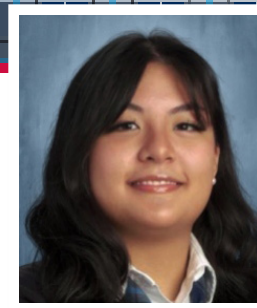


RELIGION

Religion is an integral part of the St. Mary's Academy experience. The fundamental aims of the program are for students to understand that they are created in the image of God, deepen their understanding of Roman Catholic tradition and the church, explore the charism of the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and explore their belonging within our school community and the world around them. All students in grades 7 to 11 are required to complete service learning as a component of the program.



"All my life I've gone through Catholic schooling and have gone to church on Sundays. St. Mary's has helped me grow in my spiritual journey as I have the opportunity to use the Chapel, talk and make personal connections through the Mission and Charism programs, which enlighten me and make me feel more at peace. I am glad to be learning about different religions in our Religion program too, because it broadens my perspective about the world we live in."

– Serena Soc '24

CHARISM IS A DISTINCT SPIRIT THAT ANIMATES A RELIGIOUS CONGREGATION. IT'S A CALL TO MANIFEST THE GOSPEL IN A UNIQUE WAY. ST. MARY'S CHARISM FLOWS FROM THE GIFTS GOD GAVE TO BLESSED MARIE-ROSE DUROCHER, THE FOUNDRRESS OF THE SISTERS OF THE HOLY NAMES OF JESUS AND MARY. THE CHARISM IS ROOTED IN THE PRIMACY OF GOD'S LOVE AND THE POWER OF EDUCATION TO DEVELOP THE POTENTIAL GOD GAVE EACH OF US.



>Service Fair, fall 2023



I was shaped by the St. Mary's Religious Department in a lot of ways but the funny part is, it wasn't necessarily the courses that shaped me but more so the teachers that taught those courses. Seeing their dedication to their ministry while juggling the hard questions amazed me, they saw what I took a long time to see. Most students in high school were searching for something, and these teachers were trying to help them along in their search. Not telling us what the end goal was but guiding us in the right direction. This played a part in my decision to take a year off after school to help out with NET ministries, so that I could also help others find what I found in Christ.

– Theresa James '21

