

# Our Philosophy

## Integral Formation

Pinecrest Academy implements the Integral Formation™ method of education developed by the Legionaries of Christ. Built upon the Christian view of the person, integral formation focuses on forming all dimensions of the person: the intellect, the character, and one's dedication to God and others achieving the complete or integral formation of the student. An integral formation is the basis for helping each student fulfill the unique mission for which he or she was created.



## Academic Formation

Pinecrest students are encouraged to think critically and creatively, develop a healthy curiosity to explore the world around them and to express themselves clearly.



## Character Formation

Character is shown in one's fidelity to one's principles and convictions. It implies self-control, perseverance, trustworthiness, a sense of duty and responsibility, and generosity.



## Faith Formation

Pinecrest students are taught the Catholic faith both as an academic subject and a guide for life. Key to Christian living is the awareness of Christ's unconditional love for each person and His commission to make this love known to all people.



## Apostolic Formation

We define ourselves by what we give to others. The Christian is urged by Christ to help his neighbor and give freely of the gifts he has received. Service projects are adapted to the students' ages and embrace a range of projects for individual and group outreach in the local community and beyond.

## Gender-Specific Education

International studies affirm the advantage of single sex education for boys and girls. At Pinecrest, from fourth grade through high school, boys and girls are educated separately allowing students to be challenged in an environment that best serves the learning styles of each gender.



## ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

*Athletics Drama Fine Arts Music*

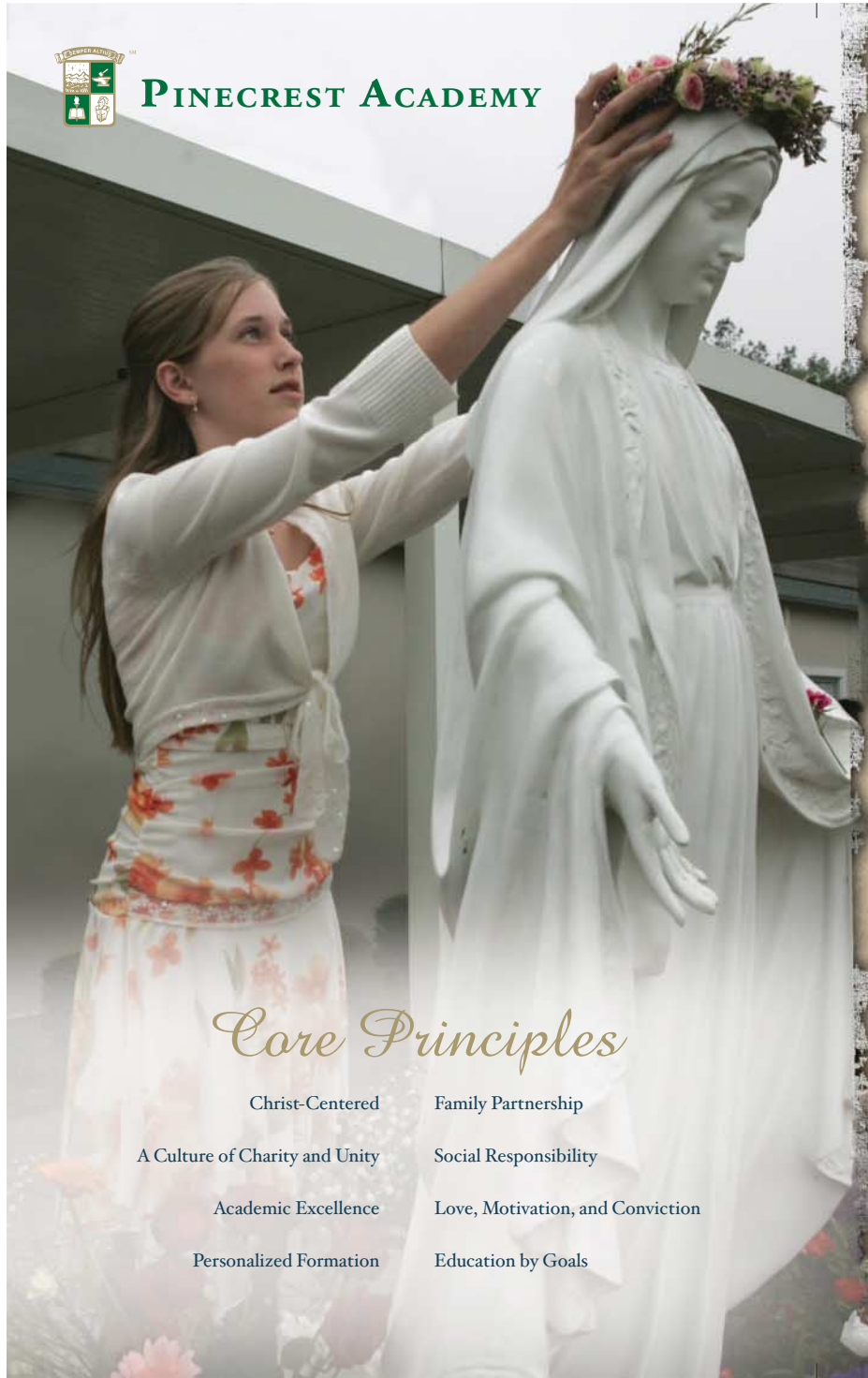
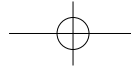


"Sports are not merely the exercise of muscles, but the school of moral values and of training in courage, in perseverance, and in overcoming laziness and carelessness. There is no doubt that these values are of greatest interest for the formation of a personality which considers sports not an end in itself but as a means to total and harmonious physical, moral, and social development."

Pope John Paul II

I am aware of the academic excellence and positive spiritual formation provided at Pinecrest. I am grateful for the Pinecrest community and for the many ways it supports the ministry of our archdiocese.

Most Reverend Wilton D. Gregory,  
Archbishop of Atlanta



### Core Principles

- Christ-Centered
- A Culture of Charity and Unity
- Academic Excellence
- Personalized Formation
- Family Partnership
- Social Responsibility
- Love, Motivation, and Conviction
- Education by Goals

## As they *Begin*, they are guided...

### PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN

Fostering a life-long love of learning is the primary goal of the early education years. Pinecrest Academy provides a nurturing environment that supports a developmentally appropriate curriculum featuring a phonics-based pre-reading program, music, Spanish, art, and science. Children typically begin to read as they enter kindergarten. The faith formation component of the curriculum focuses on helping the child realize Christ's love for them. Pinecrest Academy recognizes parents as the primary educators of their children and offers them opportunities to participate in various classroom enrichment activities and parenting programs.



"FAITH FORMATION HELPS CHILDREN TO REALIZE CHRIST'S LOVE FOR THEM."

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – GRADES 1-5

In first through fifth grades, our elementary school students focus on the core subjects of language arts, math, science, history, and geography. Writing and higher-level thinking skills are stressed in this curriculum. Spanish is taught four days a week with an emphasis on developing speaking and writing skills. Numerous opportunities for public speaking, creative writing, and the fine arts help develop communication skills. Our teachers team with parents to develop a personalized program for each student to foster academic and personal growth. Pinecrest Academy understands that boys and girls learn differently, so gender-specific education begins in the fourth grade. Our teachers are trained to educate the specific gender in a manner that maximizes each student's success.



"PINECREST UNDERSTANDS THAT BOYS AND GIRLS LEARN DIFFERENTLY."

## As they *Grow*, they must learn to explore...

Semper Altius,  
*"Always Higher"*  
OUR MOTTO

### MIDDLE SCHOOL – GRADES 6-8

Middle school students focus on the rich areas of Catholic formation, math, history, language arts, science, geography, Spanish or Latin, technology, and the visual arts. Memorization and public speaking are emphasized through poetry and speech contests, math competitions, geography and spelling bees, debates, and science fairs, which often lead students to state-level competitions. Meeting the challenge of strenuous academics, practicing virtue, and performing apostolic works outside of school make middle school years a time of immense growth and development. The vital life skills of time management, personal accountability, preparedness, and problem solving are strongly accentuated. Our goal is to form young men and women into leaders that are confident, well educated, well spoken, and will stand up for the truth as Christian leaders with a servant's heart.



Then will come the time for them to *Lead*.



### HIGH SCHOOL

The mission of Pinecrest Academy is to teach the whole person. At Pinecrest Academy, we encourage and demand the best of our students. The spiritual, intellectual, and apostolic aspects of the individual are nurtured through the integration of religious truth and values into the academic environment. In the high school, small class sizes, gender-specific classrooms, and a dedicated and professional faculty are a few of the many ways this mission is implemented. Parents and teachers are like-minded in teaching academic and spiritual principals. This perspective allows the high school student to gain a rich store of knowledge and develop a character grounded in the desire to live a life of Christian authenticity based on service to others.

PINECREST ACADEMY IS FULLY ACCREDITED BY THE GEORGIA ACCREDITING COMMISSION, THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND SCHOOLS, AND THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION OF INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS.

