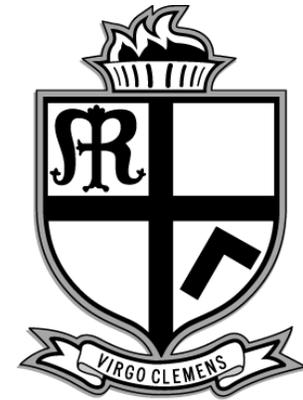


# FIFTH GRADE

For more specifics on Fifth Grade curriculum, you can visit the Diocese of Charlotte website at [www.schools.charlottediocese.org](http://www.schools.charlottediocese.org) or download a PDF at: [http://schools.charlottediocese.org/images/schools/PDF\\_files/curriculum/5th\\_grade.pdf](http://schools.charlottediocese.org/images/schools/PDF_files/curriculum/5th_grade.pdf)

You can also get more details about class schedules on our school website at [www.ourladyofmercyschool.org](http://www.ourladyofmercyschool.org) under Teacher Pages link and select Miss Degnan's page.



caring dedicated child-focused

respectful inspiring compassionate

Christ-centered proud creative

challenging welcoming confident

humble prayerful engaging

leaders followers scholars servants

brothers & sisters teachers family

*We are*  
**Mercy**

1730 Link Road, Winston-Salem, NC 27103  
(336) 722.7204

[www.ourladyofmercyschool.org](http://www.ourladyofmercyschool.org)  
Welcoming students of all races, religions, ethnic and national origins.

**Our Lady of Mercy  
Catholic School**

## Core Curriculum

Fifth grade is a big learning year. We follow the state curriculum and, in addition to the academic skills, students learn organization, study skills, time management, and personal responsibility. This year we will learn the process of writing a research paper. We may also enhance learning through various small group projects such as creating and videoing skits using flip type video cameras and building desk top museum exhibits. Friendship and learning culminates in an end of the year bus trip to Raleigh where students visit various museums and watch an I-Max movie.

## Catholic Identity and Leadership

Fifth graders grow in leadership skills during this year. We take our turn preparing the Friday school liturgy or prayer service, leading the school in Lenten Stations of the Cross, and holding the flag each morning as the whole school recites the Pledge of Allegiance. We also show responsibility through our jobs both in and outside the classroom.

The day of a Mercy student is filled with prayer. It begins with whole school prayer in the morning and continues throughout the day in the classroom. Children witness the power of prayer when they offer intentions in class and join their prayers with their classmates. We will also increase personal prayer and keep prayer journals during Lent.

With the rest of the school, we start our day with prayer and the daily scripture reading/reflection. We pray the Angelus, as a school, before lunch and then we ask our lunchtime blessing. At the end of the day we say our closing prayer. We go to weekly Mass and monthly adoration. Because the prayers of children are especially powerful, the school children are often called upon to pray for the needs of others. One

time a distraught father asked the fifth grade class to pray for his daughter who was suffering from thirty malignant brain tumors. The children prayed faithfully for the young woman throughout the school year. By June the latest scan showed the presence of only one tumor. Both the daughter and her father credit this amazing result to the children's faithful prayers.

## Specials

Fifth graders have classes in their "special" subjects of Physical education, Media/Technology, Spanish, Art, and Music on a rotating basis.

PE: Units include soccer, volleyball, basketball, health and fitness, bowling, lacrosse, baseball, track and field, kickball, and tennis. We begin each unit with skills and end with games.

MEDIA/TECHNOLOGY: We cultivate an environment where technology and media are integrated into the curriculum to enhance student learning. Students understand important issues of a technology-based society including safe and ethical behavior in the use of technologies. Teachers collaborate to provide learning experiences that incorporate access to print and digital resources and students use a variety of technologies to access, analyze, interpret, synthesize, apply and communicate information. We work on a Keynote project "The Seven Continents," learn how to write a friendly letter, make a flyer and a family newsletter in Pages, do a writing project called "All About Me", locate states and capitals, learn to use Kidpix software, and work on grammar exercises.

SPANISH: In fifth grade students meet for Spanish twice a week. Students use basic grammatical concepts as they learn to express their feelings through adjectives of emotion and can discuss their own class schedule as they learn the various subjects and related vocabu-

lary. Fifth graders can read a paragraph and discuss it. They learn the vocabulary of stores and directions, professions, as well as parts of the body. All vocabulary is learned in context of conversation. Students also learn to express possession and how to tell time in Spanish.

ART: Students work on intermediate color theory, real perspective, intermediate design elements and principals of design, as well as 3-D design. We also learn art appreciation.

MUSIC: We continue our study of musical notes, instruments, and compositions of various composers. Following a detailed study of orchestra families, composers, responsibilities of the conductor and audience protocol, we attend the annual Winston-Salem Symphony's Educational Concert. We also perform in the school-wide Christmas music program and Spring Concert.

## Service

Students do more projects as a group during this year such as attending Special Olympics and cheering on the Special Olympians. They also help assemble Christmas luminaries for Ronald McDonald House and take part in many other outreach projects coordinated by the Helping Hands of Mercy group, which helps the students know that EVERY one is important to God.