**7th Grade Standards Overview**

By 7th grade it is expected that students have acclimated to life as a middle school student and are therefore expected to work more independently and organize their time and schedules with less (but still some) guidance. In general, in 7th grade, students build on the skills they learned in 6th grade by writing and reading more complex and longer texts and essays, using more sophisticated language and strategies in their writing, studying more complex topics across all subjects, and solving and studying more complex mathematical and scientific concepts. This work will prepare them for 8th grade where they will cement and further their skills, ultimately setting them up for success in high school.

**Religion**

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**Profession of Faith**

* Revelation: God makes himself known and invites us into a relationship with Him
* Man's response to God: I believe.... We believe...
* God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, and Mary the Mother of God
* I believe in the Holy Catholic Church; the community of believers - the Church
* I believe in the forgiveness of sins, resurrection of the body and life everlasting - doctrine of Hell and Purgatory.
* Saints - models/witnesses of Christian life and intercessors, distinguish between worship of God and devotion to Saints

**Celebration of Christian Mystery**

* The Paschal Mystery: Passion, Life, death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus
* Understand what a sacrament is, and be able to describe the signs, symbols, rites and ministers of: Baptism, Eucharist, Reconciliation, and Anointing of the Sick
* Experience opportunities to participate in liturgy and prayer
* Differentiate the seven sacraments, and recognize the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Christian Life.
* Understand the Sacraments of Initiation and the Sacraments of Healing.

**Life in Christ**

* Made in the image of God - Participate in Christian service activities appropriate to student’s age.
* Freedom of Choice -  morality, ethics, values, and a correct conscience
* Virtues - theological and moral (cardinal)
* Sin - venial, mortal, and social sin; temptation and reconciliation
* The human community -  Identify as norms for Christian behavior:  Ten Commandments
* Social Life and Social Justice

**Christian Prayer**

* Prayer in Scripture, Prayer Forms, and Inspiration for Prayer
* Psalms
* Blessing and Adoration
* Petition and Intercession
* Contrition - Express sorrow for sin and express determination to sin no more.
* The Tradition of Prayer and the role of the Holy Spirit in Prayer
* Liturgical -  liturgical and prayer services, cycles and seasons of the liturgical year, and  major feasts of the Lord and major Marian feasts
* Places Favorable for Prayer and  Personal Prayer

**ELA**

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**Subject area overview for Literature**

In 7th grade, students deepen their ability to analyze the texts they read and provide evidence from the text to do so. Specifically, 7th graders learn to examine texts more closely and use details from the text in order to develop ideas, analyze, and make inferences. In addition, they analyze the relationships between elements within one text and across multiple texts while supporting this analysis by citing evidence from the text. Students begin to understand and communicate the importance of good reading skills throughout life.

**Reading: Literature/Informational Text**

* Analyzes texts using the text as evidence to support the analysis.
* Makes inferences about texts and uses evidence from the text to support the inferences.
* Understands the message or ideas in a text and uses evidence to support these claims.
* Understands, tracks the progress of, and summarizes the main idea of a text, using evidence from the text.
* Analyzes and explains the relationship between different elements such as character and setting.
* Analyzes the impact of specific language and word choice used in a text.
* Understands how the different structures used in a text, such as poetry, affect the text.
* Compares and contrasts the different perspectives and points of views in a text.
* Determines the author’s point of view in a text using evidence from the text.
* Compares different versions such as a  film or audio version of a text, paying specific attention to the way in which theme is portrayed in visual format
* Compares a historical account of an event, person, or place with a historical fiction text about the same period.
* Read a variety of texts, including stories, poetry, nonfiction, scholarly articles and magazines, or informative texts.
* Compares multiple texts written by different authors about the same topic and determines how their different perspectives are presented through their presentation of facts and the inferences they make.
* Identify Christian philosophy and values in literature.
* Practices a variety of vocabulary skills, including using the context in which a word is found to determine the meaning of words, recognizing roots of words, and using digital and physical reference materials (dictionaries, thesauruses, and glossaries).
* Develop an understanding on how to choose appropriate literature for reading independently.
* Develop a personal preference for a specific genre by reading different genres through independent reading and whole group reading.

**Subject area overview for Writing**

 Similar to the work they do in reading, 7th graders deepen their writing skills by using analysis, paying close attention to detail and providing reasons, proofs, and examples for the ideas they express. 7th graders write a variety of genres, including informative pieces, opinion pieces, and narratives and they complete both short-term and long-term writing assignments. There is also particular attention paid to research and teaching students to do their own independent research and research projects as described below, specifically through the use of digital resources.

**Writing**

* Writes arguments that present clear reasons and relevant evidence and include:
  + Introductions
  + Acknowledgements of opposing claims
  + Logical and orderly presentations of reasons and evidence
  + The use of  appropriate transitions, words, and phrases to connect claims
  + A concluding sentence or paragraph which supports the argument made and
  + A formal tone and style.
* Writes structured and well organized opinion, research, and informative pieces that:
  + Use supporting claims and evidence that are based on credible texts and resources including the *Bible*
  + Include an introduction that has an explanation of what follows
  + Develop topics through the use of facts, detailed quotations, and our Catholic faith
  + Include transitions that connect concepts and paragraphs
  + Include a conclusion that supports the presented idea(s).
* Writes well-structured narratives that include:
  + A narrator, characters, and a point of view
  + Descriptive detail and sensory language to describe characters, settings, and experiences
  + Dialogue details and descriptions of characters, setting, and experiences
  + A clear structure with a logical order and flow, as shown through the use of transition words
  + A conclusion that is connected to and builds on the narrative.
* Plans, revises, and edits writing, specifically with guidance from teachers and peers, focusing specifically on trying new approaches and making sure the writing has a purpose and appeals to its audience.
* Uses technology and the Internet to produce and publish writing.
* Works with others and cites sources.
* Uses both print and digital resources to conduct research, focusing on using appropriate search terms and reliable sources.
* Uses quotes and a standard format for citation.
* Uses research to analyze and make inferences.

**Subject area overview for Language**

In middle school language instruction is used to help enhance the complexity of student writing. Grammar, usage and mechanics are taught in order to help the students create increasingly complex text within different genres of writing.  7th graders continue to practice and refine grammatical skills previously taught to them while incorporating new skills and techniques that they learn and apply to their writing.

**Language**

* Understands simple, compound and complex sentence structures in order to vary sentence style and structure and to remedy fragments and run-on sentences within a piece of writing.
* Uses punctuation correctly in a sentence including the various uses of commas and end punctuation.
* Uses the parts of speech correctly and with increasing complexity: nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions, pronouns, conjunctions and interjections.
* Uses adjectives, adverbs and prepositional phrases to elaborate sentences.

**Subject area overview for Math**

In 7th grade, students focus on proportions and proportional relationships along with solving linear equations and equations with rational numbers (integers and fractions). Students will find the area, surface area, and volume of 2- and 3-dimensional shapes.  Students also solve more complex, multi-step equations as well as apply them to real-life applications and solve equations that use rational numbers and which include negative numbers.

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**Numbers and Operations**

•        Estimate and calculate square and cube roots

•        Apply order of operations to simplify expressions and equations

•        Calculate rates of change and unit rates

•        Calculate percent of change and simple interest

•        Understand and express scientific notation

**Measurement**

**•**Solve measurement and conversion problems

•        Use measurement conversion in multi-step problems

•        Convert between metric and customary systems of measurement

**Geometry**

**•**Solve problems involving scale drawings

•        Apply geometric formulas in problem solving including regular prisms

**Algebraic Reasoning**

**•**    Solve two-step equations using rational numbers

•        Operate with simple algebraic expressions

•        Recognize proportional information in tables and graphs

•        Solve problems using graphs and equations

**Data, Probability, and Statistics**

**•**Represent and interpret data using a variety of graphs

•        Understand and find probability of compound events

•        Compare theoretical probability sand experimental probability

•        Understand the difference between independent and dependent events

**Mathematical Practices**

**PROBLEM SOLVING**

**•**Make sense of problems and persevere in solving them while understanding the meaning of quantities involved

**REASONING AND PROOF**

**•**Attend to precision and accuracy of calculations and proved answers using various types of reasoning.

**COMMUNICATION**

•        Clearly communicate mathematical thinking using math vocabulary orally in writing.

**CONNECTIONS**

•        Understand how mathematical ideas interconnect, build on one another, and relate to real-world and faith contexts.

**REPRESENTATION**

•        Use representations to model mathematical ideas

**Subject area overview for Science**

In middle school, students continue to deepen their knowledge and skills in the physical, life, and Earth sciences. There is a specific focus on explaining and understanding real-life events and processes in relation to the concepts and topics learned. 7th graders also focus on applying scientific methods and/or the engineering design process as described below in order to deepen their understanding and work like actual scientists.

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* Applies the scientific method or engineering design process in order to practice like a scientist
  + Questions, observes, and researches.
  + Develops a hypothesis (based on observations and research).
  + Make predictions.
  + Develop and use models.
  + Plans investigations and experiments.
  + Conducts experiments and follows multi-step processes and instructions in order to conduct experiments.
  + Uses measurement and mathematical computations while working with data.
  + Analyzes and interprets data.
  + Develops a conclusion.
  + Compares the results of an experiment to what is written about the topic in a text.
* Develops and presents explanations and designs solutions for processes and practices used and results obtained.
* Engage in argument from evidence.
* Obtain, evaluate and communicate information.
* Determines the main ideas of a scientific text and cites specific evidence to support ideas and claims about scientific texts.
* Learns topic-specific science vocabulary.
* Analyzes relevant charts, diagrams, and graphs about a scientific topic.
* Waves and Their Applications in Technology for Information Transfer
* Ecosystems, Interactions, Energy and Dynamics
* Heredity: Inheritance and Variation of Traits
* From Molecules to Organisms

**Follow NGSS disciplinary core ideas**<https://www.nextgenscience.org/sites/default/files/AllDCI.pdf>

**Subject area overview for Social Studies**

7th Grade Geography consists of the study of both the eastern and western hemispheres. Students will learn about the continents, regions, and countries, focusing on the five themes of geography (location, place, human/environment interaction, movement and regions).  Additionally students will study such elements as climate, elevation, soil, vegetation, population, land use, and industries. Students will learn how to read charts, graphs, and maps as they explore the physical and human aspects of geography. The 21st century skills of critical thinking, problem solving, communication, collaboration, and cross-cultural understanding will be emphasized throughout the course.

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