

FCHS Spanish 1 Program for 7th and 8th Graders at St. Mary's

This is an excellent opportunity for 7th and 8th graders at St. Mary's who are hardworking, academically successful and able to make a commitment to meeting once a week after school for two years beginning in the 7th grade. The classes are taught by Jennifer Spiegel. Jennifer is the Spanish Teacher at FCHS with 23 years of teaching experience and a Masters of Spanish Education degree. The cost of the program is covered by the St. Mary's Home and School Association. The only cost to the student is for the workbook. Essentially the program covers all of the content that is taught in the Spanish 1 class at Fisher Catholic High School. The only difference is that it is spread out over a two year period. The students are assigned weekly homework and are given projects periodically. They take quizzes and tests and they must pass a final exam to be given credit for Spanish 1 at Fisher Catholic. There are several advantages to this. Students are able to be in the Spanish 2 class during their freshman year. They can then either have their foreign language credits completed, or, as most students do, they can continue to take Spanish at a more advanced level at a younger age. The students are then eventually able to take Spanish 5 during their senior year. The Spanish 5 class would cover material taught in a college level Spanish course and that has many advantages of its own. Students are finding that they can take two foreign languages when they arrive at Fisher and because they started their studies at a younger age, the acquisition and comprehension of the languages come more easily. The students who have completed the program and are now at Fisher are doing very well. The general consensus is that they are glad that they participated in this program and feel better prepared for high school foreign language studies because of it. If you would like to have more information or if you have questions regarding the program, please contact Jennifer Spiegel at jspiegel@fishercatholic.org.