

**As a parent/guardian of a St. Mary's student, I understand that my son(s) will be held accountable to this Honor Code.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

## **THE HONOR CODE OF ST. MARY'S**

The Foundation of our Catholic and Christian Education at Orchard Lake St. Mary's Preparatory resides in our Mission Statement and our Honor Code. These two documents are the cornerstones and building blocks of every moral and academic endeavor that takes place in a student's career as a man of St. Mary's Prep. Over the course of our 122-year history, the Honor Code has undergone restructuring and updates to align itself to the evolution of the times. Its truth in purpose and its simplicity in execution may have been altered in its language but never in its theory or in its implementation. As we start this new Millennium, the Honor Code has undergone some alterations that reaffirm its importance and elevate its status and value to our campus community. It is the disciplinary model by which all of us are judged and empowered.

Every student of St. Mary's Preparatory is responsible to cling to the ideologies elucidated in the Honor Code above all others. The Honor Code is a defining document as to the mode of behavior and development that is acceptable, expected, and necessary to be considered a man of St. Mary's Preparatory. Every student will exhibit the ethical and moral character that allows him to function as a Christian gentleman of immense quality and dignity. To sign this Honor Code is to admit and acknowledge your understanding of its contents. In signing this document, you agree to adhere to and strengthen its integrity while simultaneously maintaining and sanctifying your own.

A Man of St. Mary's must be above reproach. He must strive for success by exhibiting honest effort and correct deportment. In the course of a student's life at St. Mary's Preparatory, he must realize and accept that he remains bound by this Honor Code every second of his tenure. He is responsible for his actions and must espouse and demonstrate our school philosophies and behavioral practices twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week, and three hundred and sixty five days a year. A student of the Prep must show respect for the faculty, administration, himself, and members of the student body and the community. He must avoid all acts of dishonesty in the academic, athletic, and personal arenas. A Man of St. Mary's Preparatory must be truthful and sincere in his character and actions. He must believe that participating in any immoral or illegal activities including but not limited to theft, cheating, plagiarism, deceit, neglect, lies, apathy and vulgar behavior cut at the heart of any society, and especially the Christian Community of Orchard Lake St. Mary's. A Man of St. Mary's must also be responsible for being a positive example and role model for others. It is the duty of every St. Mary's Man to not only champion himself to these morally high levels but to come forward and bear witness against those who are violating the Honor Code and damaging the name, reputation, and Christian values of our community. There is no higher or more difficult obligation to resolutely defend than coming forward to challenge and address the inappropriate actions of another. Courage is not obtained overnight, but by a constant battle in defending a Code of Honor that must become more than just words on a page. Courage comes from setting a moral and ethical standard to which you hold yourself and expect others to abide by as well.

A Man of St. Mary's Preparatory and his family must also be clearly aware and that any violations of this Honor Code or other school policies will result in swift and often severe disciplinary action. The punishment will be decided upon by the Headmaster and Dean of Discipline (who will if necessary seek counsel from other faculty members or witnesses to said offense) and will be final and without appeal or negotiation. If the violation of the Honor Code is deemed to be reprehensible or irrevocable in nature, or if the administration believes that the incident in question has jeopardized the student's ability to function as a safe and productive member of St. Mary's Preparatory, we reserve the right to mandate an immediate expulsion without recourse or appeal from the student, his family, or legal representation. A student who is expelled from the Preparatory will forfeit all rights to current academic grades and any reimbursement of tuition or fees.

By signing this document before God, family, fellow students, and the Faculty of St. Mary's Preparatory, the undersigned student and his legal guardians understand and agree to all facets of this Honor Code and its contents. This will remain as a binding agreement for the student's term of enrollment as a member of St. Mary's Preparatory.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dean of Discipline: \_\_\_\_\_ Headmaster: \_\_\_\_\_