



Imago Dei
Middle School

School description

Imago Dei Middle School, founded in 2006 and based on the model of the Epiphany School in Dorchester, MA, is a private, tuition-free, independent Episcopal school serving low-income children grades 5 – 8 in downtown Tucson, AZ. The mission of Imago Dei is breaking cycles of poverty through education by empowering children to live into their full potential.

Classes are limited to 20 students with a teaching ratio of 10:1. Students attend school ten hours daily, six days a week (half-day on Saturday), and eleven months a year. Faculty and staff are committed to supporting students and alumni through high school and application to post-secondary education; we also offer access to services for families, as needed. Imago Dei is ardently dedicated to transforming the community in which we live.

We admit children of diverse faiths, races, cultures, and cognitive profiles, believing in the Episcopal tradition that we find God in and through each other, and we challenge our students to discover and develop the fullness of their individual gifts.

Imago Dei is accredited by the Southwestern Association of Episcopal Schools, and is an active member of the National Association of Episcopal Schools (NAES), the Urban School Alliance of NAES, National Association of Independent Schools, the Nativity Miguel Coalition and the Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education.

Essential duties

The name of Imago Dei Middle School reflects the belief that all people are made in the image of God. We welcome, value, and respect all beliefs and faith practices and support our children in claiming and building their personal faiths. Our school chaplain is critical to the creation of the loving and respectful school community we strive to be.

Teaching Sacred Studies

We work diligently to prepare our students to become knowledgeable and competent citizens of the world. We teach sacred studies courses with the overarching objective of giving students the information and tools to live into their own spirituality. In addition, our sacred studies classes are one of the places where we deeply explore our school's core values of Responsibility, Respect, Honesty, and Excellence. This is also the place where we tackle issues of injustice and our responsibility for compassionate action. In the past, the sacred studies curriculum has included:

5 th Grade	Introduction to religious faiths and the Bible; Old Testament stories
6 th Grade	The Gospels; the early church; world religions
7 th Grade	Sacred spaces; religious art, architecture, music, worship and culture
8 th Grade	Ethics; community service

Leading Worship

Worship is integral to the life of our community, reflecting as it does our central belief that we find God through one another's presence. Worship at the school takes two forms: daily morning Chapel and weekly Eucharist.

Daily Chapel

We gather each morning for worship. This is a time for us to be together as a school, and focus our minds and hearts on the day ahead through prayer. We incorporate sacred texts and prayers of diverse faiths, and welcome and encourage intercessory prayer, petitions, and thanksgivings from our students during these services.

Eucharist

Imago Dei gathers once a week on Wednesdays to share a Eucharist. Eucharist involves time for prayers, singing, readings from sacred texts, a homily (reflections on the readings, or a theme), and the sharing of bread and wine. Students participate in the service as they feel comfortable.

Each semester six students are selected based on their leadership to serve on the Vestry. The Vestry meets with the Chaplain weekly to review worship plans and materials. Vestry members are responsible for leading morning Chapel as well as for reading sacred texts and leading prayers during Eucharist. The 8th graders give homilies interspersed with those by the Chaplain and other faculty members throughout the year.

Provide pastoral care for our community

The needs of our community often stretch beyond the classroom. The Chaplain is expected to work with the administration and staff, and as a member of the Family Support Services team, to provide support and assistance to all members of the community as needed. This includes working with faculty to identify and assist students in need, as well as attending to the needs of faculty and staff as opportunities present themselves.

Community outreach

As an independent school, community engagement and involvement are crucial to the work we do. The Chaplain will build and maintain relationships with local episcopal parishes and other groups and organizations in support of the mission of the school. Additionally, the Chaplain will work to identify ways in which the school community can partner with others to meet the growing needs of our families.

Application process

Please send resume and cover letter to: c.taylor@imagodeischool.org or mail to:

Cameron Taylor, Head of School, PO Box 3056, Tucson, AZ 85702

Applications are due by April 15, 2019.

Chaplain must be able to start between June 1 and August 1, 2019. (Preferably us during our June summer school session to start getting to know our community).

Location:

Downtown Tucson, Arizona

Salary:

Compensation is based on years of experience and level of education, and includes health, dental, pension and other benefits.

Type:

Full-Time Faculty

Required Education:

Master's of Divinity; Episcopal Priest in Good Standing

Musical ability and Spanish language skills preferred.