

MARION MESSENGER

December 3, 2009

WEEK-AT-GLANCE

Friday, December 4, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All School Mass – Grade 5 • Popcorn day- \$.25 • First Friday Food Drive
Saturday, December 5, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rosary Alter Society Christmas Bazaar 10:00 am – 4:00 pm
Sunday, December 6, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Christmas Breakfast 8:30 AM-11:30 AM with Mrs. Santa
Monday, December 7, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Morning Prayer – Grade 2 • Boy's Basketball Varsity Home @ 5:00 pm
Tuesday, December 8, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00 All School Mass - Grade 8 • <u>NO BUSES @ DISMISSAL</u> • Boy's Basketball JV @ Home @ 5:00 pm • Boy's Basketball Varsity @ Home 6:00 pm
Wednesday, December 9, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Mass • Reconciliation Grades 3/6/7 • Vision Testing Grades - K, 1,3,5,7 • 8th Grade PHS Shadow Day 7:30 am
Thursday, December 10, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students eat in Classroom • Boy's Basketball JV @ St. Joe 5:00 pm • Boy's Basketball Varsity @ St. Joe 6:00 pm
Friday, December 11, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9:00- All School Mass - Grade 6 • Hearing Testing Grades - K,2,4 • Rescreening Vision if needed

PRINCIPAL POINTS:

*We will be setting up the stage for the Christmas Program on Friday, December 11th at 8:00 am. We are looking for some willing laborers to help out. If you are willing; please let the office know ahead of time so that we can plan for the morning. The more people we have the quicker it will go; but we are looking for at least 4 willing hands.

*How are the Raffle Ticket sales going? Only 11 selling days left! Remember they make great Christmas presents as they are the gift that can keep giving all year! All ticket sales are due to the school office on December 15th.

*The First Friday Food Drive is upon us once again. The grocery cart is in the Gathering Space and is filling up, but there is still room if you would like to contribute to it. All food will go towards filling the Christmas Baskets for the needy in our area.

***Adopt A Family:** During the season of Advent the school always tries to look out into the community to see where we can help others in need. This year we would like to adopt a local St. Mary family and help to make their Christmas special. We have been given a family of 6 with 4 children ages 10, 8, 4, and 2. We are asking each child at St. Mary School to donate \$2.00 to go towards the purchase of Christmas items for this family. We will be collecting the money for a week with a final collection date of Friday, December 11, 2009. The teachers will go out and purchase items off the list and then bring the items back to the school for the children to help wrap. Perhaps you can help your child to have a servant heart by having him/her do a chore around the house to earn the \$2.00. We are all so blessed, and I am so proud to be a part of St. Mary School.

God Bless,

Veronica Kinsey

THE CLASSROOM WINDOW

Eighth Grade News

The Eighth grade is studying the Four Marks of the Church in Religion. We will finish the first mark, One, before Thanksgiving. In Literature we are continuing our study of short stories with a focus on character and setting. Students will be doing a project on the Civil War as related to a Ray Bradbury story, "The Drummer Boy of Shiloh." Look for it in the halls between Thanksgiving and Christmas. In grammar we are studying prepositions, prepositional phrases, conjunctions, and interjections. In Social Studies we have completed our study of the Constitution and will be moving on to the Pre-Civil War Era.

Great News! We have completed the National Geography Bee Preliminary Competition and we have our ten finalists. In the 8th grade: Andrew Dusseau, Eli Hovorka, Jacob Raymond, and Kyle Sanchez. In the 7th grade: Joshua Birdsong, Ryan Burke, Sarah Hur, and Robert Salowitz. In the 6th grade: Jack Kukalis, and Alana Sullivan. The school competition will be held on December 7. The one winner of that round will take an individual test to qualify for the state finals. Good luck to all the finalists.

Seventh Grade News

The seventh graders are working hard as we move into the month of December. In Religion, we are learning about Palestine during Jesus' lifetime, and then we will study Jesus' infancy and early life. We are also focusing on the season of Advent as we prepare for Christmas. In Math, we are working on our operations skills with fractions and mixed numbers, and the applying those skills to solve algebraic equations involving fractions. In Life Science, we are learning about evolution and natural selection. In Social Studies, we are studying the Latin American region. In English, we are starting to work on the basic sentence parts, including subjects, verbs, predicates, complements, direct and indirect objects, and predicate adjectives. In Literature, we are working on the novel "A Christmas

Carol” by Charles Dickens, reinforcing what we have learned so far his year on plot, character, setting, and theme.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Calling all beach bums...

- This year the auction team is making our St. Mary families part of the décor, so we are looking for your family beach photos!! Submit any photo of your family on the beach – either hard copy to the office labeled “beach photo” or electronically to onthes8th@charter.net. Your photo will be added to the St. Mary Beach Bum Wall!
- The Auction Team is in need of large baskets!
- Watch for details coming in December regarding classroom competitions!

HAVE YOU SEEN “THE JACKET”?

WHAT: St. Mary 2010 Traveling Jacket. One of a kind embroidered Columbia fleece jacket

WHERE: On display and seeking donations at St. Mary School and parish events

WHEN: Now – Auction night (April 17, 2010)

WHY: To create an item for the LIVE Auction and to provide the winning bidder with cash

HOW TO DONATE: Stuff “The Jacket” with cash donations (few dollars, \$20, \$100, or any bill amount) whenever you see it on display

HOW TO WIN: Bid on “The Jacket” and unknown amount of cash stuffed into the jacket up to the LIVE auction. Winning bidder receives jacket AND the unknown amount of cash. Be the winning bidder to get the cash.

Be the first to own “The St. Mary Traveling Jacket” and you will go home with a ***fleece full of funds.***

St. Mary T-Shirt Sales:

An order form will be going home on Friday, December 4, 2009 for anyone interested in purchasing a new St. Mary T-Shirt. The new shirts are black and can be purchased in either short or long sleeve.

Orders should be sent to the School Office with the money no later than Friday, December 11th.

They will make a great Christmas present for your child and will be here by December 22nd which is the last day of school before the break.

December First Friday Food Drive:

Our December Food Drive will be held on Friday, December 4th. This month, we are asking for donations to help with the Men’s Club Christmas Baskets. St. Mary’s Men’s Club provides food baskets each year to those families in need during the holidays. Once again, we have broken the

items down per class to spread out the items needed. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Lisa Wack at 810-231-6116. ****Please check the expiration date on ALL food items that you send in. We are not allowed to give out any expired food.** Your support is greatly appreciated.

Preschool: canned fruit **Kindergarten:** cranberry sauce, juice/juice boxes **1st Grade:** canned sweet potatoes/yams, macaroni and cheese **2nd Grade:** stuffing mix, canned stew **3rd Grade:** canned white potatoes **4th Grade:** canned chicken **5th Grade:** canned tuna **6th Grade:** boxes of jello or pudding **7th Grade:** spaghetti sauce, spaghetti **8th Grade:** cereal.

Seventh Grade Fundraising for BaySail Trip:

The 7th graders are raising money for the annual BaySail trip by gift wrapping at Border's Book Store in Brighton. The students will be at Borders in Brighton on Sun.12/6 from 2-6; and Sat. 12/12 from 10-2. Not only will the students wrap your Border's purchases for a donation, but Borders has told us that we can invite people to bring in their other Christmas gifts for wrapping at Borders. This is a great opportunity for the students to earn some money for their trip while saving you the aggravation of wrapping. Additional dates may be added. We will keep you posted. Thanks for the support.

Coat/Sock/Men's Clothes Drive:

The Christian Service team will be collecting coats, socks (gently used is preferred) and men's clothing for the Flint area. Please leave the items in the church or school office. Thank you for your help. If you have any questions, please call Julie Flaherty 734-878-9547 or soccermom07@gmail.com

Community Christmas Breakfast:

On December 6th, 2009 St Mary Catholic Parish, proudly sponsors its annual "**Community Christmas Breakfast**". Breakfast is served 8:30 until 11:30am and is a Free-Will Donation. Proceeds provide food baskets for our neighbors in need and funding for our Community Food Banks, Gleaners, Love Inc and St Mary's. All donations are welcomed and tax receipts are available upon request. We have the best menu in the area which includes: fried or scrambled eggs, hash browns, biscuits and gravy, French toast, pancakes, quiche, ham, pork sausage, and of course our renowned "waffle station". **Mrs. Santa Claus** will be on hand to lead the **Christmas Carols** and the kids will enjoy the **free face painting provided by "Oddzin Ends"**. It is truly a **Community Christmas Event** and **All are Welcome** to join as a family to help our neighbors. For further information contact Heather at Parish Office 734-878-3161

St. Mary's Rosary Altar Society:

St. Mary's Rosary Altar Society will hold their annual **Christmas Bazaar** on Saturday, December 5, 2009 from 10am to 4pm. Over 100 crafters and vendors will be selling their unique gifts. Lunch, bake sale, and raffle tickets may also be purchased. For more information please call Mary at 734-878-6563.

We are asking our School families if they can help with the following: donated craft items or slightly used items for our Craft table...contact Eileen at 734-878-9025; donated Homemade Baked items for our Bake Sale Table...items can be dropped off on Friday, December 4th after 1pm or Saturday morning; Crafters and Vendors to be in our show...contact Mary at 734-878-6563. Thank you for your much needed help.

Knights of Columbus:

Calling all elves! We are in dire need of Santa helpers for Breakfast with Santa Dec. 12th 8AM till 11am. All kinds of fun things to do crafts, helping Santa etc. Breakfast for helpers will be served 8am, then the fun begins. Please RSVP with Santa's helper to Pat O'Brien @ 878-0418.

Dress Down Day:

The seventh grade will sponsor a dress-down day on Thursday, December 17, to benefit their BaySail class trip in May. To participate, students should bring \$1 Dress-Down Day in an envelope, clearly marked with "Dress-Down Day" **and the student's name and grade**. Thank you for your support!

Mt. Brighton Ski Passes:

Tow rope tickets are now available for \$56.00 for 4 tickets which you buy in advance. You are able to upgrade for \$5.00 extra on the day which you go to all area chair lift with discounts on equipment rental. Anyone can buy and use these tickets. You also are able to get a free lesson each day that you go. Questions, please call Mary Lyttle @ 810-923-8624.

