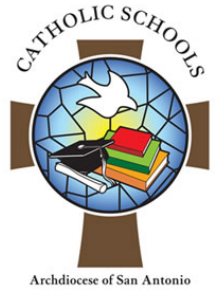




# ST. CECILIA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

118 Lowell

San Antonio, TX 78210



## Entrusting Our Children to Catholic Schools

### Integration of Faith and Academics

- The school day at St. Cecilia Catholic School begins and ends with prayer. Prayer is an important part of the whole day because connections are always being made by the teachers and staff. “With God, all things are possible.”
- With the “Living Rosary” children learn its beginnings and the power of the recitation of the rosary at all times and especially now as the students pray for world peace.
- In science as the students realize the dignity of a human life and the plan that God has for each individual. The beauty of our world in the plants and animals that exist all around them.
- The historical beginning of our Catholic Church is emphasized and how it all connects with how we live our lives.
- Other rituals are practiced throughout the school year: All Saints’ Day by remembering the saints who intercede for us, All Souls’ Day by remembering the departed souls, Thanksgiving by *giving* to others and appreciating that all things come through our Creator, Advent by preparing spiritually for the coming of Christ, Christmas by celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ and the beginning of Christianity and Lent by doing acts that improve ourselves and becoming more Christ-like so that we too can celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, *Jesus* Christ.
- The school recognizes Mary, the Mother of Jesus by a reenactment of the Crowning of Mary in the month of May.

### Positive Learning Community

- Quarterly academic and attendance assemblies; parents are notified and the assemblies are scheduled after the weekly Mass on Fridays. Students’ names are posted on the nine weeks Honor Roll bulletin board.
- The “Student of the Month” program recognizes at least two students each month from each grade level if they have fulfilled the criteria that are posted in each classroom and on the designated bulletin board.
- The end of the year awards are held on the last day of school and parents are invited.

- Accomplishments are handled at Morning Prayer and students are recognized for acts of kindness or achievements outside of school.
- Counseling Is available on a regular basis and students are trained in Conflict Resolution and are peer mediators as needed for conflicts occurring in a classroom or on the playground.
- Students participate In helping others by giving to needy missions in Mexico; contributing money to the St. Jude Hospital Children's Foundation; and contributing to operation Rice Bowl.
- Teachers and staff give of themselves by staying after school on a daily basis to assist students In their academics as well as their emotional welfare.

### **Generations of Families and Teachers Working Together**

- St. Cecilia School was established in 1921 with a graduating class In 1922. (a graduate, Martha Seng Klein, of 1929 and had attended since the day it opened Its doors just contacted the school this year (2007) at the age of 93 to say thank you and contributed a hundred dollars). Other contributing members and graduates of this school include Pat Maloney, Robert Boerner, David Kwapil (whose Mother was the cafeteria manager/cook for the years her children attended the school and years afterward)
- The office staff started their career as bookkeeper and secretary twenty-six years ago as volunteers. They sent their children to this school and have seen their grandchildren graduate from St. Cecilia School.
- The Sisters of the Incarnate Word of Charity established the school and there are two remaining Sisters on staff. Other orders of sisters also contribute their gifts of teaching and they are the Felician, the Sacred Heart of Jesus, the 11oiy Spirit Sisters; and the Missionaries of the Congregation of Divine Providence. The majority of the of the teachers are graduates from Catholic elementary, secondary or university schools. All are on a mission to give back what they received from attending Catholic institutions.
- Teachers that rotate through St. Cecilia School also come by way of relatives or connections with the Church and the school.
- Students that attended St. Cecilia School also tend to bring their children to St. Cecilia School for their formative years. The Pre-Kinder 3 teacher is a graduate of this school and both her sons attend the school.
- The graduating class of 1967 gathered here in the spring of 2002 to celebrate the 35th reunion and came from other states to be together.
- The comment of St. Cecilia School being a family still prevails in 2007.

## **Rigorous Academics**

- The expectations at St Cecilia School have always been high. The curriculum is set by the Archdiocese guided by the TCCED and TEA standards.
- Guidance is given to parents in order for the students to achieve their very best.
- Tutoring is offered in order for all students to achieve success.
- Various forms of technology is integrated in all subject areas. The computer lab is available after school for those that do not have a computer at home.
- Educational field trips are provided for the students so that the students can experience connections to the real world. Field trips may include trips to the Challenger Program at Brooks City Base, Symphonies performed by the San Antonio Symphony Orchestra, Drama productions put on by professionals as well as student productions by the various high schools, museums, historical sites and botanical gardens.
- The accelerated reading program as well as the accelerated math program is provided for the students to achieve at a higher level or to reinforce skills needed to maintain an understanding of reading and math concepts.
- Students are challenged to be higher level thinkers and problem solvers to succeed in the technological world that exists today.