



**Blessed Sacrament Catholic School**  
**Informational Packet 2009-2010**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

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**CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
TAKE ANOTHER LOOK



*Blessed Sacrament School is accredited by the North Central Association, an organization focused on school quality and improvement. The [North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement](#) (NCA CASI) is one of six regional accrediting agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education for school accreditation. Schools participating in the North Central Association have demonstrated that they have earned the public trust for quality in education. [Standards](#) are very high. Not every school in the state of Colorado is eligible to be accredited by the North Central Association.*

**Blessed Sacrament Parish School Notice of Student Non-Discrimination Policy:**

The Catholic schools of the Archdiocese of Denver, under the jurisdiction of Archbishop Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M. Cap. and the direction of the Secretary for Catholic Schools, state that all of their Catholic schools admit students of any race, color, national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the schools. Furthermore, Archdiocesan schools admit handicapped students in accord with Archdiocesan Policy No. 2000 concerning student admission. These schools do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, handicap, color, national or ethnic origin in the administration of their educational policies, employment practices, scholarship and loan programs or athletic or other school administered programs.

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Curriculum**

**Religion**

- ❖ Creation
- ❖ God
- ❖ Jesus Christ
- ❖ The Church
- ❖ Christian Morality
- ❖ Sacraments
- ❖ **Primary Textbook:**  
*Walking by Faith* (Brown-Roa)
- ❖ **Other Resources:**  
Catholic Bible, various current resources

**Language Arts**

- **Reading (Two books divided into themes.)**
  - Friendship
  - Imagination
  - Money
  - City Wildlife
  - Story Telling
  - Country Life
  - **Primary Textbooks:**  
*Open Court*
  - **Other Resources:**  
Junior Great Books, various leveled reading books for small reading groups
- **Spelling – Phonics – English**
  - Dictionary Skills
  - Long & Short Vowels
  - Plurals
  - Contractions
  - Compounds
  - Possessives
  - Verbs
  - Grammar
  - Synonyms, Antonyms & Homonyms
  - Capitalization
  - Paragraph, Story & Report Writing
  - Using the Library & Reference Tools
  - **Primary Textbooks:**  
*Open Court* (McGraw Hill)  
*Handwriting* (Zaner-Bloser)

**Mathematics**

- Addition & Subtraction
- Place Value, Money & Time
- Multiplication
- Division
- Fractions
- Geometry
- Graphing
- Measurement
- Problem Solving
- **Primary Textbook:**  
*Math* (Scott Foresman-Addison-Wesley)

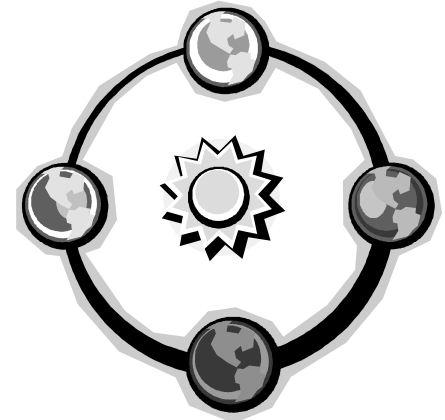


**Social Studies**

- ▼ Land Formations
- ▼ Colonial America
- ▼ Map Skills
- ▼ Protecting Natural Resources
- ▼ Early Settlers
- ▼ Holidays
- ▼ **Primary Textbook:**  
*From Sea to Shining Sea* (Houghton Mifflin)

**Science**

- **Earth & Space Science**
  - Weather/Climate
  - Pollution/Recycling
  - Solar System
  - Features of the Earth
  - Space & Stars
  - Water Cycle
  - Rocks, Minerals & Fossils
- **Life Science**
  - Living & Non-Living Things
  - Plants & Animals
  - Food Chains
  - Human Anatomy (Systems of the Body)
- **Physical Science**
  - Matter
  - Force & Motion
  - Energy
  - Magnetism
- **Primary Textbooks:**  
*Science* (Scott Foresman)  
Numerous, current resources



Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

**Religion**

- ❖ To provide students with:
  - ❖ A growing experience with and a reverence for the Sacred Scriptures
  - ❖ A faithful presentation of and expanding mastery of the tenants of our Catholic faith
  - ❖ Encouragement to live their Catholic faith, individually and as members of the community.
  - ❖ The main focus is on the Ten Commandments. We study each commandment and discuss its meaning and relevance to our everyday lives.
- ❖ **Primary Textbook:**  
*Walking by Faith* (Brown-Roa)

**Language Arts**

- **Reading**
  - Program Goal:
    - Commensurate student growth in literacy through rich, interactive and successful experiences with excellent literature.
  - Program Includes:
    - Variety of fiction and non-fiction literature from well known and award winning authors.
    - Teaching approaches used are teacher read-aloud, shared, comparative, teacher guided and independent reading activities.
  - Elements of Language
    - Students are given opportunities to develop skills in: Reading, Writing, Oral Presentation, and Listening
    - Students learn essential skills and strategies of Comprehension, Decoding, Composition and Study skills within appropriate grade level expectations.
  - **Primary Textbook:**  
*Open Court* (McGraw Hill)

**Language Arts (continued)**

- **Writing**
  - Three Interrelated Stages of Pre-Writing, Composing and Revising
    - Students set a goal or purpose (Pre-writing), develop ideas, produce notes and drafts (Composing) and evaluate and edit (Revising) writing to produce final draft to be “published”. Publishing a student’s written composition means making the work public.
    - Instill a feeling of confidence and pride in the student’s authorship.
    - Writing Goal: Provide each student with the skills and opportunity to create a number of their own meaningful writing experiences.
  - **Primary Textbook:**  
*Writers Express* (Houghton Mifflin)  
*Step Up to Writing* (Auman)
- **English/Spelling**
  - Spelling, English, Reading, Writing and Vocabulary development are interrelated components of Language Arts Program.
    - Educational Research: The more a student knows about words as they experience in reading and writing materials, the more likely they will become competent in Spelling.
  - Spelling and English tests focus on the rules of English spelling, grammar and correct usage in a manner which completes our Language Arts Program.
  - **Primary Textbook:**  
*Open Court Spelling*  
*English* (McDougall-Littell)

**Mathematics**

- **Program Goals:**
  - To develop an appreciation of the value of math and its importance in our daily lives
  - To learn the language of math. Mathematics is a language. When students read, write and speak in this language, they learn to communicate sophisticated ideas in precise terms as well as to clarify, refine and consolidate their thought process.
  - To learn to reason mathematically. Competency in mathematical skills and concepts which relate to everyday life builds a child’s sense of self reliance.
  - To develop mathematical problem solving skills. Math involves the power to solve problems and to persuade others.
- **Objectives are to develop proficiency in/with:**
  - Understanding of place value (up to one million)
  - Addition and subtraction of up to four digit numbers
  - Collecting, organizing and presenting data in graphical form
  - Elementary, rules and application of multiplication/division (2-digit numbers)
  - Basic principles of geometry (right angles, area, congruent shapes)
  - Fractions (equivalent , mixed numbers addition and subtraction)
  - Measurement and time
  - Addition/Subtraction of decimals (to two places) and relationship to fractions
  - problem solving in all of the above areas
- **Primary Textbook:**  
*Math* (Scott Foresman)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**4<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

**Social Studies**

- ▼ **Program Goal:**
  - ▼ To develop literate citizens able to actively participated in the world of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.
- ▼ **Areas of Study:**
  - ▼ American history and geography from the time of the early settlers to present day
  - ▼ Five main regions of U.S. (Northeast, Southeast, Midwest, Southwest, and West)
  - ▼ Explore how geography, climate, resources and people (culture) have influenced development of each region
  - ▼ View Country as a whole to determine the important elements that tie us together as a nation
  - ▼ American's place and responsibility in today's global society.
  - ▼ Colorado History, a social and cultural approach
- ▼ **Primary Textbooks:**
  - States and Regions* (Harcourt Brace)
  - Colorado: Crossroads To The West*



**Science**

- **Program Goal:**
  - The program is oriented to help students develop an interest in the how's and why's of the world around them. Students will be exposed to various physical phenomena and the workings of nature in a manner that is designed to stimulate their curiosity and desire for additional knowledge.
- **Unit A – Life Science**
  - Plant structure and function, Animal structure and function, Energy in Ecosystems and Surviving the Environment, Systems of the Human Body
- **Unit B – Earth Science**
  - Measuring weather, the Makeup of the earth, Exploring the Oceans and Movements in the Solar System.
- **Unit C – Physical Science**
  - Properties of matter, Heat, Electricity and Magnetism, Sound and Light, Motion, Simple Machines
- **Unit D – Space and Technology**
  - Earth Cycles, Inner and Outer Planets
- **Primary Textbook:**
  - Science* (Scott Foresman)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

**Religion**

Faith First has developed a Catholic curriculum that helps students understand what we believe as Catholics and how to live out those beliefs. The four pillars of the Catechism of the Catholic Church – Creed, Sacraments, Morality, and Prayer - are taught and developed throughout the year.

Students will:

- deepen their knowledge and understanding of the word of God
- participate prayerfully in liturgy all year long
- build their Catholic literacy by learning important faith terms and concepts
- learn about saints whose lives serve as models
- grow in their appreciation of prayer in all forms
- celebrate a special mass with the Archbishop at the Cathedral

**Primary textbook:**

*Faith First* (Resources for Christian Living) & various other resources

**Language Arts**

Students will:

- write and present book reports in creative ways
- write an author study including a comparison/contrast, biography and letter to the author
- complete a summative project that includes a written and oral book report
- develop a research report and present a report about a country in Latin America and Europe or Russia using MLA style, note cards, outline/graphic organizer and simple bibliography
- read assigned and/or appropriate self-selected texts in a variety of genre every trimester
- participate in the Junior Great Books program
- complete the SRA program initiated in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade
- participate in the Accelerated Reading program

**Literature & English (continued)**

- participate in Literature Circles for books teacher or self-selected books in group study
- describe characters, setting, plot, mood, climax, and resolution of various stories
- write a composition of at least 3 paragraphs using transitional words for continuity
- use the writing process to compose prewriting, drafting, revising, editing, and publishing using MLA style
- compose letters, invitations, thank-you notes, essays, poems, personal narratives, reports and persuasive paragraphs
- begin to self-assess their writing and their peers' writing using the 6+1 Trait Writing system

Spelling, English, Reading, Writing and Vocabulary development are interrelated components of the Language Arts program.

**Primary Textbooks:**

*Open Court* (McGraw-Hill)  
*Step up to Writing* (Auman)  
*English Workbook Plus* (Houghton Mifflin) & various other resources

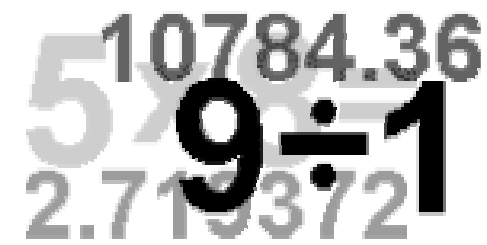
**Mathematics**

Objectives are for students to develop proficiency in/with:

- Data and Graphs Review
- Place Value Through Billions
- Multiplying & Dividing Whole Numbers with 1 & 2-Digit Divisors
- Decimals (Adding, Subtracting and Equivalents)
- Geometry
- Fractions (equivalent, mixed numbers addition and subtraction, customary linear measurement and multiplication)
- Length, Perimeter and Area
- Measurement (Solids, Shapes, Weight, Mass, Temperature, Volume and Capacity)
- Ratio and Percent
- Probability

**Primary Textbook:**

Math 5<sup>th</sup> Grade (Scott Foresman – Addison-Wesley) & various other resources



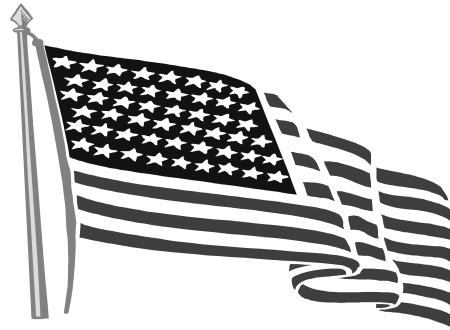
Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**5<sup>th</sup> Grade Curriculum**

**Social Studies**

Students will cover the first part of World History. Perspectives used in all teaching include: historical, geographic, civic, economic, social, cultural, and religious.

The following topics are covered in the fifth grade:

- ▼ Geography tools and concepts (including five themes)
- ▼ Latin America
- ▼ Europe and Russia
- ▼ U.S. and Canada
- ▼ **Primary Textbook:**  
*Prentice Hall World Explorer* & various other resources



**Science**

★ Students will cover the following areas:

- **Life Science**
  - Classifying Organisms, Cells, Human Body Systems (skeletal, muscular, digestive and reproductive systems), Plants, Ecosystems
- **Earth Science**
  - Water, Weather, Earth's Surface (Rock Cycle, Water Cycle), Earth's Resources
- **Physical Science**
  - Matter, Properties, Changes in Matter, Forces in Motion, Changing Forms of Energy, and Electricity
- **Space and Technology**
  - Stars, Galaxies, Earth in Space, Technology in our Lives
- **All Units – Nature of Science**
  - Scientific Method

★ Labs or field trips will be conducted in all areas.

**Primary Textbook:**

*Science – The Diamond Edition* (Scott Foresman)

Blessed Sacrament Catholic School  
Elementary School  
**3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Specials Curriculum**

**Music**

- Read and create complex rhythms, including dotted quarter, sixteenth, eighth and paired sixteenth notes and rests, and syncopation.
- Study recorder to learn treble clef, including ledger-line notes.
- Perform a variety of vocalizations to extend range and develop singing voice.
- Continue rounds and ostinati and begin simple part-singing.
- Listen to music from a variety of cultures and historical periods, recognizing and identifying form and mood.
- Understand American history through musical selections.
- Learn patriotic songs – *This Land Is Your Land*, *America the Beautiful*, *The Battle Hymn of the Republic*.
- Recognize by sight and sound orchestral and percussion instruments, identifying instrument families.
- Develop advanced dance steps, including reel, grand right-and-left, grapevine, basketweave, and line dances while learning dances from a variety of cultures.
- Actively participate in the Mass by learning and understanding hymns in relation to the liturgical year and/or the readings. Voluntary cantor program for 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades.
- Learn a variety of liturgy settings in English, Spanish and Latin.
- Participate in the Christmas program.
- Include literacy activities in all areas of music education.

**Spanish**

⇒ Students will communicate in Spanish and develop literacy in four essential language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing.



Literacy will be expanded around the following themes introduced in Pre-K – 2nd grade:

- Introductions- “Hola! Me llamo....”
- Spanish Greetings- “Buenos Días!”
- Numbers
- Shapes
- Colors
- Days of the week & Months of the year
- Seasons & Weather
- Classroom objects
- Clothing
- Food
- Animals
- Family members
- Parts of the body
- Catholic prayers, songs and mass responses

⇒ Students will begin to identify and apply basic rules of Spanish grammar in their communication.

- Singular/plural noun and adjective agreement
- Masculine/feminine noun and adjective agreement
- Conjugated forms of verbs
- Position of words

⇒ Students will discuss and compare their culture and celebrations with those of native Spanish speaking countries.

**Physical Education**

- Students will know the following concepts appropriate to each grade level:
  - Knowledge and competent skills in a variety of movements, physical activities, and sports.
  - Achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical fitness and understanding the benefits of the physical activity.
  - Demonstrate respect and responsibility with people in a physical activity setting.
  - Demonstrate knowledge necessary to participate in lifetime physical activities.



**Art**

The students will:

- ✍ Express artistic talent
- ✍ Develop creative thinking
- ✍ Explore and use a variety of materials & tools
- ✍ Develop an art vocabulary
- ✍ Integrate art history & class projects
- ✍ Create age/grade appropriate projects based on the elements of art (line, color, space, shape, form, texture) and principles of design
- ✍ Have Fun!

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Elementary School  
**3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Specials Curriculum**

**Computer**

- Computer and technology terminology
- Keyboarding including introductory touch typing and correct finger placement on home row and all keys
- Microsoft Word, Powerpoint, and Excel
- Protecting computers from potential hazards, i.e., spilling food on keyboard, scratching CDs and disks, viruses, static charge, magnets, etc.
- Creating, saving, opening, closing, and editing files on your computer or a network server.
- Basic word processing and formatting of word processing files.
- Using Powerpoint for multimedia presentations.
- Creating and interpreting spreadsheets.
- Computer ethics including responsible and ethical use of technology and information including personal consequences of inappropriate use.
- Internet – using a web browser, finding information on the Internet, creating and using bookmarks, evaluating accuracy, relevance, appropriateness, comprehensiveness and bias of information, citing sources of information, and using online resources for research.
- Internet safety considerations.

**Computer (continued)**

- Computer ethics and responsible computer use including adherence to the schools acceptable use policy, copyright laws, consequences for plagiarism and violation of copyright laws or the school's acceptable use policy.
- Using online resources and software programs to enhance learning in math, reading, keyboarding, and other areas.



**Library**

- Ⓢ Each class has a designated weekly time to spend in the library.
- Ⓢ Most of the student's library time is spent locating a book they would like to check out for a week, read, and return the following week.
- Ⓢ Librarian works closely with classroom teachers to compliment areas of study.
- Ⓢ Students learn and use basic library skills to locate books and further research efforts.

