

## ST. MARY ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN SCHOOL STATEMENT OF FAITH

### Introduction

We, the members and leaders of St. Mary Orthodox Christian School, grounded in the rich traditions of the Oriental Orthodox Christian faith, declare our Statement of Faith to guide our educational mission and foster a deep spiritual connection among our school community. This Statement of Faith reflects our fundamental beliefs and values.



### Statement of Faith

- 1. Belief in the Holy Trinity:** We believe in one God in three persons: Father, Son (Jesus Christ), and Holy Spirit. We worship the Holy Trinity as the one true God, and we affirm our faith in the Nicene Creed.
- 2. Holy Scripture:** We accept the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments as divinely inspired and authoritative. We find in them the revelation of God's will and the teachings of Jesus Christ.
- 3. Salvation through Christ:** We believe in salvation through faith in Jesus Christ, who, through His life, death, and resurrection, offers redemption and eternal life to all who believe in Him.
- 4. The Sacraments:** We recognize and celebrate the seven Holy Sacraments, including Baptism, Confirmation, the Eucharist, Confession, Unction of the sick, Holy Matrimony between one man and one woman, and Priesthood, as essential means of God's grace in the life of the Church.
- 5. The Church:** We affirm the importance of the Holy Orthodox Church as the Body of Christ, guided by the Holy Spirit. We cherish its liturgical worship, traditions, and the teachings of the Fathers and Saints.
- 6. Apostolic Teachings and Traditions:** We hold fast to the Apostolic teachings and traditions, passed down through the generations, as an integral part of our faith. We honor the Apostolic succession and the teachings of the Holy Fathers and Ecumenical Councils.
- 7. Orthodox Christian Living:** We strive to live our lives in accordance with the teachings of the Orthodox Church, embracing virtues such as love, humility, compassion, and forgiveness.
- 8. Prayer:** We consider prayer as a vital aspect of our faith, fostering communion with God and seeking His guidance, strength, and blessings.
- 9. Moral and Ethical Conduct:** We uphold the moral and ethical teachings of the Orthodox Christian tradition, seeking to live virtuous lives in accordance with God's commandments.