

LOWER SCHOOL


A place where  
girls belong.



St. Agnes Academy for girls is sponsored by the Dominican Sisters of Peace, and we have taken on their simple motto: Veritas. Veritas means truth, and we help our girls pursue Veritas through study and prayer, and build Veritas in our world through community and service. In all that we do, we are guided by the four Dominican pillars.

**PRAYER**  
**STUDY**  
**COMMUNITY**  
**SERVICE**



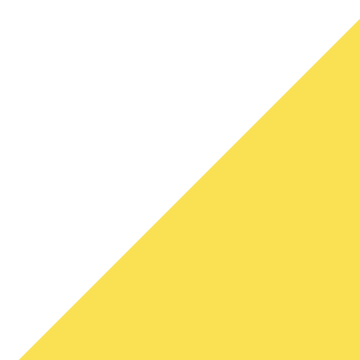


## Ask a St. Agnes family, and they're sure to tell you that this is where their daughter belongs.

The St. Agnes Academy Lower School is a special place where young girls can learn and grow and shine like nowhere else. The school engages their minds in an environment that strengthens their confidence, fosters their friendships, and builds it all on a foundation of respect and kindness that is rooted in faith.

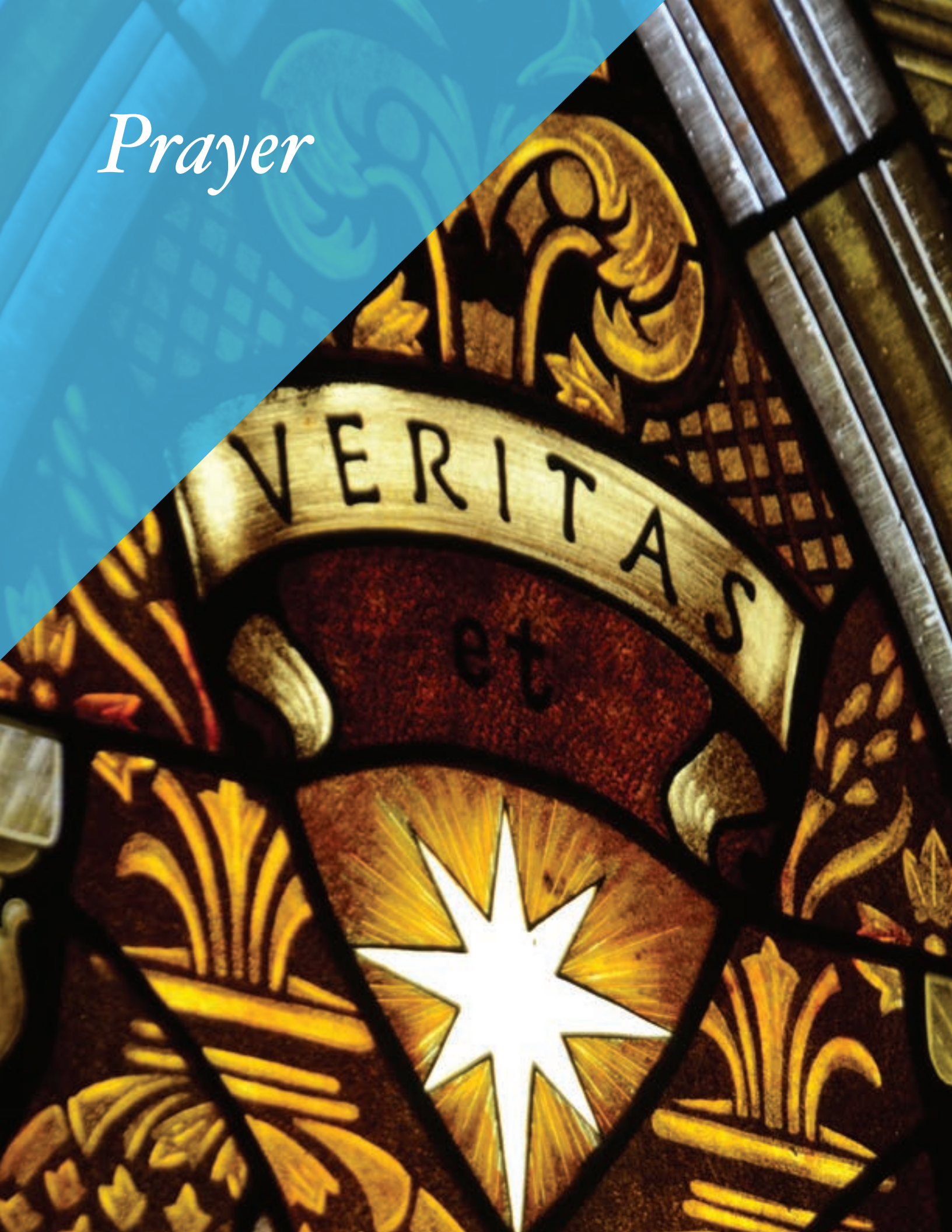
We strive to help each girl who walks through our doors become spiritually and ethically grounded, academically prepared, ecologically conscious, and critically aware of her responsibility to build a more truthful and peaceful world.

Take a closer look at St. Agnes, and you'll find a challenging, inspiring, and supportive place where your daughter belongs.





# *Prayer*



# The tenets of Catholic teaching are essential to who we are.

The foundations of the Catholic faith and Dominican tradition are woven into the fabric of our daily life at St. Agnes Academy. With Jesus as the center, our goal is to instill Catholic moral values, to encourage the practice of ethical behavior, and to support the spiritual growth of all students. Students attend weekly Mass and participate in class retreats, reconciliation services, and prayer services.

Part of the Dominican spirit means accepting and welcoming students and faculty of other denominations. Everyone is felt to be a part of the whole. Every child brings something from the experience of faith in her life, and every child has a gift to give.

## **SCHOOL PRAYER**

*Loving God, let Thy blessings be upon St. Agnes Academy and St. Dominic School. Help us to seek the truth, to stand up for the rights of others and to promote justice, respect and peace in our school and world communities. Inspire with love and goodness both those who teach and those who learn. Give us the grace to walk in the footsteps of Jesus, loving and forgiving of others. We ask these gifts in Jesus' name, through the power of the Holy Spirit.*

*Amen.*



*“It’s so important to not only teach key academic skills in Lower School, but to also instill a love of learning that will serve each girl throughout her academic career.”*

Kathy Boccia / Dean of St. Agnes Academy Lower School



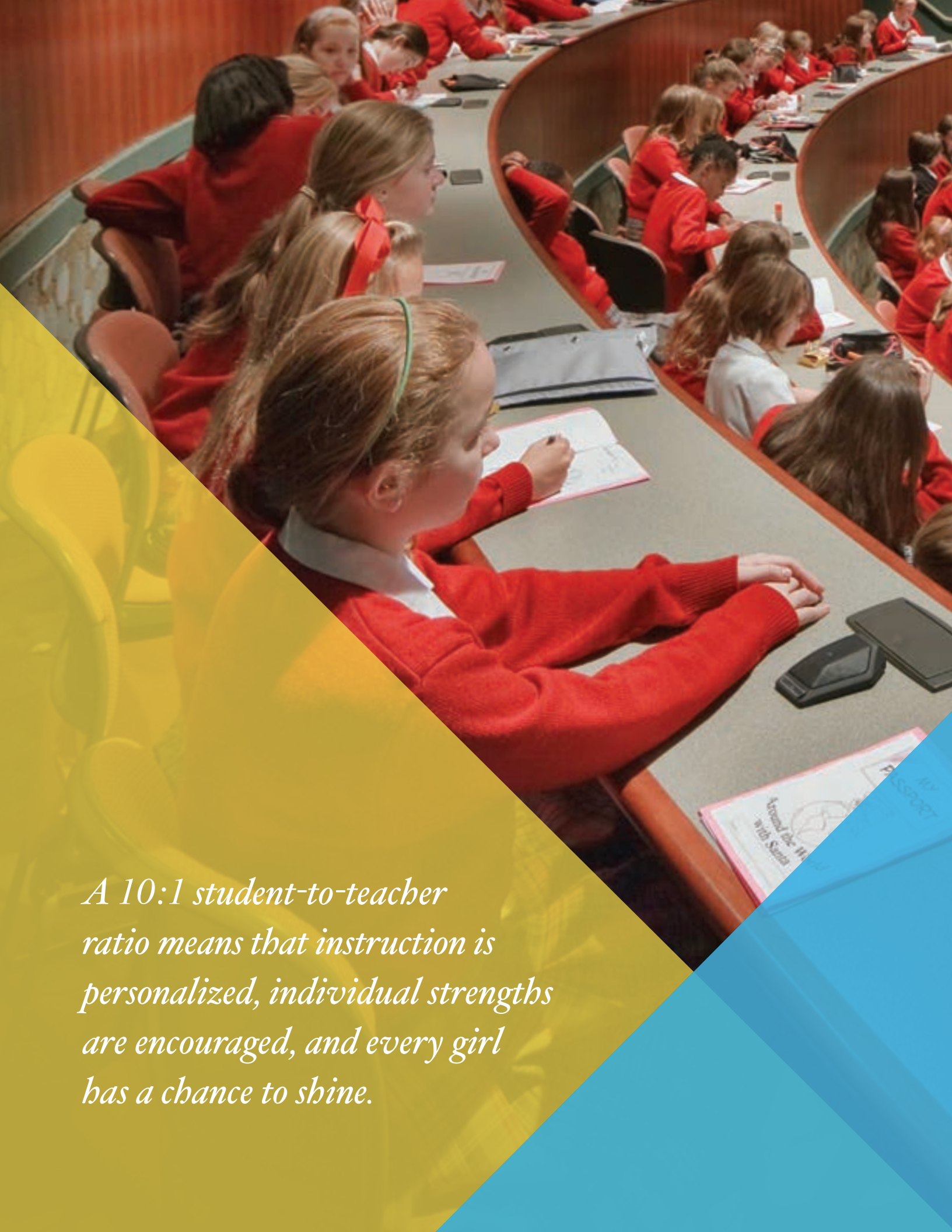


# *Study*

At St. Agnes Academy, we have created an academic environment that is challenging, but one that ensures every student has the attention and support necessary to rise to that challenge. We are home to a rigorous curriculum, innovative programs, extraordinary technology, and a commitment to help every girl achieve.

- We have implemented the nationally recognized Being a Writer program as a way to develop the writing skills that are so essential to future success. Developed by the Center for the Collaborative Classroom, this innovative program develops each girl's literary skills and nurtures a love of reading and writing.
- A 1:1 laptop school since 2002, we have also earned the distinction of Apple Distinguished School for over 10 consecutive years.





*A 10:1 student-to-teacher ratio means that instruction is personalized, individual strengths are encouraged, and every girl has a chance to shine.*



The background of the page is a composite image. On the left, there is a photograph of a classroom where several young girls in red uniforms are seated at a curved desk, working on projects. On the right, there is a semi-transparent blue overlay that contains the word 'Study' in a white, elegant script font. Below this overlay, there is a faint, larger-scale image of a virtual classroom interface, showing a desk with a laptop and various digital tools.

# *Study*

- In our state-of-the-art Distance Learning Center, St. Agnes girls engage in virtual classroom experiences – “traveling” around the world, touring art museums and zoos, and tapping into the knowledge of experts across the globe.
- We were one of the first independent schools in the nation to install a Kitchen Community Learning Garden, a dynamic outdoor classroom for hands-on learning, as well as a productive edible garden.
- Our STEM curriculum teaches experimentation and design thinking, which teaches our girls that trying different approaches and solutions is an essential part of the learning process.
- Because studying a second language at an early age enhances brain development, all of our girls study Spanish, PK2 through the sixth grade.



# *Community*





# St. Agnes girls learn what it means to live in community.

Community is the foundation of who we are. When you become a St. Agnes girl, you are joining a timeless community bound by shared experiences and amazing growth. Here, remarkable girls become extraordinary women while sharing in traditions that build a sense of belonging. While striving for their personal best, girls collaborate and support one another, creating a sisterhood where all are embraced and each can shine.

Character development is an integral part of student life. From our Meet-in-the-Middle assemblies and Claiming our Gifts to Big Sister-Little Sister activities, we foster the development of lifelong learning and active citizenship within a spiritual foundation.

At the Dominican Community of Schools, we are committed to the respectful treatment of all people. Justice, Respect and Peace, our school-wide kindness initiative and leadership training program, provides the foundation for our students in their interactions with others.

# *Community*





# We are creating, cooperating, and competing.

At St. Agnes Academy for girls, there are countless opportunities outside the classroom for our girls to excel and discover their talents.

The fine arts thrive in our three art studios, two music rooms, and 300-seat performing arts center. Our students have numerous opportunities to perform on the stage and to participate in musical ensembles including the Starbursts choral group and the liturgical choir.

We provide a range of ways for our girls to exercise their leadership skills whether through elected, selected, academic, athletic, or service opportunities, including Student Government Association, Morning Stars and Global Ambassadors.

Our St. Agnes girls learn teamwork, sportsmanship, respect for others, and develop athletic skills through participation in a variety of sports including soccer, volleyball, cross country, golf, and track.

And there are numerous other opportunities for our girls to explore and develop their interests through a variety of clubs, activities, and artistic endeavors.

Opportunities include Mathletes, Chess Club, Beta Club, Wordsmith, Robotics, and much more.

# Learning to make a better world.

Service learning is a guiding principle for all students who lead and participate in a wide variety of community projects. Our students learn at an early age that they have a responsibility to build the Kingdom of God through their service to others.

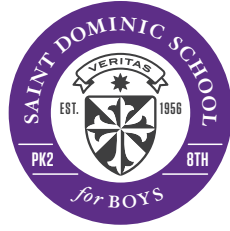
Our girls have many opportunities to live out the Dominican pillar of service in our school community, in our Memphis community, and even in the global community. Every year our students serve through a variety of projects.

- St. Jude Math-a-Thon
- Make-a-Wish Kids Wish Granting Program
- Emily Fund to support Dominican schools worldwide
- Madonna Learning Center Partnership
- “Socktober” Drive for Manna House
- Coat Drive
- Food Drive for Project Outreach
- Weekly Recycling
- Christmas Toy Drive for Catholic Charities
- Collection for Dorothy Day House
- Visits to Signature Nursing Home
- COP Stop



# *Service*





## Experience Junior High at the Dominican Community of Schools

The Junior High experience on our campus is unlike anything you'll find at any single-gender school in the region – the students of St. Agnes Academy for girls and St. Dominic School for boys combine into co-ed classrooms for seventh and eighth grades. The program seeks to inspire in each one a love for learning, an attitude of inquiry, and a passion for truth.

We offer numerous opportunities outside the classroom for our Junior High students to explore their individual talents. Through our robust athletic program, participation in local engineering, math, history, writing and art contests, service projects, student leadership, drama productions, and vocal performances our students develop their individual interests. Through annual trips to the Heifer International Ranch and to Washington, D.C., our students gain a deeper understanding of the complexities of our world and their roles and responsibilities as global citizens.

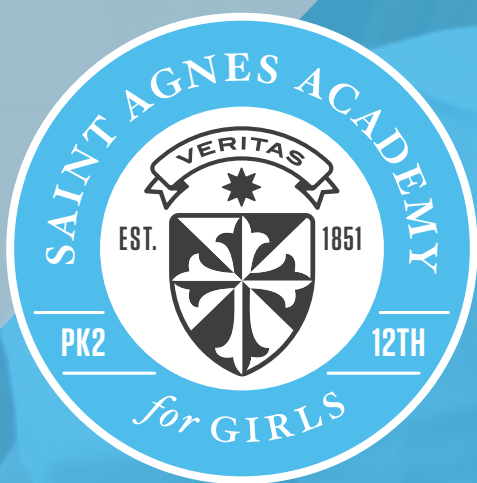
After completing the rigorous and well-balanced curriculum, students are well equipped for the challenges of their high school years. Our graduates excel in all areas of high school including academics, servant leadership, and athletics.





*Our students rave about this two-year experience as one of the most transformative and memorable chapters in their education.*





*"Right before our eyes, we are seeing our daughter growing into who she was meant to be. There is no doubt that St. Agnes is where she belongs."*





