

J. E. Cosgriff Memorial Catholic School
3rd grade Religion Disclosure Statement
Ms. Gehrig
mgehrig@cosgriff.org

Dear Students and Parents,

I am excited to be a part of your 3rd grade school year as your Religion teacher, and I am looking forward to growing in faith while building a strong community of learners. I received my Bachelor's degree from Illinois State University in 2011, and this will be my sixth year teaching, as well as my third year at Cosgriff. In addition to 3rd grade Religion, I teach 6th grade Religion, assist the Power Hour and Special Ed team, and help facilitate Homework Club and Youth Group.

My goal for third graders this year, regardless of personal religious affiliations, is to continue to develop their faith by exploring their own talents and positive character building by making connections to the lives of holy men and women. In 3rd grade, students will learn about the parts of Mass, names and meanings of the 7 sacraments, miracles in the New Testament, lives of specific saints, and vocations in the Church. The Religion text we use is *Be My Disciples* by RCL Benzinger. This consumable work book will be used in class, and students will be required to write in the book for some homework assignments. Please take a moment to glance through the book to familiarize yourself with what your child is learning.

Students will also be required to discuss and memorize content from the New St. Joseph Baltimore Catechism. The purpose for this requirement is to build and reinforce background knowledge from the basic teachings and beliefs of the Catholic Church.

As third graders, students are eligible to become an altar server in the Catholic Church if they have been baptized Catholic and received his or her first Holy Communion. More information will come later in the year regarding altar server training.

My classroom conduct expectations coincide with Mrs. Drees'. Respect, honesty, and preparation are expected at all times in order to grow and maintain a comfortable learning environment. Religion class is on Tuesday from 1-2 pm and Friday from 12-1 pm in Mrs. Drees' classroom.

Students' grades will fall into two categories- Major assignments (tests, quizzes, and projects) and class work (writing reflections, participation, group work, etc). 1-2 days will be given to make up excused absent work.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me immediately. All phone calls and emails will be answered within 24 hours. Please encourage your child to speak with me regarding frustrations or challenges in class. I look forward to the school year and helping your child grow in faith and responsibility.

Sincerely,

Martina Gehrig
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210-540-6009

3rd grade Religion Learning Objectives

Standard 1- Creed: Students will demonstrate understanding of core Catholic beliefs.

Standard 2- Worship and Sacraments: Students will demonstrate understanding and practice of Catholic worship and sacraments with an emphasis on the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of Catholics.

Standard 3-Morality: Students will understand right from wrong and be able to make good moral choices in life decisions that are consistent with Church teaching and a Christian lifestyle.

Standard 4- Social Justice: Students will demonstrate understanding of Catholic social teaching and apply these principles to social and personal situations.

Standard 5- Core Scripture: Students will read, interpret, and apply Scripture to their own daily life situation.

Standard 6- Family Life: Students will demonstrate their understanding of Christian family life and how it is nourished and passed on.

Standard 7- Liturgical Year: Students will demonstrate their understanding of the Liturgical year and how it is celebrated.

Standard 8- Christian Prayer and Practice: Students will be able to demonstrate, understand, and use traditional prayer forms in the Catholic tradition.

Standard 9- Vocabulary: Students will be able to demonstrate understanding and use of religious vocabulary.

Standard 10- Vocation: Life styles: Students will demonstrate their understanding of different vocations and lifestyles to prepare them to respond to their own call.

Standard 11- Service: Students will engage in service to the community (family, parish, local, national, and global) by action and reflection on our response to the Gospel call.

Standard 12- Saints: Students will explore the lives of saints in order to expand their role models for Christian living.