



St. Ann School Liturgies and Activities to Promote Catholic Identity

- Frequent Masses or liturgies for students in kindergarten through seventh grades. Included in the Masses are Holy Days of Obligation (if school is in session) as well as at the Opening of School, the End of School and Catholic Schools Week Masses.
- Reconciliation during Advent and Lent
- Stations of the Cross during Lent
- May Crowning
- Schoolwide Rosary at least four times per year.
- Monthly virtue lessons
- Eucharistic Adoration during Lent and other times throughout the year
- Organized prayers in the morning, before lunch and at the end of the day. Morning prayers include a reading about the Saint or other liturgical events celebrated that day.
- Yearly theme, based on the Catechetical Sunday theme, which is discussed in the classrooms and displayed throughout the school.
- Monthly aspirations serve as spiritual goals for the students. The aspirations are coordinated with the yearly theme and are displayed throughout the school.
- Assemblies with student plays centered on the current aspiration
- Blessing of the School and each classroom at the beginning of the school year.
- Respect Life Month in October includes a theme, a Respect Life Mass and other liturgies, rotating take home family rosaries and classroom discussion on the value of life.
- Priests visit the classrooms during the year to discuss church teachings and liturgies as well as answer questions from the students about their faith.
- Family Sunday project to celebrate the family and its place in the faith formation of the students.
- During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus on Christmas. Advent activities include a theme, a daily reading, a classroom activity and the lighting of the Advent Wreath.
- Living Nativity (fifth-grade participants) with two presentations for the students and adults
- Activities to foster diversity and respect for fellow students such as classroom discussions, guest speakers, studying role models such as Saints and special programs during Black History Month
- Observance of Catholic Schools Week through special activities such as Mass, a Buddy event, daily prayers and announcements and attendance at the Archdiocesan CSW Mass
- Feast of St. Blaise throat blessing
- Ministers-in-training and recorder program Mass for third grade students
- Buddy program to promote sharing and mentoring between older and younger students

- Anti-bullying programs, speakers and counseling to foster a culture of respect for fellow students
- St. Joseph's Altar and blessing
- Program for Lent includes a theme, faith building activities and daily prayers
- Blessing of the Pets (stuffed animals) on the Feast Day of St. Francis (Kindergarten)
- Participation in the Archdiocesan Missionary Childhood Association and other mission activities and fundraisers
- Vocation Week activities, including guest speakers, Mass and prayers to promote vocations.
- Mary's Club for girls in third- through fifth- grade promotes devotion to Mary.
- Joseph's Club for boys in third- through fifth- grade promotes devotion to St. Joseph through service to the community.
- Junior Service Club to promote volunteer service to the school community.
- Service hour requirements for Middle School students to promote service to others.
- Builder's Club, for students in sixth- and seventh-grade, is a community service organization that has established a fellowship with an Orleans Parish Catholic school. Club members perform a monthly service activity for the students and several members then visit the school to distribute the donations. Also, there is an Annual Middle School Christmas Collection for the school.
- National Junior Beta Club, for students in the sixth- through seventh-grade, is a scholarship, leadership and service organization that performs community service including a Thanksgiving Food Drive for the needy.
- The Middle School Student Council serves the school community by decorating the St. Ann tree for Celebration in the Oaks in New Orleans City Park, assisting at Grandparents Day, attending the Archdiocese Catholic School Week Mass and performing other service related duties.
- Student Ministry Club in 6th and 7th grade promotes Catholic Identity throughout the school and encourages students to take leadership roles in school Masses.
- Faculty includes a full-time Religion Coordinator who is dedicated to preparing and implementing the school liturgies, fostering the spiritual growth of the students, faculty, and parents, and coordinating all religious activities of the school.
- Faculty prayer offered to teachers before school.
- School wide response to the needs of our community which have included food drives for Second Harvest and St. Ann Church food banks, coat drives for the homeless and book and sporting equipment drives for needy schools.
- Grandparents Mass for Middle School students and Grandparents Prayer service for grades 1-4.
- Participation in the Keep Christ in Christmas and Respect Life programs sponsored by the Archdiocese
- Students serve at school liturgies as readers, gift bearers, altar servers and in the choir.