



## **2023 - 2024 StMM Preschool FAQs**

All students will be charged a \$125 application fee and a \$100 enrollment deposit. Both fees are non-refundable. Each preschool family is also charged an annual Capital Expenditure Fee of \$100 unless they also have children enrolled in grades K-8, where the Capital Expenditure Fee is \$250 per family.

### **What Preschool programs are offered at StMM?**

We currently plan to offer the following programs for the 2023-2024 school year. **Please note: There is always the possibility that our program offerings and/or operating hours may need to change.**

#### **3 year old Full day Preschool:**

Hours: 8:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

5 day	Tuition: \$9266	Supply fee: \$300	Application Fee: \$125
3 day (MWF)	Tuition: \$5710	Supply Fee: \$190	Application Fee: \$125
2 day (TTH)	Tuition: \$3856	Supply Fee: \$140	Application Fee: \$125

Students enrolling for 5 days have first priority for available openings.

For an additional fee, the after school care program is available through the school. Information can be found on the [After Care Program](#) page of our website.

#### **3 year old Half-day Morning Preschool:**

Hours: 8:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

5 day	Tuition: \$6116	Supply fee: \$300	Application Fee: \$125
3 day (MWF)	Tuition: \$3820	Supply Fee: \$190	Application Fee: \$125
2 day (TTH)	Tuition: \$2596	Supply Fee: \$140	Application Fee: \$125

Students enrolling for 5 days have first priority for available openings.

#### **4 Year Old Full day Preschool:**

Hours: 8:15 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

5 day	Tuition: \$7722	Supply Fee: \$300	Application Fee: \$125
3 day (M/W/F)	Tuition: \$4783	Supply Fee: \$190	Application Fee: \$125
2 day (T/Th)	Tuition: \$3239	Supply Fee: \$140	Application Fee: \$125

Students enrolling for 5 days have first priority for available openings.

For an additional fee, the after school care program is available through the school. Information can be found on the [After Care Program](#) page of our website

#### **4 Year Old Half-day Preschool:**

Morning Hours: 8:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

5 day Tuition: \$5097 Supply Fee: \$300 Application Fee: \$125

3 day (MWF) Tuition: \$3208 Supply Fee: \$190 Application Fee: \$125

2 day (TTH) Tuition: \$2189 Supply Fee: \$140 Application Fee: \$125

Students enrolling for 5 days have first priority for available openings.

#### **Do you have an extended morning or lunch option for half-day students?**

All of our morning programs are now in session for 4 hours and include lunch time on the schedule. Families may choose to send lunch with their child or order lunch from the cafeteria. We do not offer any additional extended time for these students.

#### **Do you offer before and/or after care programs?**

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic School offers an AfterCare program that families may register for separately. Updated information about the after school program can be found on the [After Care Program](#) page of our website.

#### **Does the supply fee cover all of the supplies, or will I be asked to send in school supplies?**

The supply fee is used for the items (texts, workbooks, magazines, and supplementary materials) needed to implement our faith development and academic curriculum programs.

In each of the preschool classes, you may be asked to send in some additional supplies. The list of supplies varies depending on the class in which you are enrolled.

#### **How old does my child need to be to attend Preschool at StMM? What is the birthday cut off for preschool?**

To enroll in the 3 year old program, children must be 3 years old on or before August 31<sup>st</sup> of the academic year they will enter school.

To enroll in the 4 year old program, children must be 4 years old on or before August 31<sup>st</sup> of the academic year they will enter school.

#### **How many children are in each class? What is the student: teacher ratio?**

**3 year old Preschool:** Up to 12 children with 2 teachers. **4 Year old Preschool:** Up to 22 children with 2 teachers.

## **Do children have to be potty trained? Can children wear “Pull Up” Diapers?**

All children entering the preschool program must be completely toilet trained. Pull Ups or diapers of any kind are not permitted in the classroom.

## **Do you offer a “Mother’s Morning Out” Program for younger children?**

No. While we would love to offer such a program, we don’t have the available classroom space at this time.

## **Can I get a tour of the facility?**

Yes, we are happy to schedule a tour of the preschool program for you. Please contact Lisa Portland ([portland@stmm.net](mailto:portland@stmm.net)) to arrange a tour.

## **Can I come and observe the classrooms?**

Yes, you will need to contact the Early Childhood Coordinator, Barbara Senn ([senn@stmm.net](mailto:senn@stmm.net)) to schedule a time to observe one or more classes. Available observation times will depend on which classes you wish to observe. Please let her know if you plan to bring your child with you during your scheduled observation time, so that the teachers will have extra materials on hand in case your child would like to participate.

## **Do you provide snacks or lunch for the children?**

No, we do not provide meals or snacks for the students. In both the 3 year old and 4 year old Preschool Programs, the children should bring a healthy snack and a water bottle each day. In addition, students may either bring lunch from home or they may purchase the lunch offered in the school cafeteria each day.

In order to provide a safe experience for all of our students, StMM is a peanut and tree nut free environment. Products that contain or MAY contain peanuts or tree nuts are not permitted in the classrooms or cafeteria.

## **If I enroll in Preschool at StMM, is my child automatically accepted into the kindergarten class?**

Children that are enrolled in StMM’s four-year-old program are considered re-enrolling students and do not need to submit a separate application for kindergarten. Space is reserved for them in kindergarten, and they are accepted into our kindergarten program if the results of their Kindergarten Readiness Screening indicate readiness.

## **What if my child has food allergies?**

The teachers and staff of StMM are very aware of the serious nature of many food allergies. We maintain a peanut and tree nut free environment. If your child has food allergies, you will be asked to fill out an Allergy Action Plan for him/her. If your child must have an Epi-pen or Benadryl on hand in case of allergic reaction, you

will be asked to provide 2 Epi-pens to keep on campus. (1 in the classroom, 1 in the nurse's office) A StMM Medical Form detailing dosing instructions and signed by a physician must be on file for each medication.

## **Do the children in Preschool wear uniforms?**

The children in the 3 year old Preschool classes DO NOT wear uniforms.

The children in the 4 year old Preschool classes DO wear uniforms. They follow the same uniform guidelines as the children in the elementary school with a few exceptions. The preschool students are NOT required to wear a belt when wearing pants or shorts, and they are not required to have a P.E. uniform.

## **What kind of curriculum is used in the Preschool program? What types of things/activities do they do?**

Our main goal is to create a safe and nurturing environment where young children can learn and explore. We believe that a basic understanding of the beauty of God's creation and of His unending love and forgiveness for all people helps to set young children on a positive path for friendships, behavior, and knowledge of their own self-worth.

Weekly activities in the preschool classrooms include arts and crafts, music, movement, alphabet and number activities, science and sensory activities, dramatic play, block play, writing activities, and manipulative toys such as puzzles and peg boards. In both the 3 and 4 year old programs, there is significant emphasis placed on social skills and language skills.

The Preschool program at StMM follows the curriculum guidelines developed by the Diocese of Raleigh. Classroom teachers use the teaching methods and activities that they have found to be most effective with their age group as they address each of the curriculum standards set forth by the diocese. The Diocesan Curriculum for Early Childhood Programs includes activities and skills for each developmental area in which children learn and grow. These areas include spiritual, social, emotional, cognitive, language and physical motor skills. An overview of the Diocesan curriculum guidelines for Early Childhood programs is available on line at: <https://dioceseofraleigh.org/sites/default/files/inline-files/ECC-PS-Standards-2021.pdf>

## **What about religion? Do the children attend Mass?**

The children in both the 3 year old and 4 year old classes use a religion curriculum which includes many activities and stories designed to help young children appreciate the beauty and wonder of God's Creation and His love for all living beings.

Our preschool students also participate in The Catechesis of the Good Shepherd, a Montessori based, sensorially rich, faith formation experience that gives children the opportunity to grow in love and knowledge of God through the Christian tradition.

Additionally, the preschool classes participate in special prayer services during Advent and Lent.

The students in the 3 year old program do not attend weekly Mass. They may, on occasion, attend Mass on Holy Days. The students in our 4 year old classes do attend Mass weekly.

## **Do the full-day students take a nap?**

Yes. The children in the Full-Day 3 year old and 4 year old classes have rest time scheduled each day. The scheduled rest time for our 4 year old classes is shorter than that for our 3 year old class. The children are asked to rest quietly on their mats, but they are not required to sleep during this time.

## **What measures are you taking to limit the spread of illness?**

St. Mary Magdalene Catholic Preschool is committed to providing a safe and nurturing environment for our families and employees. We are committed to working within guidelines set forth by state and local health officials and collaborating with staff, parents, students, and physicians to minimize risk of exposure and/or spread of illness. This includes asking families to inform the school nurse of any communicable/contagious illnesses their children may develop. The health and safety of our students, staff, and community are a top priority and we urge any student, staff member, or visitor who is not feeling well to remain at home.

Classrooms, toys, and bathrooms are cleaned daily. High-touch areas such as table tops are cleaned more frequently. Standard handwashing guidelines are emphasized for both students and faculty. This includes upon arrival at school, before and after eating, after using the toilet, after blowing noses/coughing/sneezing, and after playing outdoors.

Staff and students may be required to wear a mask following a positive COVID-19 diagnosis.

If you have any additional questions, please feel free to contact Barbara Senn at [senn@stmm.net](mailto:senn@stmm.net).

Updated: 07-10-23