

# St. Mary School

## Frequently Asked Questions



### Do you have to be Catholic to attend?

St. Mary School welcomes families of all faiths. Approximately 12% of our student population is non-Catholic. Students do attend a weekly Mass and learn about the Catholic faith in their classroom.

### What is the average class size?

Our average class size is approximately 12 students.

### Is St. Mary School accredited?

St. Mary School is accredited through the Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MNSSA).

### Is there a school uniform?

Yes, our kindergarten through 5th grade students wear collared dress or polo shirts in white or navy with navy bottoms. 6th-12th grade students also have the option of wearing light blue, grey, and cobalt polo shirts and khaki bottoms. Please review the dress code handbook before purchasing any clothing. The annual **Used Uniform Sale** is a great option for purchasing gently used uniforms at a discounted price. Pop-up sales happen several times a year and arrangements can be made outside of these times on an as-needed basis.

### Do you provide bussing?

Transportation requests are reviewed annually in order to best meet needs. Please contact the school office at 231-256-9636 for additional information.

### What athletic programs are offered?

St. Mary School has several fantastic elementary skill building programs for volleyball, basketball, and running, beginning as early as first grade. The middle school and high school offer winning cross country, track, volleyball, softball, baseball and basketball programs. St. Mary School participates in a co-op program for the following school sports - football, soccer, tennis, hockey and alpine skiing.

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### What are the school hours?

Currently, school starts at 7:55am with early dismissal beginning at 3:05pm and last dismissal at 3:15pm. The students begin their day in prayer as a school after checking into their classrooms.

### Can I afford tuition?

A family's investment in their child's education at St. Mary School is a testament to their strong desire to educate their child in a school filled with values, virtues, and love, where students are challenged to live out their God-given potential in all that they do. Thanks to generous donors, the tuition charged to families, approximately \$6,000, is about half of the actual cost of educating each child. Parish support and tuition assistance further lower the cost of tuition.

### Is there financial aid?

YES! Over 50% of our student population is blessed to receive tuition assistance through the **Guardian Angel Tuition Assistance Program**. The grant application is a confidential process that is run through a third party processor. Specific questions can be addressed to our Business Manager, Lori Schaub. Lori can be reached at (231) 256-9676 or [lschaub@stmarysll.org](mailto:lschaub@stmarysll.org).

### What if I am interested in an extracurricular that is not offered at St. Mary School?

New programs, events and sports/co-ops are regularly brought forward and adapted by the school based on student interest. If something is not currently offered, that does not mean it never will be offered. St. Mary School welcomes new input and ideas!