



FMCA CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

We have the following common programming in all Pre-K through 8th grade classes.

COMMON PROGRAMMING FOR ALL FMCA STUDENTS

Faith Expression

We have a monthly virtue program using materials from Disciple of Christ: Education in Virtue from Openlight Media to highlight and teach sound Christian morals and values. We attend Mass at St. Peter's once a week as a school. All students begin their day with prayer and have the opportunity to pray for each others intentions. Younger students are paired with older students, called "prayer partners," for attending Mass and for special events. Each homeroom has a patron Saint who they learn about and celebrate. All classes participate in various service projects throughout the school year.

Religion/Theology

K-8th grade uses the Spirit of Truth series by Sophia Press and the ecclesial method is used for lessons. We also use Ruah Woods Press, Rooted: Theology of the Body K-12 curriculum: an age appropriate teaching inspired by the masterwork of St. John Paul II. Pre-k uses the Allelu program by OSV.

Art

All grades receive instruction weekly and K-8th grades receive it twice weekly in modern and classical art as relevant to their growth and expression as artists. Artwork is proudly displayed around the building and at shows for the community to attend.

Music

All grades receive music instruction weekly with grades K-4th receiving it twice weekly. 5th -8th grades have daily instrumental band and weekly choir. We host yearly concerts, and 7th and 8th grade band students have the opportunity to perform at Solo and Ensemble music festival competition.

Physical Education

All grades attend physical education classes weekly. They learn the value of physical wellness while engaged in sport, play, and strategy game.

Latin

Beginning in third grade, all students participate in Latin instruction to understand the foundation of our language. Students quickly acquire other foreign languages in higher education after having Latin instruction.



FMCA CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Elementary School: PK through Fourth Grade

Pre-kindergarten uses the Highscope Preschool Program found at <https://highscope.org/our-practice/preschool-curriculum>

Subject	Kindergarten	First	Second	Third	Fourth
Language Arts	Superkids Phonics Program, Direct Academic Vocabulary Instruction	Superkids Phonics Program, Voyages in English Grammar and Writing, Wordly Wise 3000	Voyages in English for grammar, sentence writing, story writing- fiction and non-fiction. Structured linguistics based spelling Wordly Wise for Vocabulary	Voyages in English Grammar and Writing Grade 3 Spelling: Zaner Bloser	Voyages in English Grammar and Writing Grade 4 Spelling: Zaner Bloser
Literature	Both fiction and nonfiction, books to teach reading skills, as well as traditional and classical read alouds	Fairy tales, fiction and nonfiction, classical stories, variety of traditional stories	Tall tales, Just So Stories, legends, folktales, classical literature, biographies, poetry trade books to teach reading skills, Accelerated Reader for comprehension and independent reading	<i>Paddle to the Sea, Next Spring an Oriole, Sarah Plain and Tall, The Courage of Sarah Noble, The Legend of Michigan, Sign of the Beaver, Shakespeare, The King of the Golden City, The Wizard of Oz, A Bear Called Paddington, Ruby Bridges Through My Eyes, Shakespeare, Fables and Folktales, Various biographies of past historical figures including Abraham Lincoln and George Washington, and classic poetry from Christina Rossetti, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Robert Louis Stevenson, etc. Bible History: New Testament using the Great Adventure Bible. A production put on at the end of the year.</i>	<i>The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing, Wintercamp, The Cricket in Times Square, Shakespeare, Fables and Folktales, Various biographies of historical figures, and classic poetry from Christina Rossetti, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Robert Louis Stevenson, etc. Bible History: Old Testament using the Great Adventure Bible. Greek and Latin roots.</i>
Math	Singapore Math- Earlybird Kindergarten Mathematics	Singapore Math	Singapore Math	Singapore Math	Singapore Math
Science	Mystery Science: Force and Motion 2. Energy and the Sun 3. Weather 4. Plants and Animals	Inspire Science: energy, plants and animals, Earth & Solar System and Offspring and their parents	Inspire Science: earth's changing surface, properties of matter, Animal habitats, Living things	Inspire Science: Motion & Forces, Electric & Magnetic Forces, Plants & Animals (Life Cycles, Traits, Survival, Adaptations), Fossils, Ecosystems	Inspire Science: Energy & Motion, Transfer of Energy, Information Transfer, Structures & Functions of Plants and Animals, Natural Hazards, Earth's Landforms/Changing Features
Social Studies	Bible History: Creation and Old Testament World History: Where the world began, Learn planets. U.S. History: Sequence of Events, Special Days, Money (Who is on it? Why are they on it?), Mapping and Geography: Where are we, Citizenship/Community, Jobs in our community	Bible History: Old Testament World History: North America (continent) into Michigan, Old Testament, Timelines, U.S. History: Special Days, Father Marquette, Bishop Baraga, Native Americans, Marquette, Introduction to Native Americans (Michigan), Father Marquette and Bishop Baraga (Missionaries), Marquette/U.P. History	Bible History: New Testament; World History: World Geography including hemispheres, and oceans, Ice Age, U.S. History: Jamestown, Plymouth Plantation, Native Americans: Who was here first? North America's first people: Inuit people, Family Heritage research and celebrate Special Days: Christopher Columbus, Veteran's Day, President's Day, MLK Jr. Day, Black History, Family Heritage	Bible History: Old and New Testament. Michigan Studies (History, geography, Maps, Native American Tribes in Michigan Explorers in Michigan) Government and Economics and Research on a Michigan food company and a famous person of Michigan.	Bible History: Old and New Testament. Regions of the U.S.A. history and geography. states and capitals of the U.S.A. Map study. Research, paper and presentation on a state of choice. Native peoples of North America and early Greece.



FMCA CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

Middle School: Fifth through Eighth Grade

Subject	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eight	Classical Advantage: Quarter-long
Language Arts & Literature	Language Arts: "Well-Ordered Language" for grammar; novels for interactive studies, <u>with an emphasis on the classics</u> ; poetry, short stories, and current media blended to themes. *Language Usage: figurative language; vocabulary; spelling; uses of parts of speech; descriptive and formal speech; parts of sentences. *Public speaking/presenting is spread throughout all subjects.	Language Arts: "Well-Ordered Language" for grammar; novels for interactive studies, <u>with an emphasis on the classics</u> ; poetry, short stories, and current media blended to themes. *Language Usage: figurative language; vocabulary; spelling; uses of parts of speech; descriptive and formal speech; parts of sentences. *Public speaking/presenting is spread throughout all subjects.	Language Arts: "Well-Ordered Language" for grammar; novels for interactive studies, <u>with an emphasis on the classics</u> ; poetry, short stories, and current media blended to themes. *Language Usage: figurative language; vocabulary; spelling; uses of parts of speech; descriptive and formal speech; parts of sentences. *Public speaking/presenting is spread throughout all subjects.	Language Arts: "Well-Ordered Language" for grammar; novels for interactive studies, <u>with an emphasis on the classics</u> ; poetry, short stories, and current media blended to themes. *Language Usage: figurative language; vocabulary; spelling; uses of parts of speech; descriptive and formal speech; parts of sentences. *Public speaking/presenting is spread throughout all subjects.	Students all receive additional school time dedicated to reading classical literature, in multiple genres. Socratic conversation, exploration, and projects allow children to become completely immersed in the plots of the novels. Sampling of Books Used: <i>To Kill a Mockingbird</i> by Harper Lee, <i>The Giver</i> by Lois Lowry, <i>The Hobbit</i> by J.R.R. Tolkien, <i>The Call of the Wild</i> by Jack London
Math	Singapore Math	Big Ideas-Green	Big Ideas-Red	Envision Algebra 1; We offer a full high school algebra class and an introductory algebra class.	Each year in middle school math, students have an additional period of math daily for one quarter. These extra classes are hands-on and project/application based.
Science	Science in 5th grade is a healthy mixture of labs, learning games, reading, and note taking. We study ecosystems, food webs, cells, the water cycle, chemistry, and space! This is a transitory year where students are learning what is expected for middle school science courses in a forgiving and light-hearted environment.	6th grade science students continue learning study strategies, do a lot of hands-on building and collaborative projects, and continue learning to take good-quality notes, working towards independence on this skill. Topics of study include cell structure and function, body systems, chemistry, and weather.	Students in 7th grade science experience an incremental yet challenging uptick in personal responsibilities for their own learning. Students study chemistry, energy, and earth science.	8th grade science students are challenged in preparation for high school. Students still experience lectures and activities, but responsibility for review falls primarily on the student. Topics covered include motion, energy, electromagnetism, waves, natural selection, and the evidence for evolution.	5th grade: plant and care for the school gardens, 6th grade: focus on 3d modeling activities, robot programming, and an introduction to the scientific method as a method of experimental inquiry, 7th and 8th grade: research and execute their own scientific inquiries following the scientific method, which they present as science fair projects.
Social Studies	United States History - Beginnings through the American Revolutionary War (geography, government, and economics integrated). Books: <i>From Sea to Shining Sea - The Story of America</i> , and <i>We the People</i> *emphasis on the Catholic involvement and influence in history.	Geography, Government, and Economics. Books: <i>All Ye Lands - Origins of World Cultures</i> , <i>World Studies - Foundations of Geography</i> , and <i>We the People</i> *emphasis on the Catholic involvement and influence in government and economics.	World History (geography, government, and economics integrated). Books: <i>Light to the Nations - The History of Christian Civilization</i> and <i>World Studies - The Ancient world</i> . *emphasis on the Catholic involvement and influence in history.	United States History - American Revolution through the Civil War (geography, government, and economics integrated). Books: <i>Land of Hope</i> , <i>From Sea to Shining Sea - The Story of America</i> , and <i>We the People</i> . *emphasis on the Catholic involvement and influence in history.	5th Historical Literature: <i>Number the Stars</i> , 6th Historical Literature: <i>Esperanza Rising</i> , 7th Historical Literature: <i>The Bronze Bow</i> , 8th: Logic and Reasoning - a short study of the logical fallacies, reasoning, and intro to debate.