



Mary, Star of the Sea CATHOLIC ACADEMY

East Sunrise Highway & East Beach Drive
Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas
P.O. Box F-42418
Tel.: +(242) 352-2544 / +(242) 373-3456
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Home of the Crusaders



Miss Shannals M. Johnson
Principal

My Dear Parents and Guardians:

Welcome to the 2025-2026 school year at Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Academy. Hopefully, you took some time to connect with family and friends over the summer and enjoy some relaxation.

At MSSCA, we are ***“Transforming Mindsets in Pursuit of Excellence”***. This standard will require scholars to be able to explain the concepts behind the math, to move beyond basic comprehension of text, and to feel safe enough to take risks.

I take this opportunity to warmly welcome new and returning scholars and parents. I extend a heartfelt welcome to our new teachers.

Our school is blessed with a superb faculty and staff who take great pride in their vocations as Catholic school educators. Our teachers understand each scholar's individual strengths and interests, and they seek ways to inspire and challenge our students from preschool to twelfth grade. Working in partnership with our parents, our teachers strive to help scholars discover and explore their passions and talents that will make our world a better place.

Our MSSCA community is a vibrant resource that our school is both grateful for and extremely proud of. Our parish priest, parents, parishioners, and alumni all join together in a shared sense of belonging and community. Here, school spirit is contagious! Scholars participate in community service, engage in experiential learning



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through field trips and retreats, and have the option of joining athletic teams and after school enrichment programs.

At MSSCA, we proudly proclaim that we are environmentally-conscious. We have the distinction of being recognized internationally as an ECO school, having secured our Green Flag status for the past two years. Crusaders will always ***“Keep it clean, green and pristine on and behind the scene.”***

Our Spiritual Development

All schools under the jurisdiction of the Catholic Board of Education are grounded upon the fundamental principles of Christianity and the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. All instruction within Catholic Schools, therefore, must be rooted in the spiritual and moral precepts of the Church while meeting the highest academic standards. All teachers are expected to live and work in harmony with the religious aims and purposes of the Archdiocese of Nassau.

Religious education is an integral part of the daily school curriculum. Scholars leaving Catholic schools should have, according to their psychological and academic understanding, a good knowledge of the Scriptures, both literal and interpretative, Sacraments, respect for the dignity of their own bodies, respect for the dignity of other persons and respect for the environment. In short they are to have a sound understanding of their faith. **All scholars must participate in religious instruction and Church liturgies including the celebration of the Mass.**

Our School's Vision

Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Academy scholars will:

- *master grade level content standards,**
- *use critical thinking and problem solving strategies,**
- *develop effective communication skills,**
- *and demonstrate positive and democratic social interactions.**

Our Learning Experiences

Every MSSCA scholar has access to high-quality classroom experiences that are joyous, engaging, creative and transformative and encourages life-long learning.

Our Educational Objectives

1. To guide scholars in respecting God, self, others, property and the environment.
2. To help scholars inculcate the joy of learning.
3. To help scholars see education as an engaging process of discovery, creativity and growth.
4. To help scholars collaborate and cooperate.



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5. To encourage scholars to develop their passion, unique abilities and interest as part of a life process "Soul Education".
6. To expose scholars to different value systems and world views, while at the same time giving guidance in evaluating these diverse systems and views.
7. To prepare scholars to live in a rapidly changing world by helping them to be open to changes within our developing society and to be critical in evaluating those changes.
8. To help scholars develop their ability to make free and responsible decisions.

The Profile of a Catholic School Graduate

The Characteristics of the ideal Catholic School Graduate: **a Christian leader, who is academically capable, well-rounded, loving, a lifelong learner, healthy, environmentally conscious and financially adept.**

At Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Academy, it is our prayer that every scholar will find strength, purpose, passion and success throughout this wonderful educational journey. For more than 135 years of building character through **Excellence, Honor and Truth**, Catholic schools still light the way.

May God bless you!

Best regards,

Shannals M. Johnson (Miss)
Principal

Crusaders Never Say Die!