



ST. MARK CATHOLIC SCHOOL

WHERE FAITH AND KNOWLEDGE MEET

Counseling Services

St. Mark Catholic School is committed to providing a quality education to all of its students. In an effort to achieve this goal, parents/guardians or school staff may refer students for counseling, or students may request counseling. The focus of the counseling program is aimed at providing support within the school day for short term issues (2-3 visits) and/or crisis intervention as needed. These services are not intended as a substitute for psychological counseling, diagnosis, or medication. It is a parent's responsibility to determine whether additional or different services are necessary and whether to seek them for their child. The Guidance Counselor may contact the parents with recommendations to seek further evaluation and/or services if it appears a student may benefit from those.

Referral Process: Students may request services by dropping a request card in the boxes located on the counselor's door, in the library, or by notifying a teacher. Parents and teachers can request services for a student by emailing the counselor at Corky.Cronin@stmcs.net.

Benefits/Risks: Parents should understand that there may be both risks and benefits associated with participation in counseling. Counseling may improve the student's ability to relate with others, provide a clearer understanding of himself/herself, along with values, goals, and an ability to deal with everyday stress. Parents should also understand that counseling may also lead to unanticipated feelings and change, which might have an unexpected impact on their child and his/her relationships.

Confidentiality: In order to build trust with the student, the school counselor will keep information confidential with some possible exceptions. 1) If they are a danger to themselves or to others. 2) If they are being harmed by someone. 3) If they share concerns about someone that may be a danger or doing harm to themselves. Counseling records and visits are kept separate and private from school records.