

Prepared for Her Future. Inspired by Faith. Compelled by Mercy.

MUST BE A *Mount Girl!*



MOUNT ST. MARY
A C A D E M Y

BE A REMARKABLE WOMAN OF WISDOM, COMPASSION AND INTEGRITY.



Mount St. Mary Academy, sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy, develops young women with a moral and intellectual foundation rooted in Catholic tradition. Mercy-minded and college-prepared, our students meet the future with wisdom, compassion and integrity.

—Our Mission Statement

Empowered by the All-Girl Advantage

The high school years are four of the most important years of your life. Your experiences at Mount St. Mary Academy set the stage for life beyond high school and give you the confidence to be YOU. We want to **empower you to reach your greatest potential** and meet the challenges of the future as **a woman of wisdom, compassion and integrity.**

At Mount St. Mary Academy you will experience an all-girls learning environment that is unique in Arkansas. You will be heard, accepted and affirmed by caring educators who appreciate your unique talents and create an atmosphere where innovation thrives and differences are respected and encouraged. **You will be challenged** to become the person God created you to be, and remarkable things will happen once you decide to accept that challenge. **You will find your own place to thrive**, while making friends and memories that will last a lifetime, and **you will be part of a sisterhood**, united in your drive to make a difference in the world around you. With a foundation grounded in Catholic principles and Mercy values, you'll become equipped, empowered and prepared for whatever the future holds.



CONFIDENCE FOLLOWS ONCE A GIRL FINDS HER OWN VOICE.



One of a Kind

Founded in 1851, Mount St. Mary Academy is proud to be Arkansas' oldest educational institution as well as the only all-girls school in the state. Our **supportive, yet challenging, all-girls learning environment** provides a platform which helps you build confidence while growing academically and spiritually. **Girls are at the center of everything we do.** Seeing young women hold every school role — scholars, artists, athletes and class leaders — elevates the level of participation for all of our students and creates a culture of success. **You rise to the challenges set before you,** which helps you to achieve in the classroom, the gymnasium and the community.

National studies* confirm what the Mount has known for years... that compared with their co-ed counterparts, students who attend an all-girls school:

- ◆ Enjoy higher academic performance
- ◆ Possess more self-confidence and self-esteem
- ◆ Acquire more leadership skills
- ◆ Are more encouraged in areas of math and science
- ◆ Are better prepared for college courses
- ◆ Attend graduate and postgraduate school in greater numbers
- ◆ Participate more fully in the classroom and in the community

*International Coalition of Girls' Schools, National Foundation for Educational Research, American Association of University Women

Beyond the Diploma

Guided by our five purposeful and Mercy-inspired Core Values, Mount graduates are known for being bright, inquisitive, team-oriented and service-driven. They stand out for taking active roles in college and their careers and are recognized for demonstrating confidence, leadership, motivation and drive. **You will be prepared for success in the real world**, which is just one of the reasons our alumnae proudly call Mount “the best school we know of.”

Our Profile of the Graduate is how students come to manifest and embody our Core Values. It’s the culmination of everything a Mercy Education hopes to achieve. Throughout your journey, this blueprint defines the attributes you’re expected to acquire and the steps you’ll take to gain them. With the Profile of the Graduate, **every experience and academic opportunity at Mount St. Mary Academy is linked to and aligned with our Core Values.**



EQUIPPED WITH THE RIGHT TOOLS, GIRLS CAN BUILD ANYTHING.



“The Mount faculty are the driving force behind the excellence of our school and the success of its students. They have proven to always be available and shown great devotion to the character-building of each young woman by pushing her to become a knowledgeable and confident leader of the future.”

Caroline Albahsous '25

The Extra Mile

The required curriculum program at Mount St. Mary Academy **meets or surpasses college entrance requirements** in each curricular area. In addition to completing the graduation requirements, the majority of students choose to complete four years of science or social studies as well as three or four years of international language.

Mount’s Guidance and Counseling Office **actively works one-on-one with each student** to select classes and course levels that maximize her college preparation. When the time comes, you’ll also work individually with **our college counselor** who’s available to help create your college list, prepare applications and answer questions about the college search process.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

Credit requirements* are:

Theology	4.0	Economics	0.5
English	4.0	Fine Arts	0.5
Mathematics	4.0	Health Education	0.5
Science	3.0	Physical Education	0.5
Social Studies	3.0	Speech	0.5
International Language	2.0	Electives	5.5
		Total	28.0

*Additional requirements concerning service hours and testing are included in the student handbook.

Ready to Succeed

Advanced Placement, honors courses and a standard college-preparatory curriculum help you find the right level of challenge to ensure your academic success during high school and help you reach your individual goals for college. **Not only will you receive a classical education at Mount St. Mary that promotes active learning, inquiry and critical reasoning,** but you will be gaining 21st Century skills. Your exposure to a variety of learning enhancements at the Mount reflects communication and collaboration found in the college environment and instills time management skills needed to ease the transition to college life.



"Integrating technology into teaching and learning is a top priority at Mount. By using diverse platforms for our school's educational experience, we are able to enhance classroom instruction and promote critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and innovation. Our goal is to make learning in and outside of the classroom an excellent experience for our students."

*Carrie Burkhead,
Technology & Media Specialist*



"The quality of the faculty and the variety of AP and honors courses at Mount make me feel like I am experiencing college before I even get there. I particularly enjoy the interactive learning in the STEM program. The hands-on experiences in the labs and classrooms provide the chance to have fun while learning and working."

Carson Vogelpohl '26



"A reason I love Mount so much is the AP courses and how they have shaped me into a better person. Anyone can talk about the dual credit and GPA boosts, but the AP courses create an environment that encourages both academic and personal growth. Thanks to these courses, not only am I much more confident in my abilities as an individual, but I also feel more prepared for college and life in general."

Lauren Halter '25



"Not many people outside Mount know how great its arts department is. From visual to performing arts, these programs have been a fantastic creative outlet for me to explore my talent and express myself without fear of judgement – all while getting the chance to learn about something I'm passionate about with people who love it just as much as I do."

Isabella Nguyen '25



"By providing a rigorous curriculum, encouraging utilization of critical thinking skills, and – most importantly – allowing me to be more confident in the classroom, Mount's high-quality learning environment is truly preparing me for success in college. I love the challenge all of my classes provide and am proud of the knowledge I gain and the personal growth I feel each year here."

Chinotu Kwelle '25



AROUND HERE, "SCHOOL SPIRIT" ISN'T CONFINED TO THE GYMNASIUM.



Guided by Faith

Centered in Catholic tradition, Mount St. Mary has a rich heritage of Mercy education that dates back to 1851. As one of 55 educational members of Mercy Education, our school was one of the first in the country founded by the Sisters of Mercy. In the spirit of Catherine McAuley, the founder of Mercy education, we **welcome young women of all faiths to deepen their understanding of God and self and to further develop a personal relationship with God.**

You'll be empowered to live Mercy, the mercy-based Gospel principles embodied by the Sisters of Mercy, **through prayer, service and worship.** You will also experience class retreats, daily prayer, all-school Masses, theology classes and service projects that strengthen your God-given talents and call you to **make a difference in the community and the world.**

- ◆ Monthly Mother/Daughter Rosaries and Father/Daughter Masses give you a chance to nourish your spirit and your family relationships with quality time (and lunch) together.
- ◆ Each year you will have a class retreat that focuses on spiritual formation and growing and sharing as a class. Some retreats are held at school while others take place off campus, but they all strengthen faith and friendship and help nourish the strong sense of sisterhood that exists at the Mount.

Called to Serve

Jesus called us to love and serve Him by loving and serving others. Several opportunities you will experience at the Mount reflect this **Catholic and Mercy tradition of service** by calling you to better understand God's love through service to the community.



MERCY DAY

The annual day of all-school community service commemorates the Mercy ministry, which originated with the first House of Mercy in Ireland.



SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM

Each year during the junior theology class periods, Mount St. Mary students collectively devote thousands of hours volunteering at more than 30 community organizations, from hospitals and hospice care facilities to schools and nursing homes.



ROBIN HOOD DAYS

The student-driven annual canned food drive raises over 50,000 cans to feed hungry Arkansans during the holiday season.

PLAY LIKE A GIRL TO WIN LIKE A CHAMPION.



Go Belles

Winning like a champion is about more than the final score; as an athlete you **learn teamwork and perseverance while developing character.**

Early morning workouts, grueling practices and triumphant away games help you build a strong sense of self-confidence and a stronger community. Sports **challenge body, mind and spirit**, and they push you to be your best both on and off the field or court.

As a member of the Arkansas Activities Association, Mount St. Mary Academy competes in the highest classifications in the state in 11 sports. We're proud that **a number of Belles sign letters of intent each year to continue their athletic careers at the collegiate level.** Students can also try out for one of our cheerleading squads or the Rockettes dance team, or to serve as a student athletic trainer.

"Being a student-athlete at Mount has helped me become a better version of myself in and outside of school. It has taught me life lessons about integrity, responsibility, and work ethic, and it has helped me develop confidence, leadership skills, and friendships I will cherish the rest of my life."

Chloe Freville '26

SPORTS & SPIRIT SQUADS OFFERED

- ◆ Basketball
- ◆ Bowling
- ◆ Cheerleading
- ◆ Cross Country
- ◆ Diving
- ◆ Golf
- ◆ Rockettes
- ◆ Soccer
- ◆ Softball
- ◆ Swimming
- ◆ Tennis
- ◆ Track
- ◆ Volleyball

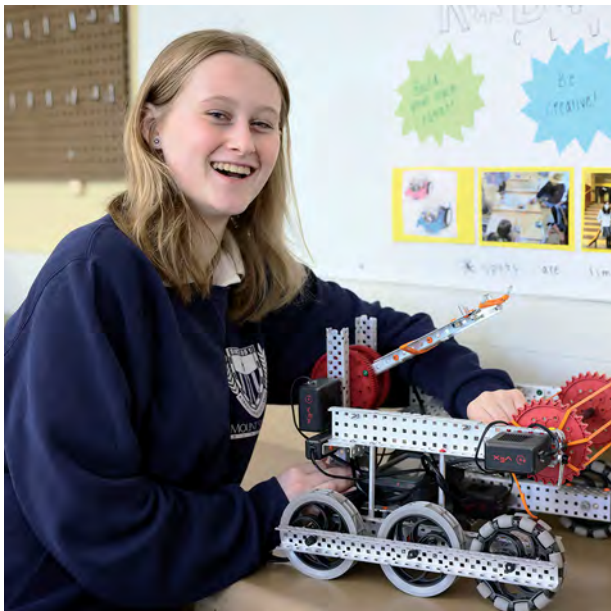
Getting Involved

You'll find a **vibrant school community** at Mount St. Mary where young women are encouraged to get involved in the vast array of fun traditions and co-curricular activities that exist. These activities give students a chance to apply their talents and abilities beyond the classroom, and they provide **ample opportunities for social, physical, spiritual and intellectual growth**. With a handful of annual themed events and more than 50 student clubs and organizations, as well as opportunities to travel and to participate in the arts, each student at the Mount is challenged to try new activities, broaden her experiences and gain valuable leadership skills. **It's what makes our sisterhood so strong and so special!**



CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

- ◆ American Sign Language Club
- ◆ Art Club
- ◆ Belle Ambassadors
- ◆ Belle Raisers
- ◆ Belles Abroad
- ◆ Beta Club
- ◆ Bible Belles
- ◆ Bring Change to Mind
- ◆ Campus Ministry Team
- ◆ Card Club
- ◆ Chess Club
- ◆ Close Up
- ◆ College Coordinators
- ◆ Concert Belles
- ◆ Diversity Club
- ◆ Drama Club
- ◆ Dungeons and Dragons Club
- ◆ Fire Marshals
- ◆ Forensics Team
- ◆ Honey Belles Bee Club
- ◆ Honor Council
- ◆ Hunters' Education
- ◆ Interact Club
- ◆ International Thespian Society
- ◆ Investment Club
- ◆ Just Dance Club
- ◆ Krafty Belles
- ◆ Lacrosse Club
- ◆ Language Council
- ◆ Latin Club
- ◆ Link Crew
- ◆ Marketing and Merchandise Committee
- ◆ Mountain Biking Club
- ◆ Mu Alpha Theta
- ◆ National Honor Society
- ◆ Newspaper (*The Mount*)
- ◆ Odyssey of the Mind
- ◆ Pickleball Club
- ◆ Poetry Club
- ◆ Prom Committee
- ◆ Quiz Bowl
- ◆ Robotics
- ◆ STEM Club
- ◆ Student Athletic Trainers
- ◆ Student Council
- ◆ Students of Color Alliance
- ◆ Theology Retreat Committees
- ◆ Trapshooting Club
- ◆ Yearbook (*The Mercian*)
- ◆ Young Changemakers





FAST FACTS

2024-2025 STUDENT BODY

- ◆ Enrollment: 500
- ◆ 9th grade class joined from 22 schools
- ◆ 71% Catholic, 29% other faiths
- ◆ \$697,602 in financial assistance awarded to students from diverse socioeconomic backgrounds
- ◆ Average class size: 16
- ◆ 14:1 student-teacher ratio

ACADEMICS

- ◆ 25 AP courses and a full-scale honors program
- ◆ AP Capstone Diploma Program
- ◆ Online summer courses
- ◆ 31 hours college credit available through concurrent credit program with UALR and Crowley's Ridge College
- ◆ ACT scores EXCEED state and national averages

TECHNOLOGY

- ◆ 1:1 Chromebook program
- ◆ State-of-the-art classroom technology
- ◆ Broadly functional Media Center
- ◆ Makerspace that promotes collaboration, creativity and innovation

CLASS OF 2024

- ◆ Awarded \$13.2 million in scholarship offerings
- ◆ Attending 23 different colleges in 11 states; accepted to 76
- ◆ 26% are enrolled in an Honors College program
- ◆ More than one quarter scored a 30 or higher ACT superscore
- ◆ 25 AP Scholars and 5 AP Capstone Diploma recipients
- ◆ Completed more than 12,000 hours of community service

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- ◆ 60+ clubs, organizations and teams help each girl find her voice and develop leadership skills
- ◆ 7,500 total volunteer hours at 30+ community organizations through Junior Service Learning Program each year
- ◆ Voted Best Private High School in *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette's* "2023 and 2022 Best of the Best", *Little Rock Soirée's* "Soirée Recommends 2024" and *AY Magazine's* "Best of 2023" readers' polls
- ◆ An alumnae network nearly 9,000 strong

STUDENTS AT ALL-GIRLS SCHOOLS:

- ◆ Report higher confidence
- ◆ Say greater leadership opportunities offered
- ◆ Three times more likely to consider engineering careers
- ◆ Six times more likely to consider science, math and technology majors

International Coalition of Girls' Schools

For more information regarding admission to Mount St. Mary Academy or how to apply for financial aid, please contact our Admissions office at 501.664.8006 ext 114 or visit our website at www.mtstmary.edu/admissions.



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Mount St. Mary Academy is a sponsored ministry of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas and is a member of Mercy Education.