



St. Gabriel the Archangel

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EDUCATION | FAITH | COMMUNITY



"Through serving others in the St. Louis community, St. Gabriel students grow in stewardship and forge new relationships with those in need. Creating opportunities to share our time, talent and treasure fosters an ever deepening understanding of the teachings of Christ in everyday living."

~ Msgr. Shamleffer



DEAR PROSPECTIVE FAMILY

Welcome to St. Gabriel the Archangel Catholic School!

I am proud of our school and its rich history of educational excellence. In 1934, our parish was founded beginning a rich tradition of academic excellence here at St. Gabriel. Our faculty and staff, school board members, and parents are all proud to carry on and build upon that rich tradition. In 2020, we celebrated 85 years of worship, education and community life here in the St. Louis Hills neighborhood of St. Louis.

We are proud of our school! We are blessed to have had the privilege of working with so many talented and gifted students throughout these 85 years. Our students have gone on to enjoy great success, and many have had great impacts on our society. It is always a joy to hear many of them credit St. Gabriel School for having provided them with an excellent spiritual and academic foundation.

Our curriculum, besides the traditional subjects, includes classes in Art, STEM, PE, Band, and Music. We are likewise dedicated to working with students who have special learning needs. The learning environment is further enhanced by a variety of activities, clubs, musicals, plays, and interscholastic sports.

Strong ties to our parish and to our St. Louis Hills Neighborhood bind us as one family under God. Through serving others in the St. Louis community, St. Gabriel students grow in stewardship and forge new relationships with those in need. Creating opportunities to share our time, talent and treasure fosters an ever-deepening understanding of the teachings of Christ in everyday living. St. Gabriel students are well equipped to make informed decisions rooted in the values of their Catholic faith.

I welcome and invite you to come and visit us here at St. Gabriel. Please contact the school office at (314) 353-1229 to schedule a tour. We are saving a seat for YOU!

God Bless,

Msgr. John Shamleffer
Pastor



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Mrs. Tonya McEnery, Principal



"I 'teach Catholic' because it is a passion of mine. It is how God has called me to be a part of the Body of Christ... at St. Gabriel the Archangel School, my teaching team is outstanding and the parental support is strong."

~ St. Gabriel Teacher

OUR FACULTY AND STAFF

- 38 staff members
- 3 instructional aides
- 3 classrooms per grade level
- 2 office assistants
- Full-time nurse
- Co-Curricular Faculty
 - Art Teacher
 - Band Director
 - Music Teacher
 - Physical Education Teacher
 - STEM Coordinator
- 15 hold advanced degrees
- 16 obtained Paul VI certification
- Average class size is 20 students
- Educational Resources
 - Assistant Principal
 - Coordinator of Religious Education (CRE)
 - Literacy Coordinator
 - School Counselor
 - Learning Consultant

FACULTY RECOGNITION

- 2019- Mrs. Doenges, Google Certified Educator Level 1
- 2019 - Dr. Winkeler, Google Certified Educator Level 2
- 2018 - Mrs. Belcher, Who's Who Among America's Professional
- 2018 - Ms. Schmitt, Google Certified Educator Level 1
- 2014 - Mrs. Morris, Cardinal Burke Teacher Award
- 2014 - Mrs. Belcher, Emerson Excellence in Education Award
- 2012 - Mrs. Ronshausen, Nominee for NCEA Distinguished Teacher
- 2012 - Mrs. Favazza, Emerson Excellence in Education Award
- 2012 - Mrs. Slama, Gold Star Teacher Award (Emerson)
- 2011 - Mrs. Slama, Emerson Excellence in Education Award
- 2003 - Sr. Gail Buckman, SSND, Art Educator of the Year, Emerson Excellence in Education Award

SCHOOL THEME

Our theme for the school is, "SGA: Messengers of Hope". The faculty and students will be focusing on the Social Teachings of the Church this school year. The Church's social teaching is a gift of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness despite the challenges of our world. The seven Social Teachings of the Church are:

1. Life and Dignity of the Human Person
2. Call to Family, Community, and Participation
3. Rights and Responsibilities
4. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
5. The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care for God's Creation



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DEDICATED TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

CORE CURRICULUM

Math, Science, Language Arts (Phonics, English, Reading, and Spelling), Religion, and Social Studies round out a solid core curriculum at St. Gabriel. Additional details on grade-level academic, spiritual, social/emotional and overall curricular goals is available upon request.

ART

Students explore an array of artists and are exposed to a variety of media at each grade level including ceramics, wire, 2 and 3 dimensional design, printmaking, charcoal, pastels, and painting. Student Art Fairs are during Catholic Schools Week.

MUSIC

St. Gabriel's music education program exposes students to music theory and history, fosters an appreciation of different musical genres and aims to increase cognitive development at the elementary education level. Every academic year features a new musical theme. Instrument instruction and use of classroom technology further propels St. Gabriel's music program. Participation in the Archdiocesan Song Festival, Metro District 8, and St. Louis Symphony programs, and field trips. Classwork culminates in St. Gabriel's standing-room only Winter and Spring vocal concert performances. Come hear what we've learned!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Focus on exercise, healthy living, and team games. Other activities include Jump Rope for Heart, Read/Right/Run, the Presidential Fitness Challenge, and an Annual Field Day.

STEM

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) education is a method of hands-on teaching and learning where students learn to apply academic content by creatively solving real-world problems with innovative design-based thinking to prepare students for future career opportunities. STEM education is an integrated, interdisciplinary approach to learning that provides hands-on and relevant learning experiences for students. STEM learning is more than the acquisition of knowledge. It engages students and equips them with 21st-Century skills; critical thinking, problem solving, creativity, communication and collaboration.





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"I believe our strengths are our teachers and academic programs, our supportive and involved parents, our small class sizes, and our school band. Our low rate of teacher turnover demonstrates a real dedication to St. Gabriel's."

~ St. Gabriel Teacher



WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY mySci PARTNERSHIP

St. Gabriel the Archangel School is in partnership with Washington University for the mySci Program. This partnership empowers our teachers with K-8 instructional materials that inspire and engage students. Lessons and investigations are designed to bring the excitement of hands-on learning to the K-8 classroom. MySci units are aligned to the Next Generation Science Standards, ensuring that students receive an in-depth understanding of content each school year in the three main branches of Science: physical science, life science, and earth science.

LEARNING CONSULTANT

St. Gabriel is committed to the success of every child. Our full-time Learning Consultant assists with all educational concerns. Dedicated to maximizing the learning potential of every child, our Learning Consultant closely partners with parents and classroom teachers.

LITERACY

Literacy is addressed through reading and writing workshop in grades K–8 as well as phonics in the primary grades. A literacy coordinator provides embedded professional development and coaching opportunities for teachers. The literacy coordinator, teachers and principal have attended institutes at the Teachers College Reading and Writing Project at Columbia University.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

St. Gabriel also offers a certified School Counselor. In addition to counseling individual students, facilitating small groups and consulting with both school parents and faculty members, St. Gabriel's counselor also provides a bi-weekly classroom curriculum. Classroom lessons are aimed at fostering social and emotional awareness and enhancing both psychological well-being and academic success.

HIGH SCHOOL AND BEYOND

Graduates of St. Gabriel are consistently admitted to "first-choice" secondary schools across the metro St. Louis area. Foundations built at St. Gabriel will benefit students throughout their high school experience and beyond.



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... AND SO MUCH MORE!



BAND PROGRAM

St. Gabriel's Band Program is a one-of-a-kind musical, tech-based learning experience! Band is an optional, fee-based program integrated within the school day for interested student musicians. Multiple bands accommodate student development including Beginner and Cadet Bands for 4th and 5th grades to Concert and Jazz Bands for grades 6–8; opportunity for community performances also included. Software-based instrument instruction coupled with a talented full-time Band Instructor yields impressive concert results, without a doubt!

SIXTH-GRADE CAMP ADVENTURE PROGRAM

Each year our 6th graders attend camp for two days. While at camp they push themselves out of their comfort zones, strengthen relationships with peers, build leadership skills, and have a great time participating in outdoor activities such as a rock climbing wall.

GABRIEL CLUB AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Gabriel Club is our after-school care and operates in the school cafeteria. Program includes after-school snacks, homework oversight, physical activities and special projects. Gabriel Club is offered from 3:00–6:00 p.m. Monday–Friday and from 12:30–6:00 p.m. on early dismissals. Gabriel Club is not offered when school is not in session.

ARCHANGEL ACTIVITIES

St. Gabriel's Archangel Activities offers enriching after-school activities geared toward children in Grades K–5. All classes are individually priced, offered once a week, and held on-site at St. Gabriel from 3:00–4:00 p.m. Classes vary per semester and registration is required. Sample class offerings include: Sewing, Chess Club, Weekly Readers, Karate, Dance, Acting, Creative Cooks, Geography, Bricks 4 Kids, Mad Science, Magic, Little Med School, Yoga, and Drawing.



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"I think it's hugely important for parents to know about St. Gabriel's technology. Our tablets, Smart Boards, use of web-based teaching practices and the use of social media in the upper grades illustrate the breadth of technology and resources here at St. Gabriel's. Even our morning video productions are impressive!"

~ St. Gabriel Teacher



READERS 2 LEADERS (3rd Grade)

Readers 2 Leaders is a unique partnership between De La Salle Middle School and St. Gabriel the Archangel. Students come together for 6 weeks to read and learn about African American leaders and innovators while exploring shared Catholic values and developing lasting friendships. To learn more about the program, please visit readers2leaders.org.

SAFE & SECURE

Safety at St. Gabriel School is always a top initiative. Each year the faculty and staff go through health and safety trainings and we have members trained as the Emergency Response Team. In 2015, our staff participated in armed and school intruder drills and proactive classroom safety training. New exterior doors and security cameras were updated in 2018. External doors are locked during the day and a video camera with voice and buzzer access monitors front school entrance. The school building has been made accessible for people with mobility impairments.

ST. GABRIEL ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION (SGAA)

SGAA provides students an opportunity to learn both team and individual sports within a Catholic environment and to participate in city-wide tournaments throughout the year. Team sports include baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, and lacrosse. Track and golf instruction are also offered. Emphasis is placed on teamwork, sportsmanship, fair play, and respect for one's self, coaches and opponents. SGAA also hosts an Annual Golf Tournament, NCAA Final Four Party, Basketball Tournaments for 4th and 7th grades, and a 4v4 Summer Classic Soccer Tournament.



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DEDICATED TO FAITH FORMATION



"We have a purpose beyond academics. We can openly share our faith and it touches every part of our lives. Children at St. Gabriel live their faith by participating in various mission projects, sacramental preparation, classroom instruction, and our Friends-in-Faith program."

~ St. Gabriel Teacher

ALL SCHOOL MASS

Mass is offered every week. Kindergarten begins attending the all school Mass in October. Grades 1–8 attend Mass twice a week and assume active liturgical roles. Students celebrate their Baptismal Birthdays on the third Thursday of each month. Students can invite parents, grandparents, or godparents to attend this special Mass with them.

SACRAMENT PREPARATION

Beginning in 2nd grade, students prepare for Reconciliation and First Holy Eucharist. Confirmation takes place in 8th grade. We partner closely with parents in preparation for these very important celebrations.

BIBLE CEREMONY

At a special Mass each year, every 6th grade student receives a personalized Bible that is blessed by Father so they can use it within their studies over the course of junior high.

EVANGELIZATION

The school community seeks to assist organizations that need support. These organizations have included Whole Kids Outreach, St. Vincent DePaul Society, South Side Early Childhood Center, Our Lady's Inn, and John Cochran VA Medical Center.

ALTAR SERVERS

Beginning in 4th grade and continuing through 8th grade, students have the opportunity to participate in mass as an altar server. These students assist with both parish and school Masses.

SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS

The students take an active part in Living Rosary, Baptismal Celebration Masses, Stations of the Cross, and many more.

RETREATS AND DAYS OF REFLECTION

Our school provides unique opportunities for students to strengthen their Catholic Identity and to foster personal awareness of God's plan for their lives through retreats and days of reflection.



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OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

“Parents are deeply involved in their child’s education at St. Gabriel. The teachers encourage and welcome this involvement and use parents as a continuation of the teaching that is done at school.”

~ St. Gabriel Teacher



LEADER IN ME SCHOOL

The staff and students have begun the journey of becoming a Leader in Me School utilizing Stephen Covey’s *Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. This is a multi-year process with the goal to receive designation as a Lighthouse School. Teacher Leaders support student, staff, and family learning. Students learn how to lead themselves and lead others using the Seven Habits:

1. Be Proactive
2. Begin with the End in Mind
3. Put First Things First
4. Think Win/Win
5. Seek First to Understand, Then to Be Understood
6. Synergize
7. Sharpen the Saw

MIDDLE SCHOOL

St. Gabriel’s House System (6/7/8) allows students an opportunity to co-mingle between grade levels. The purpose of the House System is to foster our Catholic identity through stewardship, to develop character and leadership, and to create an atmosphere of positive peer pressure and motivation to succeed. The House System establishes a faculty mentor for each student/house that stays consistent through their middle school years. It allows students to create relationships beyond their grade level and to participate in activities that are academic, athletic, and service-related. The eight Houses are named after saints with each saint’s mission and life helping to guide the House in choosing a monthly service opportunity for the school. The school then participates in a monthly mission Mass to highlight the service for the month.

Boot Camp was developed to help students in their transition from lower elementary to middle school and to prepare students for the increasing responsibilities of becoming a pre-teen and teenager, the middle school teachers help to lead the students at the beginning of the year. The students travel to 4 different sessions that are geared to help them navigate middle school and to achieve personal success with topics such as Organization and Time Management, Growth Mindset, Note-Taking Strategies, and Study Skills. The teachers also provide various Reboot opportunities throughout the school year to help students with other topics such as how to manage stress and frustration, what to do in various situations that include approaching teachers/adults for help, what to do when classes are missed, and reflection and goal setting. Our aim is to help students develop life-long skills and practice these skills in a nurturing, learning environment.