



ST. JUDE OF THE LAKE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

FIND YOUR HAPPY PLACE AND STAY!

MIDDLE SCHOOL 2021-2022

St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School is a Catholic community dedicated to fully preparing children for their future by developing their faith, mind, and character.



St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School strives to meet the spiritual and educational needs of today's students; and to provide a safe, positive, hands-on, faith-based learning environment for the growth of each student as we prepare them for the changing needs of the future.

Our mission is to prepare children with the knowledge and skills needed to excel and lead in the 21st-Century through a school culture that promotes spiritual wellness, academic excellence, curiosity, and creativity.

To further our mission, we are excited to have St. Jude of the Lake Middle School students on our campus! Our students flourish intellectually and emotionally.

During their Middle School time at St. Jude, they will start to comprehend advanced concepts and process information to think analytically. Remember this is a time of rapid growth as our students prepare for their academic, social, and leadership challenges of high school and eventually into their adult life.

At the apex of adolescence, middle-school students are undergoing physical, emotional, and intellectual changes. Early in this stage of life, they tend to think in absolutes, make clear distinctions between right and wrong, and seek concrete answers. As they mature, they refine their ability to think abstractly and hypothetically, as well as systematically. Classroom work starts to be geared toward helping students clarify their thinking as they explore the "gray areas." As they develop their personal identities in this period of great change, careful attention is paid to reinforcing students' academic abilities and positive self-images and providing opportunities to express their thoughts and ideas.

Middle school is not too early to begin preparing for adulthood by making sure we are providing our students with plenty of tools to add to their Life-Toolbox. As parents and educators, we have a finite amount of time to help lay and build a foundation of skills and practical knowledge that students will need in the "real world." St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School is committed, honored, and grateful for the opportunity to continue to walk the educational journey with your family.



Currently in the sixth grade (and beyond as our middle school expands), students will be given the opportunity to build and strengthen their foundation in several key areas:

LINKS- Life Involves New Kinds of Skills– Skills are what makes us confident and more independent in life. They are essential for feeling successful. Our Middle School topic areas will include, but not limited to, introductions to such areas as economic markets and financial literacy, domestic sciences, life management, and the arts.

Science, Technology, and Engineering –The dynamic combination of all three areas with the addition of “real-life” experiences are springboards for successful sustainable development in literacy, critical thinking and problem-solving which will serve our students well now and into the future. St. Jude of the Lake offers a wide variety of hands-on and innovative experiences, such as an aquaponics lab, Lego robotics, and 3-D printing experiences.

Presentation Skills and Leadership Opportunities Preparations– Through school and Church leadership positions, our students will continue to be given unique opportunities to explore the upper edge by connecting with people, sharpening their presentation and public speaking skills. Additionally, there are also opportunities throughout the year to exercise and stretch these skills.

Social Opportunities and Program Perks- Archdiocesan Science, Performing and Visual Arts Fairs, student government, volunteer and service-learning opportunities, field trips, concerts, on-site band and orchestra (through Hill-Murray School), on-site piano lessons, theater production, scouting, sport clubs and camps are a sampling of the opportunities offered.



Our strong and innovative academic program emphasizing excellence and preparing students for high school and beyond.

Our curriculum includes:

Reading and Literature – Building and continuing to acquire the literacy tools are paramount to establishing their own strong reading identity and a love for great stories and literature.

Language Arts – Students will have a significant opportunity to apply their English grammar, writing skills, vocabulary, and spelling; with opportunities for creative, descriptive, and persuasive essay and report writing.

Mathematics – Conceptual understanding and ‘real-life’ connections to mathematical reasoning are explored in the Middle School years. Number properties, fractions and decimals, ratios, proportions, and percentages as well as key concepts of algebra and geometry will be developed and nurtured to strengthen their foundation and prepare them for high school readiness. St. Jude of the Lake will provide opportunities to appropriately challenge each student in these areas.

Science – Our robust science curriculum continues to be based on national, state, and Archdiocesan standards: life science, chemistry, physical and earth science for sixth grade; biology and human anatomy (seventh grade); physics and chemistry (eighth grade).

Social Studies and History – Our expansive Social Studies curriculum is taught in an interactive and relatable way, allowing students to explore the influences of our past on our present, and future. An emphasis on History begins in seventh grade covering U.S. history from prehistory through Civil War (seventh grade) and through the Cold War (eighth grade).

Technology – Technology is ever-changing and multifaceted. We are excited to intricately weave and integrate it throughout our amazing academic experience. Students will continue to build on the skills used in their earlier grades, using AppleTVs, Smartboards, iPads, peripherals, mobile devices along with the Internet and on-line research tools for communication, presentations, and academic reinforcement.

Religion – St. Jude of the Lake Catholic School fosters the love of our beautiful Catholic faith; the ministry of the Church, the meaning and significance of the Sacraments, the living out of our liturgical calendar and feast days, and the history of the Church from the time of Jesus to the present. We embrace being-doers, not just hearers; living to serve others and our Church.

School day: 9:00am-3:20pm (8:45am arrival)

Uniform: logo shirt, blue pants, shorts, or skirt, white or navy crew sock, black navy, or brown soft soled shoes. No open toed shoes. NEW Middle School hoodie sweatshirt.

Class Structure: Homeroom teacher will provide core instruction. Support Strategist, Specialist, and Religion teachers will vary.

Relationship with Hill-Murray School



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**WE STRIVE TO ENSURE OUR STUDENTS ARE INQUIRING,
KNOWLEDGABLE, AND CARING YOUNG PEOPLE WHO UNDERSTAND
AND RESPECT THE MULTI-CULTURAL WORLD IN WHICH WE LIVE.
WE DO THIS BY PROVIDING A NURTURING ENVIRONMENT IN
WHICH ALL STUDENTS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PURSUE THEIR
INDIVIDUAL INTELLECTUAL ABILITIES AND DISCOVER THEIR
UNIQUE GIFTS.**

**WE ARE COMMITTED TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, WORSHIP, AND
SERVICE TO OTHERS; OUR STUDENTS ACHIEVE A DEEPER
AWARENESS OF THEIR RESPONSIBILITY TO GOD, COMMUNITY, THE
WORLD AT LARGE AND THEMSELVES.**

**APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL ADVISORY AND PARISH COUNCILS-
2013**

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