

St. Pius V Catholic School

Kindergarten Curriculum

The curriculum of St. Pius V Catholic School is developed according to the guidelines of the Diocese of Orange and the standards of the State of California. We strive to form students spiritually, intellectually, morally, aesthetically, physically and socially.

Religion

We use the *Sunday Visitor Religion Series I am Special*. Children are introduced to the basic concepts of the Catholic faith and the application of these doctrines to their daily lives. We cover the following areas:

- Creation
- Baptism
- Life of Jesus and Bible stories
- Mass and Church traditions
- Special holidays
- Family and friends
- Feelings
- Five senses
- Growing and changing

Language Arts

The *Scott Foresman Reading Series* used in the class develops reading readiness, writing, listening, speaking and comprehension skills. The series integrates literature, phonemic awareness, phonics, listening, writing, speaking, grammar, and vocabulary development. The *Zoophonics Program* is added to enhance the phonics component. We teach the 26 letters of the alphabet and practice their spoken and written form. Students learn to print based on the *Zaner-Bloser Handwriting System*. Songs and chants make the learning enjoyable and utilize multiple modalities. We also introduce 50 sight words. Families are encouraged to read to and with their kindergarten child. We have a reading incentive program sponsored by Pizza Hut.

Math

The *Houghton Mifflin Math Program* aligns with the California State Standards. We emphasize "hands on" activities using a variety of manipulatives. Children work from concrete to abstract concepts. We teach the following concepts:

- Position and classification (up, down, left, right)
- Sort and graph
- Patterns
- Numbers
- Measurement (weight, capacity, linear)
- Geometric shapes (solids, basic shapes, fractions)
- Number sense (addition, subtraction)
- Time and money
- Problem solving

Science

The *Harcourt Brace Science Program* is used to teach the children about the world around them through experimentation, exploration, and observation. Students use their five senses to discover new ideas. The following units are covered:

- Life science (animals, plants)
- Earth science (land, air, water, weather)
- Physical science (objects, investigating water)

Physical Education

P.E. is held twice a week with a P.E. teacher. Children practice gross motor skills (hop, skip, run, jump, etc), perceptual motor skills, rhythms, health concepts, and good sportsmanship.

Social Studies

Our social studies program utilizes the *Harcourt Reflections Series Our World, Now and Long Ago*. We emphasize the connections between the world today and in the past. Students learn that history relates to events, people, and places. Children are taught the following topics:

- Being a good citizen
- Our country
- Community workers
- Where we live
- Time goes by
- Stories of the past
- Special holidays

Music

We enjoy music daily. We have direct and indirect teaching of music skills. A music teacher visits school once a month to share his knowledge of a variety of music. He teaches several musical ideas including the influences of geography and the native people who created that style of music. Students play numerous musical instruments and learn the concepts of rhythm, melody, and tone. In the classroom, children sing, use rhythm instruments and creative dramatics, and do simple dances.

Art

We have formal and informal art instruction and experiences. The *Art Masters Program* provides students with insight into famous artists and their style. A variety of art experiences in the classroom

Special Activities

The kindergarten classes take field trips together. In addition, special guests give presentations in the classrooms, and we also attend school assemblies. All of these activities enhance the curriculum.

Student Assessment

Student Learning Assessments are given three times a year. There are scheduled parent/teacher conferences in November. Other conferences may be held at the request of the teacher or parent. Teacher-parent communication is a vital link to assure each child's success in school.

Discipline

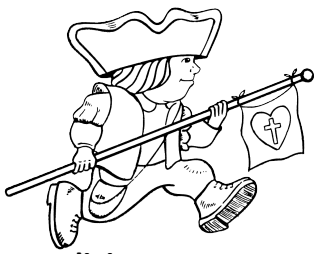
We use *Lee Canter's Assertive Discipline*. Each class has approximately five rules and consequences. Positive reinforcement is used often. "Time out" is used when needed or privileges are lost as a consequence to rule infractions. Rewards and treats may be given for proper behavior. Parents are expected to reinforce school and classroom rules. We try to maintain a pleasant and positive learning environment that emphasizes respect for one another.

Parents Can Help By:

- Volunteering
- Completing projects at home
- Chaperoning field trips
- Reading daily to their child
- Staying in communication with the teacher
- Supporting the school and classroom policies and rules
- Being a good model of Christian faith

www.stpius5school.net





St. Pius V Catholic School

First Grade Curriculum

The curriculum of St. Pius V Catholic School is developed according to the guidelines of the Diocese of Orange and the standards of the State of California. We strive to form students spiritually, intellectually, morally, aesthetically, physically and socially.

Religion

- *Christ Our Life* text from Loyola Press
- Creation
- The Holy Family
- The Holy Trinity
- Jesus, Son of God
- Sacraments, especially Baptism
- The Mass and Church traditions
- Seasons of the Church
- How Christians should live
- Learn basic prayers
- Respect for oneself and others
- Praising God
- Stories from the Bible

Language Arts

- Harcourt *Excursions* Reading Program
- Zoophonics supplemental phonics program
- Phonics skills include short/long sounds and patterns, blends and diagraphics, word "chunks"
- Phonetic spelling used in beginning writing
- Grammar skills including nouns, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, punctuation, and writing complete sentences
- Standard spelling rules used in weekly lists
- Reading for comprehension
- Reading with fluency
- Challenge activities such as Accelerated Reader
- Introduction to Six Traits Writing Program
- Handwriting Practice/standard manuscript form

Math

- Houghton Mifflin Math Program
- Add and subtract numbers through 18
- Place value- 1's, 10's, 100's
- Count by ones, twos, fives and tens
- Estimating numbers
- Measurement using standard and non-standard units (inch, foot, etc.)
- Geometry- shapes, solids, and some symmetry
- Patterning
- Graphing
- Work with money
- Tell time to the half hour, using and reading a calendar, understanding day/night- 24 hour day
- Practicing with coin money- pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters
- Double-digit addition and subtraction
- Problem solving (story problems)

Science

- Harcourt *Science* Program
- Living and non-living things
- Plants and how they grow
- How plants and animals need each other
- Plant and animal habitats
- Weather and seasons
- Matter- solids, liquids, gases
- Heat and light
- Pushes and pulls- how things move
- Magnets
- Health and our bodies; Safety and safe environment

Social Studies

- Harcourt *Reflections* Program
- Rules and laws- home, school, community
- Where people live- reading pictures, globes, and maps
- Our country- national symbols, citizenship, early history
- Our changing world- history now and then, reading and making a timeline of students' lives
- All about people- learning about different cultures, America's first people
- The marketplace- learning about goods and services, trading, buying, selling, jobs people have

Physical Education

- Practice a variety of gross motor skills- running, throwing and catching a ball, hopping, skipping, and jumping
- Following game rules and following directions
- Sportsmanship

Music

- Variety of music
- Introduction to various musical instruments
- Opportunity for dance and movement activities
- Special music teacher visits monthly

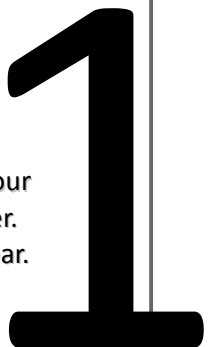
Art

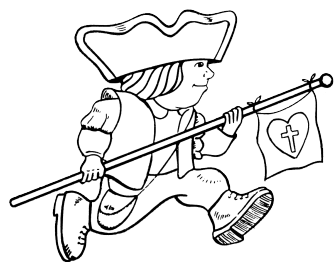
- Art Masters Program- projects six times a year
- Various art activities using many kinds of materials
- Directed lessons and opportunity for creative art

Field Trips

- We usually take three field trips a year to enhance our curriculum. These will be decided in early September.
- We also have some assemblies during the school year. These are entertaining as well as educational.

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St. Pius V Catholic School

Second Grade Curriculum

The curriculum of St. Pius V Catholic School is developed according to the guidelines of the Diocese of Orange and the standards of the State of California. We strive to form students spiritually, intellectually, morally, aesthetically, physically and socially.

Religion

In our Religion program, we want children to understand what we believe as Christians and to learn how to live out these beliefs. The text used is *Christ Our Life* (Loyola Press).

In preparation for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist, we use the *God's Gift Reconciliation* and *God's Gift Eucharist* which the children receive in January.

Language Arts

The Language Arts program incorporates reading, writing, spelling, phonics, and grammar. These are taught using textbooks and literature books. Creative writing and free expression are explored through book reports and other writing experiences, i.e. writer's logs, creative stories, poems, letters, and book reports. The text used is Harcourt School Publishers' *California Excursions*.

Math

Our Math program consists of addition and subtraction facts through 18, which is the basic curriculum for this level. Money, time, measurement, and place value are reinforced. Double digit addition and subtraction (with or without regrouping), multiplication, fractions, and basic geometry are introduced. We use the text by Houghton-Mifflin.

Science

The Science program is organized into Life, Earth, and Physical Science units. The specific topics are "Living Things Grow and Change," "Exploring Earth's Surface," and "Matter and Motion." There are also two extension chapters on the Sun, Moon and Stars, and Changes in Habitats. This series gives students the opportunities for developing the process skills essential for lifelong learning. The text used is Harcourt.

Technology

The students meet once a week in the computer lab. Basic computer and keyboard skills and computer exercises that reinforce curriculum content.

Social Studies

The Social Studies book is titled *Reflections* by Harcourt publishers. The units cover family and ancestors, the land, government, resources, and the marketplace. *Time for Kids* readers are available.

We also use the *National Geographic Explorer* to expand our curriculum.

Physical Education

Students meet one-half hour two to three times a week with our PE teacher. They warm up before each class session, and then do different activities to develop physical skills such as balancing, building stamina, and large motor skills.

Music

Music is teacher-directed, reflecting the thematic unit being taught. Patriotic songs and church songs are taught, as well as a unit on band instruments culminating in a field trip to listen to the Disney Band perform. Mr. John Yeiser, our music instructor, meets with the students seven times throughout the year.

Art

Art is incorporated throughout most curriculum areas. Ms. Poli Rizco, from the Art Masters Program, meets with the students six times a year to introduce them to an artist through slide presentations and works of art.

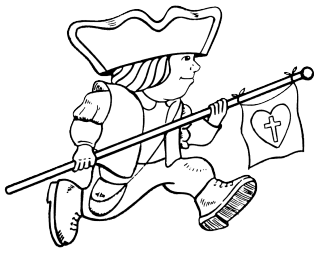
General Information

There are three trimesters a year with parent conferences in the fall or at any scheduled time.

Student Learning Assessments (report cards) are mailed at the end of each trimester.

Homework is given daily, and the students are responsible for getting their steno book signed by a parent each day.

Be sure to check out our 2A and 2B webpages!



St. Pius V Catholic School

Third Grade Curriculum

The curriculum of St. Pius V Catholic School is developed according to the guidelines of the Diocese of Orange and the standards of the State of California. We strive to form students spiritually, intellectually, morally, aesthetically, physically and socially.

Religion

In our religion program, we want children to understand what we believe as Christians and to learn how to live out these beliefs. The text used is Loyola Press's *Christ Our Life*. Children also are required to know their prayers.

Language Arts

The Language Arts program incorporates reading, writing, spelling, phonics, and grammar. These are taught using textbooks and literature books. Creative writing and free expressions are explored through daily journals, book reports, and other writing experiences, i.e. creative stories, poems, and letters. The spelling and reading texts used are from Houghton Mifflin.

Math

Our math program consists of the review of addition and subtraction and the mastery of multiplication, division, data, graphing, probability, geometry, measurement, and fractions and decimals. Money, time, measurement, and place value are reinforced. The text used is Harcourt.

Science

The science program is organized into units consisting of "The Survival of Living Things," "The Solar System," and "Investigating Matter and Energy." This series gives students the opportunities for developing the process skills essential for lifelong learning. The text used is Harcourt.

Social Studies

The social studies program covers geography, American Indians, community history, government and citizenship, and economics. The text used is *Reflections*, by Harcourt. We will also be using *National Geographic Magazine* to expand our curriculum.

Technology

The students meet once a week in the computer lab with Miss Rich. Basic computer skills are taught.

Physical Education

Students meet one-half hour 2-3 times a week with our PE teacher, Mr. Minter. They warm up before each class session and then do different activities to develop physical skills. Our PE days are Tuesday, Thursday, and every other Friday.

Music

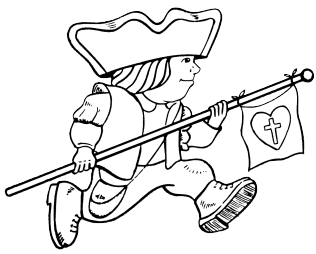
Music is directed, reflecting the thematic unit being taught. Patriotic songs and church songs are taught as well as a unit on various instruments from around the world. Mr. John Yeiser, our music instructor, meets with the students seven times throughout the year.

Art

Art is incorporated throughout most curriculum areas. Ms. Poli Rizco from the Art Master Program meets with the students six times a year to introduce them to an artist through PowerPoint presentations and works of art.

General Information

There are 3 trimesters a year with parent conferences in early December during a scheduled time. Student Learning Assessments (report cards) are given at the end of each trimester. Homework is given daily and the students are responsible for getting their planner signed by a parent each night.



St. Pius V Catholic School

Fourth Grade Curriculum

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Religion

The *Christ Our Life* program helps children understand what we believe as Christians and how to live out those beliefs. The program provides instruction in doctrine, Scripture, and the liturgical year. Students learn about the Sacraments, Worship, the Ten Commandments, the Beatitudes, and the liturgical seasons. Students attend monthly Masses and a variety of other liturgical celebrations such as Stations of the Cross and May Crowning.

Language Arts

California Excursions by Harcourt School Publishers is an integrated language arts program that includes a wide variety of literature, grammar, listening and speaking activities. Critical thinking and comprehension skills such as summarizing, drawing conclusions, making inferences and predictions are emphasized. Students also prepare a variety of writing projects such as letters, book reports, paragraphs and essays.

Math

Harcourt's *Math* is the textbook used. Students learn:

- Place value through the millions
- Adding and subtracting 4-digit numbers
- Graphing
- Elapsed time
- Multiplying and dividing 2 and 3-digit numbers
- Adding and subtracting decimals
- Customary and metric measurement
- Measuring perimeter, area, volume
- Adding and subtracting fractions

Science

Our Science curriculum covers topics like the changing earth, matter and electricity, and interactions of living things. Harcourt's science text is used.

Spelling

Students have weekly spelling tests with 20-25 words plus dictation sentences.

Social Studies

Students focus on the history of their state beginning with the geography of California, early inhabitants, European exploration, the Mission period, Mexican rule, the gold rush, and westward expansion.

Physical Education

Students have P.E. At least twice a week. Physical fitness and game skills are taught. Students also learn cooperation and good sportsmanship while playing group games.

Technology

Students attend weekly computer lab sessions where they learn how to use the computer effectively. Keyboarding skills as well as reviews of academic subjects are taught.

Reporting

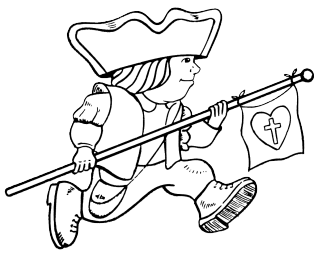
Students receive the *Student Learning Assessment* three times a year. Formal parent-teacher conferences are held in late-November/early-December. Parents are welcome to schedule informal conferences at any time.

Art

Our school's *Art Masters* program introduces important artists and their works during the year. Students also experience a variety of other arts and crafts activities.

Homework

Homework is an integral part of the educational program. Homework is given to provide reinforcement of concepts taught in class and to review skills.



St. Pius V Catholic School

Fifth Grade Curriculum

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Religion

The fifth grade religion program continues to build the student's Catholic faith. Our textbook is *Christ Our Life*, Loyola Press. Some of the topics we cover are: Jesus' life and model of prayer and Christian life

- The Beatitudes
- The Seven Sacraments
- The Ten Commandments
- The Liturgy Celebration

Language Arts

The fifth grade language arts program includes reading, writing, grammar, spelling, and vocabulary. We sharpen our comprehension, vocabulary, and writing skills by reading and discussing our anthology, *Excursions*, published by Harcourt School Publishing. Independent reading from classroom, school and public libraries is encouraged in order to build skills and enjoyment. Students participate in group and individual projects, and presentations which integrate reading and writing across the curriculum.

Math

Fifth grade math encompasses mastery of multiplication and division. We continue to develop concepts in decimals, fractions, geometry, word problem solving, and beginning algebra. Our textbook is *Math* published by Harcourt School Publishing.

Science

Cells, plants, animals, water cycle, and weather are just a few of the fun and interesting topics explored in the fifth grade science curriculum. We read, observe, illustrate, infer, predict, collect data, and conduct experiments about the world around us. Our textbook is *Science*, published by Harcourt School Publishing.

Technology

Fifth graders attend one computer class a week, utilizing *Microsoft Office 2007* to learn word processing, desktop publishing and other applications.

Music

Music is an important part of student life at St. Pius. Choir participation is available. Music is a part of our morning assembly, as well as, Mass and other liturgical celebrations.

Social Studies

We begin our year of American History studying European explorers and the technology which led to the discovery of the New World. We journey through colonization, the Revolutionary War, and westward expansion. We actively participate in the Walk Through the American Revolution Program through California Weekly Explorer. Students role play parts of America's founding fathers and other Revolutionary War characters. Our textbook is *Reflection United States: Making a New Nation* by Harcourt School Publishing. Daily geography allows our students to grow in the knowledge of the world in which they live.

Physical Education

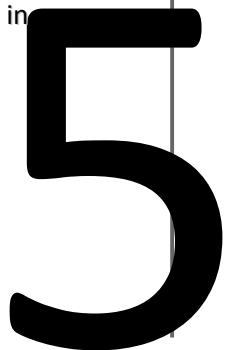
A full time P.E. teacher allows our students to have regularly scheduled physical activity 2-3 times per week. Classes focus on skill development and sportsmanship. Fifth grade boys and girls also have an opportunity to try out for and participate in after school sports that include football, volleyball, basketball, and softball. A pep squad program is also open to interested fifth grade students.

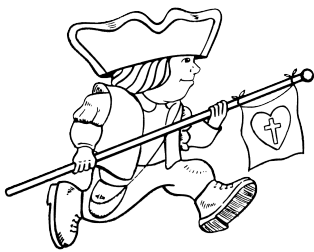
Art

Our Pius Parent Teacher Organization (PPTO) has funded our Art Master Program for many years. Through the use of lectures, PowerPoint presentations, and hands on projects, our students gain knowledge of, and respect for artists, spanning a multiplicity of both media and times. Artists studied include, Van Gogh, Remington, and O'Keefe.

Field Trips

Various field trips are taken throughout the year. We select field trips which enhance our curriculum and enrich the lives of our students. Past field trips include the Orange County Philharmonic at the Orange County Performing Art Center in Costa Mesa, Natural History Museum in Los Angeles, and the Ronald Reagan Library.





St. Pius V Catholic School

Sixth Grade Curriculum

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Religion

The religion program begins with our biblical history in the Old Testament and weaves it into the life of Jesus and our challenge to live as Christians every day. Sacraments and liturgical celebrations are studied to better understand their participation in the church.

Reading

The reading program consists of reading fictional short stories and non-fiction articles. Students are assessed on comprehension, vocabulary, and literary elements. Novels are also used as a supplementary component of the reading program.

Students learn to read by reading, therefore, we urge parents to motivate their students to read as much as possible. Time should be set aside for the enjoyment of reading.

English Composition and Grammar

Students will explore and practice descriptive, narrative, expository, persuasive, writing research reports, and writing responses to literature.

Students will be instructed in sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, capitalization, spelling, and vocabulary. Students will be given a poem each month to memorize and recite.

Math

The Prentice-Hall series is used in the 6th to 8th grade as a middle school model of math. This continuous thread throughout the series helps to build a solid foundation for pre-algebra and algebra in the 7th and 8th grade. The students study problem solving, probability and statistics, geometry, fractions, number theory, decimals, ratio, and proportions.

Social Studies

Ancient History with a heavy emphasis on Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and the Roman Empire are the main areas of study. To study the current topics, a subscription to *Junior Scholastic* is used.

Art

Students use art as a way to communicate and gain personal insight. Our school's Art Masters program introduces important artists and their work during the year. Special art lessons are presented by a professional. Art is also used in class on projects and other lessons.

Science

The Prentice-Hall *Science* series is used, and continues through the eighth grade. The sixth grade studies Earth Science, focusing on rocks and minerals, plate tectonics, earthquakes and volcanoes, weather factors, oceans, atmosphere, climates, solar system, stars, galaxies, and the universe.

Our sixth grade also participates in the Orange County Outdoor Education program, which is optional. The week in the mountains is an experiential program that will give each student wonderful memories.

Technology

Students attend weekly computer lab sessions where they learn how to use the computer effectively. Keyboarding is taught, as well as word processing and desktop publishing skills.

Physical Education

Students have three weekly P.E. scheduled times where physical activities and skill are taught. Group games that encourage cooperation and good sportsmanship are included in the program.

Reporting

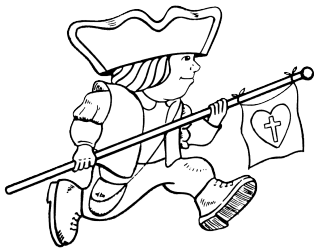
Formal parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled in late-November/early December. Students will be expected to attend the conference with the parent(s). Students will receive a *Student Learning Assessment* at the end of the three marking periods.

Homework

Homework is an integral part of the entire program. The homework will be given to provide reinforcement and to review material that has been taught.

Parents Can Help By:

- Using email to stay in touch with the teacher
- Showing interest in activities
- Monitoring homework with your child's planner
- Providing students with a quiet place to study
- Visiting the class website for downloads of projects
- Staying informed of project due dates



St. Pius V Catholic School

Seventh Grade Curriculum

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Religion

- Who Jesus is and what it means to follow Jesus in daily life.
- An appreciation of the life Jesus won for us by his death and Resurrection.
- The Gospels, The Sacraments
- Service to Others, Prayer, Social Justice
- 15-hour service requirement
- Loyola Press: *Christ Our Life*
- Benziger: *Family Life*

Language Arts

- A writing-based program which explores different forms and develops an understanding of the process of writing (planning, drafting, revising, publishing)
- Study of basic and advanced grammar principles
- Glencoe-McGraw-Hill, *Writer's Choice Grammar and Composition*

Literature

- Variety of novels that reinforce moral values and literary terms
- Literature text which is theme-based and introduces a variety of genres and authors
- Prentice-Hall, *Choices in Literature* (also novels)

Math

- PRE-ALGEBRA: Algebraic expressions, integers, equations, inequalities, decimals, fractions, exponents, ratios, proportions, percents, functions and graphing, spatial thinking, area and volume, right triangles, data analysis, probability, nonlinear functions, polynomials
- BASIC MATH: Decimals, integers, equations, inequalities, exponents, factors, fractions, ratios, rates, proportions, percents, geometry, measurement, patterns, graphing in the coordinate plane, data analysis, probability
- Prentice-Hall, *Pre-Algebra or Course 2*

Science

- Identification and function of cell parts
- Heredity and genetics
- Classification and characteristics of six kingdoms of living organisms
- In-depth study of animal kingdom
- Focus on human body systems, their structures and functions
- Health and care of human body
- Dissections and lab experiments provide hands-on learning experiences

Social Studies

- Ancient cultures of Africa, Asia, North America, South America
- Examination and comparison of religions that impacted these cultures
- Literature, art, and political influences
- Current events
- Daily Geography
- Houghton-Mifflin, *Across the Centuries*

Physical Education

- Problem-solving, teamwork and movement skills reinforced through individual and team sports activities

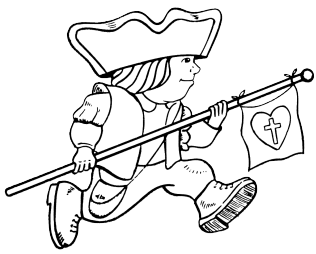
Technology

- Word Processing using Microsoft Word
- Spreadsheet using Microsoft Excel
- Internet Safety Unit
- Tutorials on academic curriculum areas
- Internet research
- Desktop publishing using Microsoft Publisher
- Presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint

Art

- Art Masters program which introduces important artists and their work
- Opportunity for students to use a variety of media and techniques to create artwork

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St. Pius V Catholic School

Eighth Grade Curriculum

The curriculum of St. Pius V Catholic School is developed according to the guidelines of the Diocese of Orange and the standards of the State of California. We strive to form students spiritually, intellectually, morally, aesthetically, physically and socially.

Religion

- Worship - symbols, devotions and traditions of the Catholic Church
- Preparation and participation in liturgical celebrations
- 7 Sacraments
- Vocations
- Ten Commandments - moral values
- Morality of sexuality
- Chastity
- 15-hour service requirement
- Loyola Press: *Christ Our Life*
- Benziger: *Family Life*

English

- Continued study of basic and advanced grammar principles
- Writing-based program in which students explore a variety of genres (expository, descriptive, narrative) and techniques (the writing process: pre-writing, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing)
- Glencoe- McGraw-Hill: *Writer's Choice Grammar and Composition*

Math

- ALGEBRA I: Variables, exponents, order of operations, properties, equations, inequalities, ratios, proportions, functions and graphs, slope, scientific notation, polynomials, factoring, quadratic equations, radicals
- PRE-ALGEBRA: Algebraic expressions, integers, equations, inequalities, decimals, fractions, exponents, ratios, proportions, percents, functions and graphing, spatial thinking, area and volume, right triangles, data analysis, probability, nonlinear functions, polynomials
- Prentice-Hall: *Algebra I* or *Pre-Algebra*

Science

- Study of matter - solids, liquids and gases - atoms and the periodic table
- Chemical reactions - acids, bases, solutions
- Motion, forces and energy - impact on daily life
- Characteristics of waves - light, sound
- Electricity and magnetism - circuits and currents
- Hands-on experiments provide learning experiences as well as problem solving skills
- Prentice Hall: *Physical Science*

Social Studies

- American history beginning with the Revolutionary War
- Current events
- Houghton-Mifflin: *A More Perfect Union*

Literature

- Genre-based program in which students explore a variety of multicultural writers and themes
- Study of the art of literature while making personal connections
- Prentice-Hall: *Choices in Literature* (also novels)
- Written response to Literature

Physical Education

- Problem-solving, teamwork and movement skills reinforced through individual and team sports activities

Technology

- Word Processing using Microsoft Word
- Spreadsheet using Microsoft Excel
- Internet Safety Unit
- Tutorials on academic curriculum areas
- Internet research
- Desktop publishing using Microsoft Publisher
- Presentations using Microsoft PowerPoint

Art

- Art Masters program which introduces important artists and their work
- Opportunity for students to use a variety of media and techniques to create artwork

