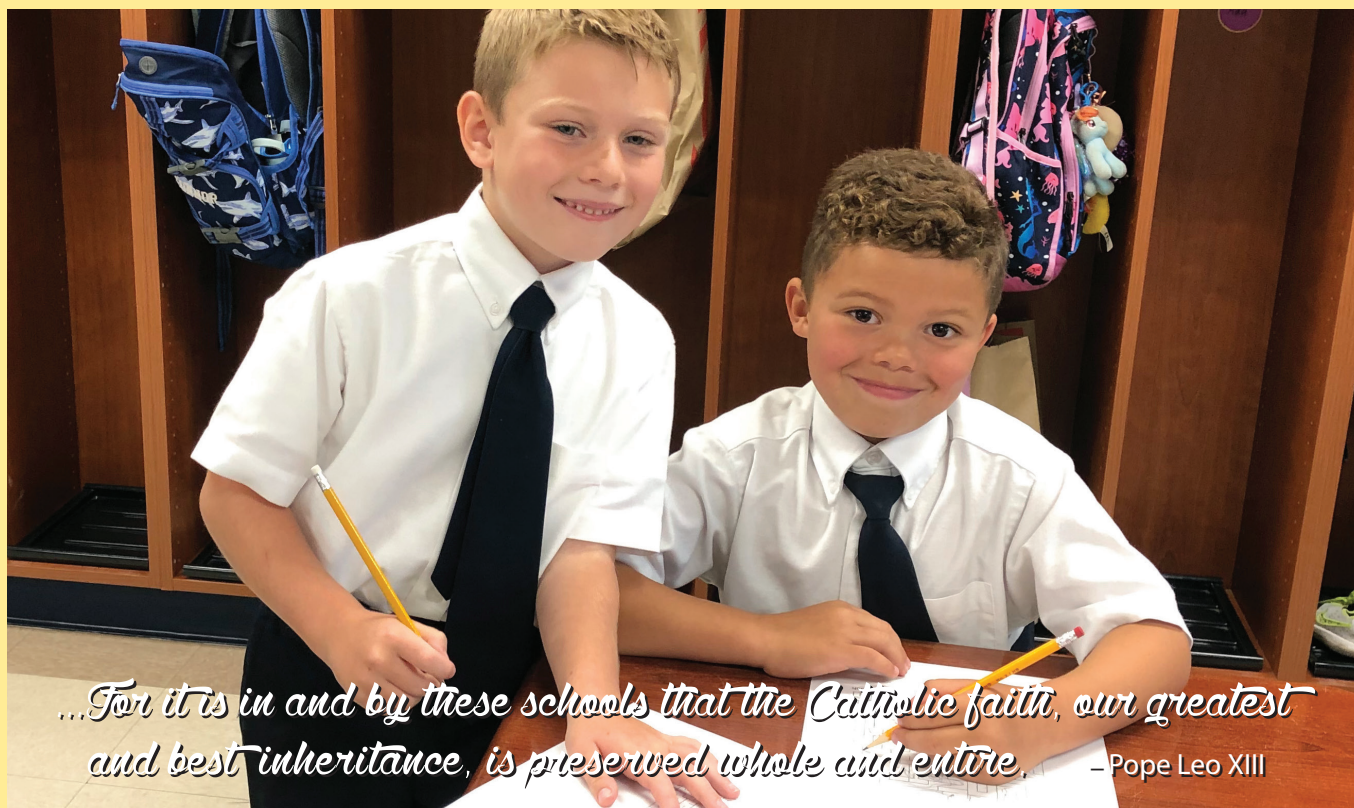




AVE MARIA ACADEMY

CURRICULUM OVERVIEW



...For it is in and by these schools that the Catholic faith, our greatest and best inheritance, is preserved whole and entire. —Pope Leo XIII

AVE MARIA ACADEMY

Ave Maria Academy embraces and lives the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church, which are defined and clarified by the Magisterium. We base our admissions, employment, and operational decisions on the Church's teachings on faith and morals, which promote the dignity of all persons created in the image and likeness of God. Core expressions of our institutional identity are the public witness to the defense of human life, from conception to natural death, and the promotion of the sanctity of marriage. Our school offers children and families an encounter with Jesus Christ through an education founded upon objective moral truths, the goal being freedom and happiness.



DEEPLY COMMITTED. MORE THAN A SCHOOL.



GRADES K-4TH (LOWER SCHOOL) CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

	K	1st	2nd	3rd	4th
English/ Language Arts	Saxon Phonics & Spelling	Collection for Young Scholars			
		Saxon Phonics & Spelling			
		Voyages in English Collection for Young Scholars			Easy Grammar
			Wordly Wise		
History & Geography	Ancient History: Mesopotamia to Constantine	Medieval History: Fall of Rome to Renaissance	Modern History: Reformation to World War I	Ancient History: Mesopotamia to Constantine	Medieval History: Fall of Rome to Renaissance
		Maps, Charts & Graphs			
Mathematics	Saxon Math 1	Saxon Math 2	Saxon Math 3	Saxon Math 4	Saxon Math 5
Science	Life Science: Plants & Animals/Habitats & Classification/Environment Earth Science: Water & Weather/Resources/Earth & Space/Astronomy Physical Science: Matter/Energy/Magnets, Sound & Motion				
Catholic Formation	Image of God Series: Who am I?	Faith & Life Series: Our Heavenly Father	Faith & Life Series: Jesus Our Life	Faith & Life Series: Our Life with Jesus	Faith & Life Series: Jesus Our Guide
	Virtues in Practice: Faith, Hope, Charity				

A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

Ave Maria Academy fosters a safe, nurturing environment providing families with a culture that is authentically Catholic.

The curriculum is robust, rigorous, and grounded in the classics. Core disciplines include English, history and geography, mathematics, science, and Catholic formation. In addition to the core subjects our students experience classes in art, music, technology and physical education, as well as, both Spanish and Latin.

We promote the power of imagination and inquiry while encouraging students to develop an ordered thought process directed toward problem solving.

Ave Maria Academy's academic success has been verified by the Stanford 10, one of the leading standardized achievement tests used by school districts throughout the United States.

A COMMITMENT TO FAITH

Educating the Whole Child: Faith, Reason, Virtue, and Community.

Ave Maria Academy inspires students to live virtuous lives and is unique in its ability to address the whole child. Our faith is our core, the foundation of all that we do, and this distinguishes us from other schools. Each morning begins with meditation on one of the mysteries of the *Holy Rosary*, consisting of the *Apostle's Creed*, the *Our Father*, the *Hail Mary*, the *Glory Be*, and the *Fatima* prayer, followed by recitation of the *Memorare*, the *St. Michael Prayer*, and the singing of the *Ave Maria* or the *Salve Regina*. At the conclusion of morning prayers, the *Pledge of Allegiance* is followed by a faithful talk based upon the Church's liturgical cycle or our featured virtue of the month.

We are a close-knit family of faith, joyfully caring for the needs of each child. Our wonderful chaplain offers the Sacrament of Reconciliation and a reverent Holy Sacrifice of the Mass once a week. Our day is filled with prayer at the start of each class and during mealtimes with the *Angelus* or the *Regina Coeli* to unite us in faith. Our middle school students participate in Latin Mass in our chapel once a month.

*A school
should be an
Alma Mater,
knowing her
children
one by one.*

– Cardinal Newman



GRADES 5TH-8TH (UPPER SCHOOL) CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

5th	6th	7th	8th
Institute for Excellence in Writing	Institute for Excellence in Writing Wordly Wise Easy Grammar Elements of Language Literature: Timeless Voices, Timeless Themes		
Jamestown Heritage			
Easy Grammar			
Wordly Wise			
Modern History: Reformation to World War I	Ancient History: Mesopotamia to Constantine	Medieval History: Fall of Rome to Renaissance	Modern History: Reformation to World War I
Saxon Course 1	Saxon Course 2	Saxon Course 3	Algebra 1
Life Science/Earth Science/Physical Science	Earth Science: Plate Tectonics/Geologic Time/Oceanography/Astronomy	Life Science: Kingdoms & Cells/Hereditiy/Dissection/Human Systems	Physical Science: Periodic Table/Chemical Reactions/Chemistry/Forces of Motion
Faith & Life Series: Credo: I Believe	Faith & Life Series: Following Christ	Faith & Life Series: The Life of Grace	Faith & Life Series: Our Life in the Church
Virtues in Practice	Virtues in Practice: Faith, Hope, Charity		

Good literature forms a worldview: it offers us insight into our families, our communities, and ourselves. Great literature offers us insight into our relationship with God and the world.

– Bishop James D. Conley

MIDDLE SCHOOL SAMPLE READING LIST

Fahrenheit 451, Ray Bradbury
 Flowers for Algernon, Daniel Keyes
 From Slave to Priest: The Inspirational Story of Father Augustine Tolton, Caroline Hemesath, O.S.F.
 Hatchet, Gary Paulsen
 Kateri Tekakwitha: Mohawk Maiden, Evelyn M. Brown
 King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table, Roger Lancelyn Green
 Little Women, Louisa May Alcott
 Lord of the Flies, William Golding
 Mere Christianity, C. S. Lewis
 Murder on the Orient Express, Agatha Christie
 Robinson Crusoe, Daniel Defoe
 Romeo and Juliet, William Shakespeare
 The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn, Mark Twain
 The Adventures of Robin Hood, Roger Lancelyn Green
 The Giver, Lois Lowry

The Golden Goblet, Eloise Jarvis McGraw
 The Hobbit, J.R.R. Tolkien
 The Little Prince, Antoine de Saint Exupery
 The Hiding Place, Corrie Ten Boom
 The Outsiders, S.E. Hinton
 The Pearl, John Steinbeck
 The Screwtape Letters, C. S. Lewis
 The Secret Garden, Frances Hodgson Burnett
 These are the Sacraments, Fulton J. Sheen
 To Kill a Mockingbird, Harper Lee
 Treasure Island, Robert Louis Stevenson
 True Confessions of Charlotte Doyle, Avi
 Uncle Tom's Cabin, Harriet Beecher Stowe

*Do not be
 afraid to
 become the
 saints of
 the new
 millennium*

– St. John Paul II





The 3rd grade class studying the life cycle of the butterfly

A CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Ave Maria Academy recognizes the five traits of an authentically Catholic education as set forth by the Cardinal Newman Society:

- Involves the integral formation of the whole person—body, mind, and spirit—in light of his or her ultimate end and the good of society.
- Seeks to know and understand objective reality, including transcendent Truth, which is knowable by reason and faith and finds its origin, unity, and end in God.
- Promotes human virtues and the dignity of the human person, as created in the image and likeness of God and modeled on the person of Jesus Christ.
- Encourages a synthesis of faith, life, and culture.
- Develops a Catholic worldview and enables a deeper incorporation of the student into the heart of the Catholic Church.



The 7th grade students during science class

A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

As a small, independent Catholic school, our community is dedicated to fostering each child's intellectual, moral and personal development. Our teachers strive to understand the unique gifts of each student and challenge them to excel. The school's extraordinary parental support is reflected in a strong volunteer rate. Middle school students eagerly assume the role of mentors and role models for younger children. The strength of our community is reflected in the accomplishments of our students and overall success of the school. Students exhibit confidence, charity, and respect as they present themselves in a variety of programs within the school.

Advent & Lent Retreats	Catechism Bee	Pizza Lunch
All Saints' Day	Geography Bee	Public Classes
Apostolic Field Trips	Grandparents Day	Science Fair
Buddy Program	May Crowning	Spelling Bee



Students participating in the Adopt A Highway program

OUR MISSION

Rooted in the Catholic intellectual tradition, Ave Maria Academy forms young minds, hearts, and souls through a commitment to clear thinking, academic achievement, character formation, prayer, and service.

In an encouraging and safe environment transformed by faith, reason, and virtue, each child's unique and God-given talents are nurtured through mastery of a rigorous curriculum and active participation in the Catholic faith.

AVE MARIA ACADEMY
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