

# Standards for Quality Catholic Elementary Schools

- Strong Catholic Identity
- Principal and Faculty who are practicing Catholics with religion and state certification
- Middle States accredited
- Adequate facilities to provide a quality program
  - Religion instruction (5 days)
  - Mathematics
  - Honors Math
  - Integrated Language Arts
  - Social Studies
  - Science
  - Fine Arts (Music and Art)
  - Physical Education
  - Technology
- **\*\*Integration of Religion and Technology across all curriculum areas**
- Our School
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes
- Yes

# Standards for Quality Parish Religious Education Programs

## Required

- Strong Catholic Identity
- DRE/CRE and catechists who are practicing Catholics with commensurate training for the task of providing religious instruction to the children
- Approved program through the Office of Catechetical Formation
- Adequate facilities to provide a quality program
- Curriculum as prescribed by the Office of Catechetical Formation including: Archdiocesan Religion guidelines, approved text, sacramental Preparation.
- Max class size 15-20

## Our Parish

Begins each class session in church with Christ-centered meditation; intercessory prayer and Our Father.

Our catechists are screened and interviewed and diligent in the practice of their faith. They take advantage of archdiocesan conferences and workshops and participate in monthly faculty meetings.

Yes

A classroom for each group

Yes

Our class size is 8-17 with a catechist and aide for each class

# **Part III- Adolescent and Youth Ministry**

**Goal 1 ~** Discipleship ~ empowering young people to live as disciples of Jesus Christ in our world today. They hunger to hear the Good News that finds response in discipleship.

Our parish nourishes this aspect for our youth by offering two youth groups – one for students in grades 7 and 8 and the other in grades 9-12. The Jr. High Group meets at least twice a month for Youth Nights. The HS group meets weekly and each month generally includes one service project, an evening of bible study, and two Youth Nights. Youth nights continue to provide catechesis through large and small group discussions and the use of media.

# Adolescent and Youth Ministry

**Goal 2 ~** Connection ~ drawing young people to responsible participation in the life, mission and work of the Catholic faith community.

The ways our parish nourishes this aspect for our youth is through regular participation in Parish-wide service projects, Eucharistic Adoration & Benediction and Youth Masses. Jr. High Students are encouraged to participate as altar servers and there are currently 14 Jr. High students serving in this capacity. HS students are encouraged to participate in the liturgy as lectors, cantors, ushers and altar servers. Among HS YG members, 8 serve as lectors, 3 serve as altar servers, 2 serve as ushers, and 1 serves as a cantor during the

# Adolescent and Youth Ministry

**Goal 3 ~** Gifts and Growth ~ fostering the total personal and spiritual growth of each young person

Our parish fosters this growth by providing opportunities for students to attend Eucharistic Adoration, Vicariate and Archdiocesan events such as Adoremus Te and City of God, and through service projects such as the Souper Bowl Food Drive, Operation Santa Claus, and Thanksgiving food drive, and Angel Giving Tree at Christmas. In addition, HS students have the opportunity to participate in a monthly bible study --the T3 Timeline—which provides an overview of the Bible.