

Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius Patch

This special patch for youth in grades K-12 recognizes the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA. The patch activities below are designed to teach participants about the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius, and the two Saints after whom the Basilica was named.



Participants are required to complete activities #1 and # 2, and additional age appropriate requirements:

- Grades **K-1** – complete **2** additional requirements
- Grades **2-3** – complete **3** additional requirements
- Grades **4-6** – complete **4** additional requirements
- Grades **7 and above** – complete **5** additional requirements

1. Visit the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius in Danville, PA, and arrange for a guided tour. Pay special attention to the stained-glass windows that tell the stories of Saints Cyril and Methodius, and of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius. After the tour, read about the window of Saints Cyril and Methodius, and the mosaics of Saints of Saints Cyril and Methodius in the booklet, “Sacred Spaces Within These Walls,” pages 16-17.
2. How does a Church become a Basilica? Read about this in the booklet, “Sacred Spaces Within These Walls,” pages 22-23. Tell about this in your own words (Grades K-3) or write two or more paragraphs (Grades 4 and above) about the story of your pilgrimage to the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. Also tell or write what you would like to remember from this pilgrimage.
3. The altar rail in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius contains many symbols that are important reminders of our faith. Look closely at the altar rail, and read about some of the images in the booklet, “Sacred Spaces Within These Walls,” pages 10-11. Draw one of the symbols which appear on the altar rail, and explain its meaning.

4. Complete the worksheet, available at the Basilica, that locates and identifies important places and objects in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius.
5. The Stations of the Cross in the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius are mosaic pictures. The words written underneath the Basilica stations are in Slovak, but the pictures tell the story. Walk and pray the Stations of the Cross. Pause to think of just one good deed you could do to imitate what Jesus demonstrates in each Station. Either share that thought out loud, or write the thought in the space provided in the booklet, "Sacred Spaces Within These Walls," pages 20-21.
6. Saints Cyril and Methodius had great devotion to Mary. On the grounds of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius there are several shrines to Mary. Find two of these shrines and identify the title of Mary that the shrine honors.
7. Visit the Maria Hall Chapel, which is located inside Maria Hall, on the grounds of the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius. List five differences you find between this chapel and the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius.
8. Before you arrive or during your visit, visit the website of the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius www.sscm.org. Learn more about the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius and create an ad to promote vocations to the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius.
9. Before you arrive or during your visit, read a book, story, or article in a magazine or online about Saints Cyril and Methodius (some suggestions are given below). Explain in your own words (Grades K-3) or write two or more paragraphs (Grades 4 and above) about the importance of the work of Saints Cyril and Methodius.
10. Before you arrive for your visit watch the film, "Cyril and Methodius: The Apostles of the Slavs" (2013) available online (YouTube link given below). Tell in your own words (Grades K-3) or write two or more paragraphs (Grades 4 and above) to explain the challenges faced by Saints Cyril and Methodius in their ministry.

Resources: (Articles and film online) <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nXuggy2ZWdE>
<http://www.setonmagazine.com/dad/bob-wiesner/sts-cyrl-and-methodius-apostles-to-the-slavs>
<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saints-Cyrl-and-Methodius>

To make arrangements to visit the Basilica of Saints Cyril and Methodius for a tour, and to earn this patch, contact the Sisters of Saints Cyril and Methodius at 570-275-3581.