

Faculty

Our faculty at Epiphany Catholic School, are all Florida certified teachers with an average of 12 years in education. Our classroom faculty is enhanced by instructors in Art, Computers, Physical Education, and Library/Media. Epiphany Catholic School is designated as an e learning center through Florida Virtual School. Students in the middle school grades may register and complete enrichment classes in Spanish, Art, Critical Thinking Skills and Career Education through the Florida Virtual School program.

Admissions

In February, students presently attending Epiphany Catholic School in grades K-7 are invited to re-register for the following school year. At this time, siblings of currently enrolled students may also be registered. New students are then invited to register, with priority given in the order of paperwork and fees submitted. All academic records, educational plans, and medical records should be sent to the school prior to the start of the school year. The Administration will meet and interview students and their families interested in possible enrollment into 7th and 8th grades. Admittance will be dependent upon the interview and previous academic and behavior records. The school year is 180 days. Students are expected to attend a minimum of 37 days per quarter.

Our Mission Statement

Epiphany Catholic School strives to challenge its students for their future roles in both the church and community by expanding their minds, guiding their physical and personal development, and promoting quality Gospel Values.

We Believe.....

Open communication and mutual respect prepares the heart, mind and soul to meet life's many and varied challenges.

Service to school, parish, community and the world is essential.

Each child should be recognized as an individual and capable of learning.

Children should be instilled with a strong sense of responsibility for their learning.

Teachers should provide a variety of technological and educational approaches to prepare each child for an ever-changing world.

Teachers should promote one's personal best effort to achieve academic excellence.

Parents are the primary educators of their children and that it is a partnership between the school and family that will enable a child to develop his/her gifts and talents.

School Facts and Information

Epiphany Catholic School in Lake City, Florida, has a tradition of inspiring faith and excellence in students for over 50 years and offers a fully accredited, affordable education for children of all faiths.

Epiphany Catholic School students:

Rank in the top 25% in the nation in reading in grades 3-8; more than 40% of those students perform in the top 10% on the nationally standardized test, *Iowa Test of Basic Skills*.

Have won county, regional, and state recognition in previous years for academics and arts.

Were the Division I Girls' Softball Champs in 2010.

Are well prepared for the academic and social challenges of transitioning into both public and private high schools.

Diocesan records tell us that 99% of our Catholic school students will graduate from high school, 98% will go on to college, and 77% of them will enroll in four year colleges.

Epiphany Catholic School:

Has reasonable tuition rates for Catholic and non-Catholic families.

Has a library, technology lab, soccer and softball fields, playground, and art room.

Offers after school childcare at a rate of \$9 per day or \$160 per month, daily from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Offers many opportunities for community and parish service

Offers scholarship opportunities through **Step Up For Students, McKay, and church tuition assistance programs.**

Epiphany Catholic School offers your child a superior education in a secure and stimulating, faith based environment. Epiphany Catholic School encourages the spiritual, academic, social, and physical development of each individual child.

Our Curriculum

Epiphany Catholic School in Lake City, Florida, has a rich curriculum that includes Math, Science, Language Arts, Social Studies, Religion, Library/Media, Physical Education, and Art at every grade level.

First and foremost, we are a Catholic School, steeped in the traditions and teachings of our faith. **Religion** is a subject in our classroom as well as a central part of our day. In second grade, our Catholic students study and prepare for the sacraments of Reconciliation and the Eucharist. In third through fifth grades, students begin to study the mission of the church, structure of the church, prayers, scriptures, saints, liturgical seasons and much more. In middle school, students read and study the Hebrew Scriptures in the Old Testament, the Gospels, morality, The Ten Commandments, Church history, and the Holy Spirit.

Our Math program is based on Sadlier math in grades K-6 and Glencoe math in grades seven and eight. From the earliest grades when counting, matching, money, time, simple addition, subtraction, and measurement are taught, to the Eighth grade where students are solving equations with rational numbers and graphing equations, the students are well balanced in math. In addition, we incorporate critical thinking programs and technology into the daily process.

Science is intertwined in all of our lessons in our early grades. Our youngest students enjoy learning about animals, plants, oceans, conservation and more. By the fifth grade, they are actively participating in the scientific method and presenting science projects and experiments to the class. In middle school, the students spend time with Life Science of plants and animals and the Physical Sciences exploring basic chemistry and physics. Middle school students look forward to dissections and team projects and experiments within the context of their classes.

Our Language Arts component is a central focus from the beginning, as we recognize that the abilities to read and write fluently are the basis for all learning. From phonics to penmanship, we get down to basics and read and write! Students develop their comprehension skills by participating in our **Book Adventures** program. In middle school, our students read widely in classic literature, drama and poetry, and write and present orally on a regular basis.

Social Studies is part of every grade level. In the early years, they learn about different cultures, holidays, community, and historical figures. By the third grade, students are learning map skills and basic world geography. In middle school, our students study U.S. history for two years and world geography and ancient cultures for one year.

In addition to our five main subjects, our students all attend classes in Technology, Art, Library/Media, and Physical Education.

Frequently Asked Questions

How are we different from other schools?

As Catholics we are called to serve God and help those in need. Community Service plays an important part in our daily lives at school and at home. As a school community, we participate in many local and national service programs to help others who suffer from hardship, natural disasters and poverty. Our students know that good behavior is expected at all times and we experience a calm, quiet learning environment because of their behavior. We know that you will recognize our students in or out of uniform as they strive to demonstrate a positive Christian attitude in all that they do.

What grades and ages attend Epiphany Catholic School?

Epiphany is a combined Elementary and Middle School. We accept students in our Kindergarten if they are 5 by September 1st of the school year. We offer an exceptional education for students in Kindergarten through 8th grade.

What time does school begin and end at Epiphany Catholic School?

Our K-8th students start at 7:50 a.m. K-2 students are dismissed at 2:30 p.m. and 3rd-8th are dismissed at 2:40 p.m. If a K-2nd grader has an older sibling, he or she is not dismissed until 2:40 p.m. when their older sibling is released as well.

What are the class sizes at Epiphany Catholic School?

To ensure the highest quality education, we would limit our classes to 22 students. On average, our class size is about 11 students.

How much is tuition at Epiphany Catholic School?

Annual tuition for the 2011-2012 school year for registered Catholic parishioners is \$4,699 and \$5,245 for Non-Catholics. Catholics must be registered with the church.

Does Epiphany Catholic School offer scholarships?

Yes, we offer tuition assistance through our church sponsored scholarships. Families must complete a needs assessment form through FACTS Management. We also accept the state scholarships: Step Up For Students and McKay.

Does my child have to be Catholic to attend Epiphany Catholic School?

We welcome students of all faiths. Non-Catholic families who enroll their children in our school appreciate the Catholic faith, values, and prayer taught at the school. They value the atmosphere it provides for their children and are impressed in how it strengthens them spiritually.

Do you accept home-schooled children?

Yes, we do. Our high level of parental involvement, strong academic standards, and vibrant Catholic school atmosphere, support the vision for their children's education.

Does Epiphany Catholic School require service hours?

To encourage parental involvement and to keep tuition costs down, Epiphany Catholic School requires parents to contribute 15 service hours per year, per family, with a minimum of 5 hours for fundraising activities.

Does Epiphany Catholic School offer childcare?

Yes, we offer after school care, Monday through Friday when school is in session. This is available from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily, with monthly discounts.

Extra Curricular and Athletics

Epiphany Catholic School offers your child the opportunity to participate in:

Co-ed Soccer: November-February, boys and girls in grades 4-8 may tryout

Softball: February-May, girls in grades 4-8 may tryout

Tropicana 4-H Public Speaking Contest: Students in grades 4, 5, & 6 compete with classmates; the winner of each grade level goes on to compete at the County level

Science Fair: Students in grades 2-4 may submit a project to compete in the school and county science fairs. All students in grades 5-8 are required to create a project. Winners then go on to compete at the County, Regional, and State levels.

Poetry Contest: Students in grades K-6 compete in a longstanding tradition at Epiphany, in classroom and school wide competitions. Students recite their poems orally, with expressive gestures.

Math Bee: Each year, four students in grade 4 are selected to compete in the countywide math bee.

Think Sharp: Five individuals in the fifth grade class are selected to compete in a countywide academic bowl.

Respect Life: students submit original artwork and essays that best represent the annual theme for Respect Life month.

Book Adventures: Students accumulate points for successfully reading age appropriate books and completing comprehension quizzes. Each quarter, a reward trip is planned for those who meet the criteria.

Choir: Students in grades 3-8 are invited to join the school choir. The choir sings at the school's weekly mass.

Student Council: A representative from every grade level is elected by class vote. Officers are students in grades six through eight, who are elected by school wide vote.

Science Club: Students in grades five through eight are invited to explore the many facets of science through investigation and experiments.

Talent Show: Students in grades K-8 may share their many talents in our annual talent show.

Music: Students may learn to play an array of instruments under the tutelage of Mr. Harry Weust. Students also share their musical talents in the church choir, the annual Christmas Program and in the local community.

History of Our School

Epiphany Catholic School's history spans from 1959 to the present day. The school boasts long-standing traditions, a rich past, and remembers the focal memory of our existence—the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. In September, 1959, Epiphany Catholic School opened in downtown Lake City, offering grades one through four. The school was staffed by the Sisters of Mercy, from Wexford, Ireland, and boasted an enrollment of 29 students.

In March, 1960, the school relocated to its present site, situated two miles south of downtown Lake City, between Marion Street and Highway 441. In 1961, grade five was added with grade six following in 1962. Two years later, grade seven was added with eighth grade following in 1965. In 1966, it was decided that the school would best serve the community with grades 1-6. In 1968, the library was added. The Glander building was constructed in 1974, and currently houses the Kindergarten classroom and the Art Room. Epiphany Catholic School added Kindergarten in 1996, and seventh and eighth grades were added in 1999 and 2000. The school began its affiliation with the diocesan athletic program by creating a co-ed soccer team and a girls' softball team.

In May of 2010, Epiphany Catholic School celebrated its 50th Anniversary in the community. During each school year we continue to celebrate many school community events that have become an important part of our school life and traditions. Our hope is to continue to grow in our faith with one another and foster the positive development of the young people entrusted to us.