# Check our different programs

Arts & Music **Art** class is held once a week and **Music** class twice a week. There is also a **Band** and/or a **Music Kids** program offered once a week.



Physical Education class takes place once a week. St. Mary's School also offers a Fall and Spring Soccer Program.

Before & After Care

The **BAC Program** is offered on a monthly, hourly, or drop-in basis.

Home & School Association **HSA** is a parent organization that supports and enhances the educational ministry of the school.

Language

We offer **Spanish** class twice a week.

National Junior Honor Society Selection for **NJHS** membership is based on outstanding scholarship, leadership, service, character, and citizenship. Once selected, members have a responsibility to continue to demonstrate these qualities.



The **STREAM Program** incorporates Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, the Arts, and Mathematics to ensure students receive a comprehensive academic foundation.

# **Open Enrollment**

We welcome students all backgrounds and abilities. Come visit us to learn more! We invite and encourage all families interested in applying to St. Mary's to visit our school. Tours are held during a regular school day on Tuesdays Thursdays between 9am and 2pm. giving you the opportunity to observe students and teachers in classrooms. We also host open houses during Catholic Schools Week, which begins on the last Sunday in January. For admission to our school, please apply online at TADS.com.



# **Get in touch!**

301-292-2522 office@smsp.school

13407 Piscataway Road Clinton, MD 20735

Visit our website to learn more about our school.

https://www.stmaryspiscataway.org/Home



Dear Prospective Family,

Thank you for taking the time to visit our campus. At St. Mary's School, we are more than just a school. Our highly qualified teachers and staff are passionate about their work, which is reflected in the success of our students. Academics are rigorous, where we prepare our students not only for high school, but beyond. We want them to be lifelong learners. In addition to growing academically, we help to guide our children to growing spiritually.

Our spiritual formation begins with our youngest learners in Pre-K 3, goes through our second graders who receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion, up to our eighth graders who go through preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

We hope you feel welcome as you tour our school and get to know our faculty, students, and parents.

We are happy to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to contact us.

Thank you again from the Faculty & Staff of St. Mary's School of Piscataway.

### **Our Beliefs**

Catholic education is an explicit expression of the evangelizing mission entrusted by Jesus to His church. Our beliefs are:

- to teach the message of Jesus Christ through prayer, word, and example;
- to promote self-esteem, moral, and spiritual values, enabling the students to reach full awareness of their God-given talents:
- to build, within a parish setting, a strong community based on Christian faith and service;
- to provide a structured and enriched educational program; and
- to provide an atmosphere that empowers students to achieve their potential as children of God who impact the local and global community.

This process is enhanced by parents, staff, teachers, and administrators whose lives are modeled on Gospel values as they teach, serve, and build community as Jesus did.

## **How to Apply**

There is a \$100 application fee for each student. Please note that this fee is non-refundable. Once we receive your application, we will reach out to you to schedule testing, and an interview.

- 1.Go to www.stmaryspiscataway.org and follow the Admission Application link that appears on the home page.
- 2. When prompted, select the school year to which your student is applying.
- 3. Log in with your existing TADS account or select "Create a New Account" and enter all required account setup information. To set up a new TADS account, use the code ARVTR-CVN for the school year 2024-2025.
- 4.Once logged in, the application will begin automatically. Follow the instructions for each section of the application and submit when complete.
- 5.If necessary, TADS will contact you to request required documentation needed to complete your application.

If you have any questions, contact a customer service specialist at <a href="mailto:support@tads.com">support@tads.com</a> or call 800-477-8237.

## **Tuition Rates & Fees**

School Year 2024-2025

Pre-K ~ \$9,100 per year (includes snack fee)

Kindergarten – 8th Grade ~ \$8,750 per year

Graduation (8th Grade Students Only) ~ \$150 per student

Our school provides additional tuition assistance for families:

- with more than one enrolled child
- who are Catholic, must have Parish Verification Form
- who are active duty in the U.S, Military. A valid military ID must be provided to the registrar.
- who refer new families that enroll and are accepted into the school

Financial Need awards for new families:

 via Archdiocese of Washington. (Deadline February 16, 2024) Students in grades Pre-K

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# Discover

What Our School Has to Offer!

# **Apply Now**

Limited spots available, apply now at <a href="https://www.stmaryspiscataway.org/Admissions">https://www.stmaryspiscataway.org/Admissions</a>

Small Class Sizes

Safe Environment Experienced Teachers

Supportive Peers

## **Our Mission**

St. Mary's School, rooted in Christ, supports the development of students, their families, and the community. Building on our tradition of excellence, we continue to grow in faith, knowledge, and love by recognizing the worth and dignity of each individual as a child of God.

#### Age Requirements

Pre-K3 Must be age 3 by September 1, 2024 Pre-K4 Must be age 4 by September 1, 2024 Kindergarten Must be age 5 by September 1, 2024 Grade 1 Must be age 6 by September 1, 2024

- through eighth grade may apply for financial aid.
   Parents must submit a timely and complete TADS financial aid application in order to qualify for any tuition assistance
- Archdiocesan financial-aid awards are applied toward, and not in addition to, any awards from St. Mary's Parish tuition assistance fund
- Pastor's Tuition Assistance (after acceptance into school)

The sum of all assistance, grants, and rewards may not equal more than 50% of the base tuition.

#### **Our Faith Formation**

At St. Mary's School of Piscataway, we strive to educate all children in a faithbased environment. In cooperation and partnership with parents - the first educators of their children - we seek to educate the whole child by providing an excellent education. St. Mary's cultivates the theological virtues of faith, hope and charity; the moral virtues of prudence, justice, fortitude and temperance; and the intellectual virtues of understanding, knowledge, philosophical wisdom, and art. Based on these three sets of virtues, we have a comprehensive curriculum that shall have as its goal the spiritual, moral, emotional, intellectual and physical development appropriate to the needs of each child.

All students at St. Mary's learn about their faith every day in Religion class as well as in their other subject areas during the day. We also come together as a school to participate in an all-school Mass every Friday and on Holy Days of Obligation.

As part of our students' Faith Formation, our second graders prepare throughout the year for the sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Communion. The eighth graders prepare for Confirmation throughout the year and in May, students will receive the sacrament of Confirmation.

We also stress the importance of service with our students. Each year our students participate in several service projects. These projects serve to prepare students to become a responsible, active citizen. We strive to instill an awareness of the multiple needs of the community, a sense of moral obligation to help those less fortunate, and the desire to make the community a better place in which to live.

#### **Academic Excellence**

At St. Mary's Piscataway we utilize the rigorous standards put forth by the Archdiocese of Washington. Teachers use a variety of techniques to help all students achieve at high levels.

Students in the primary and intermediate grades utilize the i-Ready program for reading. I-Ready is an online program that will help us determine your child's strengths and areas for growth throughout the year. I-Ready allows us to meet your child where they are and provides us with data to inform instruction. This program includes both whole group as well as small group instruction. We understand the importance of students taking time to work in small groups to promote learning. The i-Ready program also includes both grammar and spelling instruction. Lessons are consistent across content areas.

Primary and intermediate grades use Sadlier Math for their math program. This program helps students think critically about math skills, while building up fluency skills.

Middle school students grasp an understanding of literature and vocabulary through the Prentice Hall program. Students build upon those foundational skills learned in primary and intermediate grades.

In math, the middle school grades utilize the McDougal Littel program. Seventh and eighth grade students do have the option to be sorted into prealgebra and algebra courses. Students are tested at the beginning of the year to decide math placement. All levels of math course work are high school preparatory.

In addition to the math and reading programs, we develop well-rounded students with science, social studies, handwriting, and most importantly religion courses. Interactive lessons and the use of technology help students to achieve at high levels.

We also offer a variety of "special" courses to the students. These include Spanish, Physical Education, Art, and Music. Students may also elect to take band or soccer.

#### **Testimonials**

- As a parent, I couldn't be happier with the education and overall experience my child has received at St. Mary's of Piscataway. Our child has been a student here since Kindergarten. From the moment we walked through the doors, we were greeted with warmth and a genuine commitment, by the faculty and staff, to our child's success. The dedicated teachers foster a love for learning and ensure that every student receives the individual attention they deserve. At St. Mary's, there is a strong sense of community. We have witnessed firsthand how the school fosters a sense of belonging and collaboration among students, parents, and staff. I am confident that the education and values instilled at St. Mary's will have a lasting impact on our child's future; giving her a broader, healthier perspective on life. We are grateful to be part of an educational institution that prioritizes both academic excellence and Faith. I would highly recommend St. Mary's to any parent seeking a great, faith-based education combined with a nurturing supportive community.
- ~ 4th Grade Parent
- I would like to thank all of you at St. Mary's. My 4th grader has blossomed academically, mentally and spiritually. Having a staff with such compassion and love for the children in their care has proven to be rewarding for me as a parent.

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# Testing, Assessment and Acceptance

#### **Pre-K and Kindergarten Testing**

For rising Pre-K and Kindergarten candidates, we utilize the Brigance® testing method that includes observation, interviews, and child performance to pinpoint understanding in the domains tied to early development and readiness. The test content aligns to the Archdiocese of Washington learning standards to equip educators with familiar information to fit their existing framework. Our educators also use Brigance® testing to assist with identifying potential delays and giftedness, supporting referrals for services, and planning individualized instruction.

#### **1st-8th Grade Testing**

St. Mary's School uses i-Ready to assess student candidates for 1st through 8th grade. i-Ready diagnostic assessments help determine reading and math achievement levels to place students into the i-Ready program.

#### Acceptance

Shortly after the assessment and testing, you may receive an electronic letter of acceptance. Follow the link to complete the enrollment. There is a \$150 enrollment fee (new families) each student. This is the best time to apply for tuition assistance. Visit our website and click on to apply for financial aid.

Please see the list of required documents needed.

# Required **Documents**

- ☐ Birth Certificate (required for all students)
- ☐ Baptismal Certificate (Catholic students only)
- ☐ IEP (Individual Education Program, if applicable)
- ☐ Custody Order (if applicable)

#### **General Forms**

- □ Catholic Parish Verification Form (if student is Catholic and applying for Catholic grant)
- ☐ Handbook Acknowledgement (Form 22 ADW)
- ☐ Emergency Contact Information Form
- □ Publicity Release Form (Form 18 ADW)
- ☐ Transportation Permission Form (Form 12 ADW)
- ☐ Technology and Internet Usage Agreement
- ☐ Military Family Scholarship Employment Verification Form

#### **Required Health Forms**

- □ Immunization Acknowledgement (Form 3P ADW) Grades Pre-K-1
- □ Immunization Acknowledgement (Form 3 ADW) Grades 2-8

For Students with Medical Needs:

- Allergy Agreement and Action Plan (Form 6 ADW)
- □ Student Medication Authorization (Form 8 ADW)
- □ Inhaled Medication Authorization (Form 9 ADW)

99

"Catholic education aims not only to communicate facts but also to transmit a coherent, comprehensive vision of life, in the conviction that the truths contained in that vision liberate students in the most profound meaning of human freedom."

— Pope John Paul II