

The **ROCHESTER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** are faith-filled communities that seek to provide a challenging, quality academic experience for students. Our schools are centered on the faith formation of the students as we develop the gifts and talents of each individual. The Rochester Catholic Schools cultivate in our students a respect for themselves and others, a sense of responsibility, a love of learning and a desire to serve. We understand that we are members of the global community of God's family.

We recognize the individual needs of each learner and provide both intervention and enrichment through differentiated instruction, small and large group work, collaborative learning groups, and flexible ability grouping and tracking. Student progress in achieving the curricular goals is measured in a variety of ways. Assessment may include teacher observation, student self-evaluation, formal testing, journals, pre/post testing, checklists and anecdotal records. The Stanford Test of Achievement is administered in grades two through eight.

All curricular areas are on a cycle of review and evaluation and meet or exceed state and national standards. This allows for improvement and growth based on the needs of our students and knowledge gained from reflection and research. The critical objectives of our curriculum are to enhance student potential and improve student learning. This brochure is designed to provide an over-view of the Rochester Catholic School's curriculum. It is based on the comprehensive curriculum that has been written for preschool through grade eight for each subject area.

Students in the **ROCHESTER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS** experience learning through active involvement, inquiry, hands-on instruction and real life situations. We work to model Christ, spread the Good News, and grow closer in our relationship to God.

RELIGION

Area of Focus: Membership in the Catholic Church, worship and discipleship

Profession of Faith

- God as Creator
- Jesus as Brother
- God as Father, Son and Holy Spirit
- Holy Spirit as Guide
- Mary as the mother of Jesus

Celebration of the Christian Mystery

- Seven Sacraments

Life in Christ

- Practice charity
- Love God
- Serve others
- People made in the image of God
- Golden Rule
- Definition of sin
- Commandments I through V
- Commandments of Love

Christian Prayer

- Define prayer
- Participate in formal and informal prayer

WORLD LANGUAGES: SPANISH AND FRENCH

Communication

- Language usage: agreement/disagreement, subject, pronouns and prepositions of location

Cultures

- Christmas carols and customs

Connections

- Count to 200, ordinal numbers, weather expressions, monetary denominations, and places in the community

Comparisons

- Forms of "you"
- Product labels

Communities

- Recite prayers

HOLY SPIRIT

5455 50 Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-288-8818

SAINT FRANCIS OF ASSISI

318 11 Ave SE
Rochester, MN 55904
507-288-4816

SAINT JOHN THE EVANGELIST

424 West Center St
Rochester, MN 55902
507-282-5248

SAINT PIUS X

1205 12 Ave NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-282-5161

LOURDES HIGH SCHOOL

621 West Center St
Rochester, MN 55902
507-289-3991

ROCHESTER CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

1710 Industrial Drive NW
Rochester, MN 55901
507-424-1817

2009 - 2010

WWW.ROCHESTERCATHOLICSCHOOLS.ORG

Curriculum guide

GRADE 3

LANGUAGE ARTS

Phonics/Decoding/Functional

- Consonant blends and silent letters
- Prefixes/suffixes
- R and L Controlled vowels
- Schwa
- Hard/soft ‘c’ , ‘g’ sounds
- Sentence types
- Synonyms, antonyms, and homonyms
- Nouns, adjectives, verbs, and adverbs
- Fiction/non fiction

Usage

- Types of nouns
- Main, helping, and irregular verbs
- Past/present verb forms
- Comparisons with adjectives

Mechanics

- Capitalization
- Punctuation
- Run-ons, fragments and sentences

Vocabulary

- Word referents
- Apply context clues to decode vocabulary
- Selected vocabulary and their definition
- Glossary usage

Comprehension/Study Skills

- Author’s point of view
- Make inferences
- Story conflict/resolution
- Table of contents, index, and pronunciation key
- Dictionary and encyclopedia

Writing

- Writing process
- Write a paragraph
- Poetry
- Creative writing

Speaking and Listening

- Share personal experiences
- Use expression
- Tell a story

Spelling

- Reproduce words with regular and irregular spelling patterns
- Prefixes, suffixes, and base words

Reference Skills

- Dictionary and thesaurus skills

LIBRARY SKILLS

- Orientation
- Organization
- Selection and utilization of materials
- Comprehension
- Application/appreciation of literature

MATH

Mathematical Reasoning

- Estimate and check that answers are reasonable
- Express and solve a written problem in mathematical language

Number Sense

- Read, write, compare and order numbers to 9,999
- Write fractions
- Equivalent numbers

Computation and Operation

- Addition of 4 digit whole numbers
- Subtraction of 3 digit whole numbers
- Multiplication facts to 10
- Multiplication/division sentences

Patterns and Functions

- Extend number patterns

Algebra

- Choose the type of operation in a simple mathematical equation
- Use the properties of addition and subtraction

Data Analysis and Statistics

- Circle Graphs
- Collect and represent data with pictographs and line plots

Spatial Sense

- Lines of symmetry and geometric shapes

Geometry

- Classify two-dimensional shapes by their properties
- Segments, points, parallel and intersecting lines

Measurement

- Use appropriate tools of measurement
- Perimeter
- Relationship between units of length
- Time to the minute
- Make change

HANDWRITING

Legibility

- Proper posture, pencil and paper position
- Proper formation of manuscript and cursive letters and numbers
- Size, slant, spacing, shape and smoothness

ART

- Line, shape, color, form, texture, and space
- Create artwork with a variety of medium
- Analyze works of art

MUSIC

- Expressive qualities, tone color, duration, pitch, design, cultural context and movement

SCIENCE

Areas of Focus: Plant Growth and Development, Rocks, Chemical Tests and Sound

- Life cycle and needs of plants
- Plant and maintain the life of seeds
- Physical and chemical properties of household chemicals and how they change
- Production and characteristics of sound
- Scientific method

SOCIAL STUDIES

Area of Focus: Communities and Their Origins

Geography

- Read and create maps
- Geographical features
- Geographic locations of current events

History

- Origins and purposes of communities relative to ancient culture and Native American tribes
- Communities past and present
- History through current events

Civics

- Pledge of Allegiance
- Role of government in communities
- Positive citizenship
- Dignity of occupations and cultures

Environment

- Interrelationships between communities and the environment
- Use resources wisely
- Alternative energy resources and “green living”

Economics

- Interdependence among nations for world resources
- Trade and taxation

Study Skills

- Age appropriate study skills, test taking strategies and time management

COMPUTER SKILLS

The computer skills curriculum follows the guidelines set forth by the National Educational Technology Standards. At each grade level students are being introduced to, developing or mastering the many skills under each standard. Students will achieve mastery of these standards by the end of eighth grade. The use of technology is integrated into all curricular areas.

Areas of focus in Grade 3:

- Basic concepts of computer use
- Use of software to reinforce skills in reading , writing and math
- Presentation software
- Readiness for keyboarding and word processing

PHYSICAL EDUCATION/HEALTH

- Strike, propel, receive
- Track and field events
- Fitness testing
- Personal health
- Safety

FAMILY LIFE

Spiritual Being

- Recognize body as a gift from God
- Respect for all life

Psychological Being

- Choice and decision making skills
- Concept of family
- Expression and response to feelings
- Friendship skills
- Catholic Virtues, Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

Physical Being

- Physical changes and terminology
- Gender awareness
- Reproduction and procreation

GUIDANCE

- Personal, social and emotional health
- Careers and vocations
- Academic study skills