

ST. MARY MAGDALEN

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SCHOOL NEWS



The ABC's for student Lisa DeLeon (above) - Algebra, Bible, Computers. For Sister Maria Sciortino (below), it's T for new technology used to teach 8th grade math.

Tools of the trade

From new technology to the New Testament, St. Mary Magdalen blends cutting-edge with the classics.

This year St. Mary Magdalen Catholic School took use of technology for teaching to the next level in a variety of classrooms.

New writeboards and projectors are popular as interactive alternatives to chalkboards. Teachers like the connectivity to lesson plans and the Internet as well as the greater opportunity for students to collaborate. Concepts come alive for teaching math or turning a 5th-grade history review into a game show where everyone in the audience -- in this case, the classroom -- can play along. "I can explain a math problem more completely -- and all



the students can see how to solve it" said teacher Maria Sciortino.

Parents say it's a way to keep their children engaged in the digital age. It's also a sign that SMM, known for a successful blend of focusing on academics while integrating faith and service, continues to innovate. "They have just the right balance of teaching the skills they need with the values that help them in life," said parent Patty Bond, whose son Christopher is in grade 6, the class that offers everything from advanced math to in-depth Bible studies.

INSIDE: In words and pictures, more on how St. Mary Magdalen School carries out its mission.

INSIDE: A School for the Generations, says Principal Mary M. McKiernan