

Epiphany Catholic School Junior High

1002 E College Avenue, Normal, Illinois 61761
309.452.3268 x320
www.epiphanyschools.org

Principal Mike Lootens
Monsignor Eric Powell



Where Truth and Knowledge Flourish *2011 National Blue Ribbon Award Winner*



At Epiphany Catholic School, your child can journey through their junior high years in an environment shaped with Catholic values. The junior high years are an important time in a child's development. Each child is becoming more independent and aware of and susceptible to their peer's opinions and values. Children are at a crucial point in their academic education, learning to be responsible for their own work as well as their contributions to team projects. They are learning more advanced topics and exploring the sciences and math concepts in greater detail. Epiphany Catholic School provides a structure that allows for your child's success while promoting responsible independence.

Epiphany Catholic School provides an environment that cares for the whole child. The small school setting creates an atmosphere where positive behavior and respect for oneself and others is expected. Catholic religious education and virtue-based character formation, together with our anti-bullying program, Steps to Respect, provide the tools and foundation for children to regard one another in a positive manner. The small student-to-teacher ratio allows for teachers to observe and address behaviors inconsistent with Catholic values in a timely manner and provide a solid foundation for students as they enter their high school years.

Epiphany Catholic School earned designation in 2011 from the U.S. Department of Education as a **National Blue Ribbon School for academic excellence.** Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, noted that, "National Blue Ribbon Schools are committed to accelerating student achievement and preparing students for success in college and careers. Their success is an example for others to follow." Epiphany Catholic School earned this award as a result of teacher and staff focus on critical areas that research indicates leads to higher academic achievement: curriculum and instruction, standards and assessment, school organization and finance, technology, parent and community partnerships, and professional development.

Epiphany provides a challenging curriculum that allows students to maximize their potential. Prior to entering Epiphany Catholic School Junior High, students' math and science capabilities are assessed. Students are placed in differentiated math and science curriculums based on their capabilities, allowing advanced students to more deeply explore topics. Advanced math students will study Algebra and Geometry in junior high and be prepared for Trigonometry upon their entry into high school. Traditional math students also have the opportunity to test into and take Algebra class at Central Catholic High School during their 8th grade year and begin high school with Geometry.

Epiphany provides a Spanish curriculum providing a firm base for students taking Spanish in high school. Many Epiphany students have placed into second year Spanish classes when entering high school.

Junior high students participate in STREAM (Service, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) projects. These in-depth study projects are completed in teams with students rotating between charitable service, publishing, and research projects, including a semester long experiment with Lego Robotics. These projects are designed to round out the child's education by allowing them to explore subjects outside of the traditional classroom as well as plan and perform charitable service.

Epiphany Catholic School's staff includes a Learning Specialist that works with students with learning challenges. In junior high, the Learning Specialist coordinates with teachers and students to ensure that necessary classroom and instructional accommodations are put into place so that the child can perform to their potential.

Technology plays an integral role in the junior high curriculum. Epiphany's technology education and integration serve to support all subject areas. Web based tools,

iPads, apps, laptops, and technology education promote student excitement for further exploration of content and engaging ways to present and publish the student's knowledge. Epiphany puts these tools in the hands of its students on a daily basis. Epiphany provides each student with his/her own laptop for the year and aims to build a strong foundation in 21st century skills as well as an awareness and understanding of the moral and ethical responsibilities of being a digital citizen.

Extracurricular activities are available for all students. Team and individual play and competition are vital to the positive development of junior high students. Unlike large junior high schools, the size of Epiphany's Junior High allows for participation by all interested students in a variety of activities: Cross Country, Girls Softball, Boys Baseball, Golf, Basketball, Cheerleading, Girls Volleyball, Track, Chess Club, Speech, Scholastic Bowl, Band, Choir, and Drama Club. Students learn and apply Catholic values as they work and compete together as a team. Epiphany has fielded several state ranking and award winning teams and individuals in a variety of sports and activities over the past several years.

Families create a community at Epiphany Catholic School. The sense of community is seen throughout the school: in the classrooms, parents participate

in a variety of ways such as sharing their experiences with students; at athletic events, families bond over their children's extra-curricular activities; at social events, families come together to relax and have a good time; and on Sundays, of course, families worship together and gather after Mass for coffee and donuts.

Easily accessible facilities are located on College Avenue in East Normal. The school campus, co-located with Epiphany Catholic Church and the Kathryn Marie Albee Early Learning Center, is situated on 13.5 acres surrounded by residential neighborhoods and a senior living home. The Junior High building was constructed in 1998.

The teacher/assistant ratio to students in 2015/16 is 1:11. All teachers are accredited and participate in continuing professional and spiritual development.

2015/2016 Tuition for one child is \$4,600 (parish member). Two children: \$7,550. Three or more children: \$9,350. Non parish member tuition is \$5,550 per child.

We invite you to visit our school to learn about opportunities for your child. We also invite your child to visit and experience the classroom environment.

