



**AVE MARIA**  
ACADEMY

## **CORE CURRICULUM GUIDE**

## INTRODUCTION

Ave Maria Academy in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania is dedicated to achieving academic excellence within a Catholic environment by aligning our standards with the PA state and national standards. Led by talented and caring teachers, we believe that our students reach their potential by placing focus on the whole student as we strive to instill our faith and the importance of moral integrity in all classrooms and programs. We approach academics by educating the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional and social development of their well-being. In addition to the core subjects, we offer a diverse curriculum which includes art, music, Spanish, athletics and extracurricular activities, giving our students the opportunity to succeed in various aspects of their educational career. Our dedicated priests, faculty and administrators are shaping Ave Maria Academy students in becoming kind, goal-oriented individuals within the context of a Catholic faith community.

It is our hope that this Curriculum Guide serves as a useful tool and provides an overview of what children are learning in mathematics, english language arts, and religion in each grade level at AMA. This rigorous curriculum is in place for our students to excel through their years at AMA and beyond.



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## KINDERGARTEN CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Rote counts to 100

Name numerals 0 – 20 & represent with objects

Compare numbers between 1 and 10

Compose and decompose numbers up to 19 into ten and ones by using objects or drawings

Represent addition/subtraction with objects, fingers, mental images, drawings, sounds acting out situations, verbal explanations, expressions, or equations

Analyze and compare two-and three-dimensional shapes, in different sizes and orientations, using informal language to describe their similarities, differences, parts and other attributes

Describe measurable attributes of objects, such as length, weight, area or capacity

Classify up to 20 objects using one attribute into categories and display the number of objects; count and compare the quantities of each category and describe the difference

Describe objects in the environment using names of shapes and the relative positions of these objects using terms such as above, below, beside, in front of, behind, and next to

Describe time including months of the year and days of the week

### ELA/READING

With prompting, identify characters, settings, and major events in a story

With prompting, retell familiar stories including key details and make a connection between two individual, events, ideas, or pieces of information in a text

Recognize and produce rhyming words.

Count, pronounce, blend, and segment syllables in spoken words.

Identify parts of a book (title, author) and parts of a text (beginning, end, details).

Respond to text with relevant questions and comments

Group words, pictures and objects by category

Express and translate ideas in graphic forms (pictures/illustrations)

Use contextual cues to establish meaning of unfamiliar vocabulary

Listen actively to increase one's own understanding by asking questions and/or retelling information

Apply knowledge of letter sound correspondence to read and spell simple words

Recognize/identify upper + lower case letters

### RELIGION

#### **God Gives Us Many Gifts**

God Made All Things  
God Gives Us Light  
God Gives Us Water  
God Gives Us the Land  
God Made the Animals

#### **God is Our Creator**

God Made All People  
God Made Us  
God Helps Us to Discover  
We Learn About God with Our Families  
We Learn About God with Our Friends

#### **Jesus Shows Us God's Love**

God Chooses Mary  
God the Father Gives Us Jesus  
Jesus Grew Up in Nazareth  
Jesus Teaches and Helps Us  
Jesus Wants Us to Love

#### **Jesus Wants Us to Share God's Love**

We Belong to the Church  
We Pray As Jesus Did  
We Celebrate Jesus' Gift  
We Care About Others As Jesus Did  
We Celebrate that Jesus Is Our Friend

#### **Catholic Prayers:**

Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be, and The Rosary

Jesus is God's greatest gift to us.  
The Bible is God's Word.



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## 1ST GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Count, read and write numbers up to 120

Understand that the two digits of a two-digit number represent amounts of tens and ones

Compare two two-digit numbers based on meanings of tens and ones digits, recording the results of comparisons with the symbols  $>$ ,  $=$ ,  $<$

Use addition and subtraction within 20 to solve word problems by using objects, drawings, and equations with a symbol for the unknown number to represent the problem

Apply properties of operations as strategies to add and subtract (commutative property of addition; associative property of addition)

Compose and identify two and three-dimensional geometric shapes and classify by common attributes

Fractions -partition circles and rectangles into two and four equal shares

Measure lengths indirectly

Tell and write time in hours and half hours using analog and digital clocks

Represent, organize and interpret data with up to three categories including data on charts and graphs

Recognizes and distinguishes coins and values as well as solves problems involving money

### ELA/READING

Identify main idea and retell key details of text and ask/answer questions about the key details

Explain major differences between books that tell story and books that give information, drawing on wide reading or range of text types

Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Retell stories to demonstrate understanding of their central message or lesson

Ask and answer questions about what a speaker says in order to gather additional information

Identify words and phrases in stories or poems that suggest feelings or appeal to the senses

Read and comprehend literature on grade level, reading independently and proficiently, using context clues and structural clues in a story

Describe people, places, things, and events with relevant details, expressing ideas and feelings clearly

Discriminates and identifies between long and short vowels

Reads orally with fluency and expressing using decoding skills

Complete writing activities with basic sentence structure, incorporating vocabulary

### RELIGION

#### **Jesus Teaches Us About God's Love**

God is Our Father  
We Believe in the Blessed Trinity  
Jesus Grew Up in a Family  
Jesus Works Among the People  
Jesus Teaches Us About Love

#### **We Are Followers of Jesus**

Jesus Had Many Followers  
Jesus Died and Rose to New Life  
Jesus Sends the Holy Spirit  
The Holy Spirit Helps the Church to Grow  
The Church Serves

#### **We Belong to the Church**

We Belong to a Parish  
We Celebrate the Sacraments  
The Church Welcomes New Members  
We Are Followers of Jesus  
We Celebrate God's Forgiveness

#### **We Celebrate and Live Our Faith**

Jesus Gives Us the Eucharist  
We Celebrate the Mass  
We Share God's Love  
We Honor Mary and the Saints  
We Care for the Gifts of God's Creation

#### **Seasonal Chapters**

The Three Days (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday) /Lent/ Easter  
Christmas/ Advent  
Ordinary Time  
The Church Year



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## 2ND GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Compare two three-digit numbers based on meanings of the hundreds, tens, and ones digits, using  $>$ ,  $=$ , and  $<$  symbols to compare

Read and write numbers to 1000 using base-ten numerals, number names, and expanded form

Use place value and properties of operations to add and subtract

Solve Problems using Adding + Subtracting

Add/subtract up to 20 using mental strategies

Determine whether a group of objects has an odd or even number of members

Recognize and draw shapes including triangles, quadrilaterals, pentagons, hexagons, and cubes

Partition circles and rectangles into two, three, or four equal shares

Measure and estimate lengths in standard units

Tell and write time from analog and digital clocks to the nearest five minutes

Solve word problems involving dollar bills, quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies, using  $\$$  and  $\text{¢}$  symbols appropriately

Represent and interpret data using line plots, picture graph and bar graph

### ELA/READING

Identify the main idea of a multi-paragraph text as well as the focus of paragraphs within

Ask and answer questions such as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text

Describe connection between a series of events, concepts, or steps in a procedure within a text

Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in grade level text

Acknowledge differences in the points of views of characters and how they respond to events and challenges within a story

Describe how reasons support specific points the author makes in a text

Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences

Recount stories and determine their central message, lesson, or moral

Describe and apply comprehension skills

### RELIGION

#### **Sacrament Preparation:**

First Reconciliation  
First Holy Communion

#### **Christ Is With Us Always**

Jesus Is the Son of God  
Jesus Christ Gives Us the Church  
We Celebrate God's Love  
We Celebrate Baptism  
We Celebrate Confirmation

#### **Jesus Calls Us to Penance and Reconciliation**

We Learn About God's Love  
God Gives Us Laws  
We Follow God's Laws  
We Prepare for the Sacrament  
We Celebrate the Sacrament

#### **Jesus Gives Himself in the Eucharist**

Jesus Gives Us the Eucharist  
We Gather for the Celebration of the Eucharist  
We Celebrate the Liturgy of the Word  
We Celebrate the Liturgy of the Eucharist  
We Go in Peace to Share God's Love

#### **We Live Our Catholic Faith**

God Calls Us to Love and Serve  
The Church Lives Today  
We Pray  
We Honor Mary and the Saints  
We Show Love and Respect



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## 3RD GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Perform multi-digit arithmetic

Demonstrate fluency of addition and subtraction

Round whole numbers to nearest ten or hundred

Fractions: represent on a number line, generate equivalent fractions, compare fractions with the same numerator or same denominator

Demonstrate an understanding of Multiplication and Division properties and their relationship with each other

Identify, classify, and compare shapes

Partition two dimensional shapes into equal parts and express the area of a partition as a unit fraction of the whole

Tell and write time to nearest minute

Make change using coins and bills

Represent and interpret data using various displays

Determine the area of a rectangle as it relates to multiplication and addition

Determine perimeter/side lengths of polygons

Distinguish between linear and area measurements

### ELA/READING

Determine the main idea of a text; recount the key details and explain how they support the main idea

Use accurately grade appropriate conversational, academic, and domain-specific words and phrases

Describe how an author connects sentences and paragraphs in a text to support particular points

Determine the central message, lesson, or moral in literary text; explain how it is conveyed in text

Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details; speak clearly with adequate volume, appropriate pacing, and clear pronunciation

Compare and contrast the themes, settings, and plots of stories written by the same author about the same or similar characters

Compare and contrast the most important points and key details presented in two texts on the same topic

Explain how a series of events, concepts, or steps in a procedure is connected within a text, using language that pertains to time, sequence and cause and effect

### RELIGION

#### **Jesus Give Us the Church**

God Sends Us His Own Son  
Jesus Teaches Us About God's Love  
Christ Will Come Again  
The Church Begins  
We Learn About the Early Church

#### **We Are Members of the Church**

The Church Has Four Marks  
The Church Teaches Us  
The Church Prays  
The Parish Is Our Home  
God Calls Us to Holiness

#### **The Church Leads Us in Worship**

We Celebrate the Sacraments  
Celebrating Eucharist: The Mass  
We Worship at Mass  
Celebrating Penance and Reconciliation  
We Pray for Healing and Eternal Life

#### **We Are Called to Discipleship**

We Continue the Work of Jesus  
The Church Respects All People  
The Church is Worldwide  
We Are God's Holy People  
The Kingdom of God Continues to Grow



# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## 4TH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Compare, round, and demonstrate understanding of arithmetic for multi-digit whole numbers

Demonstrate an understanding of fraction equivalence as well as compare and order fractions

Solve problems with fractions/ mixed numbers

Use decimal notation for decimal fractions

Compare decimal fractions and decimals respectively

Represent/solve problems verbally as equations

Use factors to represent numbers and recognize that a whole number is a multiple of each of its factors

Generate and analyze patterns that follow a single rule

Draw, measure, and identify lines and angles

Classify shapes using their lines and angles  
Recognize and draw lines of symmetry

Solve problems involving measurements and convert larger units to small units

Translate one type of data display to another

Represent/interpret data involving fractions

### ELA/READING

Use combined knowledge of all letter- sound correspondences, syllabication, patterns, and morphology to read multi-syllabic words

Cite relevant details from text to support what the text says explicitly and make inferences

Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details

Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases using a range of strategies and tools

With guidance, develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, and editing

Explain events, procedures, ideas, or concepts, using language that pertains to time, sequence, and cause/effect

Determine a theme from details in the text

Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions on grade level topics and texts

Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes

Explain/contrast poems, drama, and prose

Explain how an author uses and evidence to support particular points in a text

### RELIGION

#### **Growing in Jesus Christ**

Jesus- the Way, the Truth, and the Life  
Jesus Leads Us to Happiness  
Sin in Our World  
Our Conscience, Our Guide  
Celebrating Penance and Reconciliation

#### **The Commandments Help Us to Love God**

Learning About God's Law  
The First Commandment  
The Second Commandment  
The Third Commandment  
Strengthened by the Eucharist

#### **The Commandments Help Us to Love Others**

The Fourth Commandment  
The Fifth Commandment  
The Sixth Commandment  
The Seventh Commandment  
The Eighth Commandment

#### **We Are Called to Holiness**

The Ninth Commandment  
The Tenth Commandment  
We Grow in Holiness  
We Are the Church  
We Are Called to Discipleship





# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## 5TH GRADE CORE CURRICULUM

### MATH

Demonstrate an understanding of rounding as it pertains to whole numbers and decimals

Read, write and compare decimals

Compute whole numbers + decimals accurately

Add, subtract, multiply and divide fractions and explain fraction operations

Write and interpret numerical expressions

Evaluate expressions using order of operations

Generate, analyze and compare patterns

Describe, plot, and interpret points given an ordered pair and identify parts of a coordinate grid

Classify two-dimensional figures based on their properties

Solve problems using simple conversions

Organize and display data in order to answer questions

Represent/interpret data with appropriate scale

Solve problems involving computation with fractions using information from data displays

Apply concepts of volume to solve problems

Relate volume to multiplication and to addition

### ELA/READING

Determine two or more main ideas in a text and explain how they are supported by key details

Analyze multiple accounts of a topic noting similarities and differences in the point of view

Determine a theme of a text from details in the text, including how characters respond to challenges

Use text structure, in and among texts, to interpret information (e.g., chronology, comparison, cause/effect, problem/ solution)

Explain how a series of chapters, scenes, or stanzas fits together to provide the overall structure of a particular story, drama, or poem

Demonstrate a grade appropriate command of the conventions of standard English grammar, usage, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling

Recall information from experiences or gather information from print/digital sources; summarize/paraphrase information in notes and finished work, and provide list sources

Analyze how visual/multimedia elements contribute to meaning, tone, or beauty of a text

Determine how an author supports particular points in a text through reasons and evidence

Integrate information from several texts on the same topic to demonstrate understanding of that topic

### RELIGION

#### **Jesus Christ Shares His Life with Us**

Jesus Shares God's Life with Us

Jesus Shares His Mission with the Church

The Church Celebrates Seven Sacraments

New Life in Christ

The Celebration of Baptism

Liturgical Year

Ordinary Time

#### **Confirmation and Eucharist Complete Our Initiation**

The Coming of the Holy Spirit

The Celebration of Confirmation

Jesus Christ, the Bread of Life

The Celebration of the Eucharist

Living as Prayerful People

Advent/Christmas

#### **The Sacraments of Healing Restore Us**

We Turn to God

The Celebration of Penance and Reconciliation

Jesus, the Healer

The Celebration of the Anointing of the Sick

Mary, Model of Discipleship

Lent

Triduum

#### **We Love and Serve as Jesus Did**

Faith, Hope, and Love

Called to Live as Jesus' Disciples

Matrimony: Promise of Faithfulness and Love

Holy Orders: Promise of Service for the People

One, Holy Catholic, and Apostolic

Easter





# AVE MARIA ACADEMY

## MIDDLE SCHOOL RELIGION

### 6th GRADE

#### **Forming the Covenant**

God's Revelation  
Creation  
People Turn from God  
God Promises to Help People  
The Patriarchs: God Chooses a People

#### **Building the Covenant Nation**

An Enslaved People  
A Free People  
A Conquering People  
A Royal People  
A Prosperous People

#### **Redefining the Covenant People**

A Divided People: Israel, the Northern Kingdom  
A Divided People: Judah, the Southern Kingdom  
The Exile and the Journey Home  
A Strong People  
God Fulfills His Promise

#### **The Covenant Fulfilled in Jesus**

Jesus, Teacher and Healer  
Jesus, Redeemer and Savior  
The Church Begins  
The Bible and the Church Today  
The Church in the World

### 7th GRADE

#### **Who Is God?**

The Source of All Life  
The Truth Revealed  
The Blessed Trinity  
God, Our Loving Father  
Jesus Christ, the Good News  
Holy Spirit, Helper and Guide

#### **Who Is Jesus?**

The Promise of Salvation  
Jesus, the Promised Messiah  
The Coming of God's Kingdom  
Jesus the Healer  
Jesus, the Bread of Life  
Jesus Christ is the Savior

#### **How is Jesus Christ Alive in the Church Today?**

The Seven Sacraments  
Baptism  
Confirmation  
Eucharist  
Penance and Anointing of the Sick  
Holy Orders and Matrimony

#### **How Does the Church Live As the Body of Christ?**

We Live Out Our Vocation  
We Gather As Christ's Disciples  
We Perform the Works of Mercy  
We Work for Justice and Peace  
We Are a Communion of Saints  
We Rejoice in God's Kingdom

### 8th GRADE

Sacrament: Preparation for Confirmation

#### **How Do We Nourish God's Gift of Faith?**

We Respond to God's Love  
We Make Moral Choices  
We Follow God's Law  
We Love God and Others  
We Honor Life and Creation  
We Respect All People

#### **Who Are Our Ancestors in Faith?**

The Early Church (to 300)  
Christians of the Roman Empire  
Christians of the Early Middle Ages (to 1100)  
Christians of the High Middle Ages (1300)  
The Church in Crisis and Change (1500)  
People of Reform and Renewal (1600)

#### **How Can the Church's Heritage Give Us Hope?**

Keeping Faith in a Changing World (1790)  
Depending on God in Times of Fear (1815)  
Teaching Others About Christ (1915)  
Renewing Our Relationship with Christ (1965)  
Showing Concern for Future Generations  
Transforming the World Through Faith

#### **What Does it Mean to be Catholic?**

Caring for the Whole Human Family  
Seeking God's life and Love As the Church  
Living as the Body of Christ  
Witnessing to Our Relationship with Christ  
Growing in Faith Together  
Belonging to the Communion of Saints