

St. Therese Classical Academy and Learning Center
Upper Elementary School Curriculum
Grades 3 - 5

Arithmetic

Course Name: Mathematics I

Main Text: Life of Fred Kidneys, Liver, Mineshaft

Description: Gamma - Once students have mastered the concepts of addition and subtraction they are ready for multi-digit multiplication, division, geometry, word problems and more. Fred Gauss our 5 year old Math Professor at Kittens University will take students through of the mathematical concepts while applying them to whimsical scenarios.

Supplemental Text: *Primary Grade Challenge Math* by Edward Zaccaro

Course Name: Mathematics II – Fractions and Decimals

Main Text: Life of Fred Fractions and Life of Fred Decimals

Description: Now that students have learned basic operations with whole numbers, Fred covers these same operations with fractions. Fractions are presented in an intuitive way with visual explanations of equivalent fractions, common denominators, and fractions and numbers larger than 1. Fractions and operations are illustrated using our proprietary Fraction Overlay manipulatives. *Decimals* extends the student's concept of place value to the right of the decimal point. Students learn to complete core operations with decimals. The connection between fractions and decimals is presented.

Supplemental Text: *Primary Grade Challenge Math* by Edward Zaccaro

Science

Course Name: Life Science

Course Name: Science (Grades 5-6)

Main Text: Life Science – Michael J. Spear

Description: “The genuine scientist is a seeker of truth”, is our belief and the belief of Michael J. Spears, the author of the text. Students will study the wonder of God's creation from the tiniest organism to the full complexity of the human being. They will learn that no matter the size each living thing must be seen as one whole with many functioning parts. Each of these parts was specially designed to serve a purpose in order for that organism to live and thrive. Over the course of two years students will learn about cells, protists, fungi, plants and animals. For health, they will learn about nutrition, disease, systems of the body, ecology, and others.

Main Texts: *Science and Living in God's World 5*

Description: The study of science this year will concentrate on animals, both with and without backbones, plants, the human body, weather forecasting, earth and space navigation, mechanical and heat energy, chemical and nuclear energy, electricity, using our natural resources wisely, and fossil records. This study will stress how God, as the Creator of all things, has designed our bodies as well as all matter around us in a wondrous way.

Supplemental Materials: *Mr. Wizard's Science Series* and *Life Pac Science*

Language Arts-Grammar and Composition

Course Name: Grammar, Composition, Vocabulary, Spelling – Grades 3 - 5

Main Texts: *Lepanto Grammar 3-5 Text and Workbook*, *Classical Composition the Fable Stage* - Memoria Press and *Vocabulary – Seton and Spelling - Seton*

Description: After students have mastered basic skills of composition they will use fables to restructure facts to tell the same story, substituting new vocabulary and sentence structures. This is the beginning of a system of 14 composition skills that will build into a sophisticated form of writing. This Catholic school edition of *Lepanto Grammar/Voyages in English* opens with grammar lessons on familiar themes and topics, such as pets, characters in books, holidays, daily work, courtesy, and our country. Assignments from the *Lepanto Grammar/Voyages 3 – 5 Texts* are keyed to those of *Lepanto Grammar/Exercises 3 -5 Workbooks*, with the lesson plans designed in such a way as to ensure that the same grammatical concepts are covered concurrently in both books. Spellers and Vocabulary will round out the curriculum.

Language Arts - Literature

Course Name: Literature Grades 3 - 6

Main Texts: Grade 3: *The Courage of Sarah Noble*, *White Fang*, *The Hobbit*, *Short Christmas Stories*, *The Red Badge of Courage*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *King of the Golden City*, *The Secret Pooduck Island*, *Saint Therese*, *Poetry*

Main Texts: Grades 4-6: *Children’s Homer*, *Column*, *Golden Fleece*, *Column*, *Aeneid for Boys and Girls*, *Bronze Bow*, *Black Arrow*, *Hobbit*, and various *Saints books*.

Description: Students will enjoy these classics while developing reading, vocabulary, and spelling and comprehension skills. Students will be given word studies and comprehension questions that will help them identify key concepts and recall what they have read. Much of the literature coincides with our history course.

History/Geography

Course Name: Grades 3 and 4: American History – A Country is Born

Main Texts: *How our Nation Began*, *Father Furlong and Challenge of Freedom – Our Lady of Nations Series Book IV*

Description: *How Our Nation Began* invites students to meet famous explorers and learn how our country was discovered and founded through a Catholic perspective. In *Challenge of Freedom* we pick up our story after the The American Revolution where our country must start anew. This course will review the foundations of America from the Western Settlement, the creation of the Constitution all the way to the Civil War.

Course Name: Geography

Main Texts: *Our World of Neighbors*

Description: For Geography students will journey across the United States of America while learning physical and historical facts of about great Nation and afterwards tour around the world through Africa, South Asia, South America, and Oceania.

Course Name: Grades 5th and 6th: Greek/Roman/Medieval History

Main Texts: *Greek and Roman History and Medieval History* – Mark Twain Publishing

Description: This is a two year course where students learn the origins of Greece and Rome

and explore all of the important events that shaped Western history all while examining the history of our Catholic church.

Religion

Course Name: Our Catholic Faith – Grades 3 - 5

Main Texts: Living for God, 4

Description: This year, students will be using *Living for God, 4*. This is the fourth book in the *Living My Religion Series*. Explained and correlated with Bible and Church history, this traditional catechism program was reproduced from the 1940's edition with no revisions. Based upon the questions and answers of the Baltimore Catechism, these books provide a complete, integrated, and basic course in religion for grades kindergarten through eight. The purpose is to see to it that the pupil has a clear and adequate knowledge of his holy Faith.

Latin

Course Name: Lingua Latina

Main Text: *Lingua Latina – Familia Romana* - Orberg

this will be the main text used throughout the years. This 36 chapter text will pave the way for mastery level which will be attained after 4 years where students will translate the Gospel of Mark or John.

Course Name: New Testament Greek

Main Text: *Learn to Read New Testament Greek* – David Alan Black

Taught by a Professor of Classical Languages this enrichment course will provide all students the basis of Greek language as it is written in the New Testament.

Music

Music is an important component to a full liberal arts curriculum. All students will be required to join our mandatory choir. Here they will be exposed to all kinds of music including Gregorian Chant, Latin Hymns, and popular music. Throughout the year they will receive lessons in music theory, music history and music appreciation. Advanced music students will have the opportunity to sing in our afterschool choir learning to sing in four parts for Masses and other extensive works.

Art

Taught by a well know Catholic artist all students will take art on Friday's each year. Here they will learn different media's of art, technique and art history. Miss Spear will take them on a journey through the ages and learn to look at the world around them in an entirely different way. Extra art lessons will also be made available after school.

Physical Education

All students will participate in physical activities that will assist the body in remaining healthy and strong. They will participate in group activities and sports and will have the opportunity to join our Martial Arts classes after school.