



## Introduction to Saint John of the Cross Academy For Prospective Families

(Revised 08/23/2016)

### Mission Statement

Saint John of the Cross Academy is a classical Roman Catholic tutorship based upon the natural institution of the family, for the purpose of aiding its primary responsibility of cultivating children in the Greco-Latin Tradition as preserved and interpreted by the Roman Catholic Church in her dogmas and liturgies.

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## Education and Culture

Classically understood, education is not an occupation. It is a lifestyle. More exactly, it is the transmission of an entire way of life from one generation to the next. It is the formation of the mind and heart to become free and fertile ground into which may be planted the seeds of a common culture, the social virtue, which rightly disposes a person to their heritage and society, both the immediate society of their family and the state as a whole, and to their duty as members of that society. When understood in this light, it becomes manifestly absurd to expect any external institution to shoulder the entire responsibility of education. Not only is such a thing impossible (except in some socialist nightmare), but would we even desire it if it were? Would any responsible parent, understanding the true nature of education, simply relinquish their full rights and responsibilities to “experts” and “professionals,” whose standards and expectations are as varied and unknown to the parents--and sometimes as mechanical--as those of the factories that produce their computers and phones?

We know that the answer is no. Education forms an essential part of the rearing of a child, and is therefore primarily a duty of the parents themselves. It is itself part of the very basis in natural law for the permanence of the matrimonial bond<sup>1</sup> and the primary end toward which the natural communion of life and work of the spouses is directed<sup>2</sup>. Thus, the primary educators of a child must be the parents.

Of course, this is a very heavy responsibility and can at times even become a burden. It is for this reason that parents ought to seek out a community of like-minded people to aid them on this singularly difficult and important task. That community ought to include tutors, themselves dedicated to mastering the intellectual and moral traditions at the heart of their shared culture, to aid them in achieving their goal of firmly instilling the best aspects of that culture in their children. This is the reason for the founding of Saint John of the Cross Academy, a classical tutorship that facilitates the kind of community, bound together by a truly traditional Catholic culture, in which children receive an education worthy of the name.

The tutors of SJCA recognize their role and its importance, but they know that it is essentially a secondary and instrumental role. Thus, while they all have a total and lifetime commitment to the mastery necessary to be classical tutors, they also understand that their expertise does not in any way supersede the rights and responsibilities of parents. Tutors are instruments in the hands of the parents cultivating their children, and indeed the whole family. They dedicate their life not so much to an occupation, but to a work of mercy.

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<sup>1</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologica*, Sup. III, Q. 41, art. 1; also, Q. 67, art. 1: “By the intention of nature marriage is directed to the rearing of the offspring, not merely for a time, but throughout its whole life. Hence it is of natural law that parents should lay up for their children, and that children should be their parents' heirs (2 Corinthians 12:14). Therefore, since the offspring is the common good of husband and wife, the dictate of the natural law requires the latter to live together forever inseparably: and so the indissolubility of marriage is of natural law.”

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*, Q. 49, art. 2, ad 1

The tutors of SJCA, with this understanding of education and the role they play in it, have two primary responsibilities to the community: (1) to help the parents gain a more perfect understanding of the intellectual and moral traditions of their culture so that they can better transmit that culture to their children; (2) to tutor children directly throughout the years most formative of their rational powers, training them to master grammar, dialectic, and rhetoric (the three foundational *artes liberales*, or liberal arts) in the various areas of study and in accord with the best our tradition has to offer. The tutor does not strive for novel methods or to impress his own personality upon his pupils. Indeed, it is the great authors of the Western tradition who are the teachers, and it is their wisdom that informs all of the tutor's methods. The tutor is doing his work well insofar as his pupils can think well about the ideas before them, focusing totally on the intellectual activity at hand rather than on personality of the tutor. The ultimate end for the tutor himself is that the pupil will one day no longer need his guidance, as a child gradually learns to ride his bike without training wheels. For at the completion of his schooling, the pupil will have demonstrated his own mastery over the liberal arts. He is now free to pursue wisdom on his own, possessing the right rule of reason in his soul as a virtuous habit.

When it comes to contemporary education, especially of the Catholic variety, a common advertising tactic is to claim that the institution is “renewing” or “rebuilding” culture, or that it is “counter-cultural” in the sense that it is a bastion for a culture which is not in vogue. These are bold claims. Does SJCA make a similar claim? Is it the goal of SJCA to “renew” the culture? We must answer with a firm, if surprising “no.” This is not because we think that our culture does not need renewing and rebuilding. Rather, it is because we realize how absurd it would be for a single institution to claim for itself such a task<sup>3</sup>. At this point, is it even possible for any merely human institution to do so? Only the pervading work of supernatural grace in and through the Church is powerful enough to bring about such a change. We all pray to be instruments, God willing, but surely this could only occur through our excellent attention to the task immediately before us. We must be “faithful in that which is least,”<sup>4</sup> as Our Lord says, if we are to have any part in that which is great.

At this point, it would be useful to give an account of just what we mean by “culture.” Culture is a manifestation on a societal scale of excellence in the whole spectrum of rational behavior of mankind developed over multiple generations and informed by a common tradition. The relation of this word to “agriculture” is no accident and helps to illustrate our point. Just as agriculture is the art of disposing the field well to bring forth its latent perfection in a good crop, so human culture, through the fertilizing effects of tradition, disposes the hearts and minds of those who share it in common to bear the fruit of human perfection: the virtues.

Given this view of culture, it ought to be clear why SJCA has a much more modest goal than a wholesale renewal of culture. Our goal is simply to help parents educate their children into a tradition and culture that has proven to be the strongest and most fruitful culture in the history of

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<sup>3</sup> T. S. Eliot, *Notes Toward a Definition of Culture*, pg. 109: “For the schools can transmit only a part, and they can only transmit this part effectively, if the outside influences, not only of family and environment, but of work and play, of newsprint and spectacles and entertainment and sport, are in harmony with them.”

<sup>4</sup> *Luke* 16:10

the world, namely, Catholic culture. SJCA will not distract itself with grandiose plans of creating a new culture or converting the whole world. We choose instead to focus on the family in front of us, helping each member of the family to be as well formed as they can be into a culture more ancient and longer-lasting than anything devised through the machinations of men. If God decides to use this modest work to bring about a more general renewal, then we would certainly be grateful instruments. But as T.S. Eliot remarked, culture is something that comes about as a result of the members of a community simply pursuing true human excellence in their diverse activity<sup>5</sup>. The minute the abstract “culture” becomes itself the aim of our action--one begins to wonder what the word means in such a context--, that is the same minute we cease to be active participants in culture. This is the path to becoming an ideologue, but not a cultured human being. We have plenty of the former, and not enough of the latter. Culture is virtuous precisely because it is a habit for concrete action in accord with the human excellence, and it is gained, like other virtues, through the painstaking repetition of those actions. The tutors of SCJA accordingly have as their goal to help their pupils to gain the intellectual and moral formation which most disposes them to excellence in any genuinely human activity. Thus, while we do not take as our primary goal the “renewing of culture” at large, we see our work as an incredibly effective tool in the hands of families seeking excellence within their own lives. In turn, we may hope with the help of grace that this excellence may organically take root and bear fruit for generations to come. Only then will there be any sort of rebirth of culture. And if there is, it will be the cause of generations of families obeying the dictates of God, His creation, and the ancient customs those dictates inform. The tutors of SJCA, again, will have only been instruments.

Why is a classical tutorship particularly fitted for this goal? We believe that it is because it is the best way for children to be initiated into our ancient and common culture. Through the imitation of the great masters of the Western intellectual and spiritual tradition, children become habituated to think and desire along with those great models that laid the foundations of our civilization. Being steeped in the ancient traditions of the Roman Catholic Church, both in doctrine and practice, children find their place alongside “so great a cloud of witnesses,”<sup>6</sup> and learn to think, pray, and worship, even in the unity of our sacred Latin tongue, with the Saints that have handed us this patrimony. Thus, a Catholic and classical education provides the intellectual and spiritual formation necessary to liberate people from the bondage of being a mere child of their age, and the ignorance that leads to mindless assimilation. They become part of something far deeper, far more human and real than any fad of modernity.

In this way, perhaps this kind of education may be called “counter-cultural,” but this is certainly not its essential characteristic. (We might even pray that the leaven of Catholic classical

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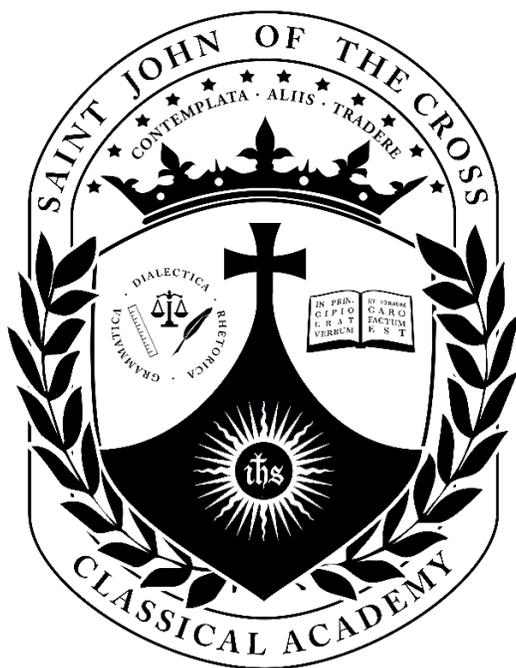
<sup>5</sup> T. S. Eliot, *Notes Toward a Definition of Culture*, pg. 17: “For if any definite conclusions emerge from this study, one of them is surely this, that culture is the one thing that we cannot deliberately aim at. It is the product of a variety of more or less harmonious activities, each pursued for its own sake: the artist must concentrate upon his canvas, the poet upon his typewriter, the civil servant upon the just settlement of particular problems as they present themselves upon his desk, each according to the situation in which he finds himself.”

<sup>6</sup> *Hebrews* 12:1

education would permeate to the point that no “counter-culture” was even necessary.) Indeed, if we are reflective about the current state of our world and the diseases that ail it, it would become clear that what we are dealing with is not simply an evil culture. Rather, we look in vain for signs of any culture at all. Tradition, the very lifeblood of culture, is nearly wholesale rejected. In the obsession with entertainment and self-gratification, true human virtue is choked out. Mediocrity rises to the top because it is not a threat, while magnanimity is labelled “arrogance,” “extremism,” or “bigotry.” In short, any true cultivation of human excellence is abandoned. What is left is barbarism covered with the veneer of technological sophistication, which has succeeded in giving our modern brand of barbarism ever more ways to express its brutality. But as we have seen, the essential characteristic of classical education is precisely human excellence, enabling human beings to reach out for the highest virtues of heart and mind. True human excellence, whether it is that of the farmer or the politician, is a free, deliberate, and rational excellence. So while a classical education may not claim to be itself the cause of culture or even of the renewal of culture, it is a necessary element in forming those who can make that claim in the future: generations of families properly formed in the best their tradition has to offer.

All of this provides the inspiration for the founding of SJCA and will inform every aspect of its life: its character as a classical tutorship rather than a modern school, its absolute emphasis on the family, its Four Marks of Tradition, Subsidiarity, Simplicity, and Contemplation as laid out in its Bylaws, its historic-classical curriculum, and even its yearly calendar, organized around the ancient liturgical calendar of Holy Mother Church. All of this is to ensure that the families and tutors of SJCA are thoroughly immersed in the life-giving flow of the traditions of Catholic culture, that with grace we all might be disposed to seek with Saint Augustine that “Beauty ever-ancient, ever new,” without Whom no heart could find rest.

## Explanation of Insignia



The main inspiration for this insignia is the Carmelite coat of arms, the order to which our patron, Saint John of the Cross, belonged and to whose reform he devoted his life. We have tried to make of this insignia a true sign of the nature and mission of SJCA, as well as the inspiration for its founding.

**Mountain.** The peak in black represents Mt. Carmel, the holy mountain where Elijah lived. The ascent of the mountain is like the spiritual ascent of the soul to communion with God. At the top of the mountain is the Cross of Christ, where God delved most deeply and lovingly into humanity so that man might be made a partaker in the Divine Nature. We strive to unite ourselves to Christ Crucified, with sights firmly fixed upon the instrument of our salvation.

**IHS Monogram.** At the base of the mountain is the symbol of Christ, IHS being the Latinized first three letters of Jesus' name in Greek. This is especially associated with Christ present in the Holy Eucharist, which alone grants us entrance upon the holy mountain. The rays of the sun come from our Eucharistic Lord, enlightening the heart and mind. Without this *lumen Christi*, the soul cannot even begin to ascend. Thus Christ is the beginning and end of our ascent. This symbol is associated with the Jesuit order, whose early classical schools have served as an inspiration in the founding of SJCA. This symbol with its rays is also reminiscent of that which appears in many images over the enlightened heart of Saint Thomas Aquinas, whose teachings serve as the sure guide for the intellectual formation of SJCA.

**The Scriptures & the Trivium.** To aid our ascent, we look to the two great sources of wisdom: Nature and Revelation, the latter being the perfection of the former. Thus, SJCA strives to cultivate a disposition for natural wisdom and virtue attained through the mastery of the three liberal arts of the classical Trivium (Grammar, Dialectic, and Rhetoric), and ultimately a disposition for the supernatural wisdom granted to us in Divine Revelation (in both Scripture and Tradition). The words “*In principio erat Verbum...et Verbum caro factum est*” (“In the beginning was the Word...and the Word was made flesh”) give the very heart of Revelation, that is, the Incarnation of the Eternal Word, the Son. Without these “two wings” of faith and reason, as Saint John Paul II calls them, we remain grounded, unable to ascend the mountain.

**The Crown & Twelve Stars.** In our endeavor to aid the families of SJCA in the spiritual, intellectual, and moral formation of their children, we recognize our great need for the intercession of our Blessed Mary. Thus, atop our shield is the crown of the Queen of Heaven, to whom we at SJCA always pledge our devotion. The twelve stars, as described by Saint John in the book of the Apocalypse, represent the twelve tribes of Israel, and point also to the twelve Apostles, whose teaching tradition forms an essential part of the deposit of faith. Our devotion to the Blessed Virgin, Glory of Jerusalem and Queen of the Apostles, guarantees our holding fast to the Traditions and Magisterial authority of the Roman Catholic Church, which is the seat of the Apostles and the New Jerusalem.

**“CONTEMPLATA ALIIS TRADERE”.** This phrase comes from the *Summa Theologiae* of Saint Thomas Aquinas and aptly sums up the mission of SJCA. “For even as it is better,” he says, “to enlighten than merely to shine, so is it better to hand on to others the fruits of one's contemplation [*contemplata aliis tradere*] than merely to contemplate” (ST, IIa-IIae, Q. 188, art. 6). This principle leads Saint Thomas to conclude that teaching and preaching, those arts which consist in this “handing on” of contemplated truths, are the highest vocations of religious life because they are inherently directed toward perpetuating amongst all the highest activity of the human soul—contemplation. This is why all aspects of SJCA, whether it be the study of theology, pilgrimages and religious events, or even works of mercy carried out in the community, must always flow from and be directed toward contemplation.

# Bylaws of Saint John of the Cross Classical Academy

(Revised 7/17/2015)

## I. Marks of St. John of the Cross Academy

1. **Tradition.** In both intellectual and spiritual matters, the families and tutors will always consult primarily the authority of the Tradition of the Roman Catholic Church<sup>7</sup> as expounded and protected by the Magisterium, and secondarily the intellectual tradition of the classical civilization of the West which has been adopted by, baptized into, and become an essential part of Roman Catholic culture.<sup>8</sup>
  - 1.1. In intellectual matters, therefore, the Academy gives pride of place to the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas as the Universal teacher of the Catholic Church.<sup>9</sup> Thus, all curriculum will be ordered according to the Thomistic hierarchy of the Sciences: Sacred Theology being the highest science, followed by Philosophy, then Mathematics, and finally the Experimental Sciences.
  - 1.2. The Academy recognizes that the study of the Latin and Greek languages is indispensable for a truly historic-classical education. Indeed, there is no classical education apart from the classical languages.
  - 1.3. In Liturgy, Prayer, and Devotion, the Academy accepts the traditions of the Church with eager docility and promotes them with zeal. Therefore, the Academy seeks in accord with the will of the Church to preserve above all else those elements of the Roman Liturgy which have been inextricably linked to the glory and solemnity of the sacred rites themselves, namely, the primary use of Latin<sup>10</sup>, the sacred language of the Church, and Gregorian Chant as the standard of sacred music<sup>11</sup>. In daily prayer and devotion, the Academy is formed by praying the Divine Office, the Holy Rosary,

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<sup>7</sup> Vatican Council II, *Gravissimum Educationis*: “. . . in a special way, the duty of education belongs to the Church, not merely because she must be recognized as a human society capable of educating, but especially because she has the responsibility of announcing the way of salvation to all men, of communicating the life of Christ to those who believe, and, in her unflinching solicitude, of assisting men to be able to come to the fullness of this life.”

<sup>8</sup> Bl. John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio*: “. . . in engaging great cultures for the first time, the Church cannot abandon what she has gained from her inculturation in the world of Greco-Latin thought. To reject this heritage would be to deny the providential plan of God who guides his Church down the paths of time and history.”

<sup>9</sup> St. Pius X, *Doctoris angelici*: “We therefore desired that all tutors of philosophy and sacred theology should be warned that if they deviated so much as a step, in metaphysics especially, from Aquinas, they exposed themselves to grave risk.”; and also Pius XI, *Studiorum Ducem*: “We consider that Thomas should be called not only the Angelic, but also the *Common* or Universal Doctor of the Church; for the Church has adopted his philosophy for her own.”; cf. Bl. John Paul II, *Fides et Ratio*, 78

<sup>10</sup> Vatican Council II, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, Art. 36

<sup>11</sup> St. Pius X, *Tra le Sollecitudini*: “Gregorian Chant has always been regarded as the supreme model for sacred music, so that it is fully legitimate to lay down the following rule: the more closely a composition for church approaches in its movement, inspiration and savor the Gregorian form, the more sacred and liturgical it becomes; and the more out of harmony it is with that supreme model, the less worthy it is of the temple.” see also, Vatican Council II, *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, Art. 116

silent adoration of the Blessed Sacrament as a real extension of the Divine Liturgy<sup>12</sup>, and the pursuit of Contemplation as the height of the Spiritual Life<sup>13</sup>.

2. **Subsidiarity.** The Academy delegates authority so that all its affairs are handled on the most local level possible<sup>14</sup>. This principle guides all relationships at the Academy. The responsibility of any authority is thus to aid whoever is directly under his care in the things which they cannot accomplish well without his aid.

- 2.1. **The Division of Rights and Responsibilities** according to the principle of Subsidiarity:

- 2.1.1. **The Parent.** The leader of the Domestic Church, the parent, is the primary educator of their children<sup>15</sup>, and is therefore the primary holder of all rights and responsibility regarding the education of their children. Thus, the authority of the tutor is granted by delegation of the parent as a member of the Academy.

- 2.1.1.1. By becoming a member of the Academy, the parent agrees to adhere to this document, especially with regard to the Four Marks of the Academy. Any serious deviation therefrom can result in expulsion from the Academy upon the decision of the Parent-Tutor Council.

- 2.1.1.2. Parents are required, in accordance with the high calling of educating their children, to actively engage in the intellectual and spiritual formation of their children.

- 2.1.1.2.1. This shall include the mandatory attendance of quarterly seminars and workshops offered by the tutors of the Academy.

- 2.1.2. **The Tutor.** The primary responsibility of the Tutor is to assist the parents of the Academy in the education of their children.

- 2.1.2.1. In all academic matters, the Tutor holds the primary right and responsibility of ensuring the parent understands and can meaningfully administer to their children the standards and curriculum of the Academy, as laid down in this document and the Curriculum Guidelines.

- 2.1.2.2. By becoming a member of the Academy, the Tutor agrees to adhere

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<sup>12</sup> Ibid, Art. 13; Sacred Congregation of Rites, *Eucharisticum Mysterium*, 58. The Prayer of adoration should be made “always giving priority to silence in which to listen inwardly to the Lord who is alive and present in the Sacrament.” (Benedict XVI, *Angelus* of 10 June, 2012)

<sup>13</sup> CCC 2714. cf. Lk 2:19; St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, I-II, q. 3, a. 8

<sup>14</sup> Bl. John Paul II, *Centessimus Annus*: “A community of a higher order should not interfere with the life of a community of a lower order, taking over its functions.”

<sup>15</sup> CCC 1656; *Lumen Gentium*, 11; *Gaudium et Spes*, 52

to this document, especially with regard to the Four Marks of the Academy. Any serious deviation therefrom can result in expulsion from the Academy upon the decision of the Parent-Tutor Council.

2.1.2.3. Understanding the inexhaustible depths of the complementary realms of natural reason and faith, tutors are required to engage in a life-long pursuit of that wisdom. Docility and wonder are necessary qualities of the classical tutor.

2.1.2.3.1. The Academy will provide opportunities for its tutors to grow intellectually and spiritually as a community and as individuals in at least the following ways:

2.1.2.3.1.1. Tutors are each required to present talks or lead discussion at quarterly seminars for parents.

2.1.2.3.1.2. Tutors are each required to engage in academic studies with their fellow tutors, the topic of which will be determined yearly by the group of tutors themselves.

2.1.3. **The Addition of Members to the Academy.** In consideration of the unique and communal nature of the Academy, it is necessary to place certain restrictions upon the admittance of new members into the community.

2.1.3.1. **Prospective Families** must complete the required application and provide a statement of agreement with this document, and will be admitted only after an interview with the Parent-Tutor Council.

2.1.3.1.1. After the initial interview, granted the continued interest of both the prospective family and the Academy, the child(ren) will be given an assessment to determine placement in the curriculum and whether and what kind of remediation may be required.

2.1.3.1.2. The Academy is committed to helping families whose children are in need of remediation even before entrance into the Academy. Thus, even if it is decided not to admit a pupil on the basis of a lack of academic development, the Academy will offer whatever aid it can reasonably offer given time and resources, and will be open to a continued relationship with the family until the required benchmark is reached.

2.1.3.2. **Prospective Tutors** must complete the required application, provide a statement of agreement with this document along with a sample of

relevant academic work, and will be admitted only after at least one interview with the Parent-Tutor Council followed by an additional interview with the tutors.

2.1.3.2.1. In the event that new tutors are needed, the Academy will give first consideration to those already connected in some way to the community. Only after its own resources have been exhausted will the Academy consider adding those with no previous connection to the community.

2.1.3.3. All prospective members of the community are required to take an oath to the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church and to show in their lives continual and zealous effort to live out and defend the precepts of the Faith.

2.2. **Parent-Tutor Council.** In order to maintain subsidiarity and accountability to all in positions of authority at the Academy, there is instituted the Parent-Tutor Council, consisting of three parents and three tutors. This Council will function as the Academy's board of directors and can in no wise depart from this document.

2.2.1. The Parent-Tutor Council shall be composed of three parents and three tutors. Members will occupy their seats on the Council as long as they remain willing and in good standing with the Roman Catholic Church and the Academy, that is, in compliance with the rules of this document governing their respective roles in the Academy.

2.2.2. If any member of the Council acts in any way contrary to the common good of the Academy or its mission and character as laid out in these bylaws, he or she may be removed from office by a majority vote of fellow council members, but only after full consultation with the Chancellor.

2.2.3. An office of chancellor shall be filled by a Roman Catholic Priest in good standing with the Church. He will be elected by a vote of the Council and will occupy the office for as long as he maintains the faculties to do so.

2.2.3.1. In-case of a deadlocked vote, the Council agrees to adhere to the advised course, being a preference of one of the two proposals, of the Chancellor.

2.2.4. The offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer shall be determined annually by a vote of the Council.

2.2.4.1. To ensure equitable representation, the offices of President and Vice-President cannot be occupied by either two parents or two tutors at the same time.

2.2.5. Committees may be established by the Council as the need arises for the

organizing and evaluation of the spiritual, intellectual, and practical aspects of the Academy.

- 2.2.6. Membership in the Council is strictly voluntary. Therefore, no Council member shall be entitled to compensation for his or her time and work as a council member.
- 2.2.7. All motions presented at Council meetings must accord with these procedural guidelines: (1) Member, with permission of President, states the motion to be tabled, (2) Motion is seconded, (3) Motion is stated by President, opening the floor to debate or discussion, (4) Amendments of motion are stated, (5) Motion is voted on, (6) President announces the results of the vote.

3. **Simplicity.** Contrary to the modern trend of diversion, multiplicity, and specialization in education, the Academy seeks to cultivate simplicity and unity in the intellectual and spiritual lives of its families. Therefore, the tutors and families of the Academy gladly accept the responsibility of safeguarding the culture of the Academy by simplifying the following:

- 3.1. **Simplicity of Association.** Though the Academy is open to relationships with outside communities, no such relationship can be made essential to the very life of the Academy, or binding in its internal affairs or direction--a relationship reserved solely for the Magisterium of the Roman Catholic Church. This includes any relationship to businesses or orders, whether lay or religious. This will ensure the essential stability and simplicity of the mission of the Academy.
- 3.2. **Intellectual Formation.** The Academy recognizes that “all men by nature desire to know,”<sup>16</sup> and that the knowledge of the truth for its own sake is a higher virtue than any technical, vocational knowledge. Therefore, all academic pursuits of the Academy and its pupils are ordered to the unifying pursuit of the truth for its own sake.
  - 3.2.1. **Class Schedules.** Regarding scheduling for pupil courses, the Academy follows the dictum, “*multum non multa*,” depth over quantity. Therefore, the daily schedule of each pupil should not be overly weighed down with electives and extracurricular activities.
  - 3.2.2. **Preeminence of Liberal Arts.** Any activity which prevents the daily pursuit of the mastery of the Liberal Arts is incompatible with the intellectual formation of the Academy.<sup>17</sup>
  - 3.2.3. **Pedagogical Simplicity.** The standard of each tutor’s method and content

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<sup>16</sup> Aristotle, *Metaphysics*, 980a1

<sup>17</sup> St. Augustine, *De Ordine* 1, 8, 24: “Such studies are the way to the highest things, the way of reason which chooses for itself ordered steps lest it fall from the height. The steps are the various liberal arts.”

must never be multiplied or reduced according to the least common denominator of pupil performance. Rather, the standard, which is mastery of the relevant stage dictated by the Trivium<sup>18</sup>, remains unified for every pupil regardless of his or her intellectual gifts.

3.2.3.1. The parent and the tutor are responsible for applying this high standard in prudent and formative assessment of the individual pupil; thereby addressing the diversity of intellectual ability without compromising the unity of the standard of the Academy.

3.2.3.2. **Class Sizes.** The growth of classes necessarily harms the pedagogical simplicity of the Academy, either by forcing the tutor to compromise the standard, or else by forcing the tutor to leave some pupils behind. Since neither is acceptable, classes must remain as small as possible.

3.2.3.2.1. If the size of a given class exceeds 4 pupils, it will be split into two classes as practical consideration provides, preferably single-gender (Art. 3.3.1).

3.3. **Spiritual Formation.** The Academy seeks perfection of its unique spiritual formation<sup>19</sup>, rather than needless diversion of spiritual practice; a sort of spiritual schizophrenia.

3.3.1. The prime way in which the Academy simplifies its spiritual life is by ordering all activity to the liturgical seasons of the Roman Catholic Church, which frees us from the continual and often frantic pursuit of novel spiritual experience. In this way, the Academy cultivates a unity of life for all its members, following the teaching of St. Paul to “redeem the time.”<sup>20</sup>

3.3.2. Any spiritual activity which does not raise the mind to God, curb concupiscence, and give Him due glory and honor in accordance with the ancient law and custom of Holy Mother Church, is considered by the Academy to be an act of superstition rather than true religion.<sup>21</sup>

3.3.3. The Academy specifically endorses as part of its spiritual formation those events or activities which are focused upon the disciplines essential to Christian life, being prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. These three disciplines dispose the soul to the right worship of God and engender Contemplation and its flower, which is Charity. These activities especially accomplish those

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<sup>18</sup> The Classical Tradition upon which the Academy was founded mandates that children in grades K-12 be educated primarily in the three Liberal Arts which comprise the Trivium: Grammar, Logic, and Rhetoric. This will equip the pupils not merely with knowledge, but the very tools of learning (see Dorothy Sayers, *The Lost Tools of Learning*).

<sup>19</sup> This formation, as in Sect. I, Art. 4, is centered on docile contemplation of the highest Truths of the Faith.

<sup>20</sup> Ephesians 5:15-16: “See therefore, brethren, how you walk circumspectly: not as unwise, but as wise: redeeming the time, because the days are evil.”

<sup>21</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, II-II, q. 93, a. 2

conditions of true religion set forth above (3.3.2) and taught by Sacred Scripture.<sup>22</sup>

3.3.4. Any spiritual activity which focuses primarily on moving the emotions rather than forming the whole person for liturgical contemplation is incompatible with the charism of the Academy.<sup>23</sup>

3.3.5. **Unity of Spiritual and Intellectual Formation.** Since the contemplation of God is the highest act of man, and since this is primarily an intellectual action, the Academy recognizes an inextricable bond between its Spiritual Formation and its Intellectual Formation.<sup>24</sup> Therefore, unity and simplicity of Spiritual Formation must be maintained in and through the academic curriculum, most especially that of theology, as properly disposing the minds of pupils to contemplation of the highest truths.

3.4. **Social Formation.** The Academy seeks to promote in pupils depth of friendship over multiplicity of acquaintances. The former fosters self-knowledge and true moral growth, while the latter breeds mediocre superficiality and stifles magnanimity.

3.4.1. **On Co-ed Relationships at the Academy.** It follows naturally that the Academy holds the ideal of single-gender classes to better foster genuine, lasting friendships among the young men and the young women of our Academy. This also allows tutors to better adapt their curriculum and method to each individual class.

3.4.1.1. No public displays of affection between male and female pupils are allowed during any activity under the banner of the Academy, in the interest of removing the unnecessary distraction from healthy intellectual, spiritual, and social formation.

3.4.1.2. Any proposed event involving relational instruction or formation, especially with regard to co-ed relationships (on dating, Theology of the Body talks, etc.), must be approved by the Parent-Tutor Council.

3.5. **Communal Formation.** Since the Academy is made up of its families and exists for their common good, it seeks to foster genuine relationship and trust between the families and tutors of the community. The Academy refuses to embrace any policy which would put undue strain on or bifurcate that relationship.

3.5.1. Since the parents are the primary educators of their children, the Academy

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<sup>22</sup> James 1:27: “Religion clean and undefiled before God and the Father, is this: to visit the fatherless and widows in their tribulations: and to keep one’s self unspotted from this world.”

<sup>23</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, II-II, q. 91, a. 2.; St. John of the Cross, “When these emotions go unbridled they are the source of all vices and imperfections, but when they are put in order and calmed they give rise to all the virtues” (*The Ascent of Mount Carmel*, Book Three Chapter 16, par. 5)

<sup>24</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, I-II, q. 3, a. 5.

will consider it paramount to foster and bolster trust between parents and tutors.

3.5.1.1. Following the Mark of Subsidiarity, the final onus of developing an intimate relationship between tutor and parents falls upon the tutor, whose responsibility it is to practice consistently open and honest communication with the parents whom he serves.

3.5.1.2. **Conflict Resolution.** In case of tension between a parent and a tutor, the parties involved will consult, in succession until resolution: (1) Among themselves alone, with this document as a guide, (2) two fellow members of the community, being one parent and one tutor, (3) the whole community being represented by the Parent-Tutor Council. This is modelled after the practice of fraternal correction taught in the Gospel.<sup>25</sup>

3.5.2. Parents and tutors will be required to participate in the intellectual and spiritual formation of the Academy, in accord with their respective rights and responsibilities as laid out in Article 4.1.

3.5.3. **Practical Arts.** Beyond academic formation, the Academy will cultivate among its members a community of life through the facilitation of those arts and practices which human beings undertake for enjoyment and edification of both body and soul. Thus, the Academy will offer, as far as possible, opportunities for communal training and practice in horticulture, woodworking, the culinary arts, and other arts beneficial to life.

4. **Contemplation.** As stated above, the Academy holds fast to the immemorial teachings of the Catholic Church with regard to the highest act of the soul, which is Contemplation. Therefore, in all realms of formation, the Academy recognizes the preeminence of the contemplative life.<sup>26</sup>

4.1. **Regular Adoration.** The Academy is graced by being in a larger Catholic community that provides ample opportunity to adore our Lord present in the Blessed Sacrament. Therefore, our families and tutors are required to do so regularly.

4.1.1. Any activity at all that would disturb the solemnity and silence of adoration is absolutely unacceptable, being diametrically opposed both to the contemplative charism of the Academy and the solemn reverence always due to our Lord present in the Sacrament.<sup>27</sup>

4.2. **Mandatory Retreats/Trips.** Trips and retreats planned for families and tutors, as extensions of the curriculum of the Academy, are meant to highlight the spiritual and

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<sup>25</sup> *Matthew* 18:15-17

<sup>26</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, I-II, q. 3, a. 5.

<sup>27</sup> See Art. 1.3

intellectual formation had throughout the year. Therefore, these events should reflect the contemplative charism of the Academy, as well as the liturgical seasons of the Roman Catholic Church.

- 4.2.1. During all trips and retreats, pupils should be allowed ample time for silent study and reflection.
- 4.2.2. When these events include communal Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, all members of the Academy must be careful to obey the norms and regulations set out by the Magisterium.<sup>28</sup> The liturgical nature of such celebrations must be safeguarded to distinguish them from personal devotions.
- 4.2.3. Reflections offered during these trips will be focused on contemplation of the truths of the Faith rather than on the sentiments of the pupil; the latter may come into view only as related to the former.<sup>29</sup>
- 4.3. **Parent-tutor Retreats.** The Academy seeks to promote contemplation in its parents and tutors by providing opportunities to take at least one communal retreat a year.
  - 4.3.1. These retreats, in order to ensure their contemplative nature, will be preferably held in religious houses such as monasteries or convents.

## II. The Process of Amending These Bylaws

1. **Conditions of Amendment.** The proposal of any amendment to these bylaws must be shown and proven by the proposing party to meet the following conditions:
  - 1.1. The proposal is in keeping with each of the four Marks of the Academy.
  - 1.2. The proposal reflects a genuine need in the community; that is, the common good of the community *requires* it.
  - 1.3. The proposal, if adopted, would not cause unnecessary unrest in the community or the undue isolation or mistreatment of any of its members, whether families or tutors.
2. **Who Can Propose Amendment.** In order to ensure stability in the community, it is necessary to restrict the proposal of amendments to some extent.
  - 2.1. A group of three or more members of the community, being parents or tutors, may

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<sup>28</sup> General Instruction of the Roman Missal, No. 3; Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist Outside of Mass, *Roman Ritual*; Adoration and benediction are seen in these sources of Magisterial teaching as no longer to be considered mere devotions but have been raised to be part of the Church's official liturgy, following the norms and regulations governing the celebration of the Christian Mystery. (CCC, 1066-1075) As liturgies, they "acknowledge Christ's marvelous presence in the sacrament and invites us to the spiritual union with him that culminates in sacramental communion" (*Order for Solemn Exposition of the Holy Eucharist*, No. 7).

<sup>29</sup> St. Thomas Aquinas, *Summa Theologiae*, II-II, q. 91, a. 2.

propose an amendment to the Parent-Tutor Council.

2.2. Any two current members of the Parent-Tutor Council may propose an amendment.

3. **Procedure of Proposal.** In order to ensure clarity and efficiency of proceedings, the following guidelines must be followed in making a proposal for amendment.

3.1. The proposal must be submitted in written form for review to each member of the Parent-Tutor Council at least 30 days prior to the scheduled presentation of the proposal, which will take place at quarterly meetings.

3.2. The proposer of the amendment must structure the proposal document in the following manner:

3.2.1. **Statement of Amendment.** This should include a brief and concise statement of the amendment itself, with reference to the relevant section and sub-section of these bylaws.

3.2.2. **Rationale of Amendment.** This section will include a brief description of the reason the proposed amendment would be beneficial to the Academy.

3.2.3. **Proof of Conditions.** This section will include, in detail, proof that the proposed amendment meets each of the conditions as required above.

4. **Adoption of Proposal.** Proposed amendments can only be adopted upon a five-sixths majority agreement of the Parent-Tutor Council of the Academy.

4.1. Agreement may be reached not before two weeks of consideration by council members following the initial presentation of the proposal, at which time the Council will convene to vote on the proposal.

4.2. Upon agreement to adopt any amendment, the council must agree further, by the same five-sixth majority, upon whether the amendment be adopted immediately or at some agreed upon time in the future.

# Curriculum

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## Introduction

Mastery of any activity is only obtained through repeated, guided exercises. The historic-classical curriculum provides the space for such mastery on at least three fronts.

**Exercise to Perfection:** The classical pupil perfects his first exercises before he moves to his second exercises. Because he is not drowned by a surfeit of subjects, the classical pupil gains confidence by mastering each step in the said subject before moving on to the next. He remains at step one until he masters step one. The classical pupil does not simply pass tests; he masters intellectual content and skills. He wastes no time. He masters his exercises through concentration and repetition. His mind is not cluttered with half-remembered facts but is organized by fixed points, flexible to learn anything because he has developed the intellectual habits of mastery.

**Master Tutor:** A master tutor is necessary for classical mastery. SJCA is a classical tutorship in which the pupils are coached and trained one-on-one. Pupils must perform. They must perform repeated mental acts well in order to master their academic subjects. The tutor makes that possible because he is always coaching, prodding, correcting, and informing the pupil. Unlike modern students, the classical pupil cannot hide in the lecture room. He is not left alone in his passivity. He must act; he must act well. The “gadfly” tutor is working with the pupil one-on-one ensuring that there are no half measures.

**Continuity:** Following the stages of the Medieval Trivium (Grammar, Dialectic, and Rhetoric), the classical pupil deepens his understanding of familiar content. The seeds of the Grammar Stage bear fruit in the Dialectic and Rhetoric stages. This repeated exposure and continuity ensures that the pupil’s mind is fertile ground for mastery.

## Grammar Stage (3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> Grades)

The essential focus in the Grammar Stage years is the training of the mind for the Dialectical Stage in the Trivium. This includes first and foremost, education in the Latin tongue. The pupil will also be expected to have memorized what we shall call the “grammar” of the various subjects listed below: theology, literature, history, mathematics, empirical science. The primary faculties perfected in this stage are observation and memory.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

#### Language/Composition

Objective: While both Latin and Greek roots will be memorized, the pupil will focus his study on the Latin language in particular. Additionally there will be ample time for simple conversational Latin, memorizing prayers, chants, liturgical responses, and the Creeds of our Catholic faith. The pupil will master the written and spoken word using the Classical Writing curriculum by Tracy Davis Gustilo and Lene Mahler Jaqua. This curriculum follows the Greek method known as *progymnasmata* in order to teach the pupil how to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

#### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Aesop A*
- *Latina Christiana I*, by Memoria Press
- *Lingua Angelica*, Memoria Press (optional)

#### History

Objective: The subject of the pupil’s historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and memorize the stories of ancient Greece, key dates, anecdotes, and other important facts. This course will also focus on the personalities from this period. In addition, the pupil should begin to memorize the geography of the ancient world.

#### Resources:

- *Famous Men of Greece*, by Memoria Press
- *The Children’s Plutarch: Tales of the Greeks*, by F.J. Gould (online)

#### Math

Objective: The pupil will begin memorizing the basic grammar of mathematics and become adept at the recognition of patterns, order, and symmetry in the world around them. Saxon Math 3 covers skip-counting; identifying ordinal positions; adding and subtracting multi-digit numbers; dividing by single-digit divisors; adding positive and negative numbers; adding and subtracting fractions; plus measurements, mass, function rules, coordinate graphs, angles, and lines of symmetry.

#### Resources:

- Saxon Math 3 Student Workbook Set
- Skill Sharpener’s Math: Grade 3 Activity (optional)

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will memorize, retell, and rewrite the story of salvation history (i.e., Sacred Scripture) in his own words. Topics covered will include the major stories of the Bible from creation to the death of Moses. The pupil will memorize, discuss, and write about the Decalogue as well as the questions and answers in the Baltimore Catechism. Topics covered will be mankind and his final end, God and his perfections, angels, sin, redemption, Incarnation, et al.

Resources:

- *The New Catholic Picture Bible*
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism* No. 1

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on the Greek epics: 1) *Iliad* and 2) *The Odyssey*. By the end of this course, he will be able to follow the basic structures of a story. At this stage the pupil learns how to answer one of the three essential questions that all active readers must ask themselves when reading anything: “What does the author say?”

Resources:

- *Black Ships Before Troy*, by Rosemary Sutcliff
- *The Wanderings of Odysseus*, by Rosemary Sutcliff

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will begin memorizing the grammar of science through observation and classification. This year, pupils will focus on the various kinds of plant and animal life. This stage also utilizes the local zoo and parks in order to reinforce the skills of observation. Pupils will learn about the lives of famous scientist and journal about their findings.

Resources:

- *Exploring God's World*, by A Beka (TUTOR TEXT ONLY)
- Butterfly Garden Activity Kit (optional)

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## 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study began in the previous year, focusing on the use of Latin in simple conversation, composition, and liturgy. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Aesop B*
- *Latina Christiana II*, by Memoria Press
- *Lingua Angelica*, Memoria Press (optional)

## History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and memorize the stories of Roman history, key dates, anecdotes, and other important facts. This course will also focus on the personalities from this period. In addition, the pupil should continue memorizing the geography of the ancient world.

Resources:

- *Famous Men of Rome*, by Memoria Press
- *The Children's Plutarch: Tales of the Romans*, by F.J. Gould (online)

## **Math**

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study began in the previous year, widening the application of concepts and operations learned. Saxon 5/4 covers concepts such as number sense, numeration, numerical operations, measurement and geometry, patterns, relationships, math functions, and data manipulation are introduced. Pupils will specifically learn to add three-digit numbers, subtract numbers with re-grouping, read time, write numbers, estimate arithmetic answers, divide with two-digit answers, multiply three or more factors, simplify fraction answers, use a decimal number line, and more.

Resources:

- Saxon Math 5/4 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition
- Skill Sharpener's Math: Grade 4 Activity (optional)

## **Revelation (Theology)**

Objective: The pupil will continue his study in Salvation History retelling and rewriting the stories in his own words. Topics covered will include the major stories of the Bible from the invasion of Canaan to the prophet Jonah. The pupil will continue memorizing and Catholic doctrine using the third section in the Baltimore Catechism. The pupil will also become familiar with the liturgical year with an additional focus on the lives of the saints, which will correspond with his studies in history.

Resources:

- *The New Catholic Picture Bible*
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism* No. 1

## **Literature**

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on stories of Rome. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. The pupil continues to focus on the question: "What does the author say?"

Resources:

- *The Orchard Book of Roman Myths*, by Geraldine McCaughrean
- *In Search of a Homeland*, by Penelope Lively
- *Tales from Shakespeare*, by Charles and Mary Lamb

## **Physical Science**

Objective: The pupil will continue mastering the grammar of science through observation and classification. This year, pupils will focus on minerals and the rock cycle. This stage also utilizes the local zoo and parks in order to reinforce the skills of observation. Pupils will continue to learn about the lives of famous scientist and journal about their findings.

Resources:

- *Understanding God's World*, by A Beka (TUTOR TEXT ONLY)
- Science Journal

## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study began in the previous year, focusing on the use of Latin in simple conversation, composition, and liturgy. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Homer A; Poetry for Beginners: A*
- *Latin: First Year*, by Henle
- *Latin Grammar*, by Henle

### History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and memorize the stories of Medieval Europe, key dates, anecdotes, and other important facts. This course will also focus on the personalities from this period. In addition, the pupil should begin memorizing the geography of the medieval world.

Resources:

- *Famous Men of the Middle Ages*, by Memoria Press
- *The Story of the Middle Ages*, by Samuel B. Harding (optional)

### Math

Objective: Building upon the principles taught in Saxon Math 5/4, the Saxon 6/5 textbook covers concepts such as: the order of operations; geometry and measurement; integers; divisibility concepts; ratios; statistics and probability; prime and composite numbers; patterns and sequences; and powers and roots. Pupils will specifically learn about making a multiplication table, adding/subtracting fractions with a common denominator, multiplying by multiples of 10 and 100, perimeter, simple probability, decimal parts of a meter, reciprocals, volume, square roots, graphing points on a coordinate plane, and more.

Resources:

- Saxon Math 6/5 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition
- Skill Sharpener's Math: Grade 5 Activity (optional)

### Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will continue his study in Salvation History retelling and rewriting the stories in his own words. Topics covered will include the major stories of the Bible from the prophet Jonah to the Maccabean restoration and the New Testament from the birth of Christ to establishing the early church in the book of Acts.

The pupil will continue memorizing and analyzing Catholic doctrine using the fourth section in the Baltimore Catechism.

Resources:

- *Douay-Rheims Bible*
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism* No. 2

**Literature**

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on stories of the Middle Ages. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. The pupil continues to focus on the question: “What does the author say?”

Resources:

- *Favorite Medieval Tales*, by Mary Pope Osborne
- *Tales from the Mabinogion*, by Gwyn Thomas
- *King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table*, by Roger Lancelyn Green.
- *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*, by Howard Pyle

**Physical Science**

Objective: The pupil will continue mastering the grammar of science through observation and classification. This year, pupils will focus on atmospheric phenomena. This stage also utilizes the local zoo and parks in order to reinforce the skills of observation. Pupils will continue to learn about the lives of famous scientist and journal about their findings.

Resources:

- Science Journal
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**6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

**Language/Composition**

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study of the previous year, focusing on the use of Latin in speech, composition, and liturgy. At this point, a formal study in Greek will also begin. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Homer B; Poetry for Beginners: B*
- *Latin: First Year*, by Henle (same text as 5th grade)
- *Latin Grammar*, by Henle (same text as 5th grade)
- *Elementary Greek I*, by Christine Gatchell

## History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and memorize the stories of Early Modern Europe and the New World, key dates, anecdotes, and other important facts. This course will also focus on the personalities from this period. In addition, the pupil should begin memorizing the geography of the Americas.

Resources:

- *Famous Men of Modern Times*, by Memoria Press
- *Story of the World* Vol. 3, by Susan W. Bauer

## Math

Objective: Building upon the principles taught in Saxon Math 6/7, the Saxon 7/6 textbook introduces functions and coordinate graphing, integers, exponential expressions, and prime factorization. Pupils will specifically learn about the order of operations, number lines, decimal place value, how to find the percent of a number, how to round decimal numbers, attributes of geometric solids, and more.

Resources:

- Saxon Math 7/6 Student Text, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition
- Skill Sharpener's Math: Grade 5 Activity (optional)

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will continue his study in Salvation History retelling and rewriting the stories in his own words. After completing his overview of the New Testament, which will span from St. Paul's epistles to St. John's Apocalypse, he will prayerfully analyze particular sections of Sacred Scripture. Throughout the rest of the year the focus will be the books of Genesis, Exodus, I & II Samuel, and I & II Kings.

The pupil will also continue his studies of the lives of the saints according to the liturgical calendar, with emphasis on the Office of Matins, in order to invigorate his faith and see the doctrine he has been analyzing incarnated in the lives of those who have loved our Lord with heroic virtue.

Resources:

- *Douay-Rheims Bible*
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism* No. 2

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on American literature. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. The pupil continues to focus on the question: "What does the author say?"

Resources:

- *Johnny Tremain*, by Esther Forbes
- *Call of the Wild*, by Jack London
- *The Gift of the Magi*, by O. Henry
- *The Gettysburg Address*, by Abraham Lincoln
- *The Celebrated Jumping Frog of Calaveras County*, by Mark Twain

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will continue mastering the grammar of science through observation and classification. This year, pupils will focus on astronomical phenomena. This stage also utilizes the local zoo and parks in order to reinforce the skills of observation. Pupils will continue to learn about the lives of famous scientist and journal about their findings.

Resources:

- Science Journal

## Dialectical Stage (7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> Grades)

The essential focus in the Dialectical Stage is the training of the mind for the Rhetorical Stage in the Trivium. This includes first and foremost, education in the pupil's ability to discern the difference between good and bad argumentation by developing an understanding of ideas and their relations. The method in this stage hones skills of analysis and argumentation, building upon the skills exercised throughout the Grammar Stage. With the Latin language as the backbone of a historic-classical curriculum, the pupils become familiar with words and the structure of language in the Western tradition. The primary faculty perfected throughout this period is discursive reasoning, the ability to move correctly and quickly from propositions to their logical conclusions.

### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study of the previous year, studying Koine Greek and focusing on the use of Latin in speech, composition, and liturgy. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

#### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Diogenes Maxim*
- *Latin: First Year*, by Henle (same text as 6th grade)
- *Latin Grammar*, by Henle (same text as 6th grade)
- *Elementary Greek II*, by Christine Gatchell

#### History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and memorize the stories of America, key dates, anecdotes, and other important facts. This course will also focus on the personalities from this period. In addition, the pupil will continue memorizing the geography of the Americas. In order to respect the integrity of the Dialectical Stage, the pupil will analyze the historical text in correlation with his discursive reasoning skills from his literary studies allowing him to grasp a cohesive "historical sense."

#### Resources:

- *Story of the World* Vol. 4, by Susan W. Bauer
- Various Primary Sources

#### Math

Objective: The pupil now moves into the Dialectical Stage, having mastered the basic grammar of mathematics. This means the focus will shift to the more abstract behavior of quantities and operations, especially in algebraic reasoning. Saxon 8/7 reviews arithmetic calculation, measurements, geometry and other skills, and introduces pre-algebra, ratios, probability and statistics. Pupils will specifically learn about adding/subtracting/multiplying fractions, equivalent fractions, the metric system, repeating decimals, scientific notation, Pi, graphing inequalities, multiplying algebraic terms, the Pythagorean Theorem, the slope-intercept form of linear equations, and more.

#### Resources:

- Saxon Math 8/7 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will continue to prayerfully analyze particular sections of Sacred Scripture. Throughout this year the focus will be the books of Psalms, Proverbs, Isaiah, and Daniel.

The pupil will employ the four senses of Sacred Scripture (i.e., literal, typological, moral, anagogical) throughout his in-depth reading of individual texts. In order to respect the integrity of the Dialectical Stage, the pupil will emphasize the moral and typological aspects of the four senses. Pupils will continue their study of the saints through the Office of Readings, adding a greater depth of analysis of the text.

### Resources:

- *Douay-Rheims Bible*

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on American literature. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. During the Dialectical Stage, the pupil begins focusing on the question: “What does the author mean?”

### Resources:

- *Last of the Mobicans*, by James Fenimore Cooper
- *Little Women*, by Louisa May Alcott
- *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, by Mark Twain
- *To Kill a Mockingbird*, by Harper Lee

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will begin the Dialectical Stage in science by gaining a formal understanding of science and its diverse fields using the text *Science Matters*, by Robert M. Hazen. This will enable the pupil to categorize the observational skills attained in the Grammar Stage into the relevant fields of study, and to correlate the major assumptions in each field with contemporary scientific issues.

### Resources:

- *Science Matters*, by Robert M. Hazen and James Trefil

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## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study of the previous year, studying Koine Greek and focusing on the use of Latin in speech, composition, and liturgy. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Diogenes Chreia and Intermediate Poetry*
- *Latin: Second Year*, by Henle
- *Latin Grammar*, by Henle (same text used in 7th grade)
- *Elementary Greek III*, by Christine Gatchell

## History

Objective: At this stage the pupil will turn his attention from history proper to the structure of government with American government being the main focus. The pupil will learn the workings of national, state, local government, and the dynamic relations between the three. In order to respect the integrity of the Dialectical Stage, the pupil will analyze the historical text in correlation with his discursive reasoning skills from his literary studies allowing him to grasp a cohesive “historical sense.”

### Resources:

- *The Land of Fair Play*, by Christian Liberty Press
- *Economics: Work and Prosperity*, by Russell Kirk

## Math

Objective: The pupil continues to pursue mastery over the logic of mathematics. The Saxon Algebra 1/2 Textbook is the culmination of pre-algebra mathematics, a full pre-algebra course and an introduction to geometry and discrete mathematics. Some topics covered include Prime and Composite numbers; fractions & decimals; order of operations, coordinates, exponents, square roots, ratios, algebraic phrases, probability, the Pythagorean Theorem and more.

### Resources:

- Saxon Algebra 1/2 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will continue to prayerfully analyze particular sections of Sacred Scripture. Throughout this year the focus will be the books of Matthew, Acts, and Revelation. In addition, there will be an in-depth focus on the lives of the saints (corresponding with the historical period studied at this stage). Pupils will continue their study of the saints through the Office of Matins, adding a greater depth of analysis of the text.

The pupil will employ the four senses of Sacred Scripture (i.e., literal, typological, moral, anagogical) throughout his in-depth reading of individual texts. In order to respect the integrity of the Dialectical Stage, the tutor will emphasize the moral and anagogical aspects of the four senses.

### Resources:

- *Douay-Rheims Bible*
- *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on 18th and 19th century literature. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. During the Dialectical Stage, the pupil begins focusing on the question: “What does the author mean?”

### Resources:

- *The Autobiography of Benjamin Franklin*, by Benjamin Franklin
- *Civil Disobedience*, by Henry David Thoreau
- *Jane Eyre*, by Charlotte Bronte
- *A Christmas Carol*, by Charles Dickens
- *The Three Musketeers*, by Alexander Dumas

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will continue to deepen the understanding of science proper using the text *Science Matters*, by Robert M. Hazen. This will enable the pupil to categorize the observational skills attained in the Grammar Stage into the relevant fields of study, and to correlate the major assumptions in each field with contemporary scientific issues.

### Resources:

- *Science Matters*, by Robert M. Hazen and James Trefil

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study of the previous year, studying Koine Greek and focusing on the use of Latin in speech, composition, and liturgy. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Herodotus and Shakespeare & Description in Speech-in-Character*
- *Latin: Second Year*, by Henle (same text as 8th grade)
- *Latin Grammar*, by Henle (same text as 8th grade)
- *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar*, by William Mounce (only for those who have Latin in 7th and 8th grade)

### History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and analyze the most prominent Greek historians of antiquity. In order to respect the integrity of the Dialectical Stage, the pupil will also analyze the historical text in correlation with his discursive reasoning skills from his literary studies allowing him to grasp a cohesive "historical sense."

### Resources:

- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts'
- *The Landmark Herodotus: The Histories*, edited by Robert B. Strassler
- *The Landmark Thucydides: A Comprehensive Guide to the Peloponnesian War*, *ibid*
- *Greek Lives*, by Plutarch & Oxford World's Classics

### Math

Objective: Saxon Algebra 1, 4th Edition covers all of the traditional first-year algebra topics while helping pupils build higher-order thinking skills, real-world application skills, reasoning, and an

understanding of interconnecting math strands. Saxon Algebra 1 focuses on algebraic thinking through multiple representations, including verbal, numeric, symbolic, and graphical, while graphing calculator labs model mathematical situations.

Resources:

- Saxon Algebra 1 Textbook, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition

**Revelation (Theology)**

Objective: The pupil will now turn his attention to an in-depth study of the development of doctrine from the Apostolic age through the High Middle-Ages. This course of study will culminate in an introduction to the method of disputation used by the scholastic masters, which is a method essential to the Rhetorical Stage.

Pupils continue to study the saints through the Office of Readings, adding depth of analysis and expression in the composition of brief commentary on the text.

Resources:

- *Faith of the Early Fathers*, 3 Volumes, by W. A. Jurgens.
- *History of the Catholic Church*, by James Hitchcock

**Literature**

Objective: The pupil will memorize poetry and develop skills in diction and spelling with focus on Greek epic and drama. The pupil will continue to develop a sense of the basic structures of a story, as well as his ability to discern the essential points of plot. During the Dialectical Stage, the pupil begins focusing on the question: “What does the author mean?”

Resources:

- *Works and Days* and *Theogony*, by Hesiod
- *Iliad* and *Odyssey*, by Homer
- *Antigone*, by Sophocles
- Selections from Plato (*Republic* and *Apology*)
- *The Clouds*, by Aristophanes

**Physical Science**

Objective: The pupil will now focus his attention on particular topics within the science curriculum. The major fields will be covered from here until the end of the pupil’s secondary education. At this period the major discipline studied is Earth Science.

Resources:

- *Geology, Oceanography, Weather, and Solar System*, by Milliken Press (4 different texts)

## Rhetorical Stage (10<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

The essential focus in the Rhetorical Stage is to hand on the tools of persuasion so that each may more readily convince his neighbor to embrace the good, the true, and the beautiful. This serves as a culmination of the pupil's imitation of the greatest teachers of the Western tradition. Rhetoric is the art of expressing oneself artfully and persuasively. In order to obtain good rhetorical skills the pupil must have mastery over the subject in question and over himself. The first two stages of the Trivium will have prepared the pupil for the former, while an emphasis on virtue, both intellectual and moral, will prepare him for the latter. Thus, the faculties perfect in this stage are those of the whole man, intellect, will, and the passions, and especially their proper ordering in obedience to reason.

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

#### Language/Composition

Objective: The pupil will continue the course of study of the previous year, studying Koine Greek and focusing on the use of Latin in speech, composition, and liturgy. Because they have mastered the basic syntax of Latin, the pupils will be reading the works of the classical authors (Cicero, Livy, etc.) and memorizing the speeches of Cicero. The pupil will continue practicing the Greek compositional method of *progymnasmata* in order to develop the ability to narrate, refute, describe, write a thesis, argue for or against legislative proposals, and much more.

#### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Plutarch and Shakespeare & Speech-in-Character*
- *Latin Third Year*, by Henle (Cicero's Orations)
- *Basics of Biblical Greek*, by William Mounce

#### History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and analyze the most prominent Roman historians of antiquity. Because the pupils are entering into the Rhetorical Stage, they will begin to imitate the persuasive power of the Roman rhetoricians.

#### Resources:

- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts'
- *The Early History of Rome*, by Livy, edited by Penguin Classics
- *Roman Lives*, by Plutarch, edited by Oxford Worlds Classics
- *Annals of Imperial Rome*, by Tacitus, edited by Penguin Classics

#### Math

Objective: The pupil now moves into the Rhetorical Stage of mathematics, turning now to geometry, learning to apply a solid dialectical understanding gained through the study of algebra to mathematical proofs regarding shape and dimension. Saxon Geometry covers triangle congruence, postulates and theorems, surface area and volume, two-column proofs, vector addition, and slopes and equations of lines.

#### Resources:

- Saxon Geometry Textbook

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: The pupil will now turn his attention to an in-depth study of the development of doctrine from the Late Middle-Ages through the Second Vatican Council. The method of disputation will continue to be utilized, especially addressing the heresies of the modern age. Pupils continue to study the saints through the Office of Matins, adding depth of analysis and expression in the composition of brief commentary on the text.

### Resources:

- *History of the Catholic Church*, by James Hitchcock
- *The Roots of the Reformation*, by Karl Adam (Sheed & Ward)
- The Canons and Decrees of the Council of the Trent (Online)
- Selected Papal Encyclicals (Online)
- The Documents of Vatican II (Online), and Regensburg Address of Father Benedict XVI (Online)

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will focus on dramatic performance and argumentation with an additional focus on the works of ancient Rome (see sources). In order to respect the integrity of the Rhetorical Stage, he will emphasize the third essential question of active reading, “Do I agree or disagree?”

### Resources:

- Virgil’s *Aeneid*
- *Metamorphoses*, by Ovid
- *Julius Caesar* and *Antony and Cleopatra* by William Shakespeare

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will continue to focus his attention on particular topics within the science curriculum, which will begin utilizing Singapore texts. At this period the major discipline studied is Biology. Throughout the Rhetorical Stage in science, the pupil will bring a philosophical understanding of nature to bear upon the subject matter, and apply that understanding persuasively to the empirical data recorded. Furthermore, the pupils will begin evaluating the theories of the great scientist in the relevant field.

### Resources:

- *Exploring Creation with Biology*, by J.Wile
- Excerpts from *Science and the Modern World*, A.N. Whitehead (online)
- Selected Primary Texts for Syntopical Study (Aristotle, Darwin, J.H. Fabre)

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## 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

### Language/Composition

Objective: At this stage, the pupil will begin reading Virgil’s *Aeneid* in Latin. Additionally the pupil will continue memorizing prayers, chants, liturgical responses, and the Creeds of our Roman Catholic faith.

Once the pupil has completed the Greek text from last year, he will begin studying Daniel D. Wallace's *Grammar Beyond the Basics* (see sources).

Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Demosthenes and Advanced Poetry*
- *Latin Fourth Year*, by Robert J. Henle (Virgil's *Aeneid*)
- *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*, by Daniel B. Wallace
- *The New Testament Syntax* (companion workbook to Wallace)

## History

Objective: The subject of the pupil's historical studies will correlate with his studies in literature. The pupil will read and analyze the most prominent historians of the Middle Ages (see sources). Because the pupils are entering into the Rhetorical Stage, they will begin to imitate the persuasive power of the medieval rhetoricians.

Resources:

- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts'
- *History of the Franks*, Gregory of Tours
- *Chronicles of the Crusades*, by Joinville and Villehardouin
- *The Quiet Light: A Novel About St. Thomas Aquinas*, by Louis de Wohl

## Math

Objective: The pupil will continue to make use of geometrical concepts, but will also practice a wider application of algebraic reasoning to real-world problems in subjects such as physics and chemistry. Thus, mathematical studies throughout the course of this year will be made to especially compliment the pupil's work in the physical sciences, allowing for true cross-disciplinary study which is characteristic of the Rhetorical Stage.

Resources:

- Saxon Algebra 2 Textbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

## Revelation (Theology)

Objective: Having completed the study of the development of doctrine, the pupil will begin to exercise the habit of theological study on the treatises of the Doctors of the Church, with emphasis on the nature of man and his moral perfection, both natural and supernatural. Pupils continue to study the saints through the Office of Matins, adding depth of analysis and expression in the composition of brief commentary which must now include reference to the pupil's past readings.

Resources:

- *Summa Theologica*, by St. Thomas Aquinas (New Advent - Online)
- *The Four Cardinal Virtues*, by Josef Pieper (Online)

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will focus on the dramatic elements of the medieval saga and on the interplay of Christian and barbarian notions of heroism and virtue. The pupil will continue his dialectical analysis of literature, culminating in the evaluative question, "Do I agree or disagree?"

### Resources:

- *Beowulf*, translated by Seamus Heaney
- *Song of Roland*
- *Divine Comedy*, by Dante, translated by Dorothy Sayers

### **Physical Science**

Objective: The pupil will continue to focus his attention on particular topics within the science curriculum, which will begin utilizing Singapore text in correlation with the pupil's curriculum in mathematics. At this period the major discipline studied is Chemistry. Throughout the Rhetorical Stage in science, the pupil will bring a philosophical understanding of nature to bear upon the subject matter, and apply that understanding persuasively to the empirical data recorded. Furthermore, the pupils will begin evaluating the theories of the great scientist in the relevant field.

### Resources:

- *Exploring Creation with Chemistry*, by J. Wile
- *The Mystery of the Periodic Table*, by Benjamin Wiker
- *The Chemical History of a Candle*, by M. Faraday
- Selected Primary Texts for Syntopical Study (Aristotle, Lavoisier, Faraday)

## **12<sup>th</sup> Grade**

### **Language/Composition**

Objective: At this stage, the pupil will begin reading St. Thomas Aquinas' *Summa Theologiae* in Latin. Selected readings will be made carefully by the instructor. Additionally the pupil will continue memorizing prayers, chants, liturgical responses, and the Creeds of our Catholic faith. In Greek, the pupil will begin reading the Gospel of St. John in Koine Greek and will finish out his senior year by studying the Church Fathers their native tongue.

### Resources:

- *Classical Writing: Demosthenes & Advanced Poetry*
- *Summa Theologiae: (Latin-English Edition)*, by St. Thomas Aquinas (online)
- *Greek of the Church Fathers with A Patristic Greek Reader*, by Rodney A. Whitacre

### **History**

Objective: The pupil will complete his study of history by analyzing the founding fathers of our country and her story up to modern times (see sources). The pupils, continuing their studies in the Rhetorical Stage, will now imitate the persuasive power of the American rhetoricians. Mastery in history will be demonstrated by the pupil's application of historical principles in his/her final projects for Theology and Literature.

### Resources:

- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts'
- *The Patriot's Handbook: A Citizen's Primer for a New Generation of Americans*, by George Grant
- *Democracy in America*, by Alex de Tocqueville (online)
- *The Roots of American Order*, by Russell Kirk

## Math

Objective: The pupil will end his rhetorical study of mathematics with calculus. This course allows the pupil to demonstrate his mastery over algebra, the study of the operations of abstract quantity, and geometry, the study of shape and dimension, adding now a mathematical understanding of another fundamental aspect of the universe, namely, change. In order to show mastery over this stage, the pupil must adeptly apply a mathematical understanding to the mastery project in Physics.

### Resources:

- Saxon Calculus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

## Theology

Objective: The pupil will carry out an in-depth study of four works from the Catholic canon, spanning the different eras of the tradition, being St. Augustine's *Confessions*, St. Thomas' *Treatise on Law*, the *Dark Night* of St. John of the Cross, and *Jesus of Nazareth* by Pope Benedict XVI. The course of study will culminate with a project of syntopical study in which the pupil chooses an important idea treated in one of the four works above and traces its influence and development.

### Resources:

- *Confessions*, St. Augustine of Hippo
- *Summa Theologica*, by St. Thomas Aquinas (New Advent - Online)
- *Dark Night of the Soul*, by St. John of the Cross
- *Jesus of Nazareth*, by Pope Benedict XVI

## Literature

Objective: The pupil will continue this year with Shakespeare and a focus on dramatic performance and argumentation before reading selected short stories and novels from the 19th and 20th centuries. The pupil, in order to demonstrate rhetorical mastery in literature, will choose a great idea found in one of the works read and relate it to other works read in the previous years of study. Finally, the pupil must persuasively show key insight gained through this syntopical study.

### Resources:

- *Hamlet, Macbeth, and Much Ado About Nothing*, by William Shakespeare
- Selected Short Stories from the Modern Age (Dickens, Henry James, Oscar Wilde, Kafka, O'Connor)
- *The Brothers Karamazov*, by Fyodor Dostoevsky
- *The Man Who Was Thursday*, G.K. Chesterton

## Physical Science

Objective: The pupil will continue to focus his attention on particular topics within the science curriculum, which will continue utilizing Singapore text in correlation with the pupil's curriculum in mathematics. At this period the major discipline studied is Physics. Throughout the Rhetorical Stage in science, the pupil will bring a philosophical understanding of nature to bear upon the subject matter, and apply that understanding persuasively to the empirical data recorded. Furthermore, the pupils must show mastery in evaluation of theories by arguing persuasively for a given theory of a great scientist over against competing theories.

### Resources:

- *Exploring Creation with Physics*, by J. Wile
- Selected Primary Texts for Syntopical Study (Aristotle, Newton, Heisenberg)

## Prices for Texts (By Grade)

\*Items in **bold** are those used in previous years of study which do not require re-purchase.

\*\*Texts that are available free online, including many of the primary texts used throughout the curriculum, are not included in the price list. While it is recommended that hard copies be purchased, it is not necessary to complete the course of study.

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Aesop A Student Workbook*.....26.95
- *Latina Christiana I Student Book*, by Memoria Press.....16.00
- *Famous Men of Greece Student Guide*, by Memoria Press .....17.95
- Saxon Math 3 Student Workbook Kit.....28.49
- *The New Catholic Picture Bible*.....8.19
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism No. 1*.....4.75
- *Black Ships Before Troy*, by Rosemary Sutcliff.....6.99
- *The Wanderings of Odysseus*, by Rosemary Sutcliff.....6.99
- Saxon Math 3 Student Workbook.....26.75
- **TOTAL**.....**143.06**

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Aesop B Student Workbook*.....26.95
- *Latina Christiana II Student Book*, by Memoria Press.....16.00
- *Famous Men of Rome*, by Memoria Press .....17.95
- Saxon Math 5/4 Student Text.....42.99
- *The New Catholic Picture Bible*.....(Same as 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism No. 1*.....(Same as 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- *The Orchard Book of Roman Myths*, by Geraldine McCaughrean .....9.97
- *The Aeneid for Boys and Girls*, by Alfred J. Church.....4.97
- *Tales from Shakespeare*, by Charles and Mary Lambff.....3.97
- **TOTAL**.....**135.74**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....**122.80**

### 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Homer A Student Workbook*.....29.95
- *Poetry for Beginners A Student Workbook*.....21.95
- *Latin: First Year*, Henle.....9.02
- *Latin Grammar*, Henle.....9.99
- *Famous Men of the Middle Ages Student Guide*, by Memoria Press.....17.95
- Saxon Math 6/5 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.....40.00
- *St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism No. 2*.....5.95
- *Favorite Medieval Tales*, by Mary Pope Osborne.....5.82
- *Tales from the Mabinogion*, by Gwyn Thomas.....9.22
- *King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table*, by Roger Lancelyn Green.....4.99
- *The Merry Adventures of Robin Hood*, by Howard Pyle.....4.27
- **TOTAL**.....**159.11**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....(No reused texts)

## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Homer B Student Workbook*.....29.95
- *Poetry for Beginners B Student Workbook*.....21.95
- **Latin: First Year, Henle**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- **Latin Grammar, Henle**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- *Elementary Greek I*, by Christine Gatchell.....18.95
- *Famous Men of Modern Times*, by Memoria Press.....17.95
- *Story of the World Vol. 3*, by Susan W. Bauer.....14.40
- **St. Joseph's Baltimore Catechism No. 2**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- Saxon Math 7/6 Student Text, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition.....43.25
- *Everyman and Other Miracle and Morality Plays*.....2.25
- *The Hobbit*, J.R.R. Tolkien.....6.02
- **TOTAL**.....179.68
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....154.72

## 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Diogenes Maxim Student Guide*.....29.95
- *Intermediate Poetry Student Guide*.....22.95
- **Latin: First Year, Henle**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- **Latin Grammar, Henle**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- *Elementary Greek II*, by Christine Gatchell.....18.95
- *Story of the World Vol. 4*, by Susan W. Bauer.....9.99
- Saxon Math 8/7 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.....39.64
- *Science Matters*, by Robert M. Hazen and James Trefil.....9.99
- **TOTAL**.....150.48
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....131.47

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Diogenes Chreia Student Guide*.....29.95
- **Intermediate Poetry Student Guide**.....(Same as 7<sup>th</sup>)
- *Latin: Second Year, Henle*.....10.12
- **Latin Grammar, Henle**.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- *Elementary Greek III*, by Christine Gatchell.....18.95
- *The Land of Fair Play*, by Christian Liberty Press.....5.99
- *Economics: Work and Prosperity*, by Russell Kirk.....8.80
- Saxon Algebra 1/2 Student Text, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.....29.58
- *Mere Christianity*, by C.S. Lewis.....10.00
- **Science Matters, by Robert M. Hazen and James Trefil**.....(Same as 7<sup>th</sup>)
- **TOTAL**.....156.32
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....113.39

## 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Herodotus Student Guide*.....20.95
- *Classical Writing: Advanced Poetry Core Text*.....19.95

- *Latin: Second Year, Henle*.....(Same as 8<sup>th</sup>)
- *Latin Grammar, Henle*.....(Same as 5<sup>th</sup>)
- *Basics of Biblical Greek Grammar*, by William Mounce.....43.00
- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts'.....4.99
- Saxon Algebra 1 Textbook, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition.....61.21
- *Faith of the Early Fathers*, 3 Volumes, by W. A. Jurgens.....20.00
- *History of the Catholic Church*, by James Hitchcock.....18.97
- *Geology, Oceanography, Weather, and Solar System*, by Milliken Press.....64.00
- **TOTAL**.....**273.08**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....**253.07**

### 10<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Classical Writing: Plutarch Companion*.....5.08
- *Advanced Poetry Core Text*.....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- *Latin: Third Year, Henle*.....9.93
- *Basics of Biblical Greek*, by William Mounce.....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- *Short History of the World*, by J.M. Roberts' .....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- Saxon Geometry Textbook.....62.99
- *History of the Catholic Church*, by James Hitchcock.....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- *The Roots of the Reformation*, by Karl Adam (Sheed & Ward).....4.34
- *Exploring Creation with Biology*, by J.Wile.....33.77
- **TOTAL**.....**203.02**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....**116.11**

### 11<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Advanced Poetry Core Text*.....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- *Latin: Fourth Year*, by Henle.....9.97
- *Greek Grammar Beyond the Basics*, by Daniel B. Wallace.....24.00
- *The New Testament Syntax* (companion workbook to Wallace).....11.21
- *The Quiet Light: A Novel About St. Thomas Aquinas*, by Louis de Wohl.....9.98
- Saxon Algebra 2 Textbook, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition.....39.27
- *Beowulf*, translated by Seamus Heaney.....5.99
- *Divine Comedy*, by Dante, translated by Dorothy Sayers.....32.00
- *Exploring Creation with Chemistry*, by J. Wile.....42.98
- *The Mystery of the Periodic Table*, by Benjamin Wiker.....9.11
- **TOTAL**.....**204.46**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....**184.51**

### 12<sup>th</sup> Grade

- *Advanced Poetry Core Text*.....(Same as 9<sup>th</sup>)
- *A Patristic Greek Reader*, by Rodney A. Whitacre.....21.36
- *The Patriot's Handbook: A Citizen's Primer*, by George Grant.....9.90
- *The Roots of American Order*, by Russell Kirk.....11.04
- Saxon Calculus, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.....47.55
- *Dark Night of the Soul*, by St. John of the Cross.....3.50
- *Jesus of Nazareth*, by Pope Benedict XVI.....7.29

- *The Brothers Karamazov*, by Fyodor Dostoevsky.....5.00
- *The Man Who Was Thursday*, G.K. Chesterton.....3.89
- *Exploring Creation with Physics*, by J. Wile.....22.50
- **TOTAL**.....**151.98**
- **TOTAL FOR CONTINUING PUPIL**.....**132.03**

## 2016-2017 Calendar

**Aug. 15 (Assumption)** - The school year will begin the Monday following the assumption. This feast will be celebrated by the whole community of the Academy with Holy Mass, food and drink.

### **Four full weeks of school (Aug. 16 - Sept. 9)**

Sept. 14 (Exaltation of the Holy Cross)

### **Six full weeks of school (Sept. 19 - Oct. 28), through:**

Sept. 21 (Ember Wednesday) - Mass, acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

Sept. 23 (Ember Friday) - Mass, acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

Sept. 24 (Ember Saturday) - Mass, acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

Sept. 29 (St. Michael) - Celebration

Oct. 2 (Guardian Angels) - Celebration

Oct. 30 (Christ the King) - Sunday

Nov. 1 and 2 (All Saints and All Souls) - Week Off, Mass, prayer and penance for the souls in purgatory.

### **Two full weeks of school (Nov. 7 - 18)**

Nov. 24 (St. John of the Cross) - Week off, Celebration (Fall Fest type), prepare for Advent

Nov. 27 (First Sunday of Advent)

### **Three full weeks of school (Nov. 28 - Dec. 16), through:**

Dec. 8 (Immaculate Conception) - Mass day on Tuesday instead to accommodate the feast

Dec. 14 (Ember Wednesday) - Mass, acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

Dec. 16 (Ember Friday) - Acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

Dec. 17 (Ember Saturday) - Acts of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving

December 18 (Fourth Sunday in Advent) - Week off in preparation for Christmas.

Dec. 25 (The Nativity of the Lord)

Jan. 1 (Circumcision of the Lord; Mary, Mother of God)

Jan. 6 (Epiphany) - The school year begins its second half on the Monday after the Epiphany. The whole community will celebrate the epiphany together during the week of Jan. 6. Weekly schedule will be resumed on Jan. 9.

### **Four full weeks of school (Jan. 9 - Feb. 3), through:**

Jan. 13 (Baptism of the Lord) - Mass

### **ROME PILGRIMAGE (Feb. 6 – Feb. 17)**

Feb. 12 (Septuagesima)

### **One full week of school (Feb. 20 - Feb. 24)**

Feb. 28 (Mardi Gras/“Shrove” Tuesday) – Once the last perishables are spent, the traditional Catholic community makes sure to make a good Confession (“to shrive” means to have one’s sins absolved) before Ash Wednesday.

Mar. 1 (Ash Wednesday)

**Four full weeks of school (Mar. 6 - Apr. 7)**

Mar. 7 (St. Thomas Aquinas) - Holy Mass (since we are a Catholic Academy, this day will remain a feast rather than merely a commemoration, even though it appears during the season of Lent), Benediction, and a communal reflection on a passage from St. Thomas

Mar. 8 (Ember Wednesday)

Mar. 10 (Ember Friday)

Mar. 11 (Ember Saturday)

Mar. 25 (Annunciation)

Apr. 3 (Monday of Passion Week)

Apr. 7 (The Seven Sorrows of Mary) - The Friday of Passion Week

**TRIDUUM**

Apr. 13 (Holy Thursday)

Apr. 14 (Good Friday)

Apr. 15 (Holy Saturday)

Apr. 16 (The Resurrection of the Lord) - Off through the Octave of Easter (April 3)

**Six full weeks of school (Apr. 24 - June 2), through:**

May 25 (Ascension) - Holy Mass on Thursday instead of Wednesday

June 4 (Pentecost)

June 7 (Ember Wednesday)

June 9 (Ember Friday)

June 10 (Ember Saturday)

**Two full weeks of school (June 12 - June 23), through:**

June 15 (Corpus Christi) - Holy Mass on Thursday instead of Wednesday

June 24 (Nativity of John the Baptist) - Holy Mass on Friday instead of Wednesday

June 29 (Saints Peter and Paul)

July 1 (Most Precious Body and Blood) - Off until the Monday after the Octave Day of Sts. Peter & Paul (July 3). Weekly schedule resumes on July 11

**Three full weeks of school (July 3 - July 28), through:**

July 16 (Our Lady of Mount Carmel)

## Weekly Schedule

### Monday:

#### MORNING

8:40 - Prayer (Terce)/Breakfast  
9:00 - Language  
9:30 - Composition  
10:00 - Math  
10:30 - 15 MIN BREAK  
10:45 - History  
11:45 - The Angelus/Sext/Lunch  
12:15 - Literature

#### AFTERNOON

1:30 - Language  
2:00 - Composition  
2:30 - Math  
3:00 - Concluding Prayer (Nonne)

### Tuesday:

#### MORNING

8:40 - Prayer (Terce)/Breakfast  
9:00 - Language  
9:30 - Composition  
10:00 - Math  
10:30 - 15 MIN BREAK  
10:45 - Theology  
11:45 - The Angelus/Sext/Lunch  
12:15 - Science

#### AFTERNOON

1:30 - Language  
2:00 - Composition  
2:30 - Math  
3:00 - Concluding Prayer (Nonne)

### Wednesday:

9:00  Rosary  
9:30  Mass  
10:30  Breakfast  
11:00  Tend the Garden, Works of Mercy,  
Recreation, etc.

### Thursday:

#### MORNING

8:40 - Prayer (Terce)/Breakfast  
9:00 - Language  
9:30 - Composition  
10:00 - Math  
10:30 - 15 MIN BREAK  
10:45 - History  
11:45 - The Angelus/Sext/Lunch  
12:15 - Literature

#### AFTERNOON

1:30 - Language  
2:00 - Composition  
2:30 - Math  
3:00 - Concluding Prayer (Nonne)

### Friday:

#### MORNING

8:40 - Prayer (Terce)/Breakfast  
9:00 - Language  
9:30 - Composition  
10:00 - Math  
10:30 - 15 MIN BREAK  
10:45 - Theology  
11:45 - The Angelus/Sext/Lunch  
12:15 - Science

#### AFTERNOON

1:30 - Language  
2:00 - Composition  
2:30 - Math  
3:00 - Concluding Prayer (Nonne)

**Recreation:** Plays - Zoo - Canoeing - Oratory -  
Disputations - Learning how to Cook - Learning  
how to Brew - Music Lessons - Arts - Training  
of Altar Servers - Louisiana Culture (traveling to  
different historical and holy sites)

## Price Table for Enrollment

### By Subject

Subjects	Per Class	Per Month	Per Year
6	\$91	\$550	\$6,600
4	\$125	\$500	\$6,000
3	\$125	\$375	\$4,500
2	\$125	\$250	\$3,000
1	\$125	\$125	\$1,500

\*Full-time families enrolling multiple children will receive a \$1000/year discount from the full price of enrollment for each new child enrolled.