



St. Augustine Catholic School

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8th Grade Curriculum Summary

St. Augustine School's curriculum is based upon the Archdiocese of Detroit standards and our mission of educating students in body, mind, and spirit.

Religion

- Students will reflect on the degree to which Jesus is a part of their lives.
- students will assess the difficulty of being a missionary disciple in today's culture and will be able to proclaim the "good news" of Jesus Christ to a peer.
- Students will analyze the Ten Commandments and integrate them, along with the Beatitudes, into daily life.
- Students will assess contemporary issues and lifestyles that conflict with living as a disciple of Jesus Christ.
- Students will be encouraged to become active members of the parish after confirmation as Eucharistic Ministers, readers and ushers at weekend masses.
- Students will learn what it means to be human, understanding the foundations of our authentic identity as human persons created in the image and likeness of God, male and female.
- Students will understand what discipleship and virtuous living looks like as an 8th grade student.
- Students will learn how to keep safe and discern safe practices while engaging in social media.
- Students will learn to recognize, identify, and accept themselves and others at each developmental stage of their lives, gaining the basic tools that will allow them to make responsible decisions as pre-teens.
- Students will prepare for the Sacrament of Confirmation.

Language Arts

- Students will read a variety of literature and informational texts in order to make analyses and determine themes.
- Students will be able to compose a variety of clear, coherent writing pieces, from journal prompts to an 8th grade graduation essay, using the writing process.
- Students will also continue to master conventions of the English language (spelling, grammar, usage, punctuation, and agreement) in their speaking and writing.

- Students will expand their vocabulary by using context clues and common affixes and roots to determine meaning as well as demonstrating knowledge of a word's denotations and connotations.

Math

*Algebra is offered to those who qualify at the eighth grade level. Through Cardinal Mooney High School, students are able to receive high school credit for this math class with successful completion.

- Students will gain a strong foundation of algebraic concepts including integers, inequalities and quadratic equations.
- Students will solve real world problems involving areas and volumes of two and three dimensional shapes using appropriate formulas.
- Students will know how to apply the Pythagorean theorem to determine unknown side lengths in right triangles in real-world and mathematical problems.
- Students will solve simultaneous linear equations in two variables by graphing, by substitution, and by linear combination.
- Students will learn to use a graphing calculator to solve linear equations and other mathematical processes..
- Students will understand the connections between proportional relationships, lines, and linear equations.

Science

- Students will gain knowledge in the areas of scientific problem solving and physical science including Newton's Laws, simple machines, atoms, elements, chemical bonds and reactions, and chemical equations.
- Students will demonstrate proper use of equipment and follow correct safety protocols as learned through classroom instruction.
- Students will learn and apply skills in critical thinking, making observations, and experimentation throughout relevant laboratory exercises.
- Students will perform extensive laboratory activities to support their understanding of concepts learned in class.
- Students will create various extended projects such as a mousetrap car, a weight bearing bridge, a crash car project, or a consumer product testing project.
- Students will understand the intricate nature of God's creations and learn about their Creator through His creations.

Social Studies

- Students will understand events that led to the Civil War and why conflict develops in governments.
- Students will be able to describe the Reconstruction Era and how new ideas changed the way people lived.

- Students will describe westward expansion and how governments changed as people moved west.
- Students will explain how the technology of the Industrial Age changed the way people lived and worked.
- Students will analyze urban society and why people work.
- Students will be able to describe the Progressive Era and why societies changed.
- Students will describe the Depression and the New Deal and what influences people's economic choices.
- Students will study conflict developments that led to World Wars I and II.