



**GRADE LEVEL CURRICULUM
GUIDELINES**

GRADE 4

St. Martin of Tours Academy, in partnership with parents, is a Catholic parish elementary school that prepares students to be lifelong learners through a curriculum that has a strong moral, spiritual, and academic foundation. Students understand the need for peace and justice, and as responsible Catholics, are challenged to answer the call to service and become engaged citizens of the world.

**7708 EL CAJON BOULEVARD
LA MESA, CALIFORNIA 91942**

RELIGION (200 weekly minutes)

- Attends monthly school Mass and coordinates one school Mass
- Discovers that Jesus is our Redeemer
- Reflects on God's relationship with His people throughout history as based on unconditional love, revealed through life experience.
- Recognizes that the Church is structured.
- Understand role of the laity, priests, and the religious hierarchy of the Church.
- Recognizes Mary as a model of obedience.
- Understands there are laws, rules, and guidelines for our behavior (as exemplified in the Ten Commandments and the Beatitudes).
- Realizes our responsibility is to give service to others in our community; that the Church plays an active role in our world.
- Understands dignity of human life and our uniqueness as created in God's image.
- Prays spontaneously and formally.

LANGUAGE ARTS (630 Weekly Minutes)

Word Analysis, Fluency, and Vocabulary

- Attempts to determine the meaning of unknown words through use of word origins, synonyms, antonyms, and root words.
- Uses roots, prefixes, and suffixes to analyze the meaning of complex words.
- Reads orally with fluency, accuracy, and appropriate inflection and expression at grade level expectations.

Reading Comprehension

- Summarizes, extracts main idea, identifies supporting details and sequences events.
- Rereads to verify or obtain information.
- Makes predictions based on prior knowledge.
- Evaluates and uses new information.
- Distinguishes between cause and effect, fact and opinion.
- Predicts outcomes, makes inferences and generalizations.
- Understands analogies.
- Determines author's purpose for writing and point of view.
- Identifies the plot, setting, characters, and point of view of a story.
- Identifies use of figurative language, abstract, literal, and inferred meanings.

Study and Reference Skills

- Reads independently on a daily basis.
- Selects grade-appropriate reading materials.
- Reads and gathers information from maps, charts, graphs,

schedules, time lines, and notices.

- Uses glossary, table of context, and index.
- Alphabetizes to the fifth letter.
- Uses a dictionary, general reference sources, and card catalog.

Writing

- Articulates meaning of and uses prefixes, suffixes, nouns, parts of speech, and subject/verb agreement.
- Uses correct punctuation.
- Identifies kinds of sentences and sentence parts.
- Writes social and business letters, explanatory paragraphs, haiku, and outlines.
- Writes 6-10 sentences, nonfiction, and fiction paragraphs using a variety of sentence construction and forms with a main idea, supporting details, and conclusion.
- Evaluates correctness of grammar, mechanics, clarity, and organization, to revise and prepare a final copy.
- Practices cursive writing according to criteria for correctness.

Listening and Speaking

- Asks thoughtful questions.
- Identifies major ideas and supporting details in oral presentations.
- Understands and follows a sequence of directions.
- Makes effective introductions, clearly states purposes, and presents conclusions when making oral presentations.
- Uses details, examples, or experiences to clarify information.
- Identifies the speaker's intent.
- Makes narrative and information presentations.
- Recites brief poems.
- Engages critically and constructively in discussions.

MATHEMATICS (225 Weekly Minutes)

Number Sense

- Students understand place value of whole numbers and decimals to two decimal places and numbers and decimals relate to simple fractions. Use the concepts of negative numbers
- Students extend their use and understanding of whole numbers to the addition and subtraction of decimals
- Students solve problems involving addition, subtraction, multiplication and division of whole numbers understanding relationships among operations.
- Students factor small whole numbers

Algebra and Functions

- Students use and interpret variables, symbols, and properties to write and simplify expressions and sentences.
- Students know how to manipulate equations

Measurement and Geometry

- Students understand perimeter and area
- Use two-dimensional coordinate grids to represent points and graph plots
- Demonstrate an understanding of plane, solid geometric objects and use this knowledge to show relationships to solve problems.

Stats, Data Analysis and Probability

- Students organize, represent, and interpret numerical and categorical data to communicate findings

Math Reasoning

- Students make decisions about how to approach problems
- Use strategies, skills and concepts in finding solutions
- Move beyond a particular problem by generalizing to other situations

SCIENCE (170 Weekly Minutes)

- Investigates kinds of matter, distinctive properties, and knowledge that these properties interact with energy in predictable ways.
- Realizes that the Earth is a system that is always changing.
- Analyzes living things and their adaptations for survival in diverse environments.
- Investigates procedures and systems involved in protecting public health.
- Develops a realization that technology produces tools that help extend human knowledge and capabilities.
- Demonstrates a sense of scientific inquiry to extend knowledge of earlier scientists and their contributions.



SOCIAL STUDIES (175 Weekly Minutes)

California History

- Develops an understanding of the concepts of state, diocese, and group structures within a state and the Catholic Church.
- Understands the physical and human geographic features that define places and regions in California.
- Describes the social, political, cultural and economic life and interactions among people of California from the Pre-Columbian societies to the Spanish mission and Mexican rancho periods.
- Explains the economic, social, and political life of California from the establishment of the Bear Flag Republic through the Mexican-American War, the Gold Rush and California statehood.
- Explains how California became an agricultural and industrial power by tracing California's economy and its political and cultural development since the 1850's.
- Understands the structure, functions, and powers of government including the similarities and differences among federal, state, and local governments.

COMPUTER (40 Weekly Minutes)

- Learns keyboard through the use of touch-typing.
- Demonstrates proper use of computers, software care, insertion of disks, finding and saving files.
- Recognizes and uses the correct terminology.
- Edits text.
- Discusses ethical issues including Internet safety.
- Stresses correct body and hand positions.
- Recognizes the use of a computer as a tool.
- Names the parts of the computer system.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION (75 Weekly Minutes)

- Develops ball skills.
- Promotes physical fitness through exercise and calisthenics.
- Learns and develops team sport skills including basketball, flag football, baseball, soccer, and track.
- Participates in relays and agility games.
- Develops teamwork and sportsmanship.
- Instructs regarding physical health and nutrition.

FINE ARTS (95 Weekly Minutes)

- Develops visual and tactile perception.
- Experiences creative expression in a variety of media.
- Appreciates art heritage from a cultural perspective.
- Appreciates art work using elements of design, art media, artistic mood, and style through art history.

Music

- Identifies meter, pulse, texture in music; recognizes pentatonic scales; experiences two and three part forms; recognizes basic notation terms; understands uses of tempo dynamics and tone.
- Performs on melodic instruments, practices listening skills, with increased sensitivity, singing rounds, descants and songs in two or more parts in performance situations; sings solo and in a group; improvises simple dances; develops expressions of creativity.
- Experiences multicultural, liturgical, and ethnic music, identifies interludes in music; recognizes instrumental combinations.
- Appreciates music from a variety of performers and composers.

FIELD TRIPS

- San Juan Capistrano Mission
- Helix Water District
- The Birch Aquarium

BOOK LISTS

Emily Windsnap Series

Spiderwick Chronicles Series

Geronimo Stilton Series

Into the West

American Girl Series

Kessler

DiTerlizzi

Stilton

Carmen

