

Immaculate Heart of Mary School



Our Elementary School Curriculum

In grades 1-5, we offer a challenging, balanced, age-appropriate curriculum guided by Archdiocesan learning goals. By incorporating best practices of teaching into the daily curriculum, teachers strive to meet each student's needs.

1-5 Curriculum Overview

- We foster mastery of literacy and reading skills through guided reading and small-group instruction, which offer the students a success-driven, nurturing environment.
- Mathematical and computation skills are explained through both hands-on and technology-driven instruction to identify the student's zone of proximal development. Small-group instruction is also utilized during math lessons, in order to meet each child's learning needs.
- Students regularly participate in iLearn Math for enrichment and fluency purposes.
- Our science and social studies classes include research projects and hands-on exploratory experiments aimed at reinforcing concepts while fostering development of critical thinking and meta cognitive skills.
- Through our gardening program, students understand how to care for God's creation and be good stewards of the Earth, and they also begin to connect the roles of plants and animals in maintaining and advancing our ecosystems.
- Students participate in grade-specific community service projects, including the distribution of fresh produce from the school's gardens to charitable organizations.

Above and Beyond the Curriculum

Elementary students each complete a special project aimed at fostering meaningful connections and mastery of skills.

1st Grade Students

- Students collect 100 pairs of gloves and explore the concepts of even numbers, monetary denominations, and number operations.
- Once the formal instruction is complete, the students will deliver the gloves to men staying at the Central Night Shelter.

2nd Grade Students

- Students will participate in numerous retreats and activities aimed at preparing their hearts and minds for the sacraments of Penance and First Holy Communion.
- Students will also complete a cross-curricular study focusing on the migratory patterns of the monarch butterfly and work in the pollinator gardens to understand animal life cycles.

3rd Grade Students

- Students conduct a thorough study of American history`1 and geography, exploring the concepts of landforms, regions, and culture. They will share their knowledge through various projects and presentations.
- The students are also involved in a cross-cultural study of American presidents, using language arts skills to construct an informative essay and a life-size model of their chosen “Commander-in-Chief.”

4th Grade Students

- Students participate in a special study focusing on American history, civics, social justice, and economics. Students explore and research these concepts extensively, creating projects and presentations to share their knowledge as well.

5th Grade Students

- Students, through various cross-curricular activities, identify and study a specific culture and learn the norms, language and customs of the specific group of people, culminating in a special “Cultural Day of Sharing”.
- Students utilize writing, reading, science, and math to create a comprehensive brochure and prepare a dish reflective of their culture.