effect operations have on numbers.

Approach application problems by using graphical representations of data, including free-hand sketches, to deduce possible solutions.

Data Interpretation - Focus on the study and use of graphical forms. Students collect and classify data, organize and display data, use logical reasoning, and problem solving.

The learner will be able to:

Make and/or interpret various graphical forms, equations, and/or verbal descriptions in the explanation of cause and effect relationships.

Collect multiple types of data, organize data effectively, and represent and interpret data presented in a variety of different formats.

Fractions - focus on number sense and operations with fractions. Students compare and order fractions, study fraction parts, estimate with fractions, reason using fractions, and problem solve using fractions.

The learner will be able to:

Understand fraction operations as methods for solving real world problems, and use manipulatives to solve problems.

Functions - focus on exploring polynomial, rational, exponential, logarithmic, trigonometric, and circular functions.

The learner will be able to:

Use graphic, concrete, and symbolic models to describe various patterns, relationships, and functions.

Geometry - focus on exploring geometric concepts from multiple perspectives. Students study properties and construction of transformations, logic, and problem solving.

The learner will be able to:

Know the properties and relationships of regular and irregular geometric shapes in two and three dimensions.

Apply knowledge of congruency, similarity, and symmetry in describing and creating designs with geometric figures.

Apply properties of and relationships between figures to both represent and solve real world problems.

Identify and apply properties of both perpendicular and parallel lines.

Measurement - focus on measurement concepts, applications, and analysis. Students study length, area, circumference, perimeter, volume, weight, formulas, distance, calendar, money, tools, accuracy, units, constructions, patterns, and problem solving.

The learner will be able to:

Solve real world problems using ratio concepts with scale drawings.

Estimate length, time, weight/mass, temperature, money, perimeter, area, volume, and capacity to solve mathematical and real world problems.

Use the concept of significant digits in real world situations, understanding the effects of both instruments precision, and the least precise unit of measurement being used.

Develop and/or define equations for rate, distance, tie, and angle measure, through the use of both concrete and graphic models.

Develop formulas for perimeter, area, surface area, and volume, by exploring patterns among two and three-dimensional figures.

Develop and/or define equations/formulas for the perimeter, area, surface area, circumference, and volume and two and three-dimensional shapes, such as rectangular solids and cylinders, by using either concrete or graphic models.

Choose and/or apply the most suitable instrument, technology and/or method to take measurements to a certain accuracy level in a problem situation.

Number Theory - Focus on manipulating number forms and classifications. Students make connections between number forms and their real world applications.

The learner will be able to:

Match verbal names, written names, and numerals with integers, fractions, decimals, percents, exponential notation, radicals, absolute value notation, scientific notation, and/or ratios.

Identify equivalent fractions, equivalent fractions and percents, equivalent decimals and percents, and equivalent fractions and decimals.

Comprehend the relative size of various number types including fractions, integers, decimals, numbers in exponential notation, numbers in scientific notation, radicals, numbers in absolute value notation, irrational numbers and/or numbers expressed as ratios.

Understand the need for other number systems and identify their uses in real world contexts, such as integers to describe negative temperatures, decimals to represent dollar amounts, and fractions to show equal division of a whole.

Analyze a given problem and apply concepts of ratios and proportions to solve it.

Rational and Irrational Numbers - Focus on number concepts. Students manipulate, compare, and perform operations with rational and irrational numbers.

The learner will be able to:

Read a real world situation involving the addition of rational numbers; determine the problem, the relevant elements of the

problem, and the correct operation; and solve the problem.

Real Numbers and the Coordinate Plane - Focus on graphing concepts. Students graph equations and make connections between algebraic concepts and their geometric correspondences.

The learner will be able to:

Recognize and/or graph ordered pairs in any of the four quadrants, and/or use elementary properties of lines.

Whole Numbers - focus on whole number concepts. Students perform operations with whole numbers, use manipulatives to demonstrate whole number concepts and solve problems with whole numbers in real world contexts.

The learner will be able to:

Understand whole number operations as methods for solving real world problems, and use manipulatives and calculators to solve problems.

Middle School Social Studies

People, Places, and Environments [Geography]

The learner will be able to:

Understand the world in spatial terms.

Use various map forms (including thematic maps) and other geographic representations, tools, and technologies to acquire, process, and report geographic information including patterns of land use, connections between places, and patterns and processes of migration and diffusion.

Use mental maps to organize information about people, places, and environments.

Know the social, political, and economic divisions on Earth's surface.

Understand how factors such as culture and technology influence the perception of places and regions.

Know ways in which the spatial organization of a society changes over time.

Understand ways in which regional systems are interconnected.

Understand the interactions of people and the physical environment.

Understand the patterns and processes of migration and diffusion throughout the world.

Know the human and physical characteristics of different places in the world and how these characteristics change over time.

Understand how cultures differ in their use of similar environments and resources.

Government and the Citizen [Civics and Government]

The learner will be able to:

Understand the structure, functions, and purposes of government and how the principles and values of American democracy are reflected in American constitutional government.

Know the essential ideas of American constitutional government that are expressed in the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Federalist Papers, and other writings.

Understand major ideas about why government is necessary and the purposes government should serve.

Understand how the legislative, executive, and judicial branches share power and responsibilities (e.g., each branch has varying degrees of legislative, executive, and judicial powers and responsibilities).

Know the major parts of the federal system including the national government, state governments, and other governmental units (e.g., District of Columbia, American tribal governments, and the Virgin Islands).

Know the major responsibilities of his or her state and local governments and understands the organization of his or her state and local governments.

Understand the importance of the rule of law in establishing limits on both those who govern and the governed, protecting individual rights, and promoting the common good.

Understand the role of the citizen in American democracy.

Understand the history of the rights, liberties, and obligations of citizenship in the United States.

Understand that citizenship is legally recognized full membership in a self-governing community that confers equal rights under the law; is not dependent on inherited, involuntary groupings; and confers certain rights and privileges (e.g., the right to vote, to hold public office, and to serve on juries).

Understand the argument that all rights have limits and knows the criteria commonly used in determining when and why limits should be placed on rights (e.g., whether a clear and present danger exists and whether national security is at risk).

Understand what constitutes personal, political, and economic rights and the major documentary sources of these rights.

Understand how he or she can contact his or her representatives and why it is important to do so and knows which level of government he or she should contact to express his or her opinions or to get help on a specific problem.

Understand the importance of participation in community service, civic improvement, and political activities.

Understand current issues involving rights that affect local, national, or international political, social, and economic systems.

US History

The learner will be able to:

Identify characteristics of various Native American Groups.

Associate European explorers with regions they discovered.

Describe social structures in colonial America.

Explain factors leading to the American Revolution.

Explain how Manifest Destiny relates to westward expansion.

Understand how European conflicts can involve America.

Describe the economic and philosophical differences that led to the Civil War.
Describe changes in lifestyles during reconstruction, .
Analyze how American inventions affect the US economy.
Understand how the Industrial Revolution affected growth of cities.
Explain why group or individuals came to America.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SCIENCE - The focus of the Middle School Science Program is as follows: Earth Science (Grade 6), Life Science (Grade 7), Physical Science (Grade 8), and Research and Inquiry for all grades levels. St. Patrick Catholic School holds a Science Fair each year.

Research and Inquiry - Focus on the knowledge, processes, and real world issues associated with science and technology. Topics include experimentation, data analysis, science related careers, and technological advances.

The learner will be able to:

Read laboratory instruments accurately.

Use laboratory equipment safely.

Understand that when similar experiments have outcomes that differ, science is challenged to conclude if the differences are important.

Identify the additions to science that are made by people of diverse backgrounds, interests, talents, and motivations.

Comprehend that contributions in math, science and technology have been made by various people, of various cultures, not at the same time and all are important parts of the development of human culture.

Understand that studying the methods used to make new discoveries can give information about the investigation process and its effects.

Understand that altering one or more variables in an investigation can change its outcome.

Understand that the different areas of science may differ in topic, technique, and outcome but they do share a common goal, philosophy, and enterprise.

Understand that because of ethics scientists are not able to knowingly put coworkers, students, the neighborhood, or the community in risk either to themselves or their property.

Understand that when using human subjects in research ethics demand that the subjects be completely informed about the potential risks and benefits, and that they must have the right to refuse to participate.

Understand that animals utilized in scientific research need to be handled carefully.

Identify patterns that happen in and across systems.

Understand that the following things are crucial for a scientist to keep credibility with other investigators and society: accurately keeping records, openness, and being able to replicate findings.

Understand that computers accelerate and extend people's ability to gather, sort and interpret data: prepare reports; and share data and ideas with others.

Earth and Space Science- Focus on composition, structure, exploration, and history of the earth and space. Topics include plate tectonics, the atmosphere, geological cycles and processes, weather, climate, the solar system, and the universe.

The learner will be able to:

Understand the processes that form and change earth's physical features.

Comprehend the large size of our solar system.

Understand that the data collected from many satellite probes can compare and contrast the planets and their moons that exist in our solar system.

Understand that stars tend to be made of similar chemical elements even though they are different ages, sizes, temperatures and distances.

Understand how conditions in one system can affect conditions in other systems.

Comprehend the relationship between planets and their satellites.

Understand the positive and negative impact that human action has on the Earth's systems.

Comprehend that the sun is one of the various stars that exist in our galaxy.

Understand how time and/or size relate to the processes of the Earth.

Understand the many types of energy that the sun provides the earth.

Understand how plants and animals reshape the land.

Life Science - Focus is on the characteristics and cycles of and relationships between living things and their environments. Topics include cellular organization, classification, ecosystems, genetics, and human health issues.

The learner will be able to:

Understand that the smallest unit of life is the cell.

Comprehend that living things are made up of systems that work to reproduce, maintain, and regulate.

Understand that living things are made up of cells, tissues, organs, and systems; and that each level becomes more complex, culminating in the creation of an organism.

Understand the patterns and advantages of plants and animals reproducing sexually and/or asexually.
Understand that to ensure survival of the species an organism tends to live long enough to reproduce.
Understand that adaptations such as alterations in structure, behavior, or physiology help reproductive success in a particular environment.
Comprehend that the quality of life is subjective.
Understand the cycles of organisms.
Understand that fossils provide evidence that changes have happened in the types of plants and animals that have existed over time.
Understand that behavior is a response to the environment.
Understand that a living thing's behavior influences its growth, development, maintenance, and reproduction.
Comprehend that humans as part of the ecosystem could affect the balance of the ecosystem either on purpose or accidentally.
Understand that cells that have similar functions tend to have similar structures.
Understand that cells that have different functions tend to have different structures.
Understand that most organisms are single cells, but that humans are multicellular.
Understand that cells need to be made by multicellular organisms to make and fix organs and tissues and that in order to accomplish this cells will grow and then divide.
Understand how organisms, interacting with each other and with abiotic factors in their environment, cause the flow of energy and the cycling of matter with the ecosystem.
Understand that a small alteration in the limited resources of an environment can change the size of a population and/or an organism.
Understand that long-term alterations in the resources of an environment can cause the destruction of plants and/or animal populations that inhabit the Earth.
Understand the classification of living things.
Comprehend that classification is a means to understanding biodiversity and interrelationships.
Describe the connection between the life functions of organisms and how the cells work.
Understand that resources can be either renewable or nonrenewable.
Understand that life is perpetuated by constant input of energy from the sun.
Understand that life is perpetuated by the reusing of the atoms which create the molecules of living things.
Illustrate how variations in offspring are caused by the sorting and recombining of genetic materials.
Understand that viruses are dependent on other living things.
Understand that the living and non-living components in the ecosystem are interrelated and that if one is altered or deleted then the other resources in the system are influenced.

Physical Science - Focus includes concepts related to matter, forces, motion, and energy, as well as their interactions. Topics include chemical and physical changes, electricity, magnetism, heat, light, sound, machines, work and power.

The learner will be able to:

Understand the general characteristics of the atom.
Understand that single atoms are not visible.
Understand that an object not subjected to a force will move at a constant speed in a straight line.
Understand the common contact forces.
Understand that some forces can act at a distance.
Understand that motion can be described by its position, direction, and/or speed.
Understand that radiation, light, and heat are types of energy that are utilized to cook food, treat diseases, and provide energy.
Describe that energy is capable of being measured and compared.
Differentiate between chemical and physical changes in a substance.
Understand that heat moves in a predictable pattern, from warmer objects to cooler objects until one common temperature is reached.
Recognize the many ways that materials differ.
Understand that energy cannot be destroyed or created.
Understand the difference between mass and weight.
Understand that the same volume of different substances can have different masses.
Understand the motion of molecules in solids, liquids, and gasses.
Understand the arrangement of molecules in solids, liquids, and gasses.
Understand that the majority of events in the universe include an energy transfer and that these alterations almost always raise the total disorder of the system which reduces the amount of useful energy.
Understand that multiple forces on an object will either reinforce or cancel each other, depending on the direction and magnitude of the forces.
Understand that an object at rest will stay at rest until a force acts upon it.
Understand that vibrations in matter set up wave disturbances which spread from the source.
Explain the characteristics of particles and waves.
Understand that every wave is made of a number of crests and troughs.

Understand how different media affect waves.

Show that she/he knows about the basic properties and characteristics of waves.

Compare the characteristics of particles and waves.

Understand that the majority of the energy utilized today is gotten from the burning of stored energy that was collected by organisms millions of years ago.

Understand that energy can be converted from one form to another.

Understand that energy conversions are not 100% efficient.

Understand that gravity is a universal force that each body of mass exerts on any other body of mass.

Describe how a net force can act on an object.

Illustrate how a net force can act upon an object.

Understand that temperature is a measurement of the average energy of motion of the particles that form substance.

Understand that simple machine can be utilized to change the direction or size of a force.

Identify the different types of energy.