

ST. MARK CHRISTIAN MONTESSORI SCHOOL

INQUIRY PACKET





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Dear Parents,

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude for your interest in our school. St. Mark Christian Montessori is committed to providing a challenging and supportive learning environment where students can achieve their full potential. We believe that every student is unique and should be valued and nurtured as such. Our dedicated faculty and staff work tirelessly to create a supportive and engaging atmosphere where students feel valued and confident in their abilities.

We offer a comprehensive and well-rounded education, with a strong emphasis on academics, arts, character building, physical movement, and Christian formation. Our curriculum is designed to challenge students, prepare them for success in their future education, and instill in them a love of learning. Our extracurricular programs and community events provide students with opportunities to explore their interests, develop new skills, and make meaningful connections with their peers.

The goal of our Christian Montessori program is to help the child in their formation as a child of God. A rigorous Christian education is our top priority. We believe children need to have deep roots that are grounded in Christian ideals and beliefs without compromising a rigorous education that will allow them to face the challenges (academic, social, emotional, and spiritual) of this world. These primary and elementary years are the most important in a child's formation and character development. It is our belief that a competitive education along with a solid spiritual formation is what will help all our children thrive in this changing world.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or would like to learn more about our school.

Sincerely,

Mary R. Guirguis

Head of School



“Children must grow not only in the body but in the spirit, and the mother longs to follow the mysterious spiritual journey of the beloved one who to-morrow will be the intelligent, divine creation, man.”

“The goal of early childhood education should be to activate the child’s own natural desire to learn.”

Maria Montessori

What Is Montessori Education?

The Montessori Method is a child-focused approach that Dr. Maria Montessori, an Italian physician, developed for educating children over a century ago and has been proven to foster rigorous, self-motivated growth for children in all areas of their development—cognitive, emotional, social, and physical.

Montessori education is student-led and self-paced but guided, assessed, and enriched by knowledgeable and caring teachers, the leadership of their peers, and a nurturing environment. There are usually 5 core components to implementing the Montessori Method:

1. **Using Montessori Materials:** A hallmark of Montessori education is the hands-on approach to learning and the use of specially designed learning materials. Beautifully and precisely crafted, Montessori’s distinctive learning materials each teach a single skill or concept. The materials follow a logical, developmentally appropriate progression that allows the child to develop an abstract understanding of a concept.
 - a. Each material teaches a single skill or concept at a time—for example, the various “dressing frames” help toddlers learn to button, zip, and tie; 3-dimensional grammar symbols help elementary students analyze sentence structure and style. And, built into many of the materials is a mechanism (“control of error”) for providing the student with some way of assessing her progress and correcting her mistakes, independent of the teacher.



- b. The concrete materials provide passages to abstraction and introduce concepts that become increasingly complex. As students progress, the teacher replaces some materials with others, ensuring that the level of challenge continues to meet their needs.
2. **The Multi-Age Classroom:** In Montessori schools, multi-age groupings enable younger children to learn from older children and experience new challenges through observation. Older children reinforce their own learning by teaching concepts they have already mastered, while developing leadership skills and serving as role models. Because each student's work is individual, children progress at their own pace; there is cooperation rather than competition between the ages. This arrangement mirrors the real world, in which individuals work and socialize with people of all ages and dispositions.
3. **Child-Directed Work:** Montessori education supports children in choosing meaningful and challenging work that captures their interest, leading to engagement, intrinsic motivation, sustained attention, and a sense of responsibility to oneself and others. This child-directed work is supported by the design and flow of the Montessori classroom, which is created to ignite each child's curiosity and to provide the opportunity to work in calm, uncluttered spaces either individually or with peers.
4. **Uninterrupted Work Periods:** In Montessori classrooms, an extended period of "free choice" time called the "uninterrupted work period" recognizes and respects individual variations in the learning process. During the work period, students have time to select and work through various tasks and responsibilities at their own pace, without interruption.
5. **Trained Montessori Teachers:** A properly credentialed Montessori teacher understands the importance of enabling children to develop naturally. The teacher observes children within a specific age range and introduces them to challenging and developmentally appropriate lessons and materials based on observations of each child's unique interests, abilities, and social, emotional, cognitive, and physical development.

What Are the Benefits of a Montessori Education?

Montessori education offers our children opportunities to develop their potential as they step out into the world as engaged, competent, responsible, and respectful citizens with an understanding and appreciation that learning is for life.

- **Each child is valued as a unique individual:** Montessori education recognizes that children learn in different ways and accommodates all learning styles. Students are free to learn at their own pace, each advancing as he is ready, guided by the teacher and an individualized learning plan.
- **Beginning at an early age, Montessori nurtures order, concentration, and independence:** Intentional classroom design, materials, and daily routines support



the student’s emerging “self-regulation” (the ability to educate oneself, and to think about what one is learning), in toddlers through adolescents.

- **Students are part of a close, caring community:** The multi-age classroom—typically spanning 3 years—recreates a family structure. Older students enjoy stature as mentors and role models; younger children feel supported and gain confidence about the challenges ahead. Teachers model respect, loving kindness, and peaceful conflict resolution.
- **Montessori students enjoy freedom within limits:** Working within parameters set by their teachers and the classroom community, students are active participants in deciding what their focus of learning will be.
- **Students are supported in becoming active seekers of knowledge:** Teachers provide environments where students have the freedom and the tools to pursue answers to their own questions. Internal satisfaction drives the child’s curiosity and interest and results in joyous learning that is sustainable over a lifetime.
- **Self-correction and self-assessment are an integral part of the Montessori classroom approach:** As they mature, students learn to look critically at their work, and become adept at recognizing, correcting, and learning from their errors.
- **Montessori supports social-emotional skills:** Contemporary research supports the 100-year-old Montessori Method’s effectiveness, indicating that children who learn in Montessori classrooms demonstrate stronger social emotional skills in many areas than children in more traditional environments.

Given the freedom and support to question, probe deeply, and make connections, Montessori students become confident, enthusiastic, self-directed learners who can think critically and work collaboratively.

Sources:

<https://amshq.org/About-Montessori/What-Is-Montessori/Core-Components-of-Montessori>

<https://amshq.org/Families/Why-Choose-Montessori/Benefits-of-Montessori>



Montessori vs. Daycare

Early childhood education is an essential foundation for each child. These early years help provide the children with a strong bases to foster the opportunity to become lifelong learners. There are so many different childcare options that you can consider for your child.

What is Montessori, and what makes it so different from other traditional options? A Montessori program differs significantly from a regular daycare in a few important ways. Despite being a member of the same educational system, each classroom in the Montessori school is distinct. The Montessori program's guiding principles include the following, which differentiate it from a regular daycare:

Time

Time is very valuable in the Montessori classroom, and they believe that every moment is a chance for learning and education. In a traditional daycare, the main focus is childcare rather than learning opportunities. Important concepts like mathematics, reading, and writing are not taught in traditional daycare settings. However, in Montessori schools these processes are taught as early as infancy, with more Montessori concepts like self-directed work and circle time.

Flexibility

The Montessori school environment promotes flexibility. Every child is presented with a selection of activities each day within a specific time frame. Children are encouraged to be themselves and to follow their interests and to work at their own pace. Each child is encouraged to choose their own work and collaborate with others while working at their own pace until they fully comprehend the topic at hand. In daycare, there is more of a universal approach, and children are grouped by age rather than individual needs.

Holistic Approach

Montessori teachers are committed to fostering the growth of intelligent, well rounded, and highly successful children, in contrast to daycare teachers, who are more interested in keeping the children entertained and only introducing them to basic educational topics. Through this holistic approach, Montessori children collaborate and work on activities as a group, allowing them to build social skills and good life habits. The holistic approach also encourages older students to mentor younger students and develop traits such as cooperation, altruism, and leadership.

Freedom

Children are encouraged to move freely to explore and engage in a variety of activities. This freedom allows each student to learn through a more hands-on interaction. In traditional daycares, teachers use instructor-directed discipline to teach students. By avoiding these repetitive facts and concepts presented in a traditional schooling environment, the Montessori philosophy encourages children to develop their own love of learning through their own decision making.

Sources: <https://www.stepbystepmontessori.com/2018/03/23/montessori-differs-daycare/>

<https://reachformontessori.com/montessori-vs-daycare-what-is-the-differece/>



Christian Education and Spiritual Formation

At St. Mark Christian Montessori, we place Christ at the core of our educational philosophy. It is our belief that a competitive education along with a solid spiritual formation is what will help all our children thrive in this changing world. Our goal is to cultivate a love for learning and a love for God through a Christian Montessori education, starting from infancy and extending throughout our programs.

Within the framework of a Christian education, our focus is on the holistic development of the child's character. Drawing inspiration from various Bible stories and saints, we instill values such as humility, kindness, honesty, integrity, compassion, and forgiveness. Our aim is to build a sturdy moral foundation, guiding students to understand their purpose in God's plan. Central to our approach is understanding God's love, which we nurture through the exploration of Bible stories, prayer, and songs.

Our Christian curriculum is seamlessly integrated into the daily activities across all age groups:

Infants: The introduction to Christianity begins with Bible story readings, learning about saints, singing Bible songs, and praying the Lord's Prayer before mealtimes. It introduces Coptic Feasts and guides the students in the practice of the sign of the Cross.

Toddlers: Building upon their foundational knowledge, toddlers dive deeper into Bible stories, engage in crafts, expand their repertoire of songs, and further explore saints. They continue practicing prayers before mealtimes, learning the Lord's Prayer, and continue to learn the sign of the Cross.

Preschool: Progressing into preschool, students deepen their understanding of Christianity. They not only interact with Bible stories but also commit verses to memory, applying these narratives to their lives. The curriculum dives deeper into the Coptic feasts, the Lord's Prayer, and includes visits to the church, fostering a comprehensive understanding of God's love and encouraging the growth of faith.

Kindergarten: In addition to what they do in preschool, kindergarten students begin reading Christian texts and explore church traditions through various activities.

Elementary: Our elementary curriculum is designed to prioritize the development of a personal relationship with God. Students cultivate a daily habit of in-depth Bible study, memorize passages, psalms, and the Nicene Creed. They undertake creative projects, such as comprehensive reports on saints, and explore the intricate details of icons. The curriculum also delves into the rich traditions of the Coptic Church's feasts and celebrations, enhancing students' spiritual experience with monthly liturgy attendance.



Tuition and Fees 2024-2025

REGISTRATION FEES (non-refundable):

New Student Registration Fee

\$275.00 per student

Yearly Re-enrollment Fee

\$150.00 per student

All Tuition is based on a MONTHLY Rate and due at the start of the month.

ELEMENTARY TUITION (K-8th Grade):

Kindergarten Full Time (FT): 8:00am - 4:00pm

Kindergarten Part Time (PT - afternoon): 12:30pm -4:00pm (lunch not included)

1-8th Grade Full Time (FT): 8:00am - 3:00pm

Before/After Care Options: 7:30am-8:00am; From 3:00pm-5:00pm (in ½ hour increments)

School Year: September - May

PROGRAM	TUITION
Grades 1-8 Full Time 5 Days (lunch, snack, & milk)	\$774.00
Grades 1-8 Full Time 5 Days	\$670.00
Kindergarten Full Time 5 Days	\$985.00
Kindergarten 5 Half Days (morning/afternoon)	\$775.00

PRESCHOOL TUITION (3 -5 Years):

Preschool Full Time (FT): 8:00am - 4:00pm

Preschool Part Time (PT - morning): 8:00am - 12:00pm (lunch not included)

Extended Care Options: From 7:30am-8:00am and 4:00pm-5:00pm (in ½ hour increments)

School Year: September - May (summer program available June-August)

PROGRAM	TUITION
5 Full Days	\$1185.00
3 Full Days	\$875.00
5 Half Days (morning/afternoon)	\$785.00

INFANT/TODDLER TUITION:

Full Time (FT): 7:30am - 5:00pm

Part Time (PT - Morning): 7:30am - 12:00pm (lunch not included)

TODDLERS (15 Months - 36 Months):

PROGRAM	TUITION
Full Time 5 days	\$1608.00
Full Time 4 days	\$1338.00
Full Time 3 days	\$1080.00
Part Time 5 half days	\$970.00

INFANTS (6 Weeks - 15 Months):

PROGRAM	TUITION	TUITION (w/food)
Full Time 5 days	\$1707.00	\$1821.00
Full Time 4 days	\$1450.00	\$1552.00

St. Mark Christian Montessori School

Building Strong Foundations for the Future



Full Time 3 days	\$1210.00	\$1300.00
Part Time 5 half days	\$1128.00	\$1214.00

LATE FEES:

PAST DUE TUITION FEE:	\$30.00
PAST DUE 5 DAYS:	\$75.00
PAST DUE AFTER 5 DAYS:	\$20 PER DAY
NSF FEE:	\$30.00
LATE PICK-UP FEE:	\$1.00 PER 1 MIN FOR FIRST 10 MINUTES, \$10 FOR ANY MINUTE AFTER

MISCELANIOUS FEES:

EXTENDED CARE ½ HOUR		Elementary \$95.00/month
EXTENDED CARE ½ HOUR	5 DAYS:	Preschool \$95.00/month
EXTENDED CARE ½ HOUR	3 DAYS:	Preschool \$70.00/month
EMERGENCY EXTENDED CARE ½ HOUR	(24h notice required)	\$25.00
EMERGENCY DAY/PRESCHOOL		\$90.00
EMERGENCY DAY/TODDLERS		\$100.00
EMERGENCY DAY/INFANTS		\$110.00

SEMESTER PROGRAM FEES: billed in September and January

Elementary Program and Technology Fees	\$140.00/semester
Kindergarten Program	\$115.00/semester
Preschool Full Time Program	\$95.00/semester
Preschool Part Time Program	\$80.00/semester
Infant/Toddler Full Time Program	\$65.00/semester
Infant/Toddler Part Time Program	\$45.00/semester

SIBLING DISCOUNT:

We offer discounts for families with more than one child enrolled at our school.



SMCM Programs

Infant (Nido) Program

St. Mark Christian Montessori School is proud to offer the highest quality care for your child. We accept infants and toddlers beginning at six weeks old. We will work with you to meet the individual needs of your child.

The first 6 years of a child's life are where they develop more than at any other time. This is why each of our programs is focused on delivering a curriculum to help each child learn, explore, and grow in a caring and carefully created environment.

Nido means "nest" in Italian. A Nido Montessori Classroom creates a cozy, loving, calm and home-like environment where the youngest students are free to explore and learn in an environment created just for them. Maria Montessori created this classroom for these young students to reach milestones in an environment where each individual need is met.

Our Curriculum includes circle time, shapes, colors, letters, and numbers, story time, music, art, Bible stories and so much more.

Toddler Program

Teachers prepare the environment for the children to learn about basic practical life activities, sensorial material, art, and music to prepare them for pre-school.

During the toddler phase, children absorb information from their environment through observation and immersion in their environment.

Everyday tasks and routine are at the heart of the infant/toddler program. Sensorial and practical life are the core of what we do with students at this stage. Activities in this program foster independence, coordination, concentration, and order. Our program is designed to support social, emotional, physical, and cognitive development. Below is a list of some of the activities we work on with students:

Social/Emotional: Shows independence, mimics others, shows/understands emotions, be able to communicate need/wants, plays well w/others, etc.

Language/Communication: Follows instructions, repeats words, knows teachers/classmates, recognizes some animals, shapes, colors, letters, numbers, body parts and things in books, pictures and in songs.

Cognitive: Build w/ blocks and Legos, imitates facial expressions, knows familiar sounds, understands sharing, can scribble with a crayon, etc.

Movement/Physical: Walks up and down the stairs, dance, run, hold rope, hop, kick a ball, etc.

Abilities/Skills: Be able to feed themselves, hold a cup, can sit on the potty, recognizes belongings like shoes, jacket, etc., clean up after themselves (throw away food, plates and wipe area), be able to sit for 5-7 minutes in circle time and during reading time.



Preschool Program

The Preschool curriculum starts with simple tasks to develop the child's gross and fine motor skills in the practical life area.

At the next level, the sensorial level, the child learns to categorize and sort materials and develop his vocabulary.

The language area is built on phonetics where the teacher introduces the sounds of letters to three- and four-year-old children, and they learn by touching and tracing the sandpaper letters.

The math area starts by introducing the concrete, then the abstract, the beads, or rods then the sandpaper numerals.

In social studies, children are taught about the different continents through puzzle maps, and they learn the different cultures of different countries.

In science, children are taught the concept of living, nonliving, parts of a tree, flower, and plant.

In the art area, children are left to their creative ability to cut, glue and paint pictures, and sometimes craft projects are done as a group.

At the end of the three-year cycle, the child is able to read and write and is ready to be placed in the advanced group as a first grader. Many children test into 2nd grade in academic areas.

Kindergarten Program

Our Kindergarten program is offered in the afternoon or full day. We work with students on reading, math, science, and language. We help students develop their reading skills and reasoning skills.

The kindergarten program follows a hybrid Montessori model. Students use supplemental materials from Abeka Books and Go Math. Many Kindergarteners work with first and second grade material if they have already been in the preschool program with us.

Our classrooms are designed to meet each individual Kindergarteners needs and are filled with material for varying age groups and abilities.

Looking into our comprehensive curriculum, some highlights include:

Math: Our math curriculum is designed to introduce key concepts such as double-digit subtraction, greater than and less than symbols, and the fundamentals of fractions. Students actively participate in Montessori methodologies, including engaging activities like the snake game, which facilitates exploration of the exchange of tens and ones.



Language: Language development is nurtured through exposure to long and short vowels, as well as foundational elements like digraphs. Students work with word building, journal writing, and sentence structure.

Science & Social Studies: The social studies and science component spans classification of invertebrates, exploration of bugs and insects, and map studies ranging from the school environment to global continents. Science exploration includes understanding the food chain, exploring parts of animals, and engaging with the botany cabinet.

Elementary Program

Our Elementary program serves children ages 6-12 years old in grades 1st through 5th grade. Students will continue to work in an elementary Montessori environment for grades 1 and 2. The 6-8-year-old students work on their reasoning, imagination, intelligence and begin to ponder about the world around them and how it works. Students in this plane begin to learn “how” to think, analyze and synthesize information presented to them and develop as a whole individual. Heavy emphasis is placed on reading, journal writing and understanding the structure of a text. Students are also discovering higher levels of math and using it to understand the world around them. The Montessori classroom becomes a shared environment for all who enter it. The students work to maintain the environment and manipulate the material as they embark on new discoveries. In this plane, students collaborate with their peers and gain expertise in building relationships, socializing and conflict resolution.

Students dedicate their mornings to the exploration of Montessori concepts, followed by engaging with supplementary educational resources such as GoMath and SuperKids in the afternoon to reinforce their grasp of concrete knowledge.

As students venture into grades 3-6, the program shifts to a classical education. Students are encouraged to set personal goals daily. The classical method of learning focuses on teaching the whole child. Students are challenged toward working to achieve set goals. Students focus on a variety of subjects. Some of the areas of study are as follows:

- Language
- Geometry
- Physical Education
- Music/Art
- Mathematics
- Biology
- Physical Science
- Cultural studies
- Astronomy
- History
- Handwriting
- Religion




- Foreign Language
- Classical Literature

Students are introduced to each subject and have the opportunity to investigate and inquire about those subjects of great interest. They begin to learn about justice and fairness and gradually develop their diplomacy and leadership skills. By the time a student graduates from this program they have developed self-confidence, knowledge and abilities that have prepared them to think deeply, work with passion, maintain healthy relationships and appreciate the beauty of God's creation and all the intricacies that make it work. The Montessori classroom and the classical school are philosophies that work together in their goal to teach the whole child. The goal of our early childhood Montessori program when coupled with our Elementary Classical program is to teach each student to discover, explore, research, and seek truth, beauty and the richness of the world that was created by our Heavenly Father. In our Christian classical school, the search for Truth and Goodness is rooted in our desire to know the Creator of the universe.

Furthermore, our students are immersed in a rich and diverse curriculum, including the study of saints, the observance of Coptic Church Feasts, an exploration of the teachings of church fathers, and a variety of other enlightening subjects during their dedicated religious education time. It is our belief that a competitive education along with a solid spiritual formation is what will help all our children thrive in this changing world.



Preschool & KG Sample Monthly Curriculum

Montessori Area	January 4-8	January 11-15	January 18-22	January 25-29
Language	Letter J	Letter I (short vowel)	Letter U (short vowel)	Review
Math	Number 8	Number 9	Number 18	Review
Science and Culture	Exploring Living and Non-living	Learning about Martin Luther King Jr.	Experimenting with magnetic and nonmagnetic	Classifying different types of dinosaurs
Practical Life	Folding Clothes Sorting Clothes	Matching jars to their lids	Cutting different vegetables	Shoe Polishing
Sensorial	Sounds Boxes	Smelling different bottles	Trinomial cube	Rough and Smooth Boards
Art and Music	Cutting and pasting living and nonliving pictures	Letter I collage	Letter U Craft	Dinosaur song and craft
Cooking	Epiphany Celebration: making candleholders with tangerines		Making and decorating dinosaur cookies	
Bible Story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holy Family Trip to Egypt Home at Last Where is Jesus 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesus at the Temple The Man who ate Locust John Baptizes Jesus (Epiphany) Jesus tempted by Satan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On top of the Temple The Kingdoms of the World Jesus Heals a sick boy Jesus brings a girl back to life 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A little boy helps Jesus. Jesus Walks on Water Jesus Loves the Children A Very Short Man
Bible Verse	“Out of Egypt I called my Son.” (Matthew 2:15)	“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:17)	“It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” (Matthew 4:4)	“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 19:14)
Color of the Month	Orange			
Shape of the Month	Rectangle 			



Infant - Toddler DAILY SCHEDULE

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:30 AM	Student Drop Off
9:15 AM	Circle Time & Religion
9:30 AM	Infants Morning Nap/ Feeding Bottles
10:15 AM	Diapering/ Potty
10:45 AM	Nature Walk/ Playground/ Gym
11:15 AM	Montessori/ Activity Time
12:00 PM	Lunch/ Feeding Bottles
12:45 PM	Diapering/ Potty
1:00 PM	Nap Time
3:15 PM	Diapering/ Potty
3:30 PM	Afternoon Snack
4:00 PM	Free Play/ Pick Up



Preschool & Kindergarten DAILY SCHEDULE

TIME	ACTIVITY
7:30 AM	Student Drop Off Socializing/ Peer building relationship
9:00 AM	Opening Circle & Religion Songs, Bible Story, and Montessori Presentations
9:30 AM	Large Motors Indoor/Outdoor Play, Zumba, Body Movement
9:45 AM	Morning Snack
10:00 AM	Montessori Work Cycle
11:30 AM	Playground/ Nature Walk
12:15 PM	Lunch A hot, nutritious, well-balanced meal served daily
1:00 PM	Nap/Rest Afternoon Kindergarten & Pre-K4 Work
3:00 PM	Afternoon Snack
3:15 PM	Indoor/Outdoor Free Play
4:00 PM	Afternoon Extended Care



Elementary

DAILY SCHEDULE

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:30 AM	Morning Prayer & Memorization
8:45 AM	Religion Bible study, study of saints, church feasts and fathers
9:15 AM	Morning Snack
9:30 AM	Montessori Work Cycle
11:30 AM	Physical Education/ Recess
12:15 PM	Lunch
12:45 PM	Writing
1:00 PM	Reading
1:35 PM	Spelling
1:45 PM	Specials students engage in puzzles, baking, art, Spanish, etc.
2:00 PM	Math
2:45 PM	SSR



2024-2025 Calendars

Infant-Toddler Calendar

<p>28 Parent Orientation</p>	<p>August 2024</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Su</th><th>M</th><th>Tu</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>17 Presidents' Day</p>							
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<p>02 Labor Day</p> <p>03 Start of Semester 1</p> <p>25 Curriculum Night</p>	<p>September 2024</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Su</th><th>M</th><th>Tu</th><th>W</th><th>Th</th><th>F</th><th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td></tr> <tr><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </tbody> </table>	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30						<p>17 Presidents' Day</p>							
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- Holidays/No School
- Early Dismissal (12:00PM)
- Teacher Institute (student nonattendance)
- First Day of Semester
- Open House



Kindergarten & Preschool Calendar

28	Parent Orientation	August 2024						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1	2	3
		4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

February 2025							17	Presidents' Day
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28			

02	Labor Day	September 2024						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30							

March 2025								
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
						1		
2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29		
30	31							

11	Teacher Institute	October 2024						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
				1	2	3	4	5
		6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		13	14	15	16	17	18	19
		20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31				

April 2025							31-4	Spring Break
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30					

22	Thanksgiving Celebration Half-Day Attendance (12:00 PM Dismissal)	November 2024						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
							1	2
		3	4	5	6	7	8	9
		10	11	12	13	14	15	16
		17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30		

May 2025							5	Parent/Teacher Conferences
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
				1	2	3		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31		

20	Christmas Celebration Half-Day Attendance (12:00 PM Dismissal)	December 2024						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		15	16	17	18	19	20	21
		22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31						

June 2025								
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
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8	9	10	11	12	13	14		
15	16	17	18	19	20	21		
22	23	24	25	26	27	28		
29	30							

01	New Year's Day	January 2025						
		Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2	3	4
		5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		
26	27	28	29	30	31			

July 2025							04	Independence Day
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa		
		1	2	3	4	5		
6	7	8	9	10	11	12		
13	14	15	16	17	18	19		
20	21	22	23	24	25	26		
27	28	29	30	31				

- Holidays/No School
- Early Dismissal (12:00PM)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (student nonattendance)
- Teacher Institute (student nonattendance)
- First Day of Semester
- Open House



Elementary Calendar

<p>13 Teacher Institute</p> <p>14 Teacher Institute</p> <p>15 Start of Semester 1 (Early Dismissal 12:00pm)</p>	<p>August 2024</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Su</th> <th>M</th> <th>Tu</th> <th>W</th> <th>Th</th> <th>F</th> <th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>February 2025</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Su</th> <th>M</th> <th>Tu</th> <th>W</th> <th>Th</th> <th>F</th> <th>Sa</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28		<p>17 Presidents' Day E-Learning</p>							
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- Holidays/No School
- Teacher Institute (student nonattendance)
- Emergency Days
- Early Dismissal (12:00PM)
- First Day of Semester
- E-Learning (student nonattendance)
- Parent/Teacher Conferences (student nonattendance)
- Open House



Monthly Sample Menu

OCTOBER



Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	1	2	3	4
	Pancakes Milk	Raisin Bread Cream Cheese	Eggs & Ham Toast	Mini Waffles Fruit
	Spaghetti w/Meat Sauce Steamed Green Beans Peach/Apple	Molokhia Rice Chicken Watermelon	Baked Lasagna Steamed Broccoli Cuties	Green Bean Casserole W/Meat Sauce Rice Strawberries
	Apple Sauce Graham Crackers Vanilla Wafers Milk	Yogurt Animal Crackers Banana Apple	Cucumbers/Broccoli Ranch Dip Pretzels Cuties	Mozzerella Cheese Crackers Cherry Tomato** Cucumbers
7	8	9	10	11
Yogurt Blueberries	Oatmeal Apples	Eggs & Cheese Toast	French Toast Milk	Bagels Cream Cheese
Cheese Baked Macaroni W/Meat Sauce Steamed Green Peas Blueberries	Ground Beef Tacos (tortilla) Black Beans Lettuce, Tomatoes, Sour Cream, Guacamole Banana	Koshary (ditalini pasta, lentils, rice w/red sauce) Garbanzo Beans Cuties	Okra w/ground Beef Rice Kiwi	Whole Grain Chicken Tenders Tator Tots Steamed Cauliflower/Broccoli Cantaloupe
Cheese Cubes Cucumbers Apple Sauce Milk	Pudding Granola Crumbles Graham Crackers Cream Cheese	Cucumbers/Broccoli Hummus Vanilla Wafers Yogurt	Pretzels/Tomato Ranch Dip Veggie Straws Milk	Jello w/mixed Fruit Animal Crackers Mozerella Cheese Crackers
14	15	16	17	18
NO SCHOOL COLUMBUS DAY	Raisin Bread Cream Cheese	Pancakes Milk	Eggs & Ham Toast	Cereal Milk
	Penne Chicken Alfredo & Peas Casserole Hawaiian bread Kiwi	Molokhia Rice Chicken Strawberries	Green Peas Casserole w/Meat Sauce Rice Cuties	Vegetable Soup w/potatos & Orzo Garlic Bread Banana
	Apple Sauce Vanilla Wafers Veggie Straws Cuties	Carrots/Cumcumber** Ranch Dip Pita Chips Hummus	Pudding Graham Crackers Apple Banana	String Cheese Mixed Vegetables Carrots** Ranch Dip
21	22	23	24	25
Bagels Cream Cheese	Yogurt Strawberries	Fruit &Veggie Smoothie Animal Crackers	French Toast Milk	Muffins Milk
Tomato Soup w/Orzo Grilled Cheese Sandwiches Grapes**	Green Bean Casserole W/Meat Sauce Rice Strawberries	Lentil Soup Garlic Bread Steamed Peas and Carrots Cuties	Chicken Fajita (Tortilla) Cherry Tomato, Sour Cream, Avacado Apples	Okra Casserole W/Meat Sauce Rice Blueberries
Cucumbers/Broccoli Ranch Dip Veggie Straws Cuties	Salsa Chips Apples String Cheese	Pudding Strawberries Pretzel Thins Banana	Carrots/Cumcumber** Hummus Cheese Cubes Vegetables	Cheese Cubes Cherry Tomatoes** Pita Chips Guacamole
28	29	30	31	1-Nov
Cereal Milk	Mini Waffles Blueberries	Oatmeal Apples	Mozzerella Cheese Crackers	Yogurt Vanilla Wafers
Cream of Chicken Soup w/Rice Garlic Bread Steamed Peas Oranges	Baked Macaroni Bachelme (penne pasta, sauted meat, bachelme sauce) Cucumbers Banana	Molokhia Rice Chicken Grapes**	Chicken & Cheese Ravioli Marinara Sauce Cucumbers Peaches	Cheese Pizza Steamed Broccoli Apples
Mozerella Cheese Sticks Crackers Pretzels Apples	Whole Vegetables Ranch Dip Animal Crackers Milk	Yogurt Vanilla Wafers Veggie Straws Cuties	Jello w/mixed Fruit Animal Crackers Garnola Bars Milk	Apple Sauce Mixed Fruit Pastry Crips Cuties

*Allergies
**Cut in small pieces for infants/toddlers



Meet brightwheel, a window into your child's day

St. Mark Christian Montessori has partnered with brightwheel, to help us deliver an enriching experience to our students and families!

What is brightwheel?

Brightwheel is a real-time feed of your child's school day delivered straight to your mobile device! It is an all-in-one mobile app that allows our teachers to share photos, activities, and communication all in one place! As a parent, you'll get private, real-time updates and photos delivered to your phone, computer or tablet!

What you can expect from brightwheel

Daily Updates: Parents receive a real-time feed of activities throughout the day. All added activities show up as push notifications as they are added. Activities include: photos, activities, naptimes, meals/bottles, diaper changes/potty times, accident and injury reports, medications, notes and more!

Photos: Watch your child's day unfold with snapshots delivered right to your devices!

Stay Connected: Stay in touch with your child's teacher(s) and strengthen school learning with activities at home. Get notifications for photos, notes, reminders and more!

Digital Check-In and Out: A safer environment for our students and staff through contactless check-in/check-out, and health checks.

Messaging: Leave and receive notes for/from your child's teacher(s) to keep up-to-date on important information!

Update Information: Update your child's information directly from your mobile device or computer. Parents can update their contact information, add or change emergency contacts, add or update current medications, allergies and other medical information, update addresses and authorized pick-ups!

Paperless Billing: Secure, online billing for receiving invoices and receipts for tuition and other events! Parents can even opt for reoccurring billing via their mobile devices!

How to join brightwheel

1. Download the app (iOS & Android) or visit mybrightwheel.com
2. Sign up as a family member using the email address you provided the school





Application Process

The best way to understand what makes St. Mark Christian Montessori exceptional is to see us in action during a virtual or in-person tour. You'll learn firsthand how Christian life and study infuses our classrooms and activities.

Our admissions committee seeks student applicants who we believe will have the best likelihood of a successful and satisfying school experience. Family is an integral part of a St. Mark education, and we seek families who take a strong interest in their children's development and who will partner with us to support their children's Christian education.

To Apply Please Proceed Through the Following Steps:

Step 1: Fill the Family Information Form

Please take the time to complete our [Online Family Information Form](#). The form allows you to provide our admissions team with your accurate contact information and allows us to learn a little bit more about you and your child(ren) as you begin the admissions process. The form will only take a few minutes to complete and should be submitted prior to scheduling a Family Tour.

Step 2: Schedule a Family Tour

A tour is the best way to witness our wonderful St. Mark community. Schedule an in-person or virtual tour.

Step 3: Submit Your Application

Complete the student enrollment application and bring it with all necessary documents to the school office or complete the application online using our secure portal.

- Math and reading comprehension scores from the most recent set of standard testing or assessments (1st - 8th grade applicants only)
- End-of-year report cards (1st - 8th grade applicants only)

Step 4: Family Interview

The family interview is a chance for our St. Mark family to learn about your family. Parents or guardians are required to participate in a one-on-one meeting with our Director of Admissions and on occasion other staff members. A member of the admissions team will reach out to applicants to help schedule a time. Family support and committed parents are an integral part of our St. Mark community.



Step 5: Registration

Once you receive confirmation of the acceptance of your child into the school, you will need to

1. Set up your Brightwheel Account and pay the required Registration Fee
2. Submit Required Documentation (please upload online via your admissions checklist or send a hard copy with your enrollment forms).
 - a Birth certificate
 - b Updated immunization records.
 - c Baptismal Certificate (if applicable)

Need More Information?

At any time during the admission process if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our school admissions office at admissions@stmarkchristian.school.

St. Mark Christian Montessori
(630) 986-1100