

# St. Mary Catholic Secondary School

## Valedictorian Selection Process 2020

### Nomination Procedures

1. To apply for valedictorian, a candidate must fill out <https://bit.ly/STMAValedictorian2020> in full. Members of the graduation class nominate the candidate of their choice using guidelines provided in this document. A candidate can also nominate him or herself.
2. The nomination must be supported by 10 members of the graduating class who support and endorse the candidate. (A graduate may NOT support more than one nomination form; this will invalidate both nominations).
3. The nomination must also include the names of two St. Mary's teachers who support and endorse the candidate.

### Voting Procedures

4. The candidates who meet the criteria outlined on the application form and whose application has been approved by the Graduation Committee will write a speech of no more than 250 words on the topic "*How St. Mary Catholic Secondary School has helped to shape me into the person I am today.*" The candidates will then videotape themselves delivering the speech and email video links to Ms. McHarge at [mchargek@hwcdsb.ca](mailto:mchargek@hwcdsb.ca) by 4:00 p.m. on **June 2, 2020**. THERE WILL NO EXTENSIONS! Videos will be reviewed by the Graduation Committee.
5. On **June 8, 2020**, the candidates' pre-recorded videotaped speeches will be available online for viewing. Online voting will take place on that same day. Potential graduates who fail to participate in this online forum will forfeit their right to vote.

### Successful Candidate's Procedures

6. All applications will be reviewed and finalized by Mr. Daly. Preparing a speech of this importance is a process and needs to be given thoughtful consideration for theme, vision, and presentation to the graduation class at the ceremony. **The selected valedictorian will meet with administration and sign a contract that outlines the requirements of the valedictory address and expectations for delivery of that same address the night of graduation.**
7. The successful valedictorian will work with the teacher advisor who will assist the valedictorian with the graduation speech. A draft of the speech should be prepared before school ends on **June 26, 2020**.

## Guidelines for Nominating Candidates

Successful candidates for valedictorian must:

- ✓ have achieved an overall academic average of a minimum of 75%, which is weighted 50% for semester 1 final marks and 50% for semester 2 mid-term marks (the student's top six grade 12 courses, which must include English and religion, will be used to calculate the average).
- ✓ not have failed any courses in semester 1 or be failing any courses at mid-term in semester 2.
- ✓ possess leadership qualities, extra-curricular, and/or community involvement.
- ✓ reflect the philosophy of the school and display good Christian values, and exhibit behaviour that is conducive to the moral tone of the school.
- ✓ be a good and faithful representative to the graduating class, the parents, the staff, the trustees, and the clergy.
- ✓ have attained 40 hours of Christian Community Service and successfully completed the literacy requirement prior to the valedictorian application deadline.
- ✓ submit a completed valedictorian application form and recorded speech on the assigned topic by deadline dates.
- ✓ be willing to comply with all the school's rules for fulfilling the important role of valedictorian.



## VALEDICTORIAN APPLICATION FORM 2020

I nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for valedictorian of the St. Mary's graduating class of 2020. When a name is added below, it is with the student's knowledge. Students may endorse only **ONE** candidate for valedictorian. Supporting more than one candidate will result in the **disqualification of both** candidates.

### NAMES OF 10 POTENTIAL GRADUATES WHO SUPPORT THE CANDIDATE ABOVE

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.

### NAMES OF 2 TEACHERS WHO SUPPORT THE CANDIDATE ABOVE

When a name is added below, it is with the teacher's knowledge

1.
2.