

MARION MESSENGER

December 17, 2009

WEEK-AT-GLANCE

Friday, December 18, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">All School Mass – Grade 4
Monday, December 21, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Morning Prayer – Grade 7P4- Classroom - Christmas Party
Tuesday, December 22, 2009	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Classroom Parties – Grades K - 8 2:00 PMP3 Classroom – Christmas Party
Monday, January 4, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">School ResumesMorning Prayer – Grade 6
Tuesday, January 5, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Boys JV Basketball @ Home HAACH 5:00 PMBoys Varsity Basketball @ Home HAACH 6:00 PM
Wednesday, January 6, 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none">9:00- Middle School Mass – Grade 6Riverside Pizza FundraiserBoys Varsity Basketball @ Home St. Francis – 7th Grade 5:00 PM

CALENDAR CHANGE

THERE WILL BE NO PM BUS SERVICE ON
JANUARY 29th

January Calendar and Lunch Menu will be sent home on Friday,
December 18th

PRINCIPAL POINTS:

*Raffle Tickets were due on the 15th of December. Thank you to those who remembered and turned them in. If you have not had the opportunity to return your tickets; please do so as soon as possible. I do know that quite a few of you are unable to sell your tickets and had to buy them yourself. I really appreciate your sacrifice especially at this time of

the year when money is even tighter. I pray that all of you will win at least some of your investment back through the weekly drawings.

*Once again the families of St. Mary School have shown their servant heart through the donations for the family that we adopted for Christmas. Ms. Ann Rossman, one of our fabulous Spanish teachers, went out last weekend and power shopped to acquire all of the gifts for each family member. She did a great job getting numerous gifts for each of the children and parents. Thank you so much for your generosity to this cause and know that "our family" will have a great Christmas because of you. The children will be wrapping the gifts on Friday.

*A special thanks to all of the Teaching Staff for all of their hard work preparing the students for the Christmas Program. A special thanks to Mrs. Julie Haberl for taking all of her prep time the past 2 weeks to go to the different classrooms to help with rehearsals, to Mrs. Linda Mable for getting the play just right, and Mrs. Joann Kuschel who volunteered her time and talent to help with the play production.

*May you all have a safe and holy Christmas Season. I pray that you are blessed with love, family, and friends as the new year begins and throughout the 2010 year.

Merry Christmas,

Veronica Kinsey

THE CLASSROOM WINDOW

Fifth Grade News

The fifth grade has continued to work very hard over the past few weeks. We are trying to implement strategies to help us grow in the areas we identified during our student led conferences. We are working to apply our different strategies in all of our content areas. We are completing our study of European exploration of the Americas, and will begin looking at how European settlement grew throughout our country. In Science we are completing our work in living systems and will focus after the New Year on how systems interact in nature. In English we are learning the many different forms of verbs and the different usages that go with them. We also continually work on our writing skills. Religion finds us working to give gifts to Jesus during this season of advent, as well as learning more in depth about the Eucharist. Math has us mastering our skills in division with both whole numbers as well as decimals. We have worked very hard during the first part of this school year and are looking forward to a well-deserved break! Merry Christmas from fifth grade!

Fourth Grade News

Fourth grade has been working hard this December. We have been practicing a lot for the Christmas program, but we did take the time to make Gingerbread Houses. Take a look at them in the display case in the gathering space when you come to the program. They are very creative and colorful.

At our Christmas party, we will be having a book exchange. It will be in the form of a fun game and will give us reading material for over break. It may even end up being our next book report book.

We are looking forward to Christmas break and seeing family and friends. It will be a well-deserved rest and will get us ready to start anew in January. From all of us, we wish you a Merry Christmas!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Calling all beach bums...

- THANK YOU to the following families for their donations: Frost, Aten, Braciszewski, deBeauclair, Falinski, Plait, Oakes, Nagy, Schultz, McGlade, Miller, Domen, Wilson, Wise, Wack, Kukalis, Cross.
- We are still looking for beach photos for our mural. Be part of the fun!!
- As you're cleaning house for Christmas, please pass along any old shoe laces or baskets you may find! The Auction Team is in need of baskets of all sizes, as well as old shoe laces.
- Join us Jan. 12th in the Multi-Use room for a Pampered Chef party! It's a great way to visit with friends, buy quality items for yourself or friends, and to help the Auction Team at the same time!! Set the calendar now for this chance to break those winter blues!
- Please watch your children's backpacks for information regarding classroom competitions...it will be coming home on Friday!

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.**

Thank You!

The seventh graders would like to thank everyone who participated in our dress-down day fundraisers and who patronized our gift wrapping service at Borders Books. Have a blessed and merry Christmas season!

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

Come pray for our school, students, and staff!!

St. Mary's is very blessed to have a Eucharistic Adoration chapel in the back of the church where Jesus waits, at almost all hours of the day and night, to spend time with each of us, whom He loves so much! Now there is an hour -- Thursdays from 1-2 p.m. -- designated specifically for St. Mary Catholic School parents, family members, and friends. What a marvelous opportunity to pray for our school, our students, and our staff! If you have never been to adoration before, that's OK! It's very simple. Just come, and enjoy an hour of silence. You can pray, read books that encourage growth in our faith, journal, or just sit. You will be amazed at how refreshed you feel, heading back into your week after spending an hour with our Lord! The best thing about this new Holy Hour for our school is that it requires such a small commitment from us as parents, and yet the rewards will be immeasurable! Just let us know which Thursday you would like to go -- it could be once a month, or once a year! We also would love to hear from people who would be willing to fill in as substitutes, should an adorer be unable to fulfill his/her hour for some reason. Please contact Heather Schultz at theschultz6@charter.net or (734) 878-6493 if you plan to go to adoration during St. Mary School's hour, or if you have any questions. More than one adorer may be there at a time, and young children and infants are welcome too! The important thing is your presence, offered up for the good of our school!

St. Mary School Auction Classroom Competition

Let's dig our toes in the sand for this year's Beach Bash Auction. As many of you know this is an important fundraiser in our school. This year we are volleying a little competition of our own. The auction team is giving the parents and teachers a dare. What class can donate/procure the most!

**How will this
work?
Good Question!**

Every item coming in whether large or small will earn your child's class a point based on what the item is worth. Below is our point chart. Your points will be divided amongst your children(s) class and they will win probably our biggest prize yet!

Don't worry if you already donated. You will be awarded your points!

Email Holly Oakes if you would like a procurement sheet to start calling: hoakes73@gmail.com

What's the reward your ask?

1st place Teacher will receive a free day off of school while her class will dress down and spend the day with Mr. Aten as their substitute complete with pizza party and ice cream snack.

2nd place Teacher will get a half day off with Mr. Cowdrey as the substitute and the class will be treated to doughnuts and OJ from their favorite Principal.

(Teacher's start throwing elbows; you can procure for your class also!)

In fact anyone can procure. Ask around!

Item	Point Value	Note:
\$50 monetary donation	1 pt	
\$75 item donation	1 pt	
Procured item from previous donor/business	2 pts	We have sheets you can call of previous donors.
Procured item from a new donor/business	4 pts	
New Banner Sponsor	10 pts	

