

St. Joseph Catholic School

Curriculum Handbook

Our mission is to inspire and empower all learners to become the person God intends by integrating Catholic virtues, prayers and service with 21st Century Learning.

Each Curriculum area has a mission, philosophy and a set of K-8 outcomes. These descriptions include curriculum resources and standards. Click a link to go directly to a content area.

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Faith

Current Curriculum Adopted 2007-2008

Next Revision 2014-2015

Mission Statement

In partnership with families, St. Joseph Parish Community will provide learners with an atmosphere where the Catholic faith is taught and nurtured. An ever-deepening relationship with the Trinity and Church community is supported, leading to a commitment to a full Christian life.

Philosophy

St. Joseph's community recognizes and supports the Church's position that parents and guardians have the first responsibility for the education of their children in virtue, prayer, and service. In collaboration with parents and guardians, we will provide catechesis in Catholic beliefs, tradition, prayer and social justice. In conjunction with catechesis, we encourage an active, personal, and communal response to the Gospel message.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Recognize Catholicism as a way of life.
2. Participate in daily prayer.
3. Be actively involved in Mass and prayer services.
4. Know and demonstrate church etiquette.
5. Know religious symbols and Catholic liturgical seasons.
6. Use Christian terminology.
7. Know that you are a member of God's family.
8. Know your relationship to other members of God's family.
9. Engage in service to the community and outreach to others in response to the Gospel.

FAITH FORMATION CURRICULUM RESOURCES

Christian Doctrine

Who Am I?

Image of God

Ignatius Press

Copyright 2012

Kindergarten

Blest Are We

RCL Benzinger

Copyright 2010

Grades 1-5

Christ Our Life

Loyola Press

Copyright 2009

Grades 6-8

Bible Study

Everyday with God Children's Bible

Word Publishing

Copyright 1990

Kindergarten

New Catholic Picture Bible

Catholic Book Publishing Company

Copyright 1990, 1966

Grades 1-3

The New American Bible
World Bible Publishers
Copyright 1987
Grades 6, 7

Break Through Bible
St. Mary's Press
Copyright 2006
Grade 4, 5, 8

The Catholic Children's Bible
St. Mary's Press
Copyright 2013
Grade 2, 3

Family Life
RCL Benziger Company
Copyright 2011
Grades 5, 6, 7

Theology of the Body for Teens
Ascension Press
Copyright 2011
Grade 8

Web site: www.usccb.org
(United States Conference of Catholic Bishops)

Faith Standards:

St. Joseph's utilizes the Saint Paul Minneapolis Archdiocesan Religion Standards 2005 to guide our teaching and learning.

[2005 Archdiocesan Religion Standards](#)

<https://www.google.com/url?q=https%3A%2F%2Fdocs.google.com%2Ffile%2Fd%2F0B4iWOpghKRLOMEFUbGFUeFhQM1U%2Fedit>

English Language Arts

Current Curriculum Adopted 2009-2010

Next Revision 2016-2017

Mission Statement

St. Joseph School provides a comprehensive language arts program that integrates the communication skills of thinking, listening, speaking, reading, and writing. These communication skills are applied across all curricular areas.

Philosophy

St. Joseph School fosters a healthy environment encouraging strong oral and written communication skills. A print-rich environment, relying on a variety of diverse and multicultural literature is a focus of the curriculum. Life-long habits of thinking, listening, speaking, reading, and writing are cultivated and encouraged.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Verbally communicate clearly and concisely.
2. Effectively use written language skills to communicate ideas.
3. Read fluently, efficiently, and with understanding.
4. Apply speaking, reading, viewing, and listening skills for a variety of purposes.
5. Apply higher order thinking skills to the communication process.
6. Relate literature to oneself.
7. Appreciate traditional and contemporary literature from a variety of cultures.
8. Conduct research using a variety of resources to support writing and speaking.
9. Read and write for information and enjoyment.

LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM RESOURCES

Reading/English/Spelling

Kindergarten – Rowland Reading Foundation: SuperKids; 2011

Grades 1 through 6 – Houghton Mifflin: Journeys; 2011

Grade 3 – Houghton Mifflin: English; 2004

Reading

Grades 7 and 8 – Pearson/ Prentice Hall: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes; 2005

English

Grades 7 and 8 – Prentice Hall: Grammar and Writing Handbook; 2005

Vocabulary

Grade 5 – Sadlier-Oxford: Vocabulary Workshop; 2011

Grades 6 through 8 – Sadlier-Oxford: Vocabulary Workshop; 2005

Handwriting

Grades 1 through 4 – Zaner-Bloser; 2003

English Language Arts Curriculum Standards

St. Joseph School utilizes the MN K-12 Academic Standards in English Language Arts (2010)

[2010 MN ELA Standards](#)

Current Curriculum Publisher generated Curriculum Standards trace:

[Grade 1 - ELA Standards](#)

[Grade 2 - ELA Standards](#)

[Grade 3 - ELA Standards](#)

[Grade 4 - ELA Standards](#)

[Grade 5 - ELA Standards](#)

[Grade 6 - ELA Standards](#)

Grades 7 and 8 – [PDF of MN Common Core ELA](#)**

Mathematics and Algebra

Current Curriculum Adopted 2007-2008

Next Revision 2015-2016

Mission Statement

St. Joseph School's mathematics curriculum will assist learners in the acquisition, development, and application of mathematical concepts, vocabulary, and skills to reason and communicate competently in today's mathematics world.

Philosophy

St. Joseph School's mathematics curriculum will meet the needs of each learner by providing significant and motivational experiences which support the transfer of math skills outside the classroom and in life. St. Joseph's math curriculum will provide equilibrium between mathematical concepts and their application, which will enable students to function in our constantly changing society.

K-8 Program Outcomes

St. Joseph School's program outcomes in Mathematics define a common foundation of mathematics to be learned by all students. They articulate concepts in four strands:

1. *Numbers & Operation*
2. *Algebra*
3. *Geometry & Measurement*
4. *Data Analysis & Probability*

Each grade level builds on the knowledge of the previous year and creates solidity in each strand while expanding, broadening, and deepening these concepts and skills.

Math Curriculum Resources

Grades K-4

Math Expressions

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt

Copyright 2009

[Standards Correlation](#)

Grades 5-8

Holt Mathematics and Algebra I

Holt Rinehart Winston

Copyright 2007

Math Curriculum Standards:

St. Joseph School utilizes the MN K-12 Academic Standards in Mathematics (2007) for our curriculum objectives.

[2007 MN Math Standards](#)

Information Literacy

Mission Statement

At St. Joseph School, every student will have the opportunity to use technology for educational advancement and technological discovery.

Philosophy

Given the continual advancement of technology in today's society, it is our belief that St. Joseph's students should begin to understand technology's role in the global community as a source of information, productivity, and entertainment. The students, by using technology for skill development and discovery, will grow in their understanding of technological awareness. Incorporating technology as an educational tool within all academic strands expands student knowledge. Technology is used in such a manner as to be relevant in the classroom as well as in real life learning situations.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
2. Collaborate with peers using technology.
3. Critically analyze information found in electronic, print, and mass media and use a variety of these sources.
 4. Use critical thinking skills to solve problems with the appropriate digital tools or resources.
5. Practice responsible digital citizenship.
6. Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats, including visually, quantitatively, and orally.
7. Communicate using traditional or digital multimedia formats and digital writing and publishing for a specific purpose.

Curriculum Standards

Curriculum objectives are based on the Minnesota Educational Media Organization (MEMO) Information and Technology Literacy Standards as indicated by grade below.

[K-2 Standards](#)

[3-5 Standards](#)

[6-8 Standards](#)

Art

Current Curriculum Adopted 2008-2009

Next Revision 2015-2016

Mission Statement

Philosophy

Art education teaches an understanding of how visual art works are structured and how media, techniques, and processes are used to create works of visual arts. Students will identify, analyze, and select subject matter, symbols, and ideas for personal/cultural visual expressions. Developing skills will enable students to gain an appreciation for art and more comfortable using art to enhance learning in other subject areas.

Curriculum is based on the National Visual Arts Standards and the Minnesota FACS Standards (Framework for Arts Curriculum Strategies). The curriculum was developed by professional artist and consultant Kathy Coulter.

K-8 Program Outcomes

Outcomes for Grades K-4

1. Content standard Understanding and applying media, techniques, and processes

Achievement Standard: Students

- a. know the differences between materials, techniques, and processes
- b. describe how different materials, techniques, and processes cause different responses
- c. use different media, techniques, and processes to communicate ideas, experiences, and stories
- d. use art materials and tools in a safe and responsible manner

2. Content Standard: Using knowledge of structures and functions

Achievement Standard: Students

- a. know the differences among visual characteristics and purposes of art in order to convey ideas
- b. describe how different expressive features and organizational principals cause different responses
- c. use visual structures and functions of art to communicate ideas

3. Content Standard: Choosing and evaluating a range of subject matter, symbols, and ideas

Achievement Standard: Student

- a. explore and understand prospective content for works of art
- b. select and use subject matter, symbols, and ideas to communicate meaning

4. Content Standard: Understanding the visual arts in relation to history and cultures

Achievement Standard: Students

- a. know that the visual arts have both a history and specific relationships to various cultures
- b. identify specific works of art as belonging to particular cultures, times, and places
- c. demonstrate how history, culture, and the visual arts can influence each other in making and studying works of art

5. Content Standard: Reflecting upon and assessing the characteristics and merits of their work and the work of others

Achievement Standard: Students

- a. understand there are various purposes for creating works of visual art
- b. describe how people's experiences influence the development of specific artworks
- c. understand there are different responses to specific artworks

6. Content Standard: Making connections between visual arts and other disciplines

Achievements Standards: Students

- a. understand and use similarities and differences between characteristics of the visual arts and other arts disciplines
- b. identify connections between the visual arts and other disciplines in the curriculum

Outcomes for grades 5-8

1. Artistic Interpretation

- The student will understand and use artistic processes to analyze and interpret a variety of visual works of art.
- The student will understand how the following components of visual arts are used to convey meaning:
 - a. elements, including color, line, shape, form, texture, and space;
 - b. principals, such as repetition, contrast, or balance;
 - c. vocabulary;
 - d. styles, such as abstract or impressionist; and
 - e. structure, such as two dimensional or three dimensional;

- The student will understand how the principals and vocabulary of visual art are similar to and different from other arts areas, such as dance, music, or theater;
- The student will understand the connection between visual art work, its purpose, and its cultural and historical contexts;
- The student will communicate a personal reaction to works in visual art using the components of visual art; and
- The student will use criteria to evaluate works of visual art.

2. Artistic Creativity and Performance

- The student will understand and use artistic processes to create in the visual arts.
- The student will understand the following components of visual arts:
 - a. elements, including color, line, shape, form, texture, and space
 - b. principles, such as repetition, contrast, or balance;
 - c. vocabulary;
 - d. styles, such as abstract or impressionist; and
 - e. styles, such as two dimensional or three dimensional
- The student will understand technical skills of visual arts, such as selecting and using tools and techniques of the medium;
- The student will understand how audience and occasion affect artistic choices in creation of visual art;
- The student will use artistic processes to create in a variety of visual art contexts;
- The student will express and communicate ideas using the components of visual arts;
- The student will generate ideas for artistic expression in visual arts;
- The student will make and explain artistic expression in visual art; and
- The student will use feedback to revise artistic expression in visual art.

Music

Current Curriculum Adopted 2008-2009

Next Revision 2015-2016

Mission Statement

Philosophy

The arts of music can be enjoyed in many ways. Saint Joseph School offers a balanced program including singing, reading music, playing instruments, moving to music, listening, and performing music. The music curriculum will be integrated with other subject areas and be used as a tool to promote self-esteem and a closer relationship with God.

Curriculum is based on the National Association for Music Educators National Standards and the Minnesota State Standards for Music.

K-8 Program Outcomes

Textbook Publishers:

McGraw Hill

Share the Music (Grades K-8)

Silver Burdett Ginn

The Music Connection (Grades K-8)

Music Curriculum Standards

St. Joseph's utilizes the MN State Standards in Music (Arts) 2008

[2008 Standards](#)

Science

Current Curriculum Adopted: 2000-2001 ~ Renewed 2008-2009
Next Revision 2014-2015

Mission Statement

The science program at St. Joseph Catholic School incorporates the major science disciplines of life science, physical science, earth and space science with technology, scientific inquiry, and the nature and history of science. The study of science reflects God's role as Creator. Our learning will incorporate Catholic Church teachings as a natural extension of scientific study.

Philosophy

St. Joseph School believes a comprehensive science program incorporates connections between the major scientific disciplines and Church teachings. The program will promote scientific literacy through questioning, theorizing, conducting observations, and testing theories. This is achieved by collecting, organizing, interpreting, and summarizing data to draw conclusions through both research and hands-on investigations.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Possess skills necessary to conduct scientific inquiry.
2. Develop ability to conduct scientific research.
3. Understand and apply facts, concepts, principles, theories, and models that are fundamental to physical science.
4. Understand and apply facts, concepts, principles, theories, and models that are fundamental to life science.
5. Understand and apply facts, concepts, principles, theories, and models that are fundamental to earth and space science.
6. Distinguish between natural and man-made objects.
7. Recognize connections between science and technology.
8. Apply scientific knowledge in making ethical personal and social decisions.
9. Recognize science as an ongoing and changing human endeavor.

[Science Curriculum Standards](#)

St. Joseph's utilizes the MN Standards for Science. 2009

[K-5 Curriculum Standards](#)

[6-8 Curriculum Standards](#)

Textbook Publishers:

K: Various curriculum resources gathered and established by Kindergarten teacher

1-5: McGraw Hill (copyright date of 2002)

6-8: Holt Science & Technology (copyright date of 2002)

Social Studies

Current Curriculum Adopted 2011-2012

Next Revision 2018-2019

Mission Statement:

Philosophy:

Saint Joseph Catholic School promotes global, cultural, and social responsibility toward citizenship. We believe the social studies program will develop responsible citizens who promote cultural awareness in our global society. Students will learn to link the past to current events, which will prepare them to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

K-8 Program Outcomes:

Social Studies Curriculum Standards

St. Joseph's utilizes the MN Social Studies Curriculum Standards 2011

[2011 MN Social Studies Standards](#)

Textbook Publishers:

Pearson, Scott Foresman	<i>Here We Go</i> (Kindergarten)	2011
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	<i>A Child's View</i> (Grade 1)	2012
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	<i>People We Know</i> (Grade 2)	2012
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	<i>Our Community</i> (Grade 3)	2012
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt	<i>States and Regions</i> (Grade 4)	2012
Glencoe	<i>The American Journey: Early Years</i> (Grade 5)	2012
MNHistorical Society Press	<i>Northern Lights</i> (Grade 6)	2003
Glencoe	<i>The American Journey: Modern Times</i> (Grade 7)	2012
Glencoe McGraw-Hill	<i>Exploring Our World</i> (Grade 8)	2010

Publisher generated Curriculum Standards trace:

[5th grade](#)

[6th grade](#)

[7th grade](#)

[8th grade](#)

Physical Education

Mission Statement

The Physical Education program of St. Joseph Catholic School develops individual's personal fitness growth, motivation, and appreciation for an active and spiritual lifestyle.

Philosophy

St. Joseph Catholic School offers opportunities in leadership development, cooperative activities, organizational problem solving, and decision-making skills through a wide variety of group oriented activities. These opportunities focus on the development of one's own responsibility toward physical and emotional growth through individually challenging opportunities.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Develop an understanding and appreciation of basic individual physical fitness and overall well-being.
2. Develop an understanding and appreciation of self-growth through individual and group sports, activities, and dances.
3. Develop and demonstrate an awareness and respect for individual differences and abilities.
4. Develop an awareness and respect for cultural differences through exposure to a variety of sports, activities, and dances.
5. Develop the ability of individuals to focus their skills together during team activities.
6. Understand rules, mechanics and the development of individual and team sports and activities.
7. Know and apply all safety procedures as related to self or others.
8. Show appreciation and respect for equipment and materials.

Standards for Physical Education

St. Joseph's utilizes the National Curriculum Standards for Physical Educaiton 2004

[2004 National PE Standards](#)

Health

Current Curriculum Adopted 2001-2002

Next Revision *Past Due*

Mission

The Health Education program of St. Joseph Catholic School empowers individuals to advocate for their own emotional, physical, psychological, social, and spiritual well-being.

Philosophy

St. Joseph Catholic School is dedicated to providing an organized, sequential curriculum for teaching students the information and skills they need to become health literate, to maintain and improve health, to prevent disease, and to reduce health-related risk behaviors.

K-8 Program Outcomes

1. Live an emotionally, nutritionally, and physically healthy life.
2. Develop an appreciation for a healthy lifestyle.
3. Possess life-saving skills.
4. Develop positive relationships with yourself and others.
5. Understand the risks associated with drugs, tobacco, and alcohol use.
6. Demonstrate the ability to use decision-making skills in regard to consequences.
7. Understand essential concepts about nutrition and diet.
8. Demonstrate prevention and treatment of accidents, injuries and infectious diseases.
9. Develop knowledge for healthful responsible sexual behavior.

Curriculum Standards for Health

St. Joseph's utilizes the MN Curriculum Standards for Health 2007

[MN State Health Standards](#)