

What is the ASCA Junior High Math club?

The ASCA Junior High Math club provides enrichment for students taking 6th, 7th, and 8th grade math classes. All students in grades 6-8 are welcome to join, though as some problems are challenging, this opportunity is best suited for students who are doing either well in math or are excited about it.

Do you have to participate in the competitions to be in the club?

Nope. Different people are interested in the club for different reasons ... some may enjoy the social aspect and the pizza and challenging math problems ... some may enjoy the competitions ... some may be more interested in preparing for high school and using this experience to help.

Our goal is to help the students achieve their goals – whatever they may be - and celebrate with them.

How does participation in math competitions happen?

All Saints participates in several math competitions throughout the year:

- Events hosted by local Catholic high schools (Montini, St. Francis, Marmion, Benet), where ASCA sends teams to compete against teams from other parochial schools, as a team and individually
- School-hosted tests (AMC-8, Illinois Math League) for which students participate in school, and top scores in the class are acknowledged
- Mathcounts – the premier national competition for middle school students, in which ASCA competes against most public and private schools, on both an individual and team basis

Selection of the teams for the high school events is typically coordinated by Mrs. Samonds (as noted in separate communications from the math teachers). School-hosted events require no selection. For Mathcounts, all middle school students are invited to take the school-level Mathcounts competition in early December with Mrs. Samonds; all students scoring above a threshold receive acknowledgement, with top scores also receiving invitation to the regional competition.

What commitment is expected?

During the fall, the club meets most Sunday evenings, covering different topics each week. Students are welcome to come to as few or as many of these sessions as they wish, though they benefit the most from attending more of them. Session dates are: Oct 6, 20, 27, Nov 10, 17, 24, and Dec 1. After the school-level Mathcounts competition determines which students will represent ASCA at the regional competition, those students will continue to meet weekly (or as frequently as able) through the competition in early Feb.