

FIRST GRADE

Holy Trinity Catholic School provides a faith filled learning environment centered on community, leadership and educational excellence rooted in traditional Catholic values.



Holy Trinity Catholic School

Education Rooted in Holiness

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Our Typical Day

Our day starts with prayer, the Pledge of Allegiance, and calendar. The calendar incorporates weather, math, and our schedule for the day. Our mornings are focused on literacy and language arts skills. Students work on phonemic awareness activities, phonics, and reading fluency. Students participate in reading groups and work on writing projects. In the afternoons, we learn Math, Religion, Science, and Social Studies. Students go to specialists throughout the week. First graders enjoy PE, Music, Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, Library, and Art classes. We go to school Mass every Friday morning. Students also have iPads to use each day to enhance their learning.

A Full Campus Experience

Technology Integration

First Graders will be working in a 1:1 environment utilizing iPads. Students learn how to be digital citizens with expectations that they show responsible and respectful behavior as virtual students. Throughout their elementary years, students will increasingly experience technology as an educational tool that will allow them to enhance their learning in a variety of ways including: how to navigate the internet to gain knowledge, compose and publish writing, and learning how to use tools such as Google Classroom, IXL and instructional / learning sites and games to allow them to be successful both at Holy Trinity and beyond.

Catholic Schools Week & Marathon

There are many Catholic Schools Week activities for us to celebrate our wonderful Catholic school community! The Fall Marathon incorporates faith, teamwork, and service to our school and greater community.

Field Trips

Students go bowling and have a Track and Field Day as part of their Physical Education class. We offer both on and off-campus field trips for all grade levels!

What to Expect in First Grade

In first grade, we are working to build strong and confident beginning readers! It is hard work and takes lots of practice, both at school and at home. By the end of the year, we expect first graders to be able to read short stories independently and fluently. They should be able to write a short paragraph with proper capitalization and punctuation. They should take their time to write neatly and form letters and numbers correctly. First graders should be able to count and recognize numbers to 120, as well as use addition and subtraction to help them solve problems. They should have a beginning knowledge of place values to begin to add and subtract two-digit numbers. Students participate in religion by learning basic prayers (Our Father, Glory Be, Hail Mary, St. Michael, and Angel of God) and growing in their knowledge of Christ and His Church. They learn to be respectful at Mass and practice virtue through the example of the saints in our Virtues in Practice Program. Students should actively participate in a variety of Science and Social Studies activities to grow their knowledge and understanding of the world around them. In Science, we cover units on air and weather, sound and light, and plants and animals. In Social Studies, students learn about rules and citizenship, maps and landmarks, economic goods and services, and changes over time.

Testing

Students are tested on reading, spelling, and math each week in class. They are evaluated on unit tests and are observed for participation in science and social studies activities and investigations. Students are also assessed on oral reading fluency every week. We use this testing data to inform our instructional decisions and reading groups, as well as recommend students for Title 1 reading and math help.

Homework

First graders are expected to read for 15-20 minutes each night. They should practice sight words, reading fluency passages, and math facts. Homework to supplement what is learned in class is also sent home each weeknight. Students are not expected to complete homework on the weekends. This is precious family time!

Why We Love First Grade

SUPER STUDENT

Every First Grader gets to be Super Student throughout the year!

READING

In First Grade, we work very hard on our reading skills! We get to read in special spots in our classroom.

TECHNOLOGY

In First Grade, we are 1:1 with iPads. We learn how to navigate technology through various Google tools, IXL, and more!

WRITING

We learn how to write a paragraph and get to make our own stories!

PRAYERS

We learn several prayers in First Grade to prepare us for Mass.

PLAY-DOUGH SPELLING

We get to use play-dough to shape letters and practice our spelling words!

WATERCOLOR SPELLING

We get to paint our spelling words with our fingers to practice our spelling words!

FIELD TRIPS

We get to use our learning in hands-on ways by going on various field trips both on and off-campus!

Religion

The Faith and Life series introduces students to the Holy Trinity through presentations on God the Father, the life of Jesus, the Holy Spirit, God's plan of salvation, and our part in that plan. It acquaints them with Mary, angels, and the saints. Students learn basic prayers of the Catholic Church along with the liturgical seasons. They attend Mass each Friday, prayer services during Advent, and Stations of the Cross during Lent.

Standards:

- Recognize God as the Creator of all things and that life is our greatest gift.
- Identify that God is Trinity– Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- Understand that Jesus is God and man. We remember His life, death, and resurrection.
- Know that the Bible is the Word of God and tells stories of His love for us.
- Recognize the Great Commandment and the Ten Commandments.
- Respect that each person is made in God's image and show love to them.
- Know that Jesus came to save all people.
- Recognize the saints as holy people.
- Know that God's grace is His life in us.
- Recall and tell the story of the Last Supper.
- Show reverence while at Mass and when praying.
- Recognize the basic liturgical seasons.
- Identify that we become members of the Church through Baptism.
- Know the Sign of the Cross and basic Catholic prayers.
- Develop a relationship with Jesus.
- Understand that they should show obedience as Jesus did as a member of a human family.
- Participate in works of service and charity.

Math

Saxon Math is a comprehensive math program that empowers students to foster conceptual understanding and skill development through a cohesive grouping of lessons, explicit instruction, and guided practice.

Standards:

- Skip count by 1's, 2's, 5's, and 10's
- Compare and order numbers
- Identify ordinal position to tenth
- Identify a sorting rule
- Identify and extend patterns
- Write observations from real graphs, pictographs, and bar graphs.
- Master all basic addition facts and most of the basic subtraction facts
- Add two-digit numbers without regrouping
- Picture and name fractions
- Measure using inches, feet, and centimeters
- Compare volume, mass, and area
- Tell time to the half hour
- Count pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters
- Identify and draw polygons

Language Arts

The Superkids Reading Program combines effective brain-based literacy instruction with engaging, character-based stories to build success—and helps develop the whole child from head to heart. As students learn to read and write with Superkids, stories about the Superkids characters connect to important Lasting Lessons that reflect Catholic values.

Standards:

- Recognize the features in a sentence– capital letters and punctuation.
- Demonstrate understanding of spoken words, syllables, and sounds.
- Know and apply phonics and word analysis skills in reading words.
- Read with accuracy and fluency to support comprehension.
- Recognize high-frequency words (sight words).
- Identify the main idea of a story or passage.
- Describe characters, setting, and major events in a story.
- Compare the experiences of characters in different stories.
- Ask and answer questions about key details in a text.
- Use text features (headings, table of contents, etc.) to locate key facts and information.
- Write opinion pieces about a topic.
- Write informative and explanatory pieces about a topic.
- Write narratives and other creative pieces that have two or more events.
- Edit and add to writing with support from an adult.
- Participate in shared research and writing projects.
- Recall information to answer questions with support from an adult.
- Print all upper- and lowercase letters.
- Use singular and plural nouns with matching verbs in basic sentences.
- Use verbs to show past, present, and future.
- Use end punctuation for sentences.
- Capitalize the first word in a sentence, along with names.
- Use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words (sight words).
- Spell untaught words phonetically.
- Use context as a clue for the meaning of a word/phrase.

Science

FOSS engages students in scientific and engineering practices. Students construct an understanding of science concepts through their own investigations and analyses, using laboratory equipment, student readings, and interactive technology. Students exercise logical thinking and decision-making skills. They carry out investigations using the following modules: air and weather, light and sound, and plants and animals.

Standards:

- Plan and conduct investigations to provide evidence that vibrating materials can make sound and that sound can make materials vibrate.
- Make observations to understand that objects can only be seen when illuminated.
- Plan and conduct investigations to determine the effect of placing different materials in the path of a beam of light.
- Use tools and materials to design and build a device that uses light or sound to communicate over a distance.
- Use materials to design a solution to a human problem that mimics how plants or animals use their external parts to help them survive, grow, and meet their needs.
- Determine patterns in the behavior of parents and offspring that helps offspring to survive.
- Make observations that young animals and plants are alike, but not exactly like, their parents.
- Observe the sun, moon, and stars to describe patterns that can be predicted.
- Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.

Social Studies

Studies Weekly is a Social Studies curriculum that is organized thematically to the strands of civics and government, geography, economics, and history. Students engage in activities and projects to further develop their understanding of the world around them.

Standards:

- Demonstrate ways good citizens are involved in their communities.
- Show basic flag etiquette and other examples of patriotism.
- Understand that voting determines who will be president.
- Identify and follow just rules.
- Describe costs, benefits, and scarcity.
- Explain that people trade when they expect to be better off after doing so.
- Create maps and use position words to describe the location.
- Create a timeline of one's own life.
- Compare physical and human characteristics of local and distant places.
- Ask questions about and describe how people lived in the past.

Specialists

Art

First Graders use the Deep Space Sparkle Curriculum as they explore various art forms.

Music

First Graders use the Prodigies Curriculum as they learn through musical education. Kindergarten has a focus on learning hymns.

Physical Education

By the end of First Grade, the learner will be able to demonstrate locomotor and non-locomotor skills; use basic movement concepts in dance, tumbling, and small skill tasks; identify basic health-related fitness concepts; show acceptance of self and others; and recognize the benefits of a physically active lifestyle.

Rooted In Holiness

At Holy Trinity, we are very fortunate to be rooted in our faith. In our classroom, we strive to create mirrors and windows for each child so they have the opportunity to see not only themselves in their learning, but to see others as well. As teachers, we are blessed to be able to teach and guide your child through their faith and academic journey at Holy Trinity Catholic School.

Good Shepherd

First Graders attend Catechesis of The Good Shepherd one time per week. This is a special time of the week where students explore and strengthen their Catholic faith.