

THE MARIAN MESSENGER

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN FAITH + SCHOLARSHIP + SERVICE

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Thursday, December 6, 2007

Week-At-A-Glance

Friday, December 7, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Liturgy – Grade 6 @ 9:00 AM• Popcorn Day• Reconciliation – Grade 5 @ 1:00 PM
Monday, December 10, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Prayer – Grade 2• Boys Basketball – 5th Grade @ HOME @ 4:30 PM vs. LCS• Boys Basketball – Varsity @ HOME @ 6:30 PM vs. LCS
Tuesday, December 11, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•
Wednesday, December 12, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Middle School Liturgy – Grade 8 @ 9:00 AM• Reconciliation – Grade 8 @ 1:00 PM
Thursday, December 13, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spirit Day• Reconciliation – Grade 7 @ 9:30 AM• Boys Basketball @ HOME vs. St. Joe – 5th Gr. @ 4:30 PM, 6th Gr. @ 5:30 PM, and Varsity @ 6:30 PM

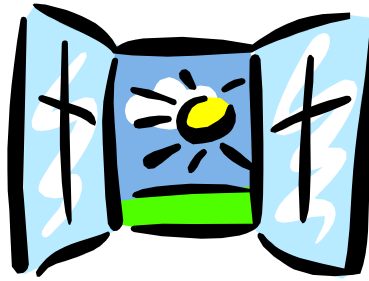
Principal Points:

Dear Parents and Guardians,

- Reconciliation for grades 3, 4, and 5 is being held this week, during the school day. Grades 6, 7, and 8 will have an opportunity for Reconciliation next week.
- The priests at the St. Louis Center have asked for our help. From now until December 21, we'll be accepting donations in order to help the Center with the very important work that they perform. Please consider donating to this worthy cause. Cash or checks written to St. Mary School are acceptable in any amount that you may choose to donate. Thank you for your consideration and generosity.
- **The Christmas Concert is coming soon! Thursday, December 20. See information below.**
- Lost & Found items are still on display in the Gathering Space. Please check to see if any of the items belong to you.
- News flash!!! St. Nicholas made a visit to St. Mary Catholic School this morning! Did he leave any presents?
- Much thanks and gratitude to the St. Mary Parish and School community for all of your thoughts and prayers during the last several months. My wife, Lynda, and I are proud, happy, and relieved grandparents again. Our daughter Laura, and her husband, Kyle, have a daughter, Alexandra Kymberly, born on Thursday, November 29. Laura and Alexandra are both home and healthy, and I can't express enough my appreciation to all of you for your thoughtful support.

Best regards,
John Gilboe

THE WINDOW



First Grade News:

The first graders enjoyed their annual Cookie Baking Day to help us get in the spirit of Christmas. Twenty-six six and seven years elbow to elbow in flour and cookie dough is a great sight to see. We had lots of parents who were able to come and enjoy the experience with us. We made dozens and dozens of cut out cookies and the cafeteria smelled wonderful. We take 26 of the “best” cookies to put on the calendar and each day one of the students gets a cookie; our version of an Advent Calendar. Afterwards we wrote about our experiences in our journals. It was a great day.

As the season of Advent begins, we are learning about why we needed a Savior, God’s chosen people the Jewish people and the birth of Jesus. It is very cool that our religion book moves along the same path as the weekend masses as we are better able to understand what Father Bill is talking about during his homilies.

We are learning lots of new words in reading and phonics. We have learned how to blend letters together to make words with the sound of “a”, “i”, and “o”. Our phonics dictation tests are going very well because the children are working very hard to do their best work. We are very pleased with our efforts to read new words and the stories that are in our reading books. We have enjoyed some funny stories like: *The Lady with the Alligator Purse*, *The Foot Book*, and *On Top of Spaghetti*.

Math finds us learning about greater than, less than and equal to while writing our numbers correctly to 100. We have already learned to add and subtract from 12 or less and spent lots of time learning different ways to find a number.

We made globes in Social Studies and put all of the continents with a few oceans on them. It was a very cool project and the children did a fantastic job on them. Thanks to Mrs. Hammer who did the messy part in Art class for me! Currently, we are learning about Cultures and have had a few parents in to talk about some of the places they have been so that we can compare how we live to the way that people around the world live. We found out that some things are the same and some things are different.

Have a very Happy Holiday Season and remember to keep Jesus close to your heart as you spend time with family and friends.

Lunch Room News:

This time of year we are in need of extra lunchroom workers. If you are able to help out please call the office. Thank you in advance.

Please remember when sending in a lunch that needs to be microwaved, that you also send in a paper plate or microwavable dish with it. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Christmas Concert News:

St. Mary Students are excited about the Christmas Concert which is approaching and students have been working hard on their Christmas Songs. The concert will start promptly at 7:00 PM on Thursday, December 20th. Please have your children to their homerooms by 6:45 PM so we are prepared to start on time. Students should wear their Christmas best!

For Your Information:

1. Bingo Schedule for Sunday, December 9, 2007:

Position	Family/Person Responsible
Senior Chairperson	Raymond/Barclay Family
Chairperson	Craig Family
Caller	Paul Redpath
Kitchen Worker	Wing Family
Floor Worker/Kitchen Worker/Tag	Wing Family
Floor Worker	P. Miller Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Wilenius Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Wilenius Family Stephens Family

Please Note if a schedule change has been submitted and does not show above please contact Melinda Gannon 810-231-3156.

2. PTC News:

The **pre-Auction Classroom Projects** are available for viewing December 14th-20th. Purchasing these one-of-a-kind items is a great way to support our school and a wonderful keepsake from your child's class. Bids will be accepted on December 20th during the Christmas Concert.

St. Mary Gift Giving - If you are interested in contributing to a group gift for your child(ren)'s teachers there are envelopes available in the office for the Teachers, Aides and Office Staff. Participation is completely voluntary. The envelopes will be available through December 14th. That way the classroom representative will have time to shop before we break on December 21st.

Don't forget **Wildcats spirit wear** for Christmas. Order forms are available at the school office, on the school website, and in the files section of the Yahoo group. Show your school spirit!

Next PTC Meeting – January 24, 2007

School Website – <http://www.stmarypinckney.org>

Yahoo Parent Group – http://groups.yahoo.com/group/st_mary_school/

3. First Friday Food Drive Update:

Thanks to all of you for your generous donations in November. We were able to collect over 300 pounds of food for our Christmas Basket ministry.

This Friday, December 7th, is our next Food Drive. We are currently in great need of the following: **Toilet Paper, Laundry Soap and Dish Soap**. We try to include these items with our Christmas Baskets. We currently do not have enough to accompany even ½ of the current requests. Forget your donation this Friday. Don't worry. We will be collecting donations all the way until the last day of school, December 21st. The grocery stores and retailers have been running a lot of buy one, get one free sales or buy 1 get 2 free. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Lisa Wack at 810-231-6116 or wackymama@chartermi.net.

Thank you so much in advance for your continued generosity. May God bless you during this Holy Season! Merry Christmas!

4. Virtus News:

If you have recently taken the Virtus Class, please let the office staff know. Thank you for your assistance.

5. Market Day Update:

We earned \$316.00 from the November sale. Thank you to April Frost, Doug Garbarz, Cherise Kiel, Theresa McIntyre and Gretchen Sanchez for your help at the sale.

December orders are due to the school office by Tuesday, December 11th. The pick up date for December is Wednesday, December 19th.

December workers are Doug Garbarz, Christine Hur, Peggy Linville, Deb Pauline and Tammie, Tucker.

6. Ski Club:

Ski/Snowboard Tickets for Mt. Brighton are now available. Tow rope tickets are now available for \$48.00 for 4 tickets which **you must buy in advance**. Checks should be made payable to Mt. Brighton. You are able to upgrade for \$5.00 extra on the day you go to chair lift. They also offer discounts on equipment rental. This is a huge savings! **Anyone can buy and use these tickets**. You are able to get a free lesson each day you go also. I have coordinated with other schools so that you are able to go seven days a week. The complete list will be distributed upon purchase. Skiing will begin on Saturday, December 6th.

The check-in is in the building behind the outside ticket counters. You must check in with the respective school on the day you go.

New this year – The school will have the passes only for a limited time and so will I. Get them while we have them.

Any questions please contact Mary Littye at 810-923-8624.

7. Campbell Soup – Box Top New:

The holidays are upon us and many are spending more time in the kitchen cooking and baking. Please remember to save labels and box tops at this busy time. Ask aunts and uncles, grandparents, and neighbors to save too! We will be having another contest in February and Mrs. Weber's class will be the classroom to beat. Enjoy the blessings of the season! Ann Langford

8. 6th Grade Battery Recycling Effort:

In effort to maintain our "Green School" status the 6th grade class will be implementing a household battery recycling program. They will accept any household battery i.e.: Size D and smaller, 9 – 12 volt, button batteries and small rechargeable batteries. Please help us by sending in your used batteries. You can either drop them off at the office labeled "6th grade – battery recycling project" or have your child drop them off at the 6th grade classroom. Thank you in advance, Mrs. Kunick and the 6th grade class.

9. Golden Compass Movie - FYI:

There is a new movie entitled *The Golden Compass* coming to theaters, December 7th everywhere in the United States. This controversial movie is based on a trilogy, *His Dark Materials*, written by Phillip Pullman, an atheist and secular humanist. The trilogy has been described to be negative toward Christianity especially the Catholic Church. Please inform yourselves and your children prior to viewing this movie and/or purchasing any books of this trilogy. Below are some websites that can provide you with some good information and basis on this controversial movie and books. Please contact Angela in the Faith Formation Office at 734-878-2217, ext. 218 if you need further information.

www.catholicleague.org

www.familylifecenter.net

www.sothotf.org