

**ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**PRESCHOOL PROGRAM**



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## ***St. Mary School Mission Statement***

*St. Mary Catholic School provides strong academics within a faith-based community to prepare students for higher learning and to become moral, productive, God-loving leaders in society.*

## **ST. MARY PRIMARY CAMPUS**

[www.saint-mary.us](http://www.saint-mary.us)

24475 St. Francis ~ Clinton Township, MI ~ 586.465.5471

Full and Half-Day Preschool, Kindergarten & 1<sup>st</sup> Grade



St. Mary Catholic School provides the opportunity for each student to develop into a responsible individual with roots planted firmly in their Catholic faith.



96% of St. Mary alumni graduate from college and St. Mary's Iowa Test scores are well above the State and National average.

## **ST. MARY MAIN CAMPUS**

[www.saint-mary.us](http://www.saint-mary.us)

105 Market Street ~ Mt. Clemens, MI ~ 586.468.4570

Grades 2-8



**MAUREEN MISCAVISH, PRINCIPAL**

## MEET THE TEACHERS

St. Mary is proud to offer the best-of-the-best in early childhood education. Both of our Preschool teachers are degreed in elementary education and highly revered within the St. Mary community.



**MRS. OTTENBACHER** graduated from Oakland University with a Bachelor's of Language Arts in Elementary Education and has years of experience in preschool curriculum development. Mrs. Ottenbacher has been a part of the St. Mary staff since 2009. She is a graduate of St. Mary and Cardinal Mooney High School.



**MRS. DIGIUSEPPE** graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's of Science. She is currently continuing her education in Child Development. Mrs. DiGiuseppe has been at St. Mary preschool since 2009. She is also a St. Mary parent and a graduate of Bishop Gallagher High School.

# PRESCHOOL CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The St. Mary preschool program is designed to introduce a wide variety of learning opportunities that promote a high-quality educational experience in the areas of creativity, social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development.

## ART

Experimentation with a variety of art mediums • Develop confidence and self-esteem through praise of work • Tear and cut paper randomly and in lines, circles and shapes • Self-expression through creativity • Draw a human figure

## MOTOR SKILLS

**FINE MOTOR:** Write first name • Practice slanted lines • Top-to-bottom progression • Formation of circles • Hand/eye coordination and hand strength  
**GROSS MOTOR:** Running, jumping, hopping, catching, throwing, balance and strengthening • Music and movement • Teamwork and participation

**LANGUAGE ARTS:** Introduction to letter sounds & rhyming words • Story sequence • Exposure to printed words • Beginning reading strategies • Full name recognition • Introduction to Spanish

**LANGUAGE:** Recite full name, age and birthday • Promote vocabulary growth • Public speaking • Songs, finger plays, prayers, Pledge of Allegiance • Simple object description • Pronouncing a variety of sounds

**LISTENING:** Listen and follow directions • Lengthen attention span • Retell a story in own words • Understanding prepositions • Library time

**MATH:** Classifying and comparing objects • One-to-one counting correspondence (up to 10) • Numeral identification (to 10) • Identify basic shapes • Complete simple patterns • Graphing • Direction/spatial relation concepts • Count from 1 - 20 and beyond • Calendar skills

**RELIGION:** Recite Hail Mary, Guardian Angel Prayer and Grace Before Meals • Bible stories and corresponding activities • Learn about class Saint • Participate in special Masses and prayer services

**SCIENCE:** Introduction to the five senses • Rank sounds: loud, louder, loudest, soft, softer, softest • Basic color recognition and varying shades • Discovery through outdoor exploration • Understanding simple plant life • Understand human survival needs (air, water, etc) • Classification of animals • Property changes of physical matter through cooking • Seasons/daily weather • Elements of nature

**SOCIAL/EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** Work cooperatively with their teacher and fellow classmates • Appropriately express feelings and emotions • Identify feelings and emotions • Basic understanding and acceptance of others feelings • Develop friendships and group cooperation skills

# MONTHLY LESSON PLAN & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION EXAMPLES

**December**

**Theme:** Christmas (Saint Nicolas/Santa Claus, Reindeer, and Happy Birthday Baby Jesus)

**Concept of the Month:** Writing goes from left to right (Always start writing on the left hand side of your paper)

**Nursery Rhyme:** Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star

**Religion:** God's Gift of Water, Advent and Christmas

**Letters:** Gg and Hh

**Numbers:** 5 and 6

**Multicultural:**  
\*\*Finish up with colors  
\*\*Christmas in Mexico  
In Spanish -- learn to say Merry Christmas "Feliz Navidad" and continue learning the song *Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes*  
*"Cabeza, hombros, rodillas, and pies"*

At the beginning of every month, a lesson plan is sent home with each child. This keeps parents informed about what the children are learning so they can reinforce the concepts at home.

In addition, a weekly note from the teacher and school is sent home along with completed projects and other need-to-know information.

Religion is taught in conjunction with other subjects. This example shows religion taught in combination with science and our daily existence.

**Lesson 9**  
**God's Gift of Water**

What does water do for plants?  
What does water do for animals?  
What does water do for people?  
Help the family find the ways water helps us.  
How can you help to save water?

## LITTLE MOUNTAINEERS PROGRAM

St. Mary Little Mountaineers “Come and Play Program” is a once-a-week parent/child development course for children ages 2 to 3 ½.

Little Mountaineers offers an opportunity for parents or caregivers and the child to enjoy art, music & movement, gross motor activities, stories, songs, finger plays, prayers, free play, and socialization together in a warm, loving, Christ-centered classroom environment.

Little Mountaineers is a wonderful introduction to the preschool environment for both children and parents. Three two-month sessions are held each school year to accommodate all schedules.



## PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EVENTS

Throughout the year, preschoolers attend programs, assemblies and services offered to all students in St. Mary School. In the past, preschoolers have participated in the following...

**FIELD TRIPS:** Cutting Edge Gymnastics • Detroit Zoo



DETROIT ZOO

TUMBLE BUS

POLICE AND FIRE SAFETY

### ASSEMBLIES & SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES:

Music from the Heart w/Tammy Stone	Halloween Parade
All Saints Day Prayer Service	Santa Shop
Project Snowpile – Children’s Hospital	Jingle Bell Days
Thanksgiving Prayer Service	Rainforest assembly
Catholic Schools Week celebrations	Chinese Acrobats
National Junior Honor Society Bagel Days	Advent Prayer Service
Dr. Seuss Day	Ireland Taste Festival
Celebrate our World Para liturgy	Spirit Week
St. Vincent DePaul Community Food Drive	Scholastic Book Fair
Easter Egg Hunt	Puppeteers
Fire Safety	St. Nicholas Day
Ice Cream Social w/Roscoe the Clown	Holiday Celebrations
May Crowning	Australian Outback
Graduation Ceremony	Native American Program

## PARENT TESTIMONIALS

Both preschool teachers have a four-year degree in Elementary Education — a big plus. Our daughter is safe, secure and well cared for by her teachers. We've seen a great development in her social skills and are watching her thrive. — *Christopher & Janet John*

The St. Mary preschool program has far exceeded my expectations. My child is developing socially and academically. I know my child is in a comfortable, safe and warm environment. I couldn't be happier. — *Susan Haisenleder*

St. Mary preschool program not only teaches our son the essential ABCs and 123s, but also develops his confidence and independence. The staff and preschool teachers are compassionate and take the time that young students need to become comfortable with school and help them develop into well-rounded individuals. — *Judy Dobrzycki*

Our daughter adores St. Mary preschool. The staff does a fantastic job of communicating with parents about all issues and activities. St. Mary preschool specializes in education, where other centers only dabble in it. — *Joseph Korotko*

We have four children that attend St. Mary School. Our youngest is in the 3-day preschool program. Not only is the curriculum good, but the overall environment is what we cherish the most. The staff is both caring and nurturing. — *Rich & Kellee Roskopp*

After touring several schools, we felt most "at home" at St. Mary. The attitude that fills this school is one of family and of love for Jesus and others. As role models for our kids, the St. Mary's staff has extra gifts of kindness, gentleness, patience, humility, and compassion. — *Kristi Rogers*

St. Mary school employs a "whole child" approach, nurturing my son socially, intellectually, creatively, physically, and spiritually. He loves school! And I feel he is truly cherished for the individual that he is. — *Martha Fisher*

St. Mary preschool program has been a wonderful experience for our twins. They're coming home every day with new words (in English and Spanish!), and are continuing to grow into intelligent, kind and well-rounded individuals. The teachers, staff and curriculum are nothing short of INCREDIBLE." — *Alex & Loretta Martinez*

As an early elementary teacher myself, I know a preschool program must embody a safe, child-friendly and literacy-rich environment. St. Mary preschool does just that and adds a well-balanced curriculum and a nurturing, caring and child-centered staff. St. Mary school far exceeds our expectations. — *Mary Palus*

## 2012/13 TUITION, CLASS SCHEDULES & LATCHKEY

Our Preschool program is open to any child who has turned 3 by December 1, 2011 & is toilet trained.

5-Day 4 year-old Full-day preschool (M-F)	\$ .00
3-Day 4 year-old Full-day preschool (MWF)	\$ .00
3-Day 4 year-old Half-day preschool (MWF)	\$ .00
2-Day 3 year-old Half-day preschool (T-TH)	\$ .00

If you have additional children attending St. Mary, your 5-day full-day preschooler would be included in the family plan. Please call the school office for additional information about this tuition savings.

### ADDITIONAL FEES DUE AT REGISTRATION

Non-refundable registration fee	\$125.00 per child
Annual fee	\$150.00 per family

### FULL-DAY PROGRAM HOURS

5-DAY (M-F)	8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
3-DAY (M,W,F)	8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

### LATCHKEY

Latchkey is available for students enrolled in the 4 year-old full-day preschool programs. 7:00 a.m - 8:00 a.m. & 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.  
\$4.00 per hour

### HALF-DAY PROGRAM HOURS

#### 4 YEAR-OLD AM & PM PROGRAM

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
8:00 - 11:00 a.m. or 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.

#### 3 YEAR-OLD AM PROGRAM

Tuesday & Thursday  
8:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

A 3 year-old PM program will be added if there is enough interest.

**Registration for current families begins January XX, 2012.**

**Registration for new families begins January XX, 2012.**