



**St. Ann School  
Philosophy and  
Curriculum Guide**



## **Mission Statement**

- We at St. Ann School are dedicated to helping our Preschool-8th grade students reach their full academic, physical, social, and spiritual potential. With Christ as our model and through a personalized learning approach, we encourage students to use their gifts to serve our school, the Pilsen community, and all of society.

## **Belief Statement**

- We develop students *who serve others*. At St. Ann, our students serve both their communities locally and the larger world around them. We believe that we were made for each other.
- We develop students *to be leaders* of their learning. We encourage students to explore their interests and pursue their passions, as they realize their God given gifts and talents. We believe people are innately curious.
- We develop students *who love one another* because we believe we are all made in the image and likeness of God.
- At St. Ann, *we believe we are better together*.

## **Philosophy of Teaching**

- The faculty and staff of St. Ann believe that *every child can learn*. Teachers recognize that each student is uniquely made in the image of God and learns in their own way. To support all learners, St. Ann teachers instruct students through a personalized learning approach. Teachers get to know their students with a specific focus on their skills, needs, and interests. Teachers mold lesson plans and units around what students in their classroom need in order to master grade-level standards.
- As a Catholic school, St. Ann faculty and staff believe that *all are welcome*. To ensure that St. Ann can support all learners who are welcomed into the building, St. Ann has a Director of Inclusive Education who works with students, teachers, and families to tailor/personalize the school experience.
- St. Ann faculty and staff believe that *we are all life-long learners*. Teachers receive professional development during the school year and throughout the summer. St. Ann supports teachers pursuing master's degrees and additional certifications. Teachers model for students how to pursue passions and be curious.

## **Curriculum**

- St. Ann School follows the benchmark standards of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which go beyond the Common Core State Standards to provide a holistic, Catholic education. At St. Ann, students become leaders in their learning. By utilizing student-driven instructional strategies and research-based curricula, our students are empowered to pursue their aspirations, investigate problems, design solutions, chase curiosities, and create performances. Our pedagogy includes direct instruction, collaborative groupings, personalized learning, and flex time. Our curricular resources include Origo, Ready Reading and Math, Wilson Foundations, Heggerty Phonemic Awareness, Writer's Workshop, Sparkshop, ThinkCERCA, Accelerated Reader, Connected Mathematics Project 4, Discovery Science, TCI, iReady, and many others.

## **Inclusion Program**

- St. Ann's inclusive education program is rooted in the belief that all students can learn. The word "Catholic" means "universal." Thus, we believe that Catholic schools should be, by name, a place for all students. At St. Ann, we believe that we are uniquely positioned to be a place that lives out the Gospel values and welcomes all students seeking a Catholic education. We celebrate the God-given gifts of each student, and we believe that we learn from each other.
- Our inclusive education program is also rooted in trust. We consider it a privilege to be trusted to care for each student and be a part of their educational journey. At St. Ann, we are working to create partnerships and utilize additional resources to meet the needs of all learners. We believe that if we can reasonably provide services that align with a family's goals for their child, we will work together to make a St. Ann education possible for your child, regardless of learning needs. The success of our program relies on frequent, open, and honest communication between all stakeholders: school administration, teachers, service providers, and families.
- St. Ann supports students with a variety of learning needs, including students with IEPs (Service Plans) and 504 Plans. We also support students with specific diagnoses that may impact learning and functioning at school. We work with families to identify student strengths and areas for growth and to create and implement a student success plan.

- St. Ann has added the role of full-time Director of Inclusive Education. The Director of Inclusive Education acts as a(n):
  - Case manager for any student who may require additional resources at school
  - Interventionist for students needing extra academic support
  - Coach for classroom teachers to help implement inclusive practices, accommodations, modifications, and academic or behavioral success plans
  - Liaison between service providers and the school
  - Partner and advocate for families: to help families understand the school-based needs of their child, guide them through the evaluation process, communicate student growth and progress, and help establish services at school to support their child
  
- When a student has an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), upon enrolling in a Catholic school, the IEP is turned into a Service Plan through the Archdiocese of Chicago. Through CPS funding, we are currently able to provide academic support, speech therapy, and ABA therapy to support the goals that are written into a student's IEP. The services in any Catholic school are typically a truncated version of the services that would be offered at a local public school. In addition to these services, St. Ann also offers counseling services, as well as Title I academic support.
  
- We aim to keep students in their least restrictive environment. Students typically are educated in the general education setting and receive differentiated instruction within their classroom. We evaluate the needs of each student to determine if additional services would be best provided as in class support or individualized instruction.

### **Religious Formation**

- At St. Ann, students receive religious instruction in the tradition of the Roman Catholic faith daily. We follow the religion standards of the Archdiocese of Chicago, which contain six domains:
  - Sacred Scripture and Tradition: Who is God?
  - Catholic Creed: What is the Church and what do we believe?
  - Catholic Prayer, Liturgy and Sacramental Life: How do we worship God?
  - Christian Living: How does God want us to live?
  - Living Discipleship: How do we journey toward God in faith and service?
  - Religious Diversity and Christian Unity: How do we live well with others?

- Religion classes utilize the text series *Finding God* by Loyola Press for religion instruction. Our middle school classes place a special emphasis on Catholic Social Teaching.
- **Sacramental Preparation:** Together with St. Paul Church, St. Ann School prepares students for the sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Communion, and Confirmation.
  - Students in 2nd Grade who have already been baptized prepare for Reconciliation and Holy Communion.
  - Students in 8th Grade, who previously received the Sacrament of Holy Communion, prepare for Confirmation.
  - Students who transfer to St. Ann after 2nd grade and would like to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist can do so if they were previously baptized.
  - Students who have not yet been baptized and wish to receive the sacraments of initiation will go through the RCIA process at St. Paul Church.
- **Daily prayer:** As a school, St. Ann prays together three times daily. We pray together during morning assembly, before lunch, and before dismissal.
- **Liturgy:** St. Ann students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade participate and lead Mass each Friday of the school year and on Holy Days of Obligation. During the fall and spring, students walk to St. Paul Church for weekly Mass. In the winter, St. Ann hosts Mass in the gym.
- **Guardian Angels:** All St. Ann students participate in Guardian Angels. St. Ann students in 4th-8th grade are the “guardian angels” of students in PK-3rd grade. Students attend Mass together each week and participate in activities together each month to live out our core values of service and love.

### **School Day at a Glance**

- Before School Care
  - Students can arrive at St. Ann as early as 6:45 AM for before-school care for a minimal fee.
- School Day
  - Students can arrive at St. Ann at 7:30 AM for breakfast.
  - The school day starts at 8:00 AM with morning assembly.

- Enrichment
  - Students participate in clubs from 3:15-4:15.
  - St. Ann offers over 15 sports and clubs to students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade.
- After School Care
  - Students can stay at St. Ann as late as 5:30 PM in after-school care for a minimal fee.

### **Morning Assembly**

- As an entire school community, all students and faculty gather in the gym each morning for morning assembly. During this time, students say the Pledge of Allegiance and start their morning with prayer and an activity.
- Monday: Mindfulness Monday
  - Students start their day with a mindfulness activity to get them ready for a new week of learning.
- Tuesday: Teach it Tuesday
  - Students learn something connected to specific times of the year. For example, during Advent, students learn all about the advent wreath.
- Wednesday: Way to Go Wednesday!
  - Students receive shout-outs for their achievements inside and outside the classroom.
- Thursday: Thrilling Thursday!
  - Students compete in fun competitions with their Guardian Angels.
- Friday: Faith Friday
  - Family and friends are invited to join us during our all-school Mass.

### **Special Classes**

- Music: Students in Pre-K through 8th Grade have music class once per week. Students showcase their musical talents during our Christmas and Spring concerts.
- PE/Health: Students in Pre-K have PE twice a week. Students in Kindergarten through 3rd grade have PE three times per week. Students in 4th-8th Grade have PE two times per week and health class one time per week.

- Spanish: Students in Pre-K have Spanish two times per week. Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade have Spanish class three times per week. St. Ann offers basic and heritage/advanced Spanish classes so that students are receiving instruction at the level most appropriate for them.

### **Standardized Assessment**

- St. Ann students take the i-Ready diagnostic in the Fall, Winter, and Spring. This nationally normed and referenced assessment is used as a benchmark to determine where students start academically each year and how they progress toward mastery of grade-level standards. Teachers use this data to determine instruction and share it with families.

### **Classroom Assessments**

- St. Ann uses PowerSchool as an online gradebook and attendance tracker. Parents and students in 4th-8th grade can access PowerSchool to check grades online.
- Classwork counts for 20% of a student's grade. Examples of classwork are the percentage of AR goal met, exit tickets, number of i-Ready lessons passed each month.
- Formative Assessment counts for 50% of a student's grade. Formative assessments help teachers understand a student's mastery towards the objective of the lesson. Examples of formative assessments are essay rough drafts, mastery checks in reading and math, RACE paragraph responses.
- Summative Assessment counts for 30% of a student's grade. Summative assessments are given at the end of units and help teachers understand a student's mastery of the objectives from the entire unit. Examples of summative assessments are i-Ready lesson average, AR quiz average, unit tests, and end-of-unit projects.
- Families receive progress reports after the first 6 weeks of a trimester. Progress reports are meant to show families a student's academic progression thus far. They are not part of a student's permanent record.
- Families receive report cards at the end of each trimester. Report cards are part of a student's permanent record.

## **High School Bridge**

- Students in 7th and 8th Grade participate in our high school bridge program. Through this program, students learn about the importance of on-track attendance, GPA, high school test prep, and determining the best fit for high school.
- Students in 7th and 8th Grade and their families work with the high school counselor to identify the best high school options, work through the application process, and determine the best scholarships for students to apply to.
- Once students are in high school, the high school counselor will work with students to help with a smooth transition so that students can be successful in their next educational step.

## **Enrichment Activities**

- St. Ann offers clubs in the fall and the spring in 12-week intervals for students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade.

<b>K-3 Clubs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Lego STEM</li><li>● Art</li><li>● Cooking</li><li>● Yoga</li><li>● Chess</li></ul>
<b>4th-8th Clubs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Lego STEM</li><li>● Art</li><li>● Cooking</li><li>● Yoga</li><li>● Chess</li><li>● Choir</li><li>● Entrepreneurship</li><li>● Dancing with Class</li><li>● Big Brothers, Big Sisters</li></ul>
<b>Girls Only</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Girls on the Run</li><li>● Girls who Code</li><li>● Fight Like a Girl</li></ul>

## **Athletics**

- St. Ann offers a variety of sports for students in Kindergarten through 8th Grade.
- Student-athletes are expected to have a positive attitude on and off the field/court, demonstrating the core-values of St. Ann, and be in good academic standing.
- St. Ann defines good academic standing as students with no Ds or Fs in their classes.

<b>Fall</b>	<b>Winter</b>	<b>Spring</b>
Boys soccer 5th-8th Girls soccer 5th-8th	Girls Basketball <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Varsity</li><li>● JV</li></ul> Boys Basketball <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Varsity</li><li>● JV</li></ul>	Co-ed Volleyball 6th-8th Girls Softball <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● 2nd-4th</li><li>● 5th-8th</li></ul> Co-ed Soccer <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● K-2nd</li><li>● 3rd &amp; 4th</li></ul>

## **Home School Communication**

- We believe that parents are the primary educators, and we are partners in their children's education.
- St. Ann frequently communicates with families via newsletters, emails, phone, and text. We strive to have formal and informal conversations about student learning.
- Families have the opportunity to check students' in 4th-8th grade academic progress online through PowerSchool.

## Early Childhood

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Preschool</b>
<b>Literacy</b>	Early literacy instruction consists of seven components: vocabulary and language acquisition, phonological awareness, knowledge of print, letters and words, comprehension, and books and other texts. Students explore these concepts through read-aloud, literacy centers, Heggerty Phonemic Awareness lessons, and Foundations. At the end of PK4, students should be able to identify and name letters, separate syllables, use and appreciate books and texts, interact during a read-aloud, retell stories, and write their name, among other skills.
<b>Mathematics</b>	Early childhood mathematics instruction consists of five components: number and operations, counting, one-to-one correspondence, understanding quantity, spatial sense, measurement, patterns, and data analysis. Students explore these concepts through small group mini-lessons, math centers, play centers, morning meetings, and unit studies through the Origo Curriculum. By the end of PK4, students should be able to independently count to 20, understand shapes, and count and measure objects.
<b>Productive Play/SEL</b>	St. Ann preschool teachers work with the Erikson Institute to develop productive play in the classroom. Physically, children will enhance both their large and small muscle control and use all their senses in learning. Children will develop socially and emotionally as they experience a sense of self-esteem, develop a positive attitude toward life, and demonstrate cooperative, prosocial behavior. Finally, children will develop cognitively as they acquire learning and problem-solving skills, expand logical thinking skills, expand verbal communication skills, develop beginning reading and writing skills, acquire concepts and information leading to a fuller understanding of the world, and demonstrate skills in make-believe play.

## Early Elementary

Subject	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade
<b>Literacy</b>	<p>Students begin to use literacy skills with prompting and support, like asking and answering questions, identifying main ideas and key details, story elements, and describing the connection between illustrations and stories. Students are able to count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words, identify short vowel sounds in a word, and decode and encode three-phoneme words (consonant-vowel-consonant words). Students read and identify common high-frequency words by sight. Students will begin to read emergent-reader texts with purpose and understanding.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Reading Level K</li> <li>● Foundations Level K</li> <li>● Heggerty Early Elementary</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>	<p>Students will continue to build on their literacy skills by working more independently on skills developed in Kindergarten, like asking and answering questions, describing story elements, and identifying main idea and details. Students begin to explain major differences between stories and books that give information. Students begin identifying various informational text features. Students develop their understanding of spoken words, syllables, and phonemes. Students are able to decode and encode final -e and common vowel team conventions, as well as decode two-syllable words following basic phonetic patterns. Students continue to build on their recognition of high-frequency words by sight. Students read on-level texts with purpose, understanding, accuracy, rate, and expression.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Reading Level 1</li> <li>● Foundations Level 1</li> <li>● Heggerty Early Elementary</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>	<p>Students will continue to develop a deeper understanding of literacy skills developed in grades prior. Students begin to describe how characters respond to major events, describe the overall structure of a story and how these parts work together, and compare and contrast two or more versions of the same story. Students begin making connections between steps, ideas, and historical events in informational stories, as well as using text features to locate key facts or information. Students describe the author's purpose and the relationship between images and key details. Students are able to decode regularly spelled multisyllabic words with long and short vowels. Students grow in reading fluency, focusing on prosody, expression, and rate.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Reading Level 2</li> <li>● Foundations Level 2</li> <li>● Heggerty Early Elementary</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Students work toward developing their understanding and use of numbers from 1-19, including written numerals, representations, and counting objects in a set. Students will begin to see equations for addition and subtraction. Students learn to identify and describe shapes like rectangles, squares, circles, and triangles.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Math Level K</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>	<p>Students begin to develop strategies for adding and subtracting whole numbers based on their work from Kindergarten. Students begin to develop a deep understanding of addition and subtraction while working within 20. They begin to extend their counting sequence and understand place value. Students learn to reason with shapes and their attributes, as well as measure lengths using nonstandard units and interpret data.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Math Level 1</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>	<p>Students extend their knowledge of the base-ten system by working with numbers in the hundreds, tens, and ones. They will begin to understand numbers up to 1,000. With this knowledge, students use their understanding of addition and subtraction by developing fluency within 100 and discovering new strategies for 3-digit numbers. Students learn the standard units of measurement, like centimeters and inches. They begin to analyze more complex shapes and work with equal groups to set up a foundation for multiplication.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Math Level 2</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> </ul>

Subject	Kindergarten	1st Grade	2nd Grade
<b>Social Studies</b>	<p>Students are able to explain how rules have purpose in our lives, describe weather and climates, understand the idea of scarcity (i.e., not being able to have everything we want), and discuss how life is different now than in the past.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies Weekly</li> </ul>	<p>Students identify ways everyone can be a part of a community, identify goods and services, order events in chronological sequences, and compare perspectives of people in the past and present.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies Weekly</li> </ul>	<p>Students are able to identify how political systems function in our lives, construct and interpret maps, identify cultural characteristics of our community and compare them to others, compare goods and services, and explain how money is used with goods and services. They can also compare people in history who have shaped a significant change.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies Weekly</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	<p>Students investigate phenomena like weather and the changes of the seasons. They also identify, describe, and name the needs of different animals and plants.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mystery Science!</li> <li>• BrainPop Jr!</li> <li>• Lab Kits</li> </ul>	<p>Students identify and describe characteristics of plants and animals and how they survive in the wild. Students investigate how the sun and moon affect our daily lives and explore how materials vibrate to make sounds.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mystery Science!</li> <li>• Brain Pop Jr!</li> <li>• Lab Kits</li> </ul>	<p>Students begin to develop an understanding of the world's animal biodiversity regarding traits and environments. They continue to explore the needs of plants through hands-on activities. They begin to gain an understanding of how water shapes the Earth's surface as well as describe and identify different types of materials by properties like hardness, flexibility, and absorbency.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mystery Science!</li> <li>• Brain Pop Jr!</li> <li>• Lab Kits</li> </ul>
<b>Religion</b>	<p>Students learn about how God created the world and how to treat the world around us with respect and kindness. Students also learn about the life of Jesus and his unconditional love for each person. Students also learn about the Church and the different parts of the Mass.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade K</li> <li>• Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students continue to learn about how God created the world and everything that is in it. Students learn about the life of Jesus with a focus on the Nativity and Paschal stories. Students also learn about the sacraments and their connection to Mass.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade 1</li> <li>• Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students are spending their year preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. Students learn that God is a forgiving, loving being. They begin to differentiate between venial and mortal sins, as well as learn how to reconcile their sins. Students begin to understand the Mass by learning the different responses, procedures, and meanings. They learn that Jesus is truly present in the mass, in the form of the Eucharist. Students learn beliefs like Transubstantiation and Consecration.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade 2</li> <li>• Sacrament Prep: Reconciliation</li> <li>• Sacrament Prep: Eucharist</li> </ul>

## Intermediate Grades

Subject	3rd	4th	5th
<b>ELA/Literature</b>	<p>Students focus on deepening their reading comprehension, while continuing to build on their phonics foundations. Students work using previously learned phonetic skills to decode and encode multisyllabic words. Students begin to learn more difficult phonetic patterns like vowel diphthongs, silent letters like -ight, and common spelling rules. Students deepen their knowledge of suffixes and prefixes, and how they change the meaning of a base word. Students build reading comprehension by learning to identify main topics and key details. Students read a variety of myths, folk tales, and fables to compare and contrast similar texts. Students learn the structure of different types of texts and how central ideas are developed. Students use the skills learned in reading to write real and imagined stories and to research topics of their choice to write a how-to essay.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready Reading Level 3</li> <li>● Foundations Level 3</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> </ul>	<p>In literature, students focus on learning different story elements and the connections between them to develop plot, setting, and theme. Students also study informational texts, learning how authors develop their point of view and use evidence to support their ideas. Students learn how to cite evidence to support their written responses. In writing, students practice writing realistic fiction, poetry, explanatory texts, and persuasive essays. Students study grammar to learn how sentences are structured, different parts of speech, and correct punctuation. Students begin their vocabulary study with a focus on understanding how to break words into prefixes, root words, and suffixes.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● CommonLit</li> <li>● NewsELA</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> <li>● Classroom novel sets</li> </ul>	<p>In literature, students learn to make inferences to help them draw deeper meaning from the texts they are reading. Students will also learn how authors develop the plot of a story through a narrator's point of view. While studying informational texts, students learn how the author develops main ideas through supporting key details. In writing, students practice writing memoirs, poetry, informational texts, and argumentative essays. Students study grammar to learn the different types of sentences, parts of speech, and punctuation. Students continue their study of vocabulary with the study of root words.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● CommonLit</li> <li>● NewsELA</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> <li>● Classroom novel sets</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Students learn to multiply and divide numbers within 100, and understand properties of multiplication and its relationship to division. They also learn how to solve multi-step problems by determining the proper operation and explaining their thinking. Students develop a basic understanding of fractions as parts of whole. They explore area, perimeter, volume, and reason with shapes.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ready Math</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● Xtra Math</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn how to multiply and divide whole numbers with up to 6-8 digits. They also learn how to model and write about their thinking to solve multiplication and division equations. Students begin to develop their skills in reading data, measuring and converting units, and geometry.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ready Math</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● Xtra Math</li> </ul>	<p>Students build upon multiplication and division skills by learning how to use these skills on fractions and mixed numbers. Students model how to multiply and divide multi-digit whole numbers and fractions. Students learn how to measure using different units, convert between units, read and interpret data, and geometry.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Ready Math</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● Xtra Math</li> </ul>

Subject	3rd	4th	5th
<b>Social Studies</b>	<p>Students learn about different types of governments used throughout the world. Students study different types of communities and the attributes of each. Students also learn about the importance of valuing different cultures.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Studies Weekly</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn about the different regions of the United States. Students study the climate, landscape, and history of each region. Students learn how to contribute to their community positively.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCI</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn about the American colonies, the American Revolution, and the development of the United States government. Students learn how to be active citizens by writing to the President of the United States and their representatives about causes they are passionate about.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TCI</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	<p>Students study different habitats and ecosystems of the world. Students learn about how the world around them works by studying the water cycle and layers of the earth.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mystery Science</li> </ul>	<p>Students in fourth grade are working on becoming the next generation of engineers! Science is filled with hands-on activities where students are engineering solutions to real-world problems they are presented with. They learn about the design process where they empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test to help come up with solutions to the world's problems.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spark Shop</li> </ul>	<p>Students in fifth grade extend their engineer learning. Science is filled with hands-on activities where students are engineering solutions to real-world problems they are presented with. They learn about the design process where they empathize, define, ideate, prototype, and test to help come up with solutions to the world's problems.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spark Shop</li> </ul>
<b>Religion</b>	<p>Students learn about the liturgical calendar and how we celebrate Ordinary Time. Students study Jesus' parables and the messages in each. Students learn about the different parts of the Mass and how each connects to the life of Jesus. Students learn about morality and how to make good choices.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade 3</li> <li>• Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn about God's plan for salvation and how to care for the Earth. Students study the Beatitudes and the Paschal mystery. Students learn how to serve others through the example of Mary. Students also study the 10 Commandments with a focus on how to follow each in their daily lives.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade 4</li> <li>• Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn about the Kingdom of God and the fulfillment of the covenant with Abraham through the life of Jesus. Students study baptism and how people are welcomed into the Church. Students learn about the unity of the Church and the call to serve others.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Finding God Grade 5</li> <li>• Children's Bible</li> </ul>

## Middle School

Subject	6th	7th	8th
<b>ELA/Literature</b>	<p>Students focus on skills needed to master grade-level texts such as analyzing themes, using text evidence to support claims, and tracing an author's argument. Students study grammar and vocabulary with a focus on Greek and Latin roots to help students break apart words to determine their meaning. Students learn to write in a variety of genres with a focus on adding more detail to texts and including reliable sources in research.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● CommonLit</li> <li>● NewsELA</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> <li>● Classroom novel sets</li> </ul>	<p>Students focus on skills needed to master grade-level texts such as determining the strongest piece of text evidence, analyzing text structure, and evaluating author's arguments. Students study grammar and vocabulary with a focus on Greek and Latin roots to help students break apart words to determine their meaning. Students learn to write in a variety of genres with a focus on developing story elements and citing reliable sources throughout their writing.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● CommonLit</li> <li>● NewsELA</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> <li>● Classroom novel sets</li> </ul>	<p>Students focus on skills needed to master grade-level texts such as analyzing figurative language, critiquing author's arguments, and comparing texts from similar genres. Students study grammar and vocabulary with a focus on Greek and Latin roots to help students break apart words to determine their meaning. Students learn to write in a variety of genres with a focus on developing character dialogue and writing persuasive texts.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● CommonLit</li> <li>● NewsELA</li> <li>● Words of the Week</li> <li>● Classroom novel sets</li> </ul>
<b>Mathematics</b>	<p>Students learn to analyze data through graphs, equations, tables, and situations. Students build the base of their algebraic thinking by solving and writing one-step equations. Students continue their work with fractions by learning how to divide. Students also deepen their knowledge of division. Students work collaboratively on real-world applicable problems.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Connected Mathematics Project</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● XtraMath</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn how to work with both positive and negative integers. Students learn to add, subtract, multiply, and divide all integers. Students learn how to use a protractor to help them understand angle relationships and construction of triangles and quadrilaterals. Students work collaboratively on real-world applicable problems.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Connected Mathematics Project</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● XtraMath</li> </ul>	<p>Students learn about linear functions and slopes to deepen their algebraic understanding. Students learn how to derive equations from tables and to create tables from equations. Students learn how to solve multi-step equations. Students work collaboratively on real-world applicable problems. Students have the opportunity to take Algebra 1 through local high schools.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Connected Mathematics Project</li> <li>● i-Ready</li> <li>● XtraMath</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies</b>	<p>Students study ancient civilizations to learn how humans used technology to build empires. Students study ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia, India, China, Aztec, and Egypt. Students learn how to look at artifacts through the lens of a historian and to ask deep-thinking questions about the stories that are told or not told in history.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History Alive!</li> </ul>	<p>Students study indigenous peoples of North America, colonization, and the development of the American government. Students study judicial cases before the Supreme Court and analyze the rulings compared to the Amendments to which they apply.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● History Alive!</li> <li>● Facing History</li> </ul>	<p>Students study the history of slavery, the American Civil War and Reconstruction Era, Industrial Revolution, and the World Wars. Students study how historical events influence our world today. Students become informed citizens who are ready to be active in their communities.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Learning for Justice</li> <li>● Facing History</li> </ul>

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<p><b>Science</b></p>	<p>Students study earth and life science. Students study tectonic plates and the motion of the Earth. Students also learn about the causes and effects of natural disasters. Students learn about our solar system and how it impacts our daily lives.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Generation Genius</li> <li>● Foss Kits</li> <li>● DiscoveryEd</li> </ul>	<p>Students study chemistry and learn about the different elements in our world. Students learn how different chemicals interact. Students also study where periodic table elements can be found in the world and how they are used in their everyday lives.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Generation Genius</li> <li>● Foss Kits</li> <li>● DiscoveryEd</li> </ul>	<p>Students study heredity and adaptations. Students learn how organisms have evolved and adapted over time. Students also learn how traits are passed to organisms throughout different generations.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Generation Genius</li> <li>● Foss Kits</li> <li>● DiscoveryEd</li> </ul>
<p><b>Religion</b></p>	<p>Students study the Old Testament to learn about the foundations of our faith. Students study the books of the prophets and learn how their messages influence the New Testament.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finding God Grade 6</li> <li>● Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students study the New Testament and learn about the life of Jesus. Students focus on understanding the call of the disciples, the messages of the parables, and the spread of the early Church.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finding God Grade 7</li> <li>● The Chosen</li> <li>● Children's Bible</li> </ul>	<p>Students study Catholic Social Teaching and prepare for Confirmation. Students learn to put service into action by completing service projects throughout the year and connecting them to Catholic Social Teaching. Students choose a saint to study as they prepare for the sacrament of Confirmation.</p> <p><b>Curricular Resources</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finding God Grade 8</li> <li>● Confirmed in the Spirit</li> <li>● Children's Bible</li> </ul>