



# VALLEY CATHOLIC Middle School

*An education that  
will last a lifetime*



# OUR MISSION

Valley Catholic School, sharing in the mission of the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, fosters a faith-filled community of lifelong learners and compassionate leaders committed to living out Catholic values and following Jesus' example through prayer, service, and love.





## WHO WE ARE

Valley Catholic Middle School is a key component of our college preparatory program, offering rigorous courses of high academic standards. Students in grades 6-8 participate in an advanced program designed to guide them through middle school and prepare them for the academic challenges they will face in high school, college and beyond.

Founded in 1903 by the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, Valley Catholic School has a strong academic tradition of fostering critical thinking, intellectual curiosity and active social responsibility.

Valley Catholic School is located on the Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon's beautiful 43 acre campus in Beaverton, Oregon. Valley Catholic is Oregon's only Catholic school serving children and young adults from infancy through high school.



# Advanced curriculum provides the opportunity to excel.

It is our vision that Valley Catholic Middle School graduates will be: open to growth, intellectually curious, engaged in faith, compassionate leaders and involved global citizens.

---

## COURSES INCLUDE:

**English:** Four levels for each grade from grade level to advanced

**Math:** Four levels for each grade from grade level to advanced

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade English Mechanics:** Enhanced grammar, vocabulary and study skills

**Fine Arts:** Students may elect up to two classes a day.

### Performing Arts

Band  
Choir  
Musical Theater  
Orchestra

### Visual Arts

Bookmaking	Printmaking
Character Design	Photography
Painting	Sculpting

**Physical Education/Health:** Daily courses that include lifelong fitness skills, healthy life styles and team building

**Religion:** Faith development, history and ethics

**Science:** Introduction to earth science, chemistry, physics and biology

**7<sup>th</sup> Seminar:** Project-based learning courses, Future City competition, business project, study skills and writing support

**Social Studies:** geography, culture and history

### Technology:

Windows and Google platform labs	Exposure to coding
Apple one-to-one iPad program	Technology skill building
Digital design	Design thinking
Digital citizenship	Project-based learning
Access to a 3D printer	

**World Language:** High School French I or Spanish I

**Enrichment Program:** We offer more than 20 enrichment classes including life skills (cooking, money management, yoga and relaxation), movement (such as self defense, sports camps and quidditch), academic enrichment (digital arts and design, science bowl and speech) and creative outlets (calligraphy, comic book design and movie making).

**Electives:** In addition to fine arts and world language courses, eighth-grade students may choose courses in journalism, introduction to robotics, marine biology, Red Cross babysitting, CERT training, and yearbook.

Valley Catholic Middle School's curriculum follows Archdiocesan standards as well as the Oregon State Framework. In addition, our curriculum aligns with the Next Generation Science Standards and has been recognized as an Apple School of Distinction and by the International Society for Technology Education.

---

For more detailed information and our course catalog, please visit our website: [valleycatholic.org](http://valleycatholic.org)



**Grade Level** 6-8

**Accreditation** Northwest Accreditation Commission (NWAC)

**Enrollment 2017-18** Total enrollment is 250



**Student Teacher Ratio: 7:1**



**87%** of faculty hold  
Master's degrees or higher



# VCMS PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Opportunities to excel with an advanced curriculum that provides a well-rounded educational experience.
- Integrated STEM and engineering design projects across the curriculum.
- Participation in the annual Valley Catholic Middle School Speech Tournament, attended by more than 400 students from schools across the region.
- Participation in the Intel NW Science Expo and American Mathematics Competitions AMC-8 and 10 National Math Exam.
- Enrollment in high school-level math, music, and world language classes (French or Spanish) taught by our high school faculty.
- Development of a three-year writing portfolio. Engaging in self-reflection and developing critical thinking skills leads to more proficient writers.
- Time management skill development, utilizing the school-issued agenda/daily planner, fighting procrastination and managing long-term projects.
- Participation in National Junior Honor Society (NJHS), advanced leadership opportunities and service projects identified and selected by the group.
- Integration of technology into all subject areas to enhance academic learning across the curriculum. All VCMS teachers are certified Apple Teachers.
- Participation in CYO sports – football, volleyball, cheerleading, basketball, swimming, baseball, lacrosse and track and field. VCMS also has a cross country running club.
- The Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon place great value on music education, emphasizing music in the curriculum and offering private lessons on campus at Valley Catholic Music School.





## BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

### IN GRADE 6, STUDENTS:

- Attend one week of Outdoor School in the fall. This program provides students an engaging hands-on, team building experience in a natural setting. Students learn about environmental science and the natural world, and develop strong interpersonal skills.
- Participate in a Greek and Roman Fair, researching a topic of interest and making a creative visual presentation to share with the entire Valley Catholic community.
- Learn infant and child first aid, CPR and a modified version of the Red Cross babysitting course.

### IN GRADE 7, STUDENTS:

- Participate in Waves of Love, an annual service project dedicated to serving the greater community. Students travel to the Oregon Coast to clean beaches, help home-bound residents and assist the community with outside tasks.
- Learn about city infrastructure and design in our Future City Competition. Groups of students design and build a model of their futuristic city. They are challenged to anticipate the unique needs of future populations.
- Experience the business world. Students research start-up companies and work together to design their own products and develop a business plan. They also learn how to write a resumé and participate in a mock interview.

### IN GRADE 8, STUDENTS:

- Visit the residents of Maryville (the skilled care, intermediate care and rehabilitative facility for the elderly on campus) each week to build relationships with the residents and write their personal biographies.
- Learn Hands-Only CPR, train others in the technique and work in conjunction with Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue to serve the greater Portland community.
- Complete a Capstone project of their choice. Capstone is an intensive year-end, cross-curricular project in which students demonstrate their research, project and presentation skills. This serves as the culminating assessment to synthesize and apply knowledge and skills developed at VCMS over the past three years.



VALLEY  
CATHOLIC  
MIDDLE  
SCHOOL



4420 SW St. Mary's Drive, Beaverton, OR 97078 | (503) 718-6500 | [valleycatholic.org](http://valleycatholic.org)