

✿ Religious Development ✿

In addition to their core religion curriculum, students at Epiphany of Our Lord School have many opportunities for spiritual and religious growth and development. These activities enable our students to deepen their relationship with the Lord, positively impact their family life, and make a difference in their community. The following is a list of some of these opportunities:

Weekly Mass

Students in grades 1 through 8 attend mass every Friday morning. (Kindergarten students join them later in the school year.) Each week, one of the classes is responsible for preparing and leading the mass. They select the music, do the readings, psalms and petitions, bring up the gifts, and if age appropriate, serve as altar servers. In addition, our Children's Choir sings at our weekly masses under the direction of our Parish Music Director. This is a wonderful opportunity for the students to become actively involved in the celebration of the mass!

Community Service Projects

Several times throughout the year, the school participates in service projects. Some of these projects are the Peanut Butter and Jelly Drive, Operation Santa Claus, Candy for Troops, Pennies for Patients, Alex's Lemonade Stand, toiletries for St. Mary's Orphanage, Pasta for Pennies for Leukemia, financial collections for Autism Awareness, childhood cancer, diabetes and more.

Respect Life Youth Group

This student organization is facilitated by a faculty member with the assistance of parent volunteers and is open to students in grades 3 through 8. It includes opportunities throughout the year for these students to witness their Catholic faith. Their monthly meetings include a prayer service and several service projects such as making fleece scarves and Christmas cards for the homeless in the local community. The group also participates in certain annual events such as a pro-life classroom door decorating contest, prayer card contest, and a pro-life essay contest. Student members in 8th grade along with our parish adult Respect Life Committee are able to attend the March for Life in Washington, D.C. every year.

Prayer Partners

Each pre-k 3 student is thoughtfully matched with a fifth grader as a Prayer Partner. The Prayer Partners work together on projects regularly throughout the year. This is a relationship that is enjoyed by both the younger and the older students, and it continues with them through first and eighth grade. The 1st grade students sit with their Prayer Partners in church at weekly Friday mass and the kindergarten students do likewise once they begin attending our weekly masses after Easter. Prayer Partners work together on seasonal art projects on a monthly basis.

Additional Opportunities:

- Class retreats for sacramental candidates and the eighth grade
- Class projects, such as first grade patron saint presentations
- Confession several times throughout the year, including Advent and Lent
- Weekly Stations of the Cross in Lent
- Prayer services for special holidays
- May Procession
- Lighting of the Advent Wreath
- Receive ashes on Ash Wednesday