

## **Philosophy of Religious Formation**

As a faith community, Holy Family School provides our students with opportunities to deepen their understanding of the Catholic faith, to experience life in a Christian community, to participate actively in the mission of Jesus Christ and his Church, and to celebrate their Catholic faith.

We are a living faith community in which our students are empowered and encouraged to utilize their gifts and talents and to live their faith through a variety of meaningful roles in the school, the parish, and in the Church at large.

We provide unique opportunities for our students to experience the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to bring Catholic beliefs and values into their lives and world.

Our community fosters the faith of our students and the entire school community through participation in the sacraments, effective religious education, and a variety of programs and activities, such as service projects, prayer services and liturgies, spiritual formation, and vocation ministry that includes education, encouragement, and invitation.

Holy Family School assists the parent as the primary educator of their child's faith and helps prepare our students to become full and active members of the Catholic Church. Along with our parishes and parents, we continuously seek to find ways to impact the lives of our students, keeping their lives grounded in the sacraments of the Catholic Church, and to wisely utilize the resources of our Catholic community.

## **Philosophy of Language Arts**

Language Arts help students find their God-given voice to communicate with confidence, clarity and commitment. The Holy Family School Language Arts curriculum provides lessons and activities that empower students to read, listen, speak, view, interpret, and use media in ways that are purposeful and meaningful and reflect our world and our beliefs to enrich our lives, our community, and our world.

## **Philosophy of Math**

We believe a Math curriculum should be interesting, relevant, and engaging for students of all ages. A challenging curriculum should develop and extend student's mathematical proficiency and literacy. In meeting the demands of a changing world, the Math curriculum will prepare students to think critically, problem solve, innovate, and collaborate.

## **Philosophy of Science**

It is the philosophy of Holy Family School's Science should be taught, learned, and assessed through a hands-on learning experience. The scientific processes of observation, classification, experimentation, analysis, and application is the basis for developing scientific concepts and higher-order thinking skills.

Core units, each developmentally and sequentially appropriate for students at their particular grade level, are infused with reading, writing, and applied technology learning experiences. Connections from teacher-developed units to other curriculum areas, to societal and environmental issues, and to career opportunities are expected and emphasized in order to use science to serve all people.

It is the belief of Holy Family School that Science should ensure the active cognitive and physical involvement of the learner; such involvement will be evidenced through the teacher's modeling of science strategies, students' independent learning, and cooperative learning efforts with peers.

## **Philosophy of Social Studies**

Holy Family School educators believe a Social Studies curriculum should develop moral character and respect for self and others as children of God. Teaching Social Studies in a Catholic school should help students become productive individuals who recognize the rights and responsibilities as citizens of the world. It is important for students to study cultures, people, places, and environments to learn from the past, serve in the present, and plan for the future.

## **Philosophy of Technology**

Technology infuses classrooms with digital learning tools, used to support both teaching and learning, such as computers and hand-held devices. It expands student course offerings, experiences, and learning materials in and out of the classroom. Technology supports learning that goes on all around us, builds 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and increases student engagement in the their learning process.

## **Philosophy of Music**

Music enables us to express our feelings and beliefs in ways that are unique and creative. Every student is invited to explore and develop their own musical potential. Holy Family School serve as a guide to enable students to discover a life-long appreciation for and participation in music.

Holy Family School Music consists of the following classes:

General Music K-6

6<sup>th</sup> Gr. Band via Albany Middle School

## **Philosophy of Art**

It is our desire to provide a positive Art environment for all students, while guiding them through visual and tactile methods of learning and encouraging curiosity and risk-taking. Students will learn the 'hows' and 'whys' of the art mediums they are working with. Art education at Holy Family centers around teaching about art history, art aesthetics, art perspectives, and studio art that uses interdisciplinary methods that enhance learning, creativity, and innovation.