

**St. Mary's Visitation Catholic Parish School's Third Grade curriculum is fully aligned to the Archdiocese of Milwaukee Standards based on Wisconsin state standards. Our Third 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. Third graders are active participants in our school liturgies twice a week.**

### *The Whole Child*

A complete Third 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. Third graders learn about their Catholic faith through Scripture stories, prayer, discussion and reflection, music, and weekly liturgies. The Third grade religion curriculum we use is called *Spirit of Truth* from Sophia Institute Press and Catholic teachings are discussed and integrated across all subject areas. The following topics are the focus of the Third grade religion curriculum:

- Describe Jesus' mission as proclaiming the Good News and bringing about the Kingdom of God
- Tell stories of several Saints and describes the qualities of the Saints
- Knows the difference between the Old and New Testaments
- Explains the seasons of the Liturgical year
- Articulates a simple meaning of each of the Ten Commandments and gives examples of how to follow them
- Recognizes the seven Corporal and seven Spiritual Works of Mercy
- Names the types of prayer
- Understands that we pray with the guidance of the Holy Spirit

### *English Language Arts*

#### **Reading**

Third grade students experience different genres including classic tales, informational, fiction and nonfiction. In Third grade, we utilize *Amplify Core Knowledge Language Arts* to foster individual student's knowledge and skills. Reading fluency and focusing on background knowledge will develop and improve as students are presented with the following Knowledge through the year:

- Understanding dialogue, narration, characters, plot, and setting
- Literary tools of personification, perspective, and point-of-view
- Study word parts, such as prefixes, suffixes, and root words
- Classic tales
- The Viking Age
- Light and Sound
- The Ancient Roman Civilization
- Describing the historical events and cultures
- Content and vocabulary reinforcement, along with fluency practice

#### **Writing and Grammar**

Third 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. They will use *Voyages in English* by Loyola Press which systematically combines grammar and writing into a single consumable book, ensuring students master the mechanics of language while developing strong writing skills.

#### **Speaking and listening**

Third 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. Third graders will participate in class discussions along with presenting materials orally. Many lessons provide opportunities for students to collaborate and share ideas.

## Mathematics

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Third 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 Third grade, students will learn the following topics:

- Understand multiplication and division of whole numbers
- Multiple facts: Use patterns
- Apply properties: multiplication facts for 3, 4, 6, 7, 8
- Use multiplication to divide
- Fluently multiply and divide within 100
- Represent and interpret data
- Fluently add and subtract within 1,000
- Understand fractions as numbers
- Solve perimeter problems
- Attributes of two-dimensional shapes

## Science

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Third 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 Third grade, students will study:

- Engineering process
- Forces
- Motion
- Life cycles and inherited traits
- Fossils
- Weather and patterns

## Music

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Third 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

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

## Social Studies

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Third graders use the social studies curriculum from *Savvas myWorld*. Third 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:

- Our Environment
- Economics
- Communities build a nation
- Government, landmarks, and symbols
- Citizenship and civic engagement
- A growing nation
- Celebrating our communities

## Physical Education

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In Third 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

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In Third 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

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In Third 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.**