



THEOPHANY ✠ ACADEMY

Orthodox Christian HomeSchool Cooperative

St Elizabeth Orthodox Church
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

2014-2015

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About Us

Theophany Academy, located in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, is a home-school cooperative in the Orthodox Christian Tradition and a pan-Orthodox ministry of St Elizabeth Orthodox Church, a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. *Theophany*, or “manifestation of God,” indicates our commitment to helping students discover and embrace the height, depth, and breadth of God manifest in the many expressions of His created world.

Our Mission

The mission of Theophany Academy is to develop both the rational and noetic faculties of the student in a liturgically-based, prayerfully-imbued, multi-disciplinary Orthodox Christian environment. We seek to form sufficient literacy, self-discipline, insightful thinking, and demonstrative compassion in students. We seek to make the student aware of Truth as an unchanging, sovereign, and spiritual reality, and as the basis of moral principle.

Orthodox Education

It is the conviction of Theophany Academy that Orthodox education is the *formation of mind, illumination of heart, and training of body* toward a well-ordered life and inheritance of the Kingdom of God. Such education will necessarily craft the kind of good citizens we believe societies need.

Orthodox education helps students discover and delight in the manifold wonders of created reality while desiring the higher knowledge of spiritual reality. For the Orthodox Christian, all pursuits of education - math, literature, music, art, science, etc. - integrate to pursue a single goal: *the experience of God*.

The Orthodox liturgy provides a perfect icon of this integrated education approach - the worshipper discerns the presence of God through sight, sound, smell, reason, music, taste, and movement, all with a unified purpose. Theophany Academy hopes for each student to learn how to see oneself as a liturgy to God.

Guiding Principles

These principles underlie the approach of Theophany Academy to the Orthodox formation of the young minds, souls, and bodies in our care:

1. God desired creation into existence; the purpose of life is to desire God in return.
2. The highest purpose for each person is *theosis* - participation in the divine nature. We accomplish this by freely cooperating with the grace of God.
3. Human beings are made in the Image of God, who is *Christ*, and for the likeness of God, which is personal *christification*. We are persons and not individuals, and find our fulfillment as such in community.
4. All human beings of every place, every culture, and every age share one human nature.
5. Education is a responsibility and ministry of the Church.
6. All worthy pursuits of the educated person - including truth, wisdom, goodness, and beauty - are found solely in the person of Jesus Christ.
7. Knowledge is not an individual acquisition; neither is it individually verified.
8. We can know much that is trustworthy through apprehension, reason, observation, and tradition.
9. An informed person needs cultural knowledge to participate credibly in society.
10. An informed person needs critical thinking and conflict resolution skills to participate productively in society.
11. The virtues necessary to education include obedience, mindfulness, knowledge, diligence, humility, and wonder.
12. A proper formation must engage many aspects of the child's being: pre-rational, rational, intellectual, imaginative, and physical, in a sensory-rich environment.
13. Children come to their studies with different intellectual strengths, and different ways of acquiring and processing knowledge. Attention to these differences is part of the rhetorical task of teaching.
14. When training a student, we must always remember his nature, weaknesses, and potential. Discipline is positive correction, never cruel or belittling.
15. Creativity arises from both submission to form and personal variation. The techniques and disciplines of various arts should be presented as doorways to creativity rather than as arbitrary rules which hinder creativity. There is no creativity without both form and variation.

2014 - 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

CLASSES	STUDENTS	SUBJECTS
Pre-K / K	Jackson, Titus Valentine, Benjamin Valentine, Simeon	1. Science 2. Physical Education 3. Sacred Studies 4. Math 5. Read Aloud 6. Art 7. Show-n-Tell 8. Foreign Language
Lower Grammar (Grades 1-2)	Davis, Harmony Holzmann, Elizabeth Holzmann, Michael Holzmann, Naomi Oliver, John Gabriel Pandorf, Aaron	1. Science 2. Read Aloud 3. Sacred Studies 4. Math 5. Foreign Language 6. Art 7. Physical Education 8. Show-n-Tell
Middle Grammar (Grades 3-5)	Davis, Dorsey Holzmann, Abigail Jackson, Adora Meese, Mary Anna Oliver, Jonah	1. Science 2. History 3. Religion 4. Math 5. Foreign Language 6. Art 7. Memory / Presentations
Upper Grammar (Grades 5-6)	Holzmann, Sarah Jackson, Caleb Oliver, Evangeline Pandorf, Rachel	1. Science 2. History 3. Religion 4. Geography / Cultures 5. Art

2014 - 2015 ACADEMIC YEAR

CLASSES	STUDENTS	SUBJECTS
Junior High (Grades 7-8)	Holzmann, Andrew Pandorf, Joshua	6. Foreign Language 7. Drama 8. Math 1. Science 2. History 3. Religion 4. Geography / Cultures 5. Foreign Language 6. Art 7. Drama
High School I (Grades 9-10)	Holzmann, Jonathan Meese, Rebekah Oliver, Anastasia Oliver, Genevieve	1. Science 2. History 3. Religion 4. Literature 5. Foreign Language 6. Art 7. Math
High School II (Grades 11-12)		1. Science 2. History 3. Religion 4. Language Arts 5. Foreign Language 6. Art/Music

Schedule

Thursdays . 9:30am-3:00pm . August 21, 2014 - May 21, 2015

Structure

9:15am - 9:30am	Morning Prayers
9:30am - 2:50pm	Academic Day
3:15pm	Concluding Prayers

Fees

Each teacher submits a proposed Materials Fee for each class, on which will be based the fees per student for the year. This does NOT include books. Each family will be responsible for purchasing ALL required books.

Location

For the 2014-2015 Academic Year, Theophany Academy will meet at St Elizabeth Orthodox Church, 321 W. McKnight Drive, Murfreesboro. Our goal for the 2015 Academic Year is to meet at a new facility on our church land at 7004 Burnt Knob Road, Murfreesboro.

Student Commitments

Students are REQUIRED to complete all reading assignments before each class. A child who arrives without having done the reading is a distraction to classmates and a hindrance to productive discussion. Unprepared students will be asked to serve as assistants with the lower grammar classes, or be given a work assignment.

Instructor Commitments

Instructors are REQUIRED to prepare all assignments before each class. So that we exemplify for our students the organic connection between prayer and education, instructors are expected to be present in the church for all prayers.

Student Code of Conduct

To get the greatest benefit from my time at Theophany Academy, I will:

1. Participate with a positive attitude;
2. Express myself with noble language;
3. Focus on the blessings we have and not the blessings we want;
4. Obey and respect teachers so they can instruct us;
5. Treat myself and other students with dignity and kindness;
6. Protect my safety and the safety of others;
7. Resolve conflicts with others through discussion or by seeking help;
8. Dress cleanly, comfortably, and modestly.
9. Behave in a way that brings credit to Theophany Academy.

Teacher Code of Conduct

To get the greatest benefit from my time at Theophany Academy, I will:

1. Participate with a positive attitude;
2. Express myself with noble language;
3. Focus on the blessings we have and not the blessings we want;
4. Affirm and encourage students so they are more likely to learn;
5. Treat students and fellow teachers with dignity and kindness;
6. Prepare and conduct my classes in excellence;
7. Rely on the collective wisdom of our fellow teachers;
8. Support the parent as the relationship of primary influence in a student's life;
9. Pray for our students.

Governance by Consensus

In all matters of decision-making, the Council of Teachers - defined as those individuals actively teaching at least one class in the semester under consideration - is invited to participate, and the Council shall diligently pursue consensus on all matters of Theophany Academy. Consensus is defined as broad unanimity and general agreement among all the members of the group. In the event of non-consensus, the Priest has final authority on all matters.

Registration Packet

1. *Parent Commitment*

- ✂ Read each course syllabus/schedule carefully. Students will be responsible for all assignments covered in the syllabus.
- ✂ Make sure that your students have ALL required texts for each course.
- ✂ Please check assignment sheets far enough ahead to be certain that students have all materials needed for class.
- ✂ Stay involved with your student academically. Read as many of your students' texts/ assignments as you can. Ask questions and encourage your student to talk about the ideas and content of their courses with you.
- ✂ Please check your e-mail daily for any announcements.
- ✂ Parents are ultimately responsible for any necessary discipline required for your students.
- ✂ Please find a replacement teacher if there is a need to be absent from your classes, providing him or her with notes, materials, etc. to conduct your class.

Parent's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

2. Disciplinary Guidelines

- ✠ We have been blessed at Theophany Academy with a wonderful group of students over the years. Discipline problems have been few.
- ✠ We do not have a set of rigid rules that cover every possible offense. But because we love and respect you, we do ask that you treat yourself and those around you with honor and kindness. We show respect for one another by the way we speak, dress, and conduct ourselves. We also show respect to our instructors and our classmates by coming to class prepared, and by turning assignments in on time.
- ✠ We expect to be able to trust your word. We expect you to do the things that your teachers or parents ask you to do, and not to the do things they ask you not to.
- ✠ We expect academic honesty. A zero is more honorable than stolen work or work that is not from your genuine effort.
- ✠ We expect you to be kind to one another, neither excluding or ridiculing or gossiping about any member of our community here at the Academy.
- ✠ When you fail in any of these areas (as we all will from time to time), we expect you to make it right with the individual you have hurt, offended, or disobeyed.
- ✠ Repeat offenses may result in suspension or expulsion from the Academy.

Student Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

3. *Student Honor Code and Pledge*

•✠ I WILL:

•✠ Participate with a positive attitude;

•✠ Express myself with noble language;

•✠ Focus on the blessings we have and not the blessings we want;

•✠ Obey and respect teachers so they can instruct us;

•✠ Treat myself and other students with dignity and kindness;

•✠ Protect my safety and the safety of others;

•✠ Resolve conflicts with others through discussion or by seeking help;

•✠ Dress cleanly, comfortably, and modestly.

•✠ Behave in a way that brings credit to Theophany Academy.

Student Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

Parent's Signature _____

4. Registration Form

Parent Information

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Emergency Contact: _____

Student Information

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Name: _____ Age: _____

Fees

of PreSchool Students _____ X \$75 = _____

of Grammar Students _____ X \$75 = _____

of High School Students _____ X \$75 = _____

Total Fees Paid _____

Distances

	ST ELIZABETH ORTHODOX CHURCH	
	321 W MCKNIGHT DR	7004 BURNT KNOB ROAD
Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church 4905 Franklin Road . Nashville	30 miles / 36 minutes	25 miles / 33 minutes
St Ignatius Antiochian Orthodox Church 3535 Saint Ignatius Lane . Franklin	26 miles / 29 minutes	16 miles / 19 minutes
St John Greek Orthodox Church 4602 Indiana Avenue . Nashville	37 miles / 42 minutes	32 miles / 39 minutes
St John Romanian Orthodox Church 4112 Union Street . Nashville	31 miles / 40 minutes	26 miles / 35 minutes
St Petka Serbian Orthodox Church 1712 Fifth Avenue . Nashville	36 miles / 41 minutes	30 miles / 38 minutes