

Middle School Religion

All middle school students focus on different topics in religion throughout the year but they also participate in some joint service projects and activities such as:

- Adoration
- Reconciliation-twice a year
- Living Rosary
- Plan and participates in weekly liturgies
- Plan and participating in bilingual masses
- 6th and 7th grade present the Live Nativity
- 5th grade reenacts the Living Stations
- 5th grade participates in a special field trip to the Cathedral offered only to 5th graders throughout the diocese
- 8th grade celebrates a special mass for Mary-May Crowning
- 8th grade has a spiritual retreat yearly at University of St. Mary of the Lake in Mundelein.
- Service Project: Feed My Starving Children

5th Grade

The religion program for 5th grade students focuses on the importance of the Sacraments. Students begin by learning how Jesus shares God's life with us, beginning with the seven sacraments. They learn through prayer, scripture, activities, and discussions. 5th graders also participate in an interdisciplinary Family Life Unit. In this unit, students learn about family relationships, with an emphasis on Catholic values and virtues, and the consequences of our choices. Students will:

- Develop an understanding of grace.
- Develop a deeper understanding of the seven sacraments.
- Become acquainted with the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy.
- Review and study the Commandments and the Beatitudes.
- Deepen students' knowledge of Sacred Scripture.
- Participate in celebrations of the sacraments.
- Celebrate seasons and feasts of the church.
- Participate in activities celebrating the liturgical year.
- Continue to explore and develop practical ways to live out the social teachings of the church.
- Continue to develop students' experience of spontaneous prayer, formal prayer, and meditation.
- Continue to explore the concept of stewardship.
- Plan and participate in liturgies.
- Participate in the Living Stations

6th Grade

The religion program for 6th grade students focuses on the Old Testament and its teachings. Students learn about creation and God's first people. We learn about God's covenant with his people and discuss the beginning of Jesus' life. Students focus on:

- Stewardship
- Books of the Bible
- The Patriarchs
- The Israelites
- Israel's Kings
- The prophets
- The beginning of the church

7th Grade

The religion program for 7th grade students focuses on the New Testament, life of Christ and the early church. During the year we infuse the liturgical seasons, and do many service projects. Students focus on:

- Who is God
- Who is Jesus
- How is Jesus alive in the Church today
- How does the Church live as the Body of Christ

8th Grade

The religion program for 8th grade students focuses on the Church from her beginning at Pentecost, through her history, encompassing her teachings and Tradition.

Students focus on:

- Catholic morality
- The Beatitudes
- The Ten Commandments
- Our ancestors in faith
- Endured upheavals and the Black Plague
- The Great Schism
- The Church's heritage
- Evangelization
- The Second Vatican Council
- Teachings and traditions of the Church
- Our relationship with Jesus
- The Liturgical Year
- Prayers and Practice
- Moral issues faced by an eighth grader
- Acceptance and use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit
- School and parish opportunities for service
- A particular Saint chosen for Confirmation