

ST. MARY CATHEDRAL PARISH & SCHOOL

Dedicated to nurturing lifelong discipleship in the Lord, promoting academic excellence, and cultivating God-given talents.



2018/2019

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK

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Index

Section 1: About St. Mary Cathedral School

- Mission Statement- pg. 5
- Six Pillars of Catholic Character- pg. 5
- Office Hours- pg. 5

Section 2: Admissions and Requirements

- Requirements of Parents and Guardians- pg. 6
- Required Volunteer Hours- pgs. 6/7

Section 3: Academics

- Grading System-pg. 7
- Graduation Requirements- pg. 8
- Schedule Changes-pg. 9
- Convocation-pg. 9
- Elementary Curriculum- pg. 9
- National Honors Society- pg. 9
- Honor Roll- pg. 10
- Homework Expectations- pg. 10
- Attendance and Excuses- pgs. 10-12
- Cheating/Plagiarism- pg. 12
- Conferences and Report Card- pg. 12
- Mass/Liturgies- pg. 13
- Service Learning and Required Hours (High School) - pg. 13
- Guidance Department- pgs. 13-14

Section 4: Dress Code

- Dress Code Philosophy Statement- pg. 15
- Modesty- pg. 15
- General Guideline-pgs. 15-16
- Girls Grade (Y5-8) -pgs. 16-17
- Boys Grade- (Y5-8) -pg. 17
- Girls Grade (9-12) - pgs. 17-18
- Boys Grade (9-12)-pg. 18-19
- Additional Dress Code Information-pg. 19
- Dress Code- Game Days (Grades 7-12)-pg. 20

Spirit Days/Jean Days/Free Choice Friday-pg. 20

Sections 5: Extra-curricular Activities

Interscholastic Competition-pg. 21

Activity Eligibility- pgs. 22-23

Organizations for Students- pgs. 23

Dances-pgs. 24-25

Section 6: Technology

Cell Phones- Middle School policy and High School policy-pgs. 26

Technology-pgs. 26-29

Section 7: Discipline Rules of Conduct and Procedures

Code of Conduct Behavior Discipline Plan-pgs. 29-32

General Rules for Respectful Student Conduct-pgs. 33-34

Detention-pg.34

Suspension-pgs.34-35

Expulsion-pgs. 36-37

Behavior Expectations-pgs.37-39

Classroom Expectations and Preparedness-pg. 39

Vandalism-pg. 39

Section 8: School Safety

Fire, Tornado, Lock-Down Drills-pg. 40

Parking-pgs. 40-41

Parking Permits (High School)-pg. 41

Personal Property-pgs. 41-42

Section 9: Additional School Policies

Accidents and Injury-pg. 43

Contact Information-pg. 43

After School Academy-pg. 43

Auxiliary School Services-pgs. 43/44

Closed Campus-pg. 44

Communications-pg. 44
Fight Song-pgs. 44-45
Fundraising-pg. 45
Hot Lunch-pg. 45
Illness/Communicable Disease-pgs. 45-46
Library/Media Center-pg. 46
Lockers-pgs. 46-47
Lost and Found-pg. 47
Lunch Time Activities-pg. 47
Medications-pg. 47
Parent Ambassadors-pg. 47
Planners-pg. 48
Transportation-pgs. 48-49
Tutoring-pg. 49
Work Permits-pg. 49
Food and Drink-pg. 49

Section 1: About St. Mary Cathedral School

St. Mary School is dedicated to:

**Nurturing lifelong disciples in the Lord*

**Promoting Academic Excellence*

**Cultivating God-given Talents*

SIX PILLARS OF CATHOLIC CHARACTER

St. Mary Cathedral School is committed to promoting and living the Six Pillars of Catholic Character. The pillars help everyone to be a good person, someone to look up to and admire, think right and do right, know the difference between right and wrong, set a good example for everyone and make the world a better place.

- **Trustworthiness**- A person of character is trustworthy, lives with integrity, is honest reliable and loyal.
- **Respect**- A person of Character values all persons, lives by the Golden Rule, respects the dignity, privacy, and freedom of others, is courteous and polite to all, and is tolerant and accepting of differences.
- **Responsibility**- A person of character meets the demands of duty, is accountable, pursues excellence, and exercises self-control.
- **Fairness**- A person of character is fair and just, is impartial, listens and is open to differing viewpoints.
- **Caring**- A person of character is caring, compassionate, kind, loving, considerate, and charitable.
- **Citizenship**- A person of character is a good citizen, does his or her share, helps the community, plays by the rules, and respects authority and law

OFFICE HOURS

The school office is open for business Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The principal practices an “Open Door Policy”, and you are always welcome. Please call the school office to set up a mutually convenient appointment time.

Section 2: Admission and Requirements

REQUIREMENTS of PARENTS/GUARDIANS CONDITIONS for REENROLLMENT

- Full payment of tuition and other required school fees
- Completion of service hours
- Attendance at mandatory parent meetings
- Completion of lunch yard duty supervision
- Completion of traffic and safety duty

REQUIRED VOLUNTEER HOURS

In order to strengthen the home – school partnership, it is required that each family donates thirty hours per school year in volunteer time. Here are a few ideas:

- Elementary Playground Duty
- Ticket Takers at Sporting Events
- Elementary Carnival
- Concession Stand Helper
- Classroom Helpers
- Summer Time General Cleaning
- Drama
- Band
- Assistant Coaches
- Snowbird Gala
- P.T.O. Member
- Elementary Field Day
- Other possibilities exist

Elementary room parents will distribute information and schedule volunteers throughout the year.

Section 3: Academics

MS/HS Class Hours

1st hour: 7:50-8:43

2nd hour: 8:47-9:40

3rd hour: 9:44-10:37

4th hour: 10:41-11:34

Lunch: 11:34-12:04

5th hour: 12:04-12:57

6th hour: 1:01-1:54

7th hour: 1:58-2:50

GRADING SYSTEM

Elementary School: (K-2)

We use RENWEB; which is a computer based online grading system.

The following grading scale has been adopted in **2nd -12th grade:**

A	100-93%	C	76-73%
A-	92-90%	C-	72-70%
B+	89-87%	D+	69-67%
B	86-83%	D	66-63%
B-	82-80%	D-	62-60%
C+	79-77%	F	59% or less

Middle School/Senior High School:

Grade Point Average (GPA)

Cumulative grade point average (GPA) is an average of all semester grades earned to date.

For purposes of calculating GPA.

A	= 4.000	B-	= 2.667	D+	= 1.333
A-	= 3.667	C+	= 2.333	D	= 1.000
B+	= 3.333	C	= 2.000	D-	= 0.66
B	= 3.000	C-	= 1.667	F	= 0
Cr = Not Calculated		I = Not Calculated			

Incomplete

If a student receives an incomplete for a marking period, two weeks are allotted to make up the work. After two weeks the incomplete converts to an F or the grade earned including the unfinished work. Exceptions to this policy must be made with the respective teacher. Students are encouraged to discuss their progress with their teachers on a regular basis. Parents are urged to contact their student's counselor or teacher(s) any time they have a question or concern regarding their student's progress in school.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS FROM ST. MARY CATHEDRAL SCHOOL

- Religion 4 credits (1 of the 4 must be taken during Senior year)
- English 4 credits (1 of the 4 must be taken during Senior year)
- Mathematics 4 credits (1 of the 4 must be taken during Senior year)
- Science 4 credits
- Social Studies 3 credits
- Foreign Lang 2 credits
- Phys Ed/Health 1 credit
- Visual, Performing,
Applied Arts 1 credit
- Electives 3 credits
- 26 credits

***1 Semester of a varsity sport=PE Credit (does not include health)

*** 2 years of Band= PE Credit

All scheduled courses must be passed in order to graduate. Deficiencies in these requirements must be made up.

In order to be considered for valedictorian or salutatorian honors, a student must have completed at least six (6) semesters of full-time course work at St. Mary Cathedral School.

Class Load:

Freshmen and sophomores must take 7 courses for credit per year. No early dismissals or late arrivals will be granted.

Retaking a Class:

- If students fail a class, they may retake it.
- Student's "retake grade" will replace the old grade only if a higher grade is received. However, the original grade would be used in the case of the valedictorian or salutatorian.
- Students must receive permission from the counselor, principal, teacher, and parent to retake a class. Examples of acceptable reasons for retaking a class are:

- documented medical conditions for unsatisfactory grade;
- meeting a prerequisite requirement.

SCHEDULE CHANGES

Schedule changes (adds and drops) will ONLY take place within the first two weeks of a course. The change must be shared between the student, parent, instructor of the course and the principal. It should be noted that the school also reserves the right to adjust student schedules dependent upon course availability and the need to balance the number of students in a particular course.

CONVOCATION

Elementary, Middle School, High School convocation will occur daily. This forum is led by students, teachers, and the principal, and is intended to promote community spirit, school pride, citizenship, spirituality and communication. Students who are late for convocation or arrive after 7:45am will be marked tardy. Students in middle and high school will sit with their grade level and wait to be dismissed at the end of convocation.

CURRICULUM (Elementary Students)

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Theology | 6. Physical Education |
| 2. Mathematics | 7. Fine Arts/Music |
| 3. Language Arts | 8. Technology |
| 4. Social Studies | 9. Art |
| 5. Science | 10. Library |

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The purpose of the National Honor Society is to create enthusiasm for scholarship and to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, and to develop character. Students of sophomore status or higher with a minimum grade point average of 3.5 may be invited to become members in the Carmelite Chapter. Acceptance is determined by NHS Faculty Council that evaluates each prospective member on leadership, service and character. Members must maintain a 3.5 GPA and complete 10 hours of service to the community each year. Any student cheating on coursework will lose membership in the National Honor Society.

HONOR ROLL

Middle School/Senior High Procedure:

Students in grades 6-12, who have earned a 3.5 or better grade point average for the quarter, are placed on the honor roll. Honorable mention is given to students who have earned at least a 3.25 grade point average, but are below 3.5. Students earning all "A's" are designated with an asterisk (*).

HOMEWORK

In grades 3-5, the Late Work Policy procedure is as follows:

1. Ten (10) percentage points will be deducted for each day an assignment is late for the first week.
2. If an assignment is two weeks late, the student will receive 50% off of the grade.
3. If the assignment is more than 2 weeks late, the student will receive no credit for the assignment.

In grade 6-12, the Late Work Policy procedure is as follows:

1. 10% off 1st day late
2. 20% off 2nd day late
3. 50% off each day after 2nd day that homework is late
4. Assignments are due at the beginning bell unless otherwise noted.
5. It is acceptable for a teacher to designate "no late work accepted" on assignments or to students who have made late homework a habit.

ATTENDANCE AND EXCUSES

With the belief that academic success is based upon several factors, one of the more important being regular attendance at school, these guidelines have been developed.

Regardless of the reasons, students who accumulate more than five (5) days of absence per quarter from any class jeopardize their success in that class and may lose course credit. Students who arrive twenty (20) minutes or more late for a class will be considered absent from that class and that absence will count toward the five days. All absences from school count towards the basic attendance requirement. Exceptions to this requirement include scheduled school events or business, such as athletic trips, Youth in Government conferences, Student Council meetings, etc. All exceptions will be left to the decision of the principal.

All Students:

1. Students who are absent must have the parent/guardian call the school office (732-5801) on the morning of the **absence prior to 9:00 a.m.** Please inform us as to the reason for the absence. If a call is not received by the specified time, the secretary will contact the parent/guardian to inquire about the absent student.
2. Student absences during the school day are to be avoided. Please attempt to make all plans for doctor/dentist appointments outside of school hours. If it is necessary to have a child excused during the day, please send written permission to the school office.
3. If a student becomes ill during the day, the secretary will notify the parent/guardian. Transportation home for sick children is the responsibility of the parent/guardian.
4. No student will be released to anyone other than a parent/guardian or an individual that has been designated in writing. Verbal permission by telephone will be permitted in emergency situations.
5. Vacations during regular school days are discouraged. Various vacation times are provided throughout the school year. When possible, family vacations should be taken during these times. Teachers are not required to give assignments in advance for vacations taken during school days. A meeting with the principal prior to leaving is required.
6. When a child has missed 10 days of school without a valid reason(s), a letter will be sent to the parent/guardian.
7. When a child has missed 15 days of school without a valid reason(s), another letter will be sent to the parent/guardian. Verbal contact will be made with the parent/guardian regarding the missed days.
8. When a child has missed 20 days of school without a valid reason(s), a referral will be made to either the Family Independence Agency and/or the Prosecuting Attorney's office for legal action against the parent(s) due to the infraction of the Michigan School Code (MCL 712 A.2 and MCL 380.1561)

9. ***Reminder* Elementary Student Start Time:** Elementary students will begin the day at **7:45** with convocation. A Tardy will be treated in the same manner as absences. Student daily attendance shall be marked as follows:
- | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Arrives after 7:45 a.m. | Tardy |
| Arrives after 10:30 a.m. | Half-Day Absence |
| Leaves before 1:30 p.m. | Half Day Absence |
10. **Middle School/High School Students:** Arrival to school after 7:45 a.m. will be considered tardy. Any tardiness not caused by an authorized staff or other legitimate reason will be considered tardy. Students accruing 3-6 tardies (excused or unexcused) per semester will serve a detention. Accruing 7-9 tardies will result in a detention and meeting with parents. 10 or more will result in a truancy letter and meeting with the principal.
11. **Funeral** - In the event of a death in the family, parents wishing to have their children attend the funeral services may have them excused by sending a note, prior to the funeral, with their times of departure and return to school.
12. **Make-up Work** - Students are expected to make up all schoolwork missed during absences. Teachers will assist students with excused absences in making up any work. **Students** must initiate this effort immediately upon their return to school. Arrangements for missed tests will be made with the respective teachers. Students who have unexcused absences will not be permitted to make up the missed work. They will receive "no credit" for that time missed.

CHEATING / PLAGIARISM

Plagiarism, cheating on tests and copying other student's work carries with it serious penalties. It will result in a "0" on that assignment/test given to all students involved, and will also entail a suspension. In addition, it will result in loss of membership in the National Honor Society and possible forfeiture of class rank.

CONFERENCES/REPORT CARDS

Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences are held during the school year. A conference is held after the first quarter marking period. A second conference is optional and is usually held after the third quarter marking period. Individual conferences are encouraged and may be called by either parent or teacher whenever necessary. Report cards are issued four times a year for Elementary, Middle School and High School students.

MASSES/LITURGIES

Eucharist is celebrated in the School gymnasium, on Wednesday of each week, at 9:00. First/Last school Masses and Holy Days are celebrated at the Cathedral. All students attend weekly celebrations. This is an expectation for all students (Catholic and non-Catholics) alike. All Students will participate in weekly Eucharistic Adoration held in the school chapel. All students are expected to use the bathroom before mass. There is no gum allowed in school, especially during mass. K-5 will dismiss first and all others will stay seated. Please enter and exit mass by using the stairways only. On Mass Days students will be required to stay in mass clothes the entire day.

SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

St. Mary Cathedral School's service learning program is based on the tenet that learning and service are connected to the intellectual and moral development of each student. All high school students will participate in the Service Learning Program at their grade level. This could include working at parish festivals, participating in a parish ministry, volunteering for the parish soup suppers during Lent, or volunteering within the community. If a student is not Catholic, the student is encouraged to donate time to their own congregation; however, all students must complete the required hours for each year.

Documentation for completion of Service Learning Program hours must be on file with the religion teacher in order to receive credit for their time, whether spent with a parish, social or economic organization. In addition to the documentation, each year a reflective minimum one page essay is required after completion of the service hours.

All students will need to complete their required hours of service prior to graduation as seen below.

Freshman=20 Sophomores=20 Juniors=30 Seniors=30

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

St. Mary Cathedral School maintains a skilled and professional department, which seeks to accomplish the following goals:

- 1) The operating of the school's testing program which includes initial placement testing, regular norm-referenced achievement testing, career and vocational testing, NWEA, PRACTICE ACT, PSAT/NMSQT, ACT and SAT programs.

- 2) The monitoring of college and vocational school selection, application and financial aid advising.
- 3) The presenting of college selection and financial aid procedures to parents.
- 4) The arranging of visitations by college representatives to St. Mary High School.
- 5) The maintaining of student academic files and records including attendance, grade point averages, class rank and other pertinent data.
- 6) Transcript request procedure for current and past students:
 - a. Request must be made by the student
 - b. Only requests made using the transcript request form will be processed
 - c. Please allow 48 hours for transcript request

Section 4: Dress Code

DRESS CODE

Dress Code Philosophy Statement

St. Mary Cathedral Catholic Schools' dress code is predicated on the belief that each student is created in *God's image* and *our bodies are the Temple of the Holy Spirit* (Cor. 6:19). A dress code instills discipline, a sense of community and enhances school pride. Each student's God-given talents and gifts are demonstrated through behavior, action, and achievement in academics, service to others, athletics, spirituality and character development. The Dress Code is intended to focus energies on that which is spiritual and academic while students are in the building: this includes before, during, and after school hours.

Modesty:

One of the most overlooked virtues in today's society is modesty. Modesty requires that people dress in a fashion that does not call inappropriate attention to their bodies. There is no perfect way to define what constitutes appropriate apparel. There are too many styles of collars, cuts, and lengths to create a comprehensive list of what is acceptable and what is not. However, the underlying principle is that our "bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit" (Corinthians6:19). Apparel decisions must be reflective of this principle.

Students not in compliance with the dress code will be removed from class and required to make the necessary adjustments before being allowed to return to class. Missed class time will be considered unexcused time. Students will receive a detention for failure to follow the dress code.

Students are expected to dress modestly on days they are allowed to be out of dress code and when attending school events. There is to be no skin showing at the mid-section regardless of whether the person is sitting, standing, or reaching.

- No part of the hemline (a slit in the side, front or back of the skirt) is to be higher than 3 inches above the knee.
- Clothes that are very tight are not acceptable.

General Dress Code guidelines: Grades: Young 5-12

- Clothing must be neat, clean, and of reasonable size to fit the child. **All polo shirts must have a Logo.** All clothing should be worn in a manner befitting the Christian character of our school.

- Skirts, skorts, walking shorts, jumpers, and dresses must have a **top of the knee** hemline.
- Bare midriffs (male or female) are not allowed. This includes if bare midriff occurs while the student is raising their arms to reach. Clothing must depict self-respect and decency.
- All students must wear collared shirts or blouses that are buttoned at or above the collarbone. All shirts must be tucked in at all times with a belt.
- Hair must be neat and clean. There should be no extreme hair color (only natural hair coloring) and no extreme hairstyles (shavings). Any haircut or hairstyle that draws attention to a student or cause a distraction in the classroom may be considered extreme. The principal reserves the right to judge the appropriateness of a haircut or hairstyle. Boys must be clean-shaven at all times. Sideburns are allowed but they should be above the earlobes.
- Students must not have visible piercing or tattoos except for pierced ears. No pierced ears allowed on boys.
- On Mass days, boys are to wear a uniform colored, oxford dress shirt and tie with dress slacks. ***Oxford shirts are not required to have logo. Girls are to wear either a uniform dress (jumper) or a skirt. NO SWEATSHIRTS or SHORTS WILL BE ALLOWED ON THESE DAYS. All pants/slacks must fit above the hip.
- No sunglasses may be worn within the school building during school hours.
- No hats, bandanas, or head scarves are to be worn during school hours.
- Outerwear (winter coats, gloves, hats) may not be worn during school hours.
- Only St. Mary logo fleece and sports jackets will be permitted. Students may not wear clothing with any other writing on it in grades Young 5- 12.

Girls - Grades Y5-8

- **Shirt: Polo:** Navy or white polo with logo, no sleeveless.
- **Turtleneck shirt:** white or navy and must be worn under polo.
- **Plain white T-shirts** may be worn **under** a polo, turtlenecks, or shirts.
- **Pants/shorts/capris:** Navy blue or Khaki, twill or corduroy waist chinos, plain front, pleated, mid-rise. Shorts may be worn during the months of September, May and June. Shorts should not be any higher than 3" above the knee. No leggings worn as pants.
- **Skirt/skorts/ jumpers:** Navy blue, khaki, or approved plaid skirt (clear blue plaid), - pleated skirt, A-line skirt, stretch chino skirt, or jumpers. All skirts must be the **top of the knee length style in Lands End**. **Skirts or jumpers must be worn to Mass with short or leggings underneath.
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles – solid color of white or navy. **Fleece:** navy blue or white, may be purchased and monogrammed through Make it Mine. No hooded sweatshirts.

- **Socks:** Solid matching color: white, black or navy blue ankle-length or knee-high socks or plain, tights or leggings if dresses/skirts are worn. Leggings under a skirt are permissible, no jeggings or dance pants. Nylons in nude or beige.
- **Shoes:** Athletic shoes are highly recommended but casual or dress shoes may be worn. Heel restriction: 1 inch. Shoes must have a back strap. No sandals for young 5-grade 5, for safety reasons. MS students: Sandals **must** have a back strap.
- **No shorts on Mass day**

Boys - Grades Y5-8

- **Shirt: Polo:** Navy or white polo, short or long sleeved with logo. Oxford shirt-short or long sleeve white or navy blue. Mass day students need a white, navy, or French blue oxford collared shirt. These shirts do not need a logo for mass however, if these shirts are worn any other day but Mass day they are required to have a logo.
- **Turtle neck shirt:** White or navy and must be worn under sweater.
- **Slacks/pants/shorts:** Navy blue or khaki, twill or corduroy waist, flat front, pleated, corduroy. **No cargo style on Mass days.** Shorts may be worn during the months of September, May and June. **No shorts on Mass Day.**
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles – solid color —white, navy.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white
- **Socks:** Solid color white, black or navy blue.
- **Shoes:** Athletic shoes are highly recommended but casual or dress shoes may be worn. Shoes must have a back strap. No sandals for young 5-grade 5, for safety reasons. MS students: Sandals **must** have a back strap.

Girls – Grades 9-12

- **Shirts:** All Polo shirts **must** have an approved SM logo, *Logo wear can be purchased at: Make it Mine Design: 989-448-8850.
- **Polo shirts:** white, navy, cobalt (Lands End only for cobalt) short, long, $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeved.
- **Blouses:** white and navy (worn for Mass, no logo necessary)
- **Oxford shirts:** White, French blue, or navy blue. Short, long, $\frac{3}{4}$ sleeved.
- **Turtlenecks:** white, navy, must be worn under a polo.
- **Plain white T-shirts** may be worn under polo shirts.
- **No strapless or spaghetti strap tops** at any time.
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles-solid color- white or navy. Sweaters can have the SM logo.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white (required). Polo shirt underneath must have logo. No hooded sweatshirts.

- **Pants/Shorts:** Navy blue or khaki dress slacks. (No jean style pants). Shorts may be worn in September, May and June only. Shorts must be at the knee. **No shorts on Mass Days.**
* **No Jeggings or leggings**
- **Skirts/skorts/Dresses:** Navy blue, khaki skirt. Pleated skirt, A-line skirt, stretch chino skirt, or approved plaid skirt (clear blue plaid). Must have a **at the knee hemline**. All skirts must be the **top of the knee length style in Lands End**. **Skirts, uniform colored, colored dresses, jumpers or skorts must be worn to Mass. Ladies may choose to wear uniform pants (navy blue or Khaki dress slacks), if worn with approved blazer and blouse- see attached photos. ***No cotton dresses or sundresses.
- **Socks:** Solid colored matching socks, tights, knee highs (white, black, navy if worn with skirts, capris, or shorts) Nylons in nude or beige. Leggings under dresses and skirts only. No jeggings or dance pants.
- **Shoes:** Students may wear dress or tennis shoes. Sandals may be worn during the months of September, May and June only. *Socks are optional with the wearing of sandals*. Sandals **must** have a back strap, for safety reasons. There is a 1½ inch heel restriction on all shoes.
- **Belts:** Black or brown belts. No ornamentation or wording. Must be worn at all times.

Boys – Grades 9-12

- **Shirts:** All polo shirts, **must** have an approved SM logo, *Logo wear may be purchased at Make it Mine Design: 989-448-8850
- **Polo shirts:** white, navy, cobalt (Lands End only for cobalt); short or long sleeved.
- **Oxford shirts:** white, navy blue, French Blue ***No logo necessary if worn with a tie. If oxford shirts are worn no Mass days without a tie, shirt must have a logo.
- **Turtlenecks:** white, navy, may be worn under a sweater or polo shirt.
- **Plain white t- shirts** may be worn under polo shirts, turtleneck shirts, or sweater.
- **Sweater:** All sweaters/all styles-solid color- white, navy. Sweaters **may** have to the SM logo (not required). Polo shirts worn underneath need to have a logo.
- **Fleece:** navy blue or white (required), may be purchased and monogrammed. Polo shirt underneath must have logo. No hooded sweatshirts.
- **Pants/Shorts: (Note: may be purchased** from J.C. Penney, Sears, Old Navy, Lee brand). Navy blue or khaki relaxed fit dress slacks. (No jean style pants). Flat front, pleated waist, corduroy. **No cargo style on Mass days**. Shorts for September, May and June only. No Shorts on Mass days.
- **Socks:** Matching– Crew socks / no-shows / low cut allowed with shorts.
- **Shoes:** Students may wear dress or tennis shoes of their choice. *Clog style shoes are permissible except for cloth slipper styles*. Sandals may be worn during the months of

September, May and June only. *Socks are optional with the wearing of sandals. Sandals must have a back strap.*

- **Belts:** Black or Brown with No ornamentation or wording.

Additional Dress Code Information

- Attire not specifically allowed by the Dress Code is not to be worn.
- The school principal/assistant principal will make the final determination on all uniform issues.
- As a show of respect hats, caps or hoods will be removed upon entering the building during the school day. Winter coats and jackets **are not** to be worn in the classrooms or in the lunchroom.
- Slack length must be at or below the ankle, but above the floor.
- Boys are not to wear earrings or other piercings.
- Piercings, other than earrings, are not permitted for girls.
- Girls: hair and makeup must be tastefully done using natural colors.
- Boys must be clean-shaven at all times; sideburns are to be no lower than the earlobe. Hair length must not reach below the collar.
- It is the responsibility of the teachers and staff to enforce the dress code. These expectations should be honored at all school functions.
- ****COBALT blue colored shirts and French blue oxfords are for high school.
- ****Free choice Fridays are only for High School- if a student violates dress code Monday - Thursday and receives a detention, they forfeit their free choice for that Friday.

Dress Code - Game Days - (Grades 7-12)

Varsity teams should be coordinated in their dress. The dress code is in effect on all game days, during the school day, and to contests where teams do not dress for competition before leaving school. All teams must have Athletic Director permission to modify any part of this dress code.

JV & Varsity Boys: A team can wear a shirt and tie with dress pants. Team polo or a school uniform shirt may be worn with uniform pants. A team jersey may be worn over the tops listed above.

JV & Varsity Girls: A team can wear an appropriate shirt with dress pants or skirt. Team polo or a school uniform shirt may be worn with school dress pants or skirt. A team jersey may be worn over the tops listed above.

Junior High Girls and Boys: A team may wear school uniform shirts with the team jersey and school uniform pants, with everything tucked in.

Spirit Days/Jean Days/ Free Choice Fridays

Jeans that are in good repair may be worn. Snowbird apparel permitted on these days. Free Choice Fridays will be revoked for the whole school when policies and procedures cannot be followed. This will be a school-wide loss of privilege at the principal's discretion.

Section 5: Extra-Curricular Activities

INTERSCHOLASTIC COMPETITION (see Activity Eligibility which covers all activities)

St. Mary Cathedral Middle School/Senior High School is a member of the Michigan High School Athletic Association and sponsors the following sports:

Females: Basketball, Cheerleading, Cross-Country, Softball, Track, Archery and Volleyball

Males: Baseball, Basketball, Cross-Country, Football, Archery, Hockey and Track

St. Mary Cathedral Middle School/Senior High School students are subject to all the rules and regulations created and enforced by the Michigan High School Athletic Association including those of academic eligibility, as stated in the MHSAA Handbook.

If an issue arises, here is the protocol to follow: 1. Coach, 2. Athletic Director, 3. Principal, and 4. the Pastor.

The Athletic program at St. Mary High School is a part of the total educational program. The purpose of the athletic program is to develop each student physically, spiritually, socially and emotionally through athletic competition.

In order to participate in interscholastic competition a student shall maintain a 2.0 GPA and be passing all classes. In addition, students must abide by the guidelines stated in the Co-Curricular Code on Attendance, Substance Abuse and Conduct. Failure to meet these requirements and guidelines could result in an athlete being ineligible to participate in interscholastic sports. Students who cannot meet the school's standards will be dealt with on an individual basis. Students must fulfill the plan set up by the school counselor and the principal in order to participate in inter-scholastic competition.

Previous Academic Record:

- Pass all classes from previous semester in order to participate in the most current athletic season
 - This might entail a two (2) week wait period at which time student must earn passing grades in all current classes.

Conduct Violations

Conduct violations will be addressed throughout the student's athletic career including summer vacation periods. All conduct violations will be addressed in a timely fashion. Student athletic violations will be dealt with in the following manner:

Substance Abuse: The use of alcohol, tobacco products, or illicit drugs by a minor is illegal. It can also harm an athlete's spiritual, physical and mental health, as well as athletic and academic performance, and personal reputation. A St. Mary athlete shall not use, consume, possess, buy or sell alcohol, tobacco products or illicit drugs without consequence.

Consequences:

First Offense: Suspension from 50% of the student's most immediate athletic season. If in-season and less than 50% of the season remains, the remaining % of the suspension will be served in the next athletic season in which that athlete participates. All awards for that season are forfeited.

Second Offense: Suspension from all St. Mary athletic programs for one calendar year.

Third Offense: Athlete loses all privileges of participation in athletics for the remainder of his or her high school career.

ACTIVITY ELIGIBILITY

Any student who wishes to participate in school sponsored activities must adhere to the following requirements:

Tuition requirement:

Parents who wish to have their student participate in any school sponsored activity or event (athletic, drama, choral, etc.) must keep their tuition account and other charges/fees up-to date.

Students participating in summer sports must be registered for the school year before attending open gym or beginning any sports camp.

Students will become ineligible to participate in school sponsored activities or events when tuition is more than 30 days past due or charges/fee owed exceed \$10.00.

Attendance requirement:

It is the policy of St. Mary Cathedral School that any student who wishes to participate in school sponsored activities or events (athletic, dramatic, musical, etc.) **must be in school on the day of the event for at least 4 classes** in order to participate in that event. There may be exceptions to this regulation such as doctor/dental appointments and other reasons, which may require absence. However, any absence from any class must be “pre-arranged” and approved by the principal (“pre-arranged” is when the school office is informed a minimum of one day prior to the absence). If a student misses a class without approval, he/she may not compete in a game, performance, or practice the day of that absence. The principal will make final judgments on these eligibility questions.

Academic requirement:

In order to participate in a co-curricular activity a student shall be passing all classes. Failure to meet this requirement could result in a student being ineligible to participate in any co-curricular activity. Students who do not meet this standard will be dealt with on an individual basis. **Please see co-curricular activity eligibility and code of conduct in Interscholastic Competition section.**

ORGANIZATIONS FOR STUDENTS

In order to help students develop hobbies or additional interests that will be of use to them both in and out of school, the following organizations exist at St. Mary Cathedral School:

*Call the school office for questions on what these activities entail.

Middle School/Senior High Organizations:

Cathedral Players (9-12)	National Honors Society (10-12)
Student Council (6-12)	Interscholastic Athletics (6-12)
Youth in Government (7-12)	

*YIG students must have a 2.7 GPA or better (will be based on Semester 2 grades from the previous school year)

A new organization may be formed if 1) sufficient student interest is apparent; 2) a parent or faculty advisor is obtained; and 3) administrative approval is secured.

DANCES

Middle and High School dances are separate functions and are to be attended only by students of the respective school. The High School Homecoming dance and Prom would be an exception to this statement and attendance by a student of another school would need to be pre-approved by the principal.

Certain understandings and regulations must be followed. These include:

1. All dances need the approval of the principal a minimum of two (2) weeks in advance of the event.
2. All dances will have an on-faculty advisor who is responsible for all details of the event.
3. Dances can begin at the discretion of the advisor in charge. All high school dances will end no later than 11:00 p.m., all middle school dances no later than 9:30 p.m.
4. Groups and advisors who put on dances will be responsible for clean up after the dance. If any damage to school property is incurred before/during/after the dance, the group sponsoring the dance will be responsible for restitution, unless information is obtained which identifies the person or persons responsible for damages.
5. Once a student leaves a dance, he/she cannot re-enter. Middle school students may not leave unless with a parent/guardian.
6. There are to be five or more chaperones at the dance, all pre-approved by the advisor in charge and the high school principal. They can be faculty, staff, coaches and/or parents/guardians. A list of the chaperones is to be on file in the school office at least one week before the dance, along with signed chaperone forms. The chaperones are to be stationed in various areas during the dance and should be rotated periodically by the advisor.
7. If a student is observed or suspected of violating the school drug/alcohol policy, the following procedures will be followed:
 - a. If a student is clearly under the influence of drugs/alcohol the principal is to be contacted immediately and the student detained until the parent(s) arrive. We have a zero tolerance policy with regard to drugs and alcohol.
 - b. A full written report is to be filed by the advisor in charge to the principal as soon as possible. If this were a weekday event, it would be the following morning. If a weekend event, it should be the morning of the first school day following the event.

- c. If the student refuses to stay at school, or his/her parent/guardian cannot be reached, the Gaylord Police Department shall be contacted.
- d. If a non-St. Mary Cathedral School student is observed or suspected of violating the school drug/alcohol policy, or refuses to leave the dance when asked to do so, the principal should be contacted and the authorities will be notified.

Section 6: Technology

CELL PHONES locks for lockers

Middle School: Cell phone use is strictly prohibited for middle school students. Middle school students can check their phones before or after school. Cell phones are to remain in the students' lockers

High School: Cell phone use is not permitted in classrooms. Cell phones will be collected at the beginning of each class period and put into a basket. The student's cell phone will be returned at the end of the class period. Cell phones may be used before school, in between classes, during lunch and after school. If a student is caught using a phone in a class, the phone will be taken and a parent may pick it up after 24 hours in the school office. The second time a cell phone is taken from a student; the student will receive a detention. The third time, the student will not be allowed to have a phone on campus for the remainder of the school year. (Practice)

TECHNOLOGY

All parents, students and teachers will be required to sign a beginning of the year checklist and damage report prior to any Chromebook being assigned. Students will not receive their chromebook for the school year until this agreement has been signed by all parties.

Introduction and Code of Ethics:

St. Mary Cathedral School encourages the use of electronic technologies in the educational process. Access to information is available in different formats. By providing electronic technologies and information, St. Mary Cathedral School encourages students and staff to embrace technology and become responsible, self-directed lifelong- learners.

The use of technology within the St. Mary Cathedral School is a privilege extended to students and faculty to enhance and exchange information. As users of technology at St. Mary Cathedral School, each must realize that he/she represents the Catholic community, and must uphold Christian, ethical, and legal requirements. The privilege of using available technology is conditioned upon the student and staffs compliance with the Acceptable Use Policy Agreement. Failure to abide by the Acceptable Use Policy Agreement can result in privileges being revoked, school disciplinary actions taken, and/or appropriate legal action for violations that may constitute a criminal offense.

Rights:

St. Mary Cathedral School Students in grades 6-12 will be issued a Chromebook. Each student will pick up their device in their homeroom and return it at the end of the day. ** Chromebooks will not be allowed off the premises. Staff and students are allowed to use school-installed programs to access, modify, or delete her/his own data. Students and staff will be held accountable (financially and within the discipline system) for acts which access, modify damage or delete software and other data and programs other than their own.

Responsibilities:

St. Mary Cathedral School granting use to electronic technology is a privilege and requires users to embrace ethical and Christian responsibility when exercising their use of electronic technology. The following is a partial list of unacceptable behavior:

- Users may not damage or mistreat equipment or facilities under any circumstances
- Users will be responsible for damaged equipment
- Users will be responsible for purchasing technology insurance and our internet safety block GoGuardian
- Users must not leave their workstation unattended for any reason and must properly logout at the end of their session
- Users may not have food or drink in the computer lab or around Chromebooks
- Users may not intentionally waste computer resources
- Users may not transmit any material in violation of any United States or State of Michigan Regulations
- Users may not employ the network for personal financial gain or commercial purposes
- Users may not violate regulations prescribed by the technology director
- Users may not engage in practices that threaten the integrity of the network (e.g., knowingly download files containing viruses).
- Users may not engage in personal business that is unrelated to the research being done or the performance of the job
- Users may not write, use, send, download, or display obscene, threatening, harassing, or otherwise offensive messages or pictures, including pornography, violence, or hate sites
- Users may not use the equipment for any illegal activities, including the violation of copyright laws and software piracy
- Users may not load or copy any software or other programs to or from St. Mary Cathedral School equipment unless permission is explicitly granted by an authorized party (e.g., the Technology Director)

- Users may not use anyone else's password, nor may they share their password with others.
- Users may not trespass into anyone else's folders, documents, or files.
- Users may not disclose anyone else's personal information (e.g., address, phone number, or confidential information), including and especially that belonging to students, community members and families, or fellow employees
- Users may not use the network, or the internet for unauthorized game playing, unauthorized "chat" or chain letters
- Users may not use the network for acts of vandalism against persons or resources including the uploading of viruses
- Users may not use another person's computer file, access accounts, and or files without proper authorization

Administration Professional Code of Ethics Copyright:

It is the policy of the Diocese of Gaylord and St. Mary Cathedral School that all employees, volunteers, and students will abide by federal copyright laws. Employees, volunteers, and students may copy, print, or use non-print material allowed by:

1. Copyright Laws
2. Fair Use Guidelines
3. Specific license or contractual agreements
4. Other type of permission

Policy Enforcement Guidelines:

Depending on the nature and severity of the policy violation, the technology director or school administrator may take one or more of the following actions:

1. Verbal or written warning
2. Temporary access denial
3. Permanent access denial
4. Suspension
5. Expulsion
6. Legal Action

Demonstrated intent to violate the Acceptable Use Policy will be considered the same as actual policy violation. Demonstrated intent means evidence of actions, which if successful or carried out as intended would result in a policy violation.

Evidence of attempted or actual system security, integrity, or performance-related incidents will result in immediate access denial.

If warranted, the school administrator will refer the case to Local, State, or Federal authorities for further disposition.

Limitation of Liability:

The Diocese of Gaylord and St. Mary Cathedral School makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the school will be error-free or without defect. The school will not be responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the local system. The school will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system. In addition, it is understood that despite reasonable efforts at supervision, access control, and filtering, students may inadvertently or otherwise access inappropriate materials.

Section 7: Discipline Rules of Conduct and Procedures

CODE OF CONDUCT

St. Mary Cathedral has a code of conduct, a discipline plan for helping students learn to function in the society of the school and in the wider world. A discipline plan applies to the school as a whole as well as to the classroom. However, discipline is nothing more than Christian formation.

The goal, then, of discipline is true cultivation of virtue, so that the student is interiorly directed away from a pattern of behavior which needs to change in order to mature in virtue. This means that all discipline plans must be rooted in God Himself and needs to take into consideration the workings of grace and sin.

The guiding principles of the discipline plan stem from St. John Bosco's three main elements: Reason, Religion, and Kindness. The faculty and staff seek to incorporate these elements when correcting a student or guiding them to proper understanding of their wrongdoing. They strive to keep in mind the dignity of the child and to correct in truth and love.

When a student's behavior is inconsistent with the expectations set forth in the school and/or classroom policies, the first response is to assist the student in understanding the wrongdoing. Extreme Care is taken to not embarrass or demoralize the child.

The word "discipline" comes from the same root as the word "disciple." Therefore, discipline is seen as something essentially positive, coming from each student's following of the precepts of Christ. Students are expected to conduct themselves at all times according to the highest standards of polite, respectful, Christian conduct. Actions, behaviors, or items contrary to teachings of Christ and His Church are inappropriate in our Catholic school.

The greatest obligation for teaching a child good moral conduct and self-discipline rests with the parents; the school accepts the responsibility of assisting the parents with that task. It is imperative that the student be convinced that his/her parents fully support the school and expects the student to adhere to the school's rules. We can best serve the children by working together.

St. Mary Cathedral School's Code of Conduct shall include, but not be limited to, the following principles:

1. A St. Mary student is considered a student 24 hours a day, and is expected to act in a manner consistent with being a disciple of Christ at all times;
2. Students shall treat each other, school employees, and guests with Christian charity, courtesy, and respect at all times;
3. Any disruption of the learning environment is considered an infringement on the rights of others and will be handled accordingly;
4. Students shall use material items with care and respect to show that they understand the necessity to be good stewards of creation;
5. Being mindful that their dignity comes from being made in the image and likeness of God, students are expected to strive to live virtuously, knowing that this is the only means to peace and happiness;
6. Students are expected to view and treat the human body as a gift from God; therefore they are expected at all times to treat their own bodies and the bodies of others as the temples of Holy Spirit;
7. Students are expected to observe the dress code

The teacher is the key person in school discipline. The teacher is expected to make every effort to handle personally the usual problems of maintaining classroom discipline. When a disciplinary problem becomes acute enough, the teacher will seek the Principal's assistance. Parents are expected to fully support the teachers and the Principal in the implementation of their plan to cultivate virtuous behavior. This cooperation is essential in assuring an environment of respect and order, and for a classroom to run in an efficient manner.

Normal disciplinary procedures in the classroom include, but shall not be limited to, the following:

1. warnings, written or verbal
2. loss of free time or recess
3. detention scheduled by the teacher
4. contacting the parents
5. a visit to the Principal's office

All school rules govern student behavior (1) on the school grounds at any time and (2) off the school grounds at a school activity, function, or event.

Students are capable of many serious actions worthy of disciplinary action, all of which cannot possibly be listed. St. Mary Cathedral reserves the right to judge the seriousness of the actions and the disciplinary consequences which will arise from them, including detention, suspension, or expulsion. Examples of behaviors worthy of stringent disciplinary action include, but are not limited to, the following:

Serious Misconduct:

1. Disruption and or obstruction of any lawful mission, process, or function of the school;
2. Damaged or attempted damage of the school property or the property of another;
3. Bullying, physical or verbal assaults;
4. Sexual harassment;
5. Use of profane or vulgar language;
6. Cyber bullying or using blogs, email, or social media to express defamatory comments regarding the school, the faculty, or other students or their families;
7. Possession of knives, firearms, weapons, fireworks etc.;
8. Obscene conduct; possession of obscene literature or images, possession of obscene literature or images on electronic devices; trying to use school provided technology to access pornography;
9. Stealing, gambling, extortion;
10. Cheating, forgery, or plagiarism.
11. Truancy, excessive absenteeism, tardiness, self-dismissal;
12. Violation of the uniform code;
13. Missing or late homework assignments;
14. Disrespectful language or actions towards any staff member faculty or other students or family members.

Please Note: A zero-tolerance policy is enforced with regard to the possession and/or use of alcohol, drugs, mood-altering chemicals of any kind, tobacco, the associated paraphernalia, and counterfeits or look-alikes to these. Offending students are subject to suspension or expulsion at the discretion of the Principal or her designee.

General Rules for Respectful Student Conduct

1. Use a pleasant voice and always speak at an appropriate volume;
2. Greet adults in a respectful manner = eye contact and a smile;
3. Use acceptable language;
4. Do not run in the hallways;
5. Keep all four legs of the chair on the floor and maintain a straight and alert posture;
6. Respect personal property of others;
7. Keep your hands to yourself;
8. Respect the rights and feelings of others;
9. Respect and obey all supervisors;
10. Bring in only those articles that are related to school;
11. School property is to be removed only with the proper authorization
12. Place litter in wastebaskets;
13. Leave the classroom only with permission from a teacher or supervisor;
14. Respect each other and adults on duty;
15. If you run into someone by accident, stop and excuse yourself before going on to play;
16. Play only in the assigned area;
17. No standing on the swings or swinging sideways;
18. Only one person at a time should go down the slide, always going up by way of the stairs; no pushing on the ramp of the slide;
19. No fighting, wrestling, tackle-play or tackle-football;
20. No fence or tree climbing
21. When the whistle is blown to come in, students are to immediately line up in front of the supervising teacher;
22. Teasing of students will not be tolerated under any circumstances
23. No snowball throwing or “King of the Mountain” is permitted in the winter
24. No food or drinks are to be taken outside at recess, unless

supervised by the teacher

25. Students must get permission from the teacher on duty to go inside for any reason
26. All equipment is to be respected and is to be brought into The school building when recess is over

Removals

1. A teacher may judge particular behaviors of a student to constitute a disruption to the learning process or a danger to persons or property. In that case, a teacher may enact an exclusion from the class;
2. A teacher may remove the student from curricular or extracurricular activities under his/her supervision, but not from the premises. The Principal or her designee is to be notified immediately of such action and may make decisions concerning the student accordingly;
3. The Principal or his/her designee may remove the student from the premises, curricular or extracurricular activity;
4. In an emergency removal, a student may be kept from class until the matter of his/her misconduct is resolved, either by reinstatement, suspension, or expulsion.

DETENTIONS

1. Detentions will be given at the discretion of the Principal and the teacher. The teacher and/or the Principal schedule detentions;
2. Students may not be tardy to detention;
3. Detentions are required school events that take precedence over all other student obligations and commitments;
4. Failure to report to a detention is a serious matter resulting in additional disciplinary action.

Process for receiving a detention: The teacher will issue a detention slip. The parents will be notified immediately, as well as coaches, and the student will serve the detention the next day, from 7:10-7:40. Failure to report will result in another detention. After the third detention, the student will serve a one day in school suspension. After 3 suspensions, student may be subject to expulsion.

SUSPENSION

In cases of suspension from school, either in school or out-of-school, the following guidelines apply:

1. The Principal may suspend;
2. No suspensions are to exceed ten (10) days;
3. The Principal gives written notice of intention to suspend and the reasons why to the student, unless immediate suspension is required. In this case, the parents will be notified at the earliest possible date;
4. The parent, guardian, or custodian of the student is notified of the suspension, in writing. The notice includes the reasons for the suspension, and the right of the student and/or parent to appeal to the Principal.

A student may arrive at suspension if:

1. A student receives a third detention.
2. A student's behavior becomes detrimental to the physical, spiritual or academic welfare and progress of other students

Procedure for Student Suspension: Parents shall be notified by telephone of the suspension and requested to attend a joint conference with their child, school Principal, and any appropriate faculty member(s). In no instance shall a student be asked to leave the school during regular school hours and proceed home without prior notification to and consent of the parent(s)/guardian. The decision to require a student to proceed home alone or await the arrival of a parent/guardian shall be made jointly by the parent/guardian and the Principal.

Immediately following the suspension, notification with details should be given to the Pastor, who frequently is in a position to be a facilitator and may be able to suggest pastoral remedies. The conference with the parent(s)/guardian and child shall take place within three (3) school days from the suspension, if possible. If the Principal and parent(s)/guardian and child are unable to meet within that time period for any reason, the conference shall be scheduled as quickly as possible. Within that same 3-day period, the principal may continue investigation of the facts and circumstances leading to the suspension, and shall document the reasons for the suspension. Documentation of the suspension shall be placed in the student's file.

The principal shall have discretion to extend the suspension beyond three (3) school days, with notification to the parent(s)/guardian. Students will be allowed to make up any missing work, but will only receive a maximum of up to 70% credit on all make up work.

Any student receiving three (3) suspensions in a school year is a candidate for expulsion. A review of the situation with the teacher and the Principal could lead, but may not necessarily lead, to this decision.

EXPULSION

A third suspension during a school year or a third suspension during a student's tenure at St. Mary Cathedral School may result in that student's expulsion. Expelled students may apply for re-admission after one year has elapsed from the time of their dismissal. If such students are re-admitted, it is with clear understanding that they enter on disciplinary probation, the terms of which are to be fixed by the administration.

In certain circumstances second semester seniors who reach the point of expulsion may be allowed to take their exams. If they fulfill all graduation requirements, they will receive a diploma privately, and will be unable to participate in the graduation ceremony.

For serious disciplinary reasons or violations of major regulations that may be determined at the sole discretion of the school, a student may be expelled from school immediately. Some of the grounds for immediate expulsion include but are not limited to, the following:

1. Actions gravely detrimental to the moral and spiritual welfare of any school or church personnel, volunteers or students.
2. Assault, battery or any threat of force or violence directed toward any school or church personnel, volunteers or students.
3. Use, sale, possession of any vaping paraphernalia (mods, juice, battery packs etc.)
4. Use, sale, possession or control of narcotics or illicit drugs on or about school/church property.
5. Use, sale, possession or control of alcoholic beverages on or about school/church premises.
6. Vandalism of school/church property.
7. Possession or control of any weapon or other dangerous instrument on or about school/church premises.
8. The arrest and/or conviction by civil authorities for a criminal action.
9. Behavior that affects the status of the school and/or causes unfavorable publicity or criticism of the school.

Please Note: The philosophy of St. Mary Cathedral School is based on the belief that the parents are the primary educators of children. The administration of St. Mary Cathedral School looks toward the parents as the disciplinarians for events that happen off campus. Even though St. Mary Cathedral School does not want to get involved in unsanctioned off-campus activities, events may occur off campus that have a detrimental effect on the school, students, faculty, administration and church, or the ability of the faculty and the administration to uphold the mission and policies of the school. Under such circumstances the administration reserves the right to take disciplinary action up to and including expulsion.

Procedure for Student Expulsion:

1. The Principal shall seek the advice of the Pastor regarding any contemplated expulsion.
2. Except in situations involving immediate expulsion, the Principal shall exercise the right of expulsion only after a 3-day suspension to investigate and to conference with the student and parent(s)/guardian referred to under the Suspension Policy (Diocesan School Policy 4110).
3. If a decision to expel the student is made, the parent(s)/guardian shall be notified in writing of the action by the principal.
4. The student, his/her parent(s)/guardian may, within five (5) school days following commencement of the expulsion, contact the Diocese of Gaylord, in writing, to have the expulsion reviewed. The manner of the review shall be in the sole discretion of the Diocese of Gaylord on a case-by-case basis. In the event that the expulsion is found to be unfair or inappropriate, the Superintendent of Catholic Schools or his/her delegate shall so advise the Principal and action to reinstate the student will be undertaken. In this case, all reference to the expulsion shall be removed from the student's file.
5. Tuition reimbursement concerning expulsion:
 - a. Tuition may be refunded and is based on upon the amount of time a student is enrolled in school, e.g. if a student withdraws before 2nd marking period begins 75 % of tuition is refundable; before 3rd marking period begins 50% of tuition is refundable; after 3rd marking period, there is no refund.
 - b. b. Pro-rated tuition and fees reimbursement may occur if it is necessary for a family to withdraw because of an unforeseen circumstance.

BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS

The student's interest in receiving a quality, morally based education can be served if students, parents and school officials work together to form a safe and Christian-based environment. It shall be an expressed condition of enrollment that students behave in a manner, both on and off-campus, which is consistent with the Christian principles of the school as determined by the school in its discretion. These principles include, but are not limited to, any policies, principles or procedures set forth in this Student/Parent Handbook, including the behaviors noted below:

School-Wide Behaviors

1. Respect others by listening, using kind words and actions, and respecting others' property and space.
2. Follow directions the first time they are given.
3. Use appropriate language in speaking and writing. Use a quiet voice.

4. Be honest and take responsibility for your work and actions.
5. Move safely in all areas of the school.
6. No gum anywhere in the building.

Hallway Behaviors

1. Use a quiet voice and keep your hands in your own space.
2. Always walk in the hallway, being mindful of others space and staying in a safe, orderly manner. Students must quietly and respectfully walk to lunch/band. Failure to do so will result in immediate detention.
3. Elementary Students: Before classes begin in the morning, drop backpack & outerwear off at locker, and sit in the cafeteria until 7:40 a.m. bell.
4. Before classes begin for HS/MS, drop items off at your locker and gather in the gym for morning convocation at 7:45, first bell at 7:45. Students will be marked tardy after 7:45.

Cafeteria Behaviors

1. All students in elementary and middle school will sit with their own grade-level at lunch.
2. Use table manners (do not play with either your food or others' food).
3. Clean up your trash and keep your space clean.
4. Report all spills immediately to the lunchroom supervisor.
5. Use an appropriate voice level.
6. Wait to be dismissed.

Playground Behaviors / Outdoor Recess Rules

1. Play on designated playground areas within sight of supervisors.
2. Respect the rights and feelings of others (NO pushing, fighting, teasing, or foul language.)
3. Obey the supervisors, the first time a direction is given.
4. Games such as Red Rover and Dodge Ball will not be allowed.
5. Use the play equipment properly. (No hanging by legs or jumping from equipment)
6. Flag football is played on the large field away from the building.
7. No food, drinks, candy or gum are allowed on the playground except on special occasions.
8. Play games in the snow but NO throwing of snow, ice, snowballs, woodchips or stones.

9. Students are not to re-enter the building until the whistle is blown.
10. When the whistle is blown, playtime is OVER. Line up quickly and quietly.
11. Students are expected to participate in outside recess every day. If students are well enough to be in school, they are considered healthy enough to go outside. We encourage parents to keep sick students home.

PREPARED FOR CLASS

Students must come to class prepared to learn. This includes coming to class with planner, homework, all notebooks, binders, and textbooks required for each class prior to the starting bell. The third offense for having to leave class after the bell to retrieve and missing item will result in a detention.

VANDALISM

Any behavior by a student which results in damage to school property is the financial responsibility of the student causing the damage. All student management procedures apply.

Section 8: School Safety

FIRE, TORNADO AND LOCK-DOWN DRILLS

By law, all schools are required to hold eight (8) fire drills, (2) tornado drills and (2) lock-down drills during the school year.

Fire Drill:

When the alarm sounds, all students should exit the building in an orderly manner. Walking quickly and quietly, they should proceed to the nearest designated exit and continue walking to the assigned class meeting area or space.

Tornado Drill:

The intermittent signal will identify the alarm for a tornado drill. All students should exit their rooms to the designated area and sit quietly on the floor next to an inside wall. Students should cover their heads and remain seated until the all clear is sounded.

Lock-Down Drill:

The announcement will be made over the school P.A. system. All students are to go to the safe area in their classroom. If not in a classroom, students will need to find a safe area. Students are to remain quiet until a police officer unlocks the classroom door. An announcement over the P.A. system will give the all clear before anyone is allowed to leave their classroom.

All teachers are expected to discuss and practice these procedures with their students at the beginning of the school year.

PARKING

For the safety of our students, please adhere to the Parking requirements below.

- 1) Designated student parking will be in the lot across from the school on N. Otsego Avenue in rows 2, 3 and 4. Row 1 will be available for visitor parking.
- 3) Petoskey St. 'NO PARKING' area has been designated as a drive-through pick-up area before school until 8:15 a.m. and after school until 3:10 p.m. Cars will proceed east on Petoskey St., curve into this area, and students will be dismissed to parents when in sight. Please do not drop students in the front of the school.
- 4) Parking across from school on Petoskey St. and on Mitchell St. is for teachers.
- 5) Drivers must yield the right-of-way to pedestrians.
- 6) Please **do not block** residential driveways.

- 7) Middle School/Senior High School siblings are allowed to pick up younger siblings in the elementary school at **2:50 p.m.** and can walk them to the high school exit if desired.

****All walkers or students being picked up are asked to use the Petoskey St. exit until all the buses are loaded and leave the school premises.**

PARKING PERMITS - HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

- 1) St. Mary Cathedral School Student parking permits are issued by the school office.
 - The permit cost/deposit is \$20.00.
 - The permit should be **placed on the rearview mirror**.
 - Students are not allowed to park in the front row of the parking lot, this area is for guests/visitors.
 - No parking on road near school/gym entrance or at either end of school.
 - Parking is based on first come/first park; there are a limited number of permits to be handed out.
 - Tickets will be issued for violations at a cost of \$5.00 for each incident. Please use the crosswalks from the parking lot when crossing the street.
 - At the end of the school year, the student will return the permit for a refund. The refund will be \$10.00 minus any incidents.
 - Chronic abuse of parking privileges will result in the student not being allowed to drive to school and no refund given.
 - Violations may result in the vehicle being towed at the owner's expense.
- 2) Students who park in the Gaylord High School parking lot must obtain a parking permit from the Gaylord High School office. Gaylord High charges a fee for the parking permit.
- 3) Students should make every effort to park in the student parking lot. For the safety of **all**, students should not park on the street unless all parking spots in the high school parking lot are occupied.

Violators of these regulations will be subject to administrative inquiry and disciplinary action.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students are advised to keep all money, jewelry and other valuables on their person at all times. Students are advised against bringing large sums of money to school. Students should not bring radios, tape or CD players, electronic games or other such equipment to school. These are high-risk items for loss or theft.

If a student has a special need for such equipment and must bring that to school, he/she should take it to the school office for safekeeping. If a theft of personal or school property occurs, it should be reported to the school office immediately.

The school cannot assume any responsibility for any items that are lost or stolen.

Section 9: Additional School Policies

ACCIDENTS/INJURY

In the event that your child is involved in an accident or injury at school or at any school sponsored event, emergency first aid will be administered by the school authorities. An Accident Report will be documented in writing by the teacher, coach, or school agent in charge of the activity. In the event of serious injury, the school will contact the parents.

If parents cannot be reached at home or work, the authorized person listed on your Emergency Card will be contacted should it be necessary to send the child home or to the hospital for further treatment.

CONTACT INFORMATION

It is imperative that we have up-to-date address, phone number, and email address information for you and the persons you authorize on the Emergency Contact Lists. Please call the school office and update the information on RenWeb if changes need to be made.

AFTER SCHOOL ACADEMY

The After School Academy (ASA) is an after school program for student in grades Pre K-8. ASA provides a Christian, safe, and fun after school setting. ASA is an exciting alternative after school program that is committed to helping children continue to grow spiritually, academically, socially, and physically. ASA is offered daily from 2:50 to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The cost for ASA is \$15.00 per day, per student or \$5 per hour, per student. ***Additional fees added after 6:00 pm. *** If pickup time is abused, ASA will not be an option.

We encourage parents to take advantage of this organized program if your child/children have to wait to be picked up after school. Please do not allow your children to loiter after school has been dismissed. Students must be chaperoned at all times. If students are found roaming the building, they will be told to go to ASA and families will be charged a fee.

AUXILIARY SCHOOL SERVICES

During the school year, the Intermediate School District provides diagnostic and consultant services for St. Mary Cathedral School. Teachers or parents are to first have a conference with the principal to discuss the need for services. The Principal shall bring the request to the child study team and they will determine the need for further analysis. Services provided are: 1) School Psychologist, 2) Occupational Therapist, 3) Speech Therapist, 4) Social Worker, 5) Physical Therapist, 6) Title I. These professionals are provided by the Gaylord Community Schools or by COPESD. They provide a great service to the students of St. Mary Cathedral School because their services are highly specialized. Students are referred for these programs when they are found to be markedly delayed in certain skills at a particular grade level.

Hearing, Vision and Scoliosis screenings are also provided by the Public Health Department. St. Mary Cathedral School does employ a reading specialist full time to assist students.

CLOSED CAMPUS

To facilitate the use of the educational opportunities available at St. Mary Cathedral School, students are required to remain on campus during the entire school day, with the exception of shared time students with Gaylord High School. Students who leave campus without permission are considered truant and are subject to suspension.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. School newsletters and any necessary memos are sent home with the youngest child, mailed, or emailed to keep the family informed of school activities.
2. Daily announcements are given via the public address system and during convocation.
3. Weekly announcements are also available on the school website and emailed out to families that have provided an email address to the office.
4. An open house all for grades occur before the school year begins. An open house for Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten students takes place in the early spring.
5. Major disciplinary action is communicated to the parents via email or a personal telephone call. This is to keep parents informed of any unacceptable behavior or the need for a conference. It is hoped that through communication between home and school we can, together, help our students learn positive ways of dealing with problems.
6. Students' current grades and progress will be reported every 4½ weeks. Parents may check the progress of their child by using their personal pin number and password assessed via the St. Mary Cathedral School website and using Renweb.

FIGHT SONG

Hail! To our Snowbirds.
We sing, Hail! To our victors!
We sing, Hail! Hail!
Valiant fighters all through the game.
Cheer for our Team,
We have no fear for our team,

For they will Fight! Fight!
As we go onward to VICTORY!
Blue and White Fight!

FUND RAISING

All St. Mary Cathedral families are responsible for participating in Snowbird Gala. Each family will be given raffle tickets to sell for the main event.

Authorization of all fund raising by adult support groups rests with the rector and parish Finance Council. Concerns about fund raising activities for St. Mary Cathedral High School should be directed to the principal.

HOT LUNCH PROGRAM

St. Mary Cathedral School participates in the federally subsidized Hot Lunch Program.

Prices: Elementary: \$2.50 MS/HS: \$3.00

Families who qualify for free or reduced meals are encouraged to fill out an application. All information remains confidential. Applications are sent home to every family with the beginning of year packet of information. Applications remain available throughout the school year in the school office. Return applications in sealed envelope marked "Meal Application".

Lunch payment information:

- Create an account at MyMealTime.com
- Pre-pay for lunches or pay online.
- Send all loose money in an envelope (recycled envelopes work great) with each student's name and student lunch ID#. Send one envelope per family.
- Paying for more than one week is acceptable.
- If a family's lunch account becomes in arrears in the amount of \$10, then no additional charges will be allowed on the account. You will be notified should your account reach this status.

ILLNESS/COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

To ensure the safety and well-being of the students of St. Mary Cathedral School, we request that you keep your child home when he/she has a contagious illness/communicable disease. Students must be 'fever-free' for 24 hours before their return to school. Please notify the school office if your child has been diagnosed with a contagious/communicable disease. Students who become ill during school time activities should immediately report that illness to the teacher, coach or school agent in charge. The student will then be advised as to what

action to take. Under no circumstances should a sick student leave the school or school activity without first consulting with the school authority in charge.

Personal hygiene is encouraged with consistent hand washing, covering mouth and using a tissue when sneezing and coughing, etc.

Lice: Should you discover your child has head lice, please contact the school office. The school follows the guidelines of the Health Department's recommendation to keep your child home from school until he/she is nit free. Upon his/her return to school, personnel in the school office will check to make sure that he/she is nit free.

LIBRARY/MEDIA CENTER

The Media Center is staffed by volunteers. The St. Mary Cathedral School Library/Media Center serves all students in grades Preschool-12th. Middle School and Senior High students may use the Media Center and its computers during scheduled or free periods. Each elementary class is given the opportunity to have a weekly thirty-minute library period with volunteers. These thirty minutes include library skills/use instruction and/or story time, silent reading, and the opportunity to check out reading material. Classroom teachers may schedule additional library time for research purposes. Teachers may also request time for individual students or small groups of students to use the library, when it is determined that time and library/media center personnel will be available.

Books, periodicals, and vertical file materials are on loan for one to two weeks for elementary and Middle School/Senior High students; most of which may be renewed.

Some reference materials may be checked out for one night only. Encyclopedias are used in the library, and may not be checked out.

Unless materials are needed for a "special" class project, students with overdue materials will not be able to check out more material, until the overdue material is returned and/or replaced.

Fines will be charged on lost materials for students in grades 2-5 as follows: the fine for lost or damaged materials is the replacement cost of that item. Students may not check out materials when they have overdue library materials. At each academic quarter, students who have overdue materials or fines will not receive report cards until these responsibilities are paid.

LOCKERS Locks for lockers-

Students are not permitted to exchange assigned lockers with other students. Lockers are the property of St. Mary Cathedral School and are to be respectfully maintained by the assigned

student. All items must fit and not protrude from the locker. Locker decorations must be in good taste and are subject to approval by school officials. All decorations are to be secured by magnets only. All locker signs must be approved by the main office. Tape may be used on the number plate only. The assigned locker must be washed clean and be free of decoration and adhesive residue at the end of each school year. **Instruments must be stored in the music room.

LOST AND FOUND

Students should only bring items required for classes. You are responsible for your own property. The school will not be responsible for stolen or lost items. Check the Lost and Found as soon as you lose an item. Those items not claimed are given to a charitable organization throughout the year.

LUNCHTIME ACTIVITIES

High School students are not allowed to leave the cafeteria during lunch. The gym will be closed at lunch time other than on designated supervised days. Students found in other areas will be subject to correctives. High school students may eat in the courtyard with approval and supervision of a teacher.

MEDICATIONS

Any student(s) requiring medication during the school day must keep all medicines in the school office and school personnel must administer the medication. All medication is kept locked in the school office and includes over-the-counter, as well as, prescription medication. An Authorization Form filled out by the Parent/Guardian must accompany each medication that will be administered. These forms are available in the school office.

PARENT AMBASSADORS (Room Representatives)

If you are interested in participating please contact the school office.

Some of the significant events/programs sponsored by the ambassadors are:

1. Field Day (elementary students)
2. Campbell Soup Label Collection
3. Spartan U.P.C. Labels
4. General Mills Box Tops for Education
5. Gordon Food Service Fun FUNDS
6. SCRIP Program
7. Welcoming new families

PLANNERS

All 1-12 grade students will need to purchase a planner. Elementary students will be getting theirs from their teachers and Middle/High School students must purchase them from the school office. Grade 6-12 will use this as their hall pass. Students should carry their planner with them at all times.

TRANSPORTATION

Bus Rules:

1. Follow directions of the driver.
2. Stay in seat and face forward.
3. Keep all parts of the body inside the bus.
4. No objects will be thrown on the bus.
5. Students will not use profanity.
6. No food or beverages on the bus.

If a student chooses to break a rule:

- 1st Incident: Parents will be notified by the bus driver.
- 2nd Incident: Five school days suspension of bus transportation privileges.
- 3rd Incident: Thirty school days suspension of bus transportation privileges.
- 4th Incident: Indefinite suspension of bus transportation privileges.

Severe Disruption: The following inappropriate behavior will result in automatic suspension of bus transportation privilege:

1. Physical harm to a student.
2. Physical harm or threat of physical harm to the driver.
3. Failure to give correct name.
4. Refusal to obey driver's direct request
5. Bringing a weapon or any controlled substances on the bus.

Property Damage: The student or students involved will lose bus transportation privileges until total cost of damage is paid.

Permanent Assignment: Bus drivers have been encouraged to assign seats. This should help isolate problems and make it easier to identify property damage.

Bus drivers do not have the discretion to allow children to ride their bus unless permanently assigned. Children may be transported to a baby-sitter as long as it is a regularly scheduled event. This means that parents of children going to Cub Scouts and other special events will need to find transportation other than school bus transportation.

Bus students: School busses drop off and pick up the students on N. Otsego Avenue.

Transportation Schedule:

Drop-off at 7:45am Dismissal at 2:40pm

Times may be subject to change depending on Gaylord Community School Schedule.

Non-bus students: School doors remain locked until 7:15 a.m. ****Elementary (K-5) school begins at **7:50 a.m.**, Middle and High School classes begin promptly at **7:50 a.m.** **Convocation begins at 7:45. All Students must be present.**

All elementary students riding in cars should be dropped off or picked up on Petoskey Street.

Middle School and High School students riding with parents should be dropped off or picked up on Mitchell Street.

For the safety of walking students, they are requested to stay on the sidewalks, not the road. Students should always cross at intersections. When it is necessary to be on the road (where there are no sidewalks or when they are snow covered), students should walk facing oncoming traffic and as close to the edge of the road as possible.

In the middle of the school day for emergencies or appointments, parents should pick up students from the main office entrance.

TUTORING

Faculty members are available for individual assistance immediately after school, Monday – Thursday from 3:00 - 3:30 p.m. Students are encouraged to utilize this service.

WORK PERMITS

Work permits can be obtained in the school office. Work permits cannot be given to anyone younger than 14 years of age.

FOOD & DRINK

Food and drinks (except water) are not permitted in the halls or classrooms during the school day. There should be no open or empty drink containers left in lockers at any time. Students eating lunch are to eat in the school cafeteria. No food should be taken from any classroom into the hallway. Students are not allowed to order food by phone to be brought in to the school. Food within the classroom is at the discretion of the teacher. A snack time will be offered during 3rd hour. Students may bring in a small snack, no large boxes.