SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

RELIGION

CREED

Students will be able to demonstrate and understanding of:

Human need for God based on revelation and faith

- Understand that the Bible tells us that God and God's goodness prevail over sin and evil
- Understand that God chose to send Jesus to us for our salvation
- Understand that we are called to be God's chosen ones
- Understand that faith is a gift from God

Recognize the Trinity as God

- Understand that God is revealed to us in the Bible
- Understand that the mystery of the Holy Trinity, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit was revealed in the person, words, and works of Jesus Christ
- Understand that the Holy Spirit inspired the authors on the Bible
- Understand that the Holy Spirit is always present and active in the lives of the people

Exercise responsible stewardship for the gift of creation

- Understand that sin can destroy God's good creation
- Understand that we are called to overcome evil and to be responsible stewards

Read, understand, interpret, and apply Scripture to life

- Understand that there are 46 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the New Testament
- Understand that the experience of God's people is recorded in the Scriptures
- Understand that the Old Testament contains the roots of our faith
- Understand that the Old Testament is fulfilled in Jesus Christ
- Understand that the Church is the Body of Christ, Head (Jesus Christ) and members
- Understand that God's people are called to continual reform and renewal

Illustrate a basic understanding of doctrine in light of the creed

- Understand that God the Father creates out of love
- Understand that Jesus is the Messiah who came to serve and liberate
- Understand that the Holy Spirit is the breath of life and fire of love

Illustrate a basic understanding of Church

- Understand that the Church was born on the day of Pentecost
- Understand that the Church is rooted in many signs and symbols of the Old Testament
- Understand that God dwells within the Church, the Body of Christ
- Understand that the Pope is the leader of the leader of the Roman Catholic Church
- Demonstrate an appreciation for prayer as the primary way we come to know God and the community as the context for sharing faith within and beyond itself

SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

SACRAMENTS

Understand the importance of sacraments, with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist, in the life of Catholics

- Understand that sacraments are encounters with Jesus Christ that make God's grace present to us
- Understand that sacramental actions of the Church originated in Jewish rituals
- Understand that Eucharist is central to Catholic life
- Understand that the sacred is experienced in the liturgical year, sacramentals, symbols, and rituals
- Understand that through our Baptism, we are called to follow Jesus

CHRISTIAN LIVING

Examine a variety of Christian vocation as a response to the baptismal call

- Understand that Christians are to be missionaries, bringing the Good News to the ends of the earth

Acknowledge and affirm the dignity of the human person and community

- Understand that we are all children of the covenant God made with Abraham
- Understand that the varied ethnic cultures make significant contributions to the Church

Apply Catholic principles to interpersonal relations

- Understand that we show we are God's people by living the commandments, the signs of the covenant
- Understand that the Holy Spirit calls all people to conversation and faithfulness
- Understand that the Scriptures help guide us in moral pathways of the reign of God

Know, critique, and apply social justice principles to personal and societal situations

- Understand that our God is a God of freedom
- Understand that the Bible explores the mysteries of life
- Understand that the prophets spoke out against injustice and suffering
- Understand that we see that the way to the reign of God is a way of justice and peace

Engage in service to the community in response to the Gospel call

- Understand that Jesus is the center of God's plan for the world

Develop a moral conscience informed by Church teaching

- Understand that we receive wisdom and understanding from God's Spirit in the Church to know how to act
- Understand that we learn how to live good lives through the teachings of Scripture
- Understand that God sends prophets into our midst to call us to the justice and mercy of God's reign
- Understand that all people are called to be faithful to God's love

SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

PRAYER

Know and participate in the Catholic tradition of prayer

- Understand that worship belongs to God alone
- Understand that the Eucharistic liturgy is the community's central act of worship
- Understand that prayer provides a deepening awareness of our covenant relationship with God
- Understand the elements of the Lord's Prayer
- Understand that the psalms are an example of prayers in the Old Testament that are still meaningful prayers today

EARTH SCIENCE

- The Student will be able to:
    - Explain that science involves asking questions.
    - Identify, describe, and analyze the types of and ways that scientific methods may be utilized.
    - Use the scientific method during labs.
    - Communicate data to other classmates as scientists would; using graphs, tables, formulas, and written explanations.
    - Measure and convert data using the International System of Units (SI units).

Minerals and Rocks

- The Student will be able to:
    - Define a mineral.
    - Explain how minerals form.
    - Identify different minerals in lab using tests and physical characteristics such as: color, luster, hardness, streak, fracture, and cleavage.
    - Describe what we can use minerals for.
    - Define a rock.
    - Explain how different types of rocks form.
    - Differentiate between the three groups of rocks.
    - Draw and explain the rock cycle.
    - In lab, identify and classify different rocks.
    - Give examples of what we use rocks for.

Weathering and Erosion

- The Student will be able to:
    - Compare chemical and mechanical weathering.

- Describe the four types of mass movements.
- Explain how wind can erode.
- Draw and describe how glaciers change the Earth.
- Describe how glaciers move.
- Compare a continental and valley glacier.
- Describe glacial deposits.
- List the characteristics of a river system.
- Describe the features and landforms that form because of water erosion.
- Draw and describe the parts of the groundwater system.
- Describe how our shorelines are eroded.
- Explain wave motion.
- Compare a sandy shore to a rocky shore.

Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes, and Volcanoes

- The Student will be able to:
  - Explain the theory of plate tectonics.
  - Create a map that shows the locations of the major plates.
  - Describe and draw the three types of plate boundaries.
  - Describe and draw the three types of convergent boundaries.
  - Discuss the main evidence of Alfred Wegner's theory of continental drift.
  - Discuss evidence to support Pangaea.
  - List what can form/ occur because of plate movement.
  - Define a volcano and explain the features.
  - Locate the three places where volcanoes form and why.
  - Compare the three types of volcanoes and their eruptions.
  - Describe features that form because of volcanoes.
  - Define and earthquake.
  - Draw the three types of faults.
  - List the steps that lead to an earthquake.
  - Create the three types of waves in lab using a slinky.
  - Explain how a seismograph is used to record the magnitude of an earthquake.
  - Research a historic volcano and earthquake.

Earth History

- The Student will be able to:
  - Compare ways that conditions on Earth have changed over time.
  - Describe the four major divisions of geologic time scale and identify organisms that were predominant in those periods.
  - Describe geologic time scale and how scientists use it.
  - Name the periods and eras on the timescale.
  - List the order of species and events from the beginning of the Earth to the present.

- Create a geologic times scale in lab.
- Describe how the six types of fossils form.
- List the conditions needed for something to become a fossil.
- Make a mold and cast fossil in lab.

Atmosphere, Weather, and Climate

- The Student will be able to:
  - Describe the formation of Earth's early atmosphere.
  - Draw and give characterizes of each layer of the atmosphere.
  - Draw the water cycle.
  - Compare and contrast different types of air masses.
  - Draw the types of fronts.
  - Describe weather associated with different fronts.
  - Describe the conditions necessary for severe weather.
  - Discuss how lightning and tornadoes form.
  - Explain how hurricanes form.
  - Identify and classify different types of clouds.
  - Describe how weather and climate are different.
  - List factors that influence climate.
  - Locate Earth's major climate zones.
  - Describe how Earth's climate changes over time.

Oceanography

- The Student will be able to:
  - Explain the beginnings of the oceans.
  - Describe different currents and their causes.
  - Draw a model of the ocean floor.
  - Draw a wave and label the different parts.
  - Describe features that are on the ocean floor.
  - Explain how the moon creates tides.

Astronomy

- The Student will be able to:
  - Model the motion of our Earth on its axis and around the sun.
  - Discuss why we have seasons and the location of the Earth during each season.
  - Discuss the hypotheses of how the moon formed.
  - Explain and draw the phases of the moon.
  - Discuss how our solar system formed.
  - Name the planets in order as well as their accurate sizes relative to one another.

- Compare and contrast the inner and outer planets.
- Describe other objects in our solar system.
- Label the parts of a comet.
- Name major constellations and why we see them.
- Label and describe the layers of the Sun.
- Describe all types of stars on the H-R Diagram.
- Understand the life cycle of a star from Nebula to black hole or black dwarf.
- See nebulas.
- See different types of galaxies.
- Understand our place in the universe and the theory of the big bang.

MATHEMATICS

Ratios and Proportional Relationships

- Understand the concept of a ratio and use ratio language to describe a ratio relationship between two quantities
- Understand the concept of a unit rate
- Use ratio and rate reasoning to solve real-world and mathematical problems
- Use tables to compare ratios
- Find a percent of a quantity as a rate per 100
- Solve problems involving finding the whole, given a part and the percent
- Solve contextual problems involving percentages such as sales taxes and tips
- Estimate the answers to calculations involving operations with rational numbers
- Convert between basic units of measurement within a single measurement system

The Number System

- Interpret and compute quotients of fractions, and solve word problems involving division of fractions by fractions
- Understand division of fractions and whole numbers as the inverse of multiplication
- Solve for the unknown value in equations with fractions
- Multiply and divide any two fractions, including mixed numbers
- Fluently add, subtract, multiply, and divide multi-digit decimals
- Find the greatest common factor of two whole numbers and the least common multiple of two whole numbers
- Understand a rational number as a point on the number line.
- Recognize opposite signs of numbers as indicating locations on opposite sides of 0 on the number line
- Understand that 0 is an integer that is neither negative nor positive
- Understand signs of numbers in ordered pairs as indicating locations in quadrants of the coordinate plane
- Find and position pairs of integers and other rational numbers on a coordinate plane.

- Understand that a fraction or a negative fraction is a quotient of two integers
- Represent rational numbers as fractions or decimals (terminating or repeating) when possible, and translate between the representations
- Add, subtract, multiply, and divide positive rational numbers fluently
- Add, subtract multiply and divide integers
- Express numbers in scientific notation
- Understand ordering and absolute value of rational numbers
- Interpret statements of inequality as statements about the relative position of two numbers on a number line diagram
- Write, interpret, and explain statements of order for rational numbers in real-world contexts
- Understand the absolute value of a rational number as its distance from 0 on the number line; interpret absolute value as magnitude for a positive or negative quantity in a real-world situation
- Solve real-world and mathematical problems by graphing points in all four quadrants of the coordinate plane.

Algebra

- Write, read, and evaluate algebraic expressions
- Identify parts of an expression using mathematical terms
- Evaluate expressions using order of operations
- Use variables to represent numbers and write expressions when solving a real-world or mathematical problem; understand that a variable can represent an unknown number
- Distinguish between an algebraic expression and an equation
- Understand that adding, subtracting multiplying or diving the same number to both sides of an equation creates a new equation that has the same solution
- Use variables to represent two quantities in a real-world problem that change in relationship to one another; write an equation to express one quantity, thought of as the dependent variable, in terms of the other quantity, thought of as the independent variable
- Understand that relationships between quantities can be represented by graphs and tables
- Solve simple problems involving linear functions whose input values are integers; write the equation; graph the resulting ordered pairs of integers
- Represent simple relationships between quantities using verbal descriptions, formulas or equations, tables, and graphs

Geometry

- Find the area of right triangles, other triangles, special quadrilaterals, and polygons
- Apply the formulas to find volumes of right rectangular prisms
- Draw polygons in the coordinate plane given coordinates for the vertices
- Represent three-dimensional figures using nets made up of rectangles and triangles, and use the nets to find the surface area of these figures. Apply these techniques in the context of solving real-world and mathematical problems
- Understand and apply basic properties of lines and angles

- Understand congruence of corresponding and alternate interior angles when parallel lines are cut by transversal
- Understand and apply basic properties of triangles, including vertical angles, complementary angles, supplementary angles
- Understand that for polygons, congruence means corresponding sides and angles have equal measures
- Understand transformations in the plane (reflections, rotations, translations)

Data and Probability

- Recognize a statistical question as one that anticipates variability in the data related to the question and accounts for it in the answers
- Understand that a set of data collected to answer a statistical question has a distribution
- Recognize that a measure of center (median and/or mean) for a numerical data set summarizes all of its values with a single number
- Display numerical data in plots on a number line, bar graph, line plot, histogram, line graph, stem and leaf plot and select appropriate representation to address questions
- Summarize numerical data sets in relation to their context
- Describing the nature of the attribute under investigation, including how it was measured and its units of measurement
- Give quantitative measures of center (median and/or mean) as well as describing any overall pattern.

LANGUAGE ARTS

Writing

Text Types and Purposes

Students will:

- Understand and develop thesis statements within the structure of a five-paragraph essay.
- Draft and revise persuasive essays focused around a central thesis with supporting evidence and transitions.
- Write historical expository pieces (biography) including factual events gathered through primary and secondary sources.
- Develop personal memoirs demonstrating effective use of visual imagery.
- Compose poetry using figurative language and visual imagery.
- Create personal experience essays (personal narrative) that address issues of plot, theme, conflict, dialogue, and figurative language

SIXTH GRADE CURRICULUM

Production and Distribution of Writing

Students will:

- Apply a variety of pre-writing strategies for both narrative and informational text.
- Summarize, take notes on key points, and ask clarifying questions pertaining to a topic.
- Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.
- Set a purpose, consider audience, and replicate authors' styles and patterns when writing narrative or informational text.
- Use the Six Traits of Writing (ideas, organization, voice, word choice, sentence fluency, conventions) to develop quality writing pieces.
- Apply a variety of pre-writing strategies for both narrative (e.g., graphic organizers such as story maps or webs designed to develop a plot that includes major and minor characters, builds climax, and uses dialogue to enhance a theme) and informational text (e.g., problem/ solution, and sequence).
- Review and revise drafts with audience and purpose in mind regarding consistent voice and genre characteristics.
- Edit writing using proofreaders' checklists both individually and in peer editing groups
- Develop an enthusiasm for writing and build writing endurance by writing over extended time frames for a range of tasks, purposes, and audiences (time for research, reflection, and revision).
- Exhibit individual style to enhance the written message (e.g., in narrative text: personification, humor, element of surprise; in informational text: emotional appeal, strong opinion, credible support).

Language, Grammar, and Usage

Students will:

- Apply knowledge of language to understand how language functions in different contexts, to make effective choices for meaning or style, and to comprehend more fully when reading or listening.
- Diagram sentences including: subject, predicate, noun, verbs, objects and prepositional phrases.
- Identify and use a variety of style conventions and grammatical structures in writing including:

    - Nouns
        - Singular and Plural Nouns
        - Count and Noncount Nouns
        - Concrete and Abstract Nouns
        - Nouns as Subjects and Subject Complements
        - Nouns as Objects
        - Possessive Nouns with Both Separate and Joint Possession
        - Appositives
        - Words Used as Nouns and Verbs
        - Words Used as Nouns and Adjectives

    - Pronouns
        - Agreement of Pronouns and Antecedents

- Intensive and Reflexive Pronouns
- Subject Pronouns
- Object Pronouns
- Possessive Pronouns and Adjectives
- Pronouns in Contractions
- Demonstrative Pronouns
- Interrogative Pronouns
- Indefinite Pronouns
- Indefinite Pronouns with Double Negatives

- Adjectives
  - Descriptive Adjectives
  - Definite and Indefinite Adjectives
  - Numerical Adjectives
  - Adjectives as Subject and Subject Complements
  - Comparative and Superlative Adjectives
  - Demonstrative, Interrogative, and Indefinite Adjectives
  - Adjective Phrases

- Verbs
  - Principal Parts of Verbs and Verb Phrases
  - Irregular Verbs
  - Transitive and Intransitive Verbs
  - Linking Verbs
  - Simple, Progressive, and Perfect Verb Tenses
  - Subject-Verb Agreement
  - Active and Passive Voice
  - Indicative, Imperative, and Subjunctive Mood
  - Modal Auxiliaries

- Adverbs
  - Comparative and Superlative Adverbs
  - Words Used as Adverbs and Adjectives
  - Negatives
  - Adverb Phrases and Clauses

- Sentences
  - Subjects and Predicates
  - Natural and Inverted Order of Subjects and Predicates
  - Types of Sentences
  - Simple and Compound Sentences
  - Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases
  - Words Used as Prepositions and Adverbs
  - Adjective Phrases
  - Adverb Phrases and Clauses
  - Complex Sentences

- Conjunctions, Interjections, Punctuation, and Capitalization
  - Conjunctions
  - Interjections
  - Periods

- Commas
- Exclamation Points and Question Marks
- Semicolons
- Colons
- Quotation Marks
- Apostrophes
- Hyphens
- Capital Letters

Speaking and Listening

Students will:

- Respond to, evaluate, and analyze speeches and presentations delivered by peers.
- Demonstrate the appropriate social skills of audience behavior (e.g., eye contact, quiet and still, attentive, supportive) during speeches and presentations.
- Make strategic use of digital media and visual displays of data to express information and enhance understanding of presentations.
- Come to discussions prepared having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation by referring to evidence on the topic, text, or issue to probe and reflect on ideas under discussion.

Vocabulary and Spelling

Students will:

- Spell frequently misspelled words correctly (e.g., their, there, they're) in the context of the student's own writing.
- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on grade six reading and content, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.
- Use context clues to determine the meaning of unknown words.
- Use Greek and Latin affixes as clues to determine the meaning of unknown words.
- Consult both print and digital reference materials to find the spelling and pronunciation of a word to determine or clarify its precise meaning or its part of speech.

Reading

Literature

Students will:

- Study Realistic Fiction, Poetry, Mystery, Historical Fiction and Science Fiction through the examination of novels, short stories, plays and films.
- Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and to make logical inferences from it.
- Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas distinct from personal opinions or judgments.

- Analyze how and why individuals, events, and ideas develop and interact over the course of a text.
- Analyze the role of dialogue, plot, characters, themes, major and minor characters, and climax.
- Analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
- Analyze what strategies authors use to develop plot.
- Compare and contrast the experience of reading literature versus viewing an audio, video, or live version of the text.
- Analyze how two or more texts in different forms or genres address similar themes or topics in order to build knowledge or to compare the approaches the authors take.
- Connect personal knowledge, experiences and understanding of the world to themes and perspectives in text.
- Independently self-monitor comprehension when reading or listening to a text.
- Use and discuss strategies to increase comprehension and engage in discussions including predicting, constructing mental images, representing ideas in text, questioning, rereading, or listening again if uncertain about meaning, inferring, and summarizing.

Informational Text

Students will:

- Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly and make logical inferences from it.
- Cite specific textual evidence when writing or speaking to support conclusions drawn from the text.
- Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development through particular details; summarize the key supporting details and ideas distinct from personal opinions or judgments.
- Explain how authors use text features to enhance understanding of central, key and supporting ideas (footnotes, bibliographies, introductions, summaries, conclusions, appendices).
- Interpret words and phrases as they are used in a text, and analyze how specific word choices shape meaning or tone.
- Analyze elements and style of informational genres (research report, how-to articles, essays, etc.).
- Analyze the structure and organizational patterns of texts.
- Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and explain how it is conveyed as well as how it shapes the content and style of a text.
- Evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity, relevance and sufficiency of the evidence to determine if it is valuable.
- Connect personal knowledge, experiences, and understanding of the world to themes and perspectives in text.
- Independently self-monitor comprehension.
- Use and discuss strategies to increase comprehension and engage in interpretive discussion including predicting, constructing mental images, representing ideas in text, questioning, rereading or listening again if uncertain about meaning, inferring, and summarizing.
- Use reading strategies specific to informational text which focus on using features of the text (ex. headings, bold type, captions, pictures, etc.).

- Read and comprehend literary nonfiction and informational texts, including history/social studies, science, and technical texts independently and proficiently at the sixth grade level.

SOCIAL STUDIES

GEOGRAPHY - Western Hemisphere
Textbook: Exploring Our World, People, Places, and Cultures
Copyright: 2010

Students will Demonstrate an Understanding and Review of Geography Skills:

- Latitude and Longitude
- Five Themes of Geography
- Globes and Maps
- Map Projections
- Types of Maps
- Parts of a Map

Students will Demonstrate an Understanding of the Land, People and Culture of North America:

- Compare and contrast the United States and Canada
- Describe the physical features of the United States and Canada
- Describe the history and culture of the United States and Canada
- Describe and explain the regions of the United States
- Describe and explain the territories of Canada
- Describe the political and economic systems of the United States and Canada

Students will Demonstrate an Understanding of the Land, People and Culture of Latin America:

- Compare and contrast Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America
- Describe the physical features of Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America
- Describe the history and culture of Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America
- Describe and explain the regions of Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America
- Describe the political and economic systems of Mexico, the Caribbean, Central America and South America