



St. Mary's P.R.E.P

5251 Joyce Street, Vancouver, British Columbia V6R 3Z4
Telephone: (604) 435-9011 Fax: (604) 437-1193

**PLEASE READ CAREFULLY, SIGN & SUBMIT AGREEMENT PAGE with REGISTRATION FORM
KEEP THIS DOCUMENT FOR FUTURE REFERENCE**

Dear PREP Parents:

Welcome to St. Mary's **Parish Religious Education Programme (P.R.E.P)**. We look forward to helping you with the important task of teaching your children the faith and morals of the Roman Catholic Church. We would like to inform you of few significant aspects of our programme designed to help deepen your child's understanding of, and love for the Catholic faith.

Community/Ministry Participation

To encourage fellowship with the greater community at St. Mary's Parish, we require all students in **Grade Seven** to attend community and ministry-led/organized activities, between the beginning of September 2024 and the end of May 2025. Students expecting to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation must complete this requirement before the date of the Confirmation Mass (usually in April or May).

Education Requirement for Confirmation

We have determined that Grade Seven alone is generally not sufficient for adequate preparation to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. We require completion of two upper-level grades in order to be eligible to receive the sacrament. This means a student who is about to enter Grade Seven in public school, but has not completed Grade Six PREP, will be enrolled in Grade Six PREP. In most cases also, those that are incoming Grades 8 & 9 students must likewise complete two years preparation prior to receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation. *Confirmation students will also be required to render **20 hours** of service to community and parish within the ministry year.*

Missed Lessons and Family Vacations

When assessing the readiness of a student to progress to the next grade, we consider the nature and number of his absentee days. Please make sure your child attends the classes and participates fully. **A student who has missed six or more classes without good reason will fail the grade.** *If you are expecting your child to receive a sacrament in the current PREP year, please do not make vacation plans for the weeks leading up to the day of the sacrament. Those weeks are especially important for your child's proper preparation to receive the sacrament.*

Parent Participation

Our Parent Participation Programme, for all grade levels, is aimed at actively engaging PREP parents to be equipped with building faith foundations and strengthen parent's resolve to be primary educators of their children. We have adapted the parent participation concept done in Catholic private schools, where parents are requested to put in time to do volunteer activities. In lieu of doing volunteer time, parents are asked to attend **twelve (12) faith development and growth sessions** from various parish ministries offering seminars, workshops & teaching sessions such as St. Mary's Bible Study, Padre Pio Prayer Group, Mission Ablaze, Couples for Christ, Light of Jesus and Missionary Families of Christ, to name a few. Parents failing to participate will also warrant a conditional passing of their child, where sacramental and grade level certificates will be released only upon completion.

For **PREP Term 2024-2025**, the schedule are as follows:

PREP Parent's Class – twice a month; dates & schedules to be announced as the term starts.

First day of PREP: September 18, 2024 – Wednesday

After you have read these important aspects of the programme, please sign the 2nd page and submit it along with your child's registration. Should you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to e-mail me at prep.smarv@rcav.org

Thank you and God bless.

Edwin Cruz, Director

Faith Formation & Evangelization
St. Mary's Parish



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I have read and understood all the important aspects of the Parish Religious Education Programme (P.R.E.P.), as outlined and applied in my child's grade level:

(Please check what is applicable):

_____ Policy on Absences / Family Vacations (All Grade Levels)

_____ Policy on Parent Participation (All Grade Levels)

_____ Community / Ministry Participation (Grades 7 Only)

_____ Required Service Hours (All Confirmation Students)

Child's Name

Parent's Name/Signature on Top

Date

