

Saint Francis International School

A New Catholic School
for the 21st Century

**Early
Childhood**

**Elementary
School**

**Middle
School**

**Summer
Program**

A Long Tradition of Educating Children

Saint Camillus School & Early Childhood Learning Center



St. Camillus School was founded in 1954 to serve the needs of families in the Silver Spring, Adelphi, and Langley Park areas.

The school was originally served by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur. St. Camillus reached its highest enrollment during the 1960's.



During the 1980s the early childhood program was opened, and the Franciscan friars took over leadership of the parish

In 1996, St. Camillus School was recognized by the United States Department of Education as a Blue Ribbon School of Excellence.



In the early 2000's St. Camillus continued to adjust to demographic changes in the surrounding area and reduced the size of the school to one class of each grade. This move allowed for the expansion of the computer lab, library, science room, music program, Spanish program, counseling program, and tutoring programs.

St. Camillus also warmly welcomed our neighbors from Our Lady of Sorrows Parish when their school closed.

Today, St. Camillus School & Early Childhood Learning Center offers a high quality educational program for children from age 2 through grade 8. Our community is culturally and linguistically diverse with families from many faith traditions and from many areas.



In 1958 St. Mark School was opened to serve the needs of families in the Hyattsville, Adelphi, and College Park areas. The school was originally completely staffed and administered by the Sisters of the Religious of Jesus and Mary.



The Sisters withdrew from St. Mark in 1977. New generations of lay educators and administrators continue to preserve the mission and perpetuate the vision.

In 1978, the school created an Extended School Program to provide quality after-school care.



By 1985, another expansion was necessary. A Pre-School and a Pre-Kindergarten were opened to serve children ages 3 and 4.



The school cultivates partnerships with the parents and the entire parish community. Many senior citizens volunteer to be readers to our primary grade children. Our partnerships are with the young and old, school and parish, and lay and religious, representing a dynamic and effective union of people who care about and support the mission of Catholic schools.

At the core of this educational partnership is the faculty. St. Mark the Evangelist, by virtue of its outstanding reputation and Catholic identity, has attracted immensely qualified and committed teachers who bring a wealth of experience and expertise to the school. They are here because they believe that they have been called to a ministry to teach as Jesus did: with love, compassion, and discipline.

Saint Francis International School

A New Catholic School for the 21st Century



In June of 2010, Saint Francis International School will begin as the new school of St. Mark the Evangelist and St. Camillus parishes.

We are embarking on a journey of transformation in which we intend to take the best of what both St. Mark and St. Camillus Schools have been providing children for the past five decades and combine that legacy with the best of what is going in education throughout our country and our world today.

Saint Francis International School will create a new standards-based curriculum designed by the faculty and administration in concert. Our culture of learning will promote exploration, self-discipline, and teamwork. Our ideal is that our graduates will be intelligent young men and women with strong character and ethics who go out into the world to be leaders and global citizens who participate in making the world a better place.

The new curriculum will be challenging, engaging, and focused on skills that can be used throughout a student's lifetime. Our curriculum will be designed to be fully integrated across grade levels and across subjects including photography, musical and theatre arts, economics, technology, the sciences, and the humanities. Our curriculum and school culture will also address the physical, personal, intellectual, emotional, social, spiritual development of child.

Saint Francis International School at a glance

June 2010: Summer Program begins at the St. Mark Campus

September 2010: Preschool – 8th Grade begins at the St. Camillus Campus

Early Childhood Program: Preschool/Prekindergarten for ages 2, 3, and 4 and Kindergarten

Primary School: Grades 1 through 4

Middle School: Grades 5 through 8

School Day: 8:15 am to 3:15

Extended School and Enrichment: 7 am to 6 pm

Academic Excellence

Saint Francis International School uses a 21st century curriculum built around the Archdiocese of Washington academic and catechetical standards that emphasizes:



- mastery of the fundamentals of language and mathematics
- reading and communication skills that prepare students for our modern world of both traditional and digital information sources
- critical thinking and higher level skills such as application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation
- hands-on and experiential learning that provides students with transferable skills which can be used for success in high school, college, and the workplace
- the flexibility to provide instruction that draws upon and develops each student's multiple intelligences
- the student body size and staffing levels necessary to provide appropriate group and differentiated instruction to meet students where they are and help them develop to their fullest potential



Saint Francis International School is *fully accredited* by the Middle States Association Commission on Elementary Schools



The preschool program of Saint Francis International School is *licensed* by the Maryland State Department of Education

A Continuum of Learning

Learning in the 21st century is a lifelong process that begins earlier than ever before. Today, those who are successful are those that learn *how* to learn and then take on learning as a continual process. Saint Francis International School offers 12 years of integrated education that focuses on:

- acquisition of age-appropriate skills at three academic levels

Early Childhood (age 2 through kindergarten)

Primary School (grades 1-4)

Middle School (grades 5-8)

- a curriculum that builds over time and continually activates skills and information learned earlier
- integrating learning across subject areas through the use of authentic assessment and project-based learning
- a curriculum designed to help children become self-motivated, lifelong learners

Education beyond the Traditional School Day

Learning that is constrained by the school bell is not effective in the 21st century. Saint Francis International School offers more opportunities for learning through:

- a longer school day plus an extended school program from 7 am to 6 pm
- a wide variety of after-school enrichment classes, activities, clubs, music, drama, and sports within the safe environment of the school community
- a summer program that offers academics, leadership skills, sports, and fun allowing for a virtual year-round school experience





Preach the good news at all times
and if necessary use words.

St. Francis of Assisi

A Culture of Faith, Hope, and Love



The core of a Catholic education is ensuring that every student is aware of the loving God who has created this world and that every student is provided with the knowledge and experiences necessary to comprehend the hope that God provides. The goal also includes the desire for students to understand the role of men and women in bringing God's love into the world and transforming hope into reality. We accomplish this goal through:

- daily communal prayer and weekly celebration of the Eucharist
- preparation for and celebration of the sacraments including regular opportunities for the sacrament of Reconciliation
- the use of retreats and ministry opportunities
- an emphasis throughout the curriculum on right behavior and the consequences of human action and inaction



- daily religion classes that emphasize the experience of God in the world today, the wisdom of the Catholic faith, and the truths revealed in the Scriptures
- a strong connection to the spiritual life and charitable activities of our parish communities

Global Perspective

Our world is getting smaller every day and the students of the 21st century must be prepared to succeed in that world; our curriculum and school culture seeks to prepare students to be not only active citizens of the United States but global citizens who:



- have language skills in more than one major world language
 - understand and can live with people of many cultural, linguistic, religious, and political backgrounds
 - have a full understanding of world history, economics, civics, and society
 - can use technology to communicate effectively and to gather information to make good decisions in the modern world of rapid change
- have the skills necessary to participate in the political process
 - are prepared to be leaders in their parish, local, and national communities



Bienvenido • স্বাগতম • Karibu • 欢迎

ALL ARE WELCOME!

አለም • Chào Mừng • 환영 • Bienvenue



Support for Children and Families

Each child and each family is unique. Saint Francis International School offers a range of support services to meet these needs:

- a Student Assistance Team designed to identify student problems early and provide effective solutions
- support specialists able to provide individualized English language learning and resource instruction in the classroom, in small groups, and on a one-on-one basis
- a school counselor on staff to assist students, parents, and teachers in dealing with social, emotional, and educational concerns that arise
- a school nurse and school health room available to help students, parents, and teachers ensure each child's wellbeing
- partnerships with Montgomery County Public Schools, Prince George's County Public Schools, the Commonweal Foundation, Catholic University and others to provide additional resources for students
- a strong parent organization that provides additional opportunities for families to socialize and support one another in raising healthy, intelligent children



Attention to the Whole Child

An effective education is one that focuses on more than just providing students with information. An effective education acknowledges that children need to learn and grow in mind, body, and spirit. Saint Francis International School is committed to providing opportunities for students to develop social, physical, and emotional maturity through:

- both recreational and competitive Saint Francis Lions sports available at all age levels in addition to a strong physical education program including:



- soccer through both the Catholic Youth Organization and the Takoma Park Neighborhood Youth Soccer Association for children in 2nd grade and up

- basketball
- track and field
- baseball



- availability of a wide variety of clubs, activities, and enrichment classes including:



- drama club and Lion-TV news
- cooking and sewing clubs
- marital arts, gymnastics, and dance classes plus ski trips
- student council and school store
- youth scouting
- youth ministry service and social activities

- opportunities for music education and performance through weekly music classes plus optional band and choir classes with annual Christmas and spring concerts
- integration of leadership skills throughout the curriculum
- a curriculum and school culture that understands and respects child and adolescent psychological and emotional development



Affordability and Accessibility

Accomplishing these goals requires many resources; we are committed to maintaining our long tradition of providing Catholic education to as many children as possible through:

- the availability of grants for active Catholic parishioners and families with multiple children
- the availability of financial assistance from the school, the Archdiocese of Washington, and from other sources like the Latino Student Fund
- a strong sense of stewardship on the part of students, families, our parishes, and other stakeholders providing support through their time, talent, and treasure
- effective and efficient management of our operations and resources

Grants and Financial Assistance Opportunities for 2010-2011

Financial Assistance

Catholic Families = \$1,300 grant per child

(verification from parish office required)

Significant aid is available for families with multiple children enrolled

(annual completion of PSAS form required)

Need Based Financial Aid

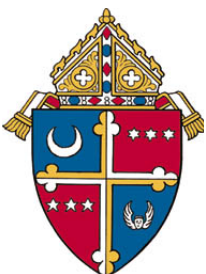
Need based financial aid is available from the school and archdiocese and will be awarded based criteria presented in the PSAS application. Notification of need based aid decisions will take place in late spring.

Financial aid applications must be mailed to PSAS by February 19, 2010.

Other Sources of Financial Assistance

Families are *strongly* encouraged to apply for scholarships from the Latino Student Fund, the Black Student, and the Washington Scholarship Fund, for more information contact the school.

Families may be eligible for assistance for preschool tuition, extended care, and summer camp from the state of Maryland through the Department of Social Services in Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. For more information contact the school or your local department of social services.



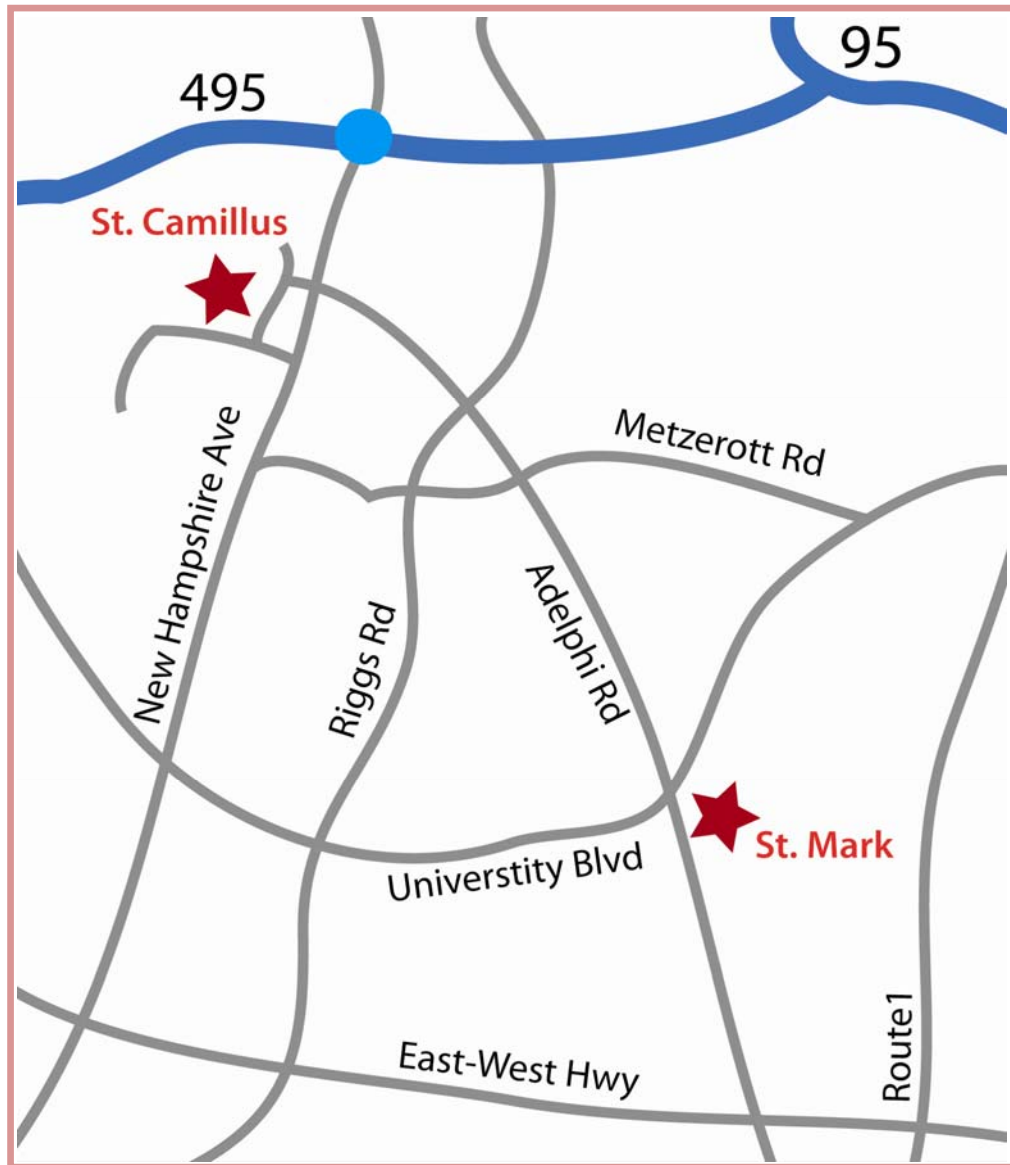
Saint Francis International School is a regional school of the Catholic Archdiocese of Washington and is sponsored and supported by St. Camillus and St. Mark the Evangelist Parishes.

Saint Francis International School (SFIS) does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and/or ethnic origin, age or gender in administration of its educational policies, admissions policies, financial aid, or other school-administered programs.

While SFIS does not discriminate against students with special needs a full range of services may not be available.



One School - Two Campuses - Three Miles Apart



Saint Camillus Campus (2010-2011 School Year)
1500 St. Camillus Drive
Silver Spring, Maryland 20903

2 blocks from the intersection of
Adelphi Rd. & New Hampshire Ave.

Saint Mark Campus (2010 Summer Program)
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, Maryland 20783

1 block from the intersection of
Adelphi Rd. & University Blvd.

A Future with Exciting Possibilities

Our transformation is only beginning. As we open the doors of our new school for fall 2010 we will be working towards our next phase of development which will include:

- a larger enrollment which will increase the opportunities for learning and enrichment available to all students
- upgrades to the St. Mark Campus allowing it to be a world class, state-of-the-art middle school facility
- development of a hands-on environmental education program
- creation of new partnerships allowing for a larger circle of supporters and an increased financial assistance fund

Our journey starts now!

Saint Camillus Campus *(2010-2011 School Year)*
1500 St. Camillus Drive
Silver Spring, Maryland 20903
(301) 434-2344

Saint Mark Campus *(2010 Summer Program)*
7501 Adelphi Road
Hyattsville, Maryland 20783
(301) 422-7440

www.SaintFrancisInternational.org