

**St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish School's Fifth Grade curriculum is fully aligned to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Standards based on Wisconsin state standards. Our Fifth grade curriculum fosters a love of learning while building foundational academic skills. With our approach to learning, teachers emphasize hands-on learning, creativity, and character development in a nurturing environment. Fifth graders are active participants in our school liturgies twice a week.**

### *The Whole Child*

A complete Fifth Grade experience revolves around developing the skills of the whole child. At St. Mary's Visitation, it is our goal to provide an opportunity for children to grow not only academically, but spiritually, socially, emotionally, and physically. We instill in children the Catholic Values, social skills, manners, independence, and the routine and structure of school. St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish School endeavors to provide an atmosphere of high expectations that challenge the individual and promote lifelong learning so each student can reach the fullness of his or her individual potential. Through partnering with parents, we are able to meet these expectations and goals.

### *Religion*

Religious education at St. Mary's Visitation encompasses not only formal religion classes, but also an education in Catholic beliefs and values that is integrated in every aspect of the academic curriculum. Fifth graders learn about their Catholic faith through Scripture stories, prayer, discussion and reflection, music, and weekly liturgies. The Fifth grade religion curriculum we use is called *Christ Our Life* and Catholic teachings are discussed and integrated across all subject areas. The following topics are the focus of the Fifth grade religion curriculum:

- Explains the Communion of Saints
- Knows the meaning of the Ascension and that Jesus will come again to judge the living and the dead
- Understands why and what Holy Days of Obligation are
- Articulates the meaning of the Sacraments of Initiation, Sacraments of Healing, and Sacraments at the Service of Communion
- Understands that the presence of sin or evil in the world is "original sin" into which we are all born
- Uses Scripture as a source of prayer/reflection (Lectio Divina)
- Describes how the statements of Catholic beliefs found in the Nicene and Apostles Creeds relates to one's prayer life

### *English Language Arts*

#### **Reading**

Fifth grade students experience different genres including classic tales, informational, fiction and nonfiction. Students read and analyze informational and literary texts, how to use information to explain concepts and ideas, and how to write for different audiences and purposes. In Fifth grade, we utilize *Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts* to foster individual student's knowledge and skills. Reading and focusing on background knowledge will develop and improve as students are presented with the following Knowledge through the year:

- Personal narratives
- Poetry
- Early American Civilizations
- Adventures of Don Quixote
- The Renaissance
- The Reformation
- William Shakespeare's A Midsummer Night's Dream
- Native Americans
- Chemical Matter

#### **Writing**

Fifth grade students will produce works that include the four step writing process: plan, draft, edit, publish. Students will convey their thoughts and communicate effectively through writing. Fifth grade students regularly engage in writing short answers in response to text-based questions. In these writing opportunities, students will focus on the use of evidence from the text and on individual sentence construction.

#### **Speaking and listening**

Fifth grade students will listen to others when speaking and participate in collaborative discussions. Students will use language and vocabulary to express thoughts, feelings, and ideas clearly. Fifth graders will participate in class discussions along with presenting materials orally. Many lessons provide opportunities for students to collaborate and share ideas.

## Mathematics

Fifth grade students use the mathematics curriculum through *Savvas enVision*. Starting on a firm foundation of conceptual understanding, students can connect and apply math ideas in amazing ways. In Fifth grade, students will:

- Understand place value
- Use models and strategies to add and subtract decimals
- Use models to multiply and divide decimals
- Use equivalent fractions to add and subtract fractions
- Represent and interpret data
- Understand volume concepts
- Convert measurements
- Write and interpret numerical expressions
- Analyze patterns
- Classify two-dimensional shapes

## Science

Fifth graders will work collaboratively with each other and use hands-on experiences to understand science and the world that God created around them. Students will take a look at the *HMH Science Dimensions* curriculum to assist with communicating, explaining, analyzing, and understanding. In Fifth grade, students will study:

- Engineering and technology
- Matter
- Energy and matter in organisms
- Energy and matter in the ecosystem
- Systems in space
- Earth's systems
- Earth and human activities

## Music

Fifth grade students will attend to music class twice a week where they will explore rhythmic and melodic phrases, perform music and show audience etiquette, identify fast and slow tempos, demonstrate high and low pitches, how to connect with our faith and sing music at Mass.

## Library

Fifth grade students will visit the school library to choose a book based on interest to be checked out each week.

## Social Studies

Fifth graders use the social studies curriculum from *Savvas myWorld*. Fifth grade students will develop awareness on community and the people around them along with the integration of our Catholic Social

Teachings. The focus will be on:

- The First Americans
- Age of exploration
- Life in the colonies
- The American Revolution
- A new nation
- Westward Expansion
- Civil War
- Good times and hardships
- World War II
- The Cold War

## Physical Education

In Fifth grade, students will explore and demonstrate factors that contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Students will participate in physical education twice a week to show competency in motor skills and movement patterns. They will also exhibit responsible social behavior that shows respect to self and others. Students will also work collaboratively and cooperatively.

## The Arts

In Fifth grade, students will be introduced to various artists including Alma Woodsey Thomas, Wassily Kandinsky, and Hundertwasser. They will be using different art materials such as:

- tempera paint
- oil pastels
- watercolor pens
- colored pencils
- markers

## Recess

In Fifth grade students benefit from recess twice a day where they interact with others which offers cognitive, social, emotional, and physical benefits.

## ST. MARY'S VISITATION

Catholic School † Elm Grove, WI

**St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish School exists to direct children toward God and toward Christian service to society through Catholic religious formation, academic challenge and continuous improvement.**