

Laurie Enloe - Instructor

Welcome to 4th grade! This school year, students will learn through the methodology of Catholic education from a classical tradition. Using curriculum and pedagogical methods of the St. Jerome School, we will foster wonder and love for all that is genuinely true, good, and beautiful. Scholars will be able to read well, speak well, and think critically understanding God's creation.

Educational Outcome: To form each student's mind and character in such a way to live life in a way that is consistent with truth as a human being created in the image and likeness of God.

Integrated Curriculum - forming certain aptitudes, qualities of character, and habits of mind

Two complementary dimensions:

- ☐ Content of a historically based curriculum incorporating two thousand years of Roman, Jewish, and other ancient Near East cultures that make up Western tradition
- ☐ Curriculum in the student, by cultivating in their aptitudes, habits, and qualities that shape an individual approach to all subjects, and bind them together into a unity for wonder and love for all that is genuinely true, good, and beautiful.

The Trivium & Quadrivium Arts as Stages in a Child's Development:

Developmental stages for the method or art of learning all subjects

GRAMMAR→→→→→→→→→→	LOGIC→→→→→→→→→→	RHETORIC
Age: 5-11	Age: 11-14	Age: 14-19
Language: Grammar, Syntax Structure, Vocabulary	Language: Reasoning, Debate Clarity	Language: Eloquence, Beauty, Persuasion
Basic Facts Fundamentals Observation	Principles, Relations	Expressive Communication Application, Synthesis Proof of Theorem
Method: Singing, Chanting Repetition	Method: Argument Discussion, Debate	Method: Discussion Speeches, Imitation, Practice
Writing: Clarity, Narrative, Description	Writing: Compare/Contrast Praise/Blame,	Writing: Persuasive, Legal, Polemic, Poetic, Creative

St. Mary's Classical Education in 4th grade will focus on the mastery of the following knowledge and skills:

History

Knowledge

- Understand key figures and events of Medieval, Modern, and American history
- Appreciate how the lives of the saints shaped the respective historical periods
- Know how people in the Middle Ages understood God and man
- Know that Christianity has shaped the world and that the expansion of Christianity has brought increasing liberty, reason, and culture
- Distinguish how the Modern period differs from the past in its understanding of God and man, and truth, goodness, and beauty
- Understand how America understands God and man
- Understand history of America in the context of Catholic and world history
- Appreciate the novelty of America in relation to its European origins
- Understand what it means to be a good citizen
- Recognize basic geography (major world land masses and bodies of water; European and U.S. states and capitals)

Skills

- Compare, contrast, and explain the essential characteristics of cultures, governments, and figures in different historical periods
- Memorize significant dates and be able to build timelines from them
- Recognize correlation between —secularll history and Biblical/Church history
- Explain cause and effect of historical events
- Read and recognize symbols on maps
- Write biographical reports and do basic research on important figures in history
- Understand the contribution of major historical figures

Religion

Knowledge

- Begin to recognize how the Christian culture of the Middle Ages is reflected in art, music, architecture, literature, the liturgical calendar, the structure of cities, organization of labor, and the code of chivalry and how this is transformed in the Modern period
- Begin to understand importance of the Trinity and Incarnation
- Know they belong to God's chosen people and are part of his family, the Church
- Know they are made for heaven and that creatures and the created world exist to help them get there
- Memorize books of the Bible, important verses, Apostles, Beatitudes, basic prayers of the Mass in English and Latin, sacraments, major events of salvation history
- Know the parts of the Mass
- Know the major moments of salvation history from creation to Pentecost
- Understand basic teachings on Confession and Eucharist

- Understand sin, grace and the sacraments
- Know the Creed and understand each of its tenets
- Know lives of the major saints of the periods of history they are studying
- Know how to pray the Rosary

Skills

- Give more advanced theological explanations of Church doctrines
- Memorization and recitation of Scripture, Bible facts, catechism, prayers, and hymns
- Learn to pray liturgically, intercessory, and contemplatively
- Learn to regard and participate in sacred music as a form of prayer

Art

Knowledge

- Develop an understanding of and be able to apply the following principles in artistic work (drawing, painting, and other media): line, shape, texture, color, value, and form
- Recognize and employ basic elements of space and perspective

Skills

- Continue to learn how to look at, examine, and see a painting and other works of art
- Learn to tell the story of a painting
- Learn how to justify why something is beautiful or not
- Develop drawing, painting, and sculpting skills
- Copy more complex images according to rules

Language: Literature, Grammar, Spelling, Composition, and Latin

Knowledge

- Acquire familiarity with classic folklore and literature of the historical periods they study
- Begin to master grammar
- Begin to analyze and diagram sentences
- Write complete sentences and paragraphs
- Acquire facility in spelling and vocabulary
- Have a repertoire of light verse, Psalms, ballads and historical mnemonic devices committed to memory
- Memorize the fundamentals of Latin: primary declensions, conjugations, and vocabulary
- Memorize Latin prayers, hymns, and phrases

Skills

- Be able to use prefixes, suffixes, and root words as clues to meaning
- Be able to read chapter books without help
- Recognize plot, theme, symbolism, and other literary elements
- Evaluate characters in stories
- Ability to identify the main idea of a story
- Write complete sentences and construct coherent paragraphs
- Read and write summaries of readings

- Practice good penmanship, especially cursive
 - Identify conflict, climax, and resolution in a story
 - Write an organized, multi-paragraph composition in sequential order with a central idea
 - Research a topic using multiple books
 - Ability to understand more complex poetry
 - Narration: re-tell more complex stories in detail, with vocal clarity, poise, and eye contact
- Construct simple stories

Conversation: students should understand and be able to follow rules for 'Socratic' discussions; students should be questioning and discussing various texts.

Follow four rules of discussion: 1. Read the text carefully. 2. Listen to what others say and don't interrupt. 3. Speak clearly. 4. Give others your respect.

Science

Knowledge

- Recognize the study of nature as part of the human endeavor to understand the world
- Understand science as one aspect of the study of nature which must be integrated into a more comprehensive vision of reality as God's creation and thus behold nature in a different way
- Recognize persons and animals not as historical accidents or the sum of their mechanical parts, but as living wholes that transcend their parts and are irreducible to them
- Understand that as living wholes, organisms possess an inexhaustible depth and are worthy of our awe, wonder and affection
- Understand that nature is therefore hierarchically arranged according to capacity for self-transcendence:
Beginning with the study of living things, students should be able to:
 - o Render detailed observations of different organisms
 - o Distinguish between genera in the plant and animal kingdoms
 - o Specify essential differences between species
 - o Identify unique characteristics in different forms of animal life
 - o Explain what these characteristics mean in the life of the animal
 - o Identify essential differences distinguishing human beings from other animals
 From this basis, students should proceed to the interior world of plants and animals:
 - o Botany
 - o Anatomy
 - o Physiology
 Students proceed to the external world, understanding Earth as home for life:
 - o Ecosystems
 - o Natural processes which support life (e.g. weather, soil formation, water cycles)
 - o Earth's place in the solar system: the finely-tuned astronomical factors necessary to support life

Skills

- Continue to develop the skill of observing, rendering, and cataloging this knowledge in a 'nature notebook'
- Begin to ask philosophical and scientific questions of nature
- Gain detailed, first hand experience of nature through growing things and recording the various stages of growth
- Follow directions carefully when carrying out scientific experiments

Mathematics

Knowledge

- Deploy numeracy/counting: whole numbers into the millions; decimal place value
- Recognize geometric shapes and calculation of perimeter and area
- Have facility in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division whole number operations
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide decimals up to the thousandths place
- Use fractions (reducing, adding, subtracting, multiplying, dividing)
- Measure accurately using both customary and metric systems
- Solve word problems
- Count money and basic decimals
- Acquire basic algebra skills (looking for unknowns)
- Begin to understand proportions
- Comprehend basic averages and ranks (median and mode; mean by grade 5)
- Recognize and construct fundamental shapes in plane geometry: points, lines, rays, angles, parallels, perpendiculars, quadrilaterals and regular and irregular polygons
- Apply numeric methods in describing natural phenomenon—for example, estimate the number of leaves on a tree by modeling the splits in a branch

Skills

- Memorize and master addition/subtraction tables (0-10)
- Memorize and master of multiplication tables and division (0s-12s)
- Tell time to the quarter- and half-hour and to five minutes and one minute (Analog)
- Add and subtract decimals, and compare decimals and fractions
- Multiply multi-digit numbers by two-digit numbers
- Divide larger multi-digit numbers by one-digit numbers
- Use long division to divide large numbers by multi-digit numbers
- Find the area of two-dimensional shapes
- Reason mathematically both orally and in writing through word problems
- Use problem-solving strategies to solve real-world math problems
- Add and subtract fractions and decimals
- Identify and describe three-dimensional shapes, and find their volumes and surface areas

St. Mary's Approved Student Curriculum:

Social Studies: "The Story of Civilization: The Making of the Modern World".

Religion: "Spirit of Truth: Jesus Teaches Us How to Live".

Language: "Latin for Children", "Vocabulary From Classical Roots", "Grammar, Usage, and Mechanics", "Spelling Connections", "Writing Our Catholic Faith".

Novels: "Treasure Island" (Stevenson). "The Jungle Book" (Kipling). "Tales From Shakespeare" (Lamb). "Holes" (Sachar).

Science: "Physics for the Grammar Stage".

Mathematics: "Dimensions Math".