

THE MARIAN MESSENGER

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN FAITH + SCHOLARSHIP + SERVICE

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Thursday, December 13, 2007

Week-At-A-Glance

Friday, December 14, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Liturgy – Grade 5 @ 9:00 AM• Reconciliation – Grade 6 @ 1:00 PM
Monday, December 17, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Prayer – Grade 1
Tuesday, December 18, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boys Basketball @ Child of Christ – 5th gr. @ 5:00PM and Varsity @ 6:00PM• Boys Basketball @ St. Paul – 6th gr. @ 4:00 PM
Wednesday, December 19, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary School Liturgy – Grade 5 @ 9:00 AM• Progress Reports Go Home• Market Day Pick-up• Boys Basketball @ Pathfinder – Varsity @ 4:00 & 5:15 PM
Thursday, December 20, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christmas Program @ 7:00 PM in the Gym•
Friday, December 21, 2007	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Liturgy – Grade 4 @ 9:00 AM• Signed Progress Reports due back to Homeroom Teacher• Christmas Parties – Afternoon• Christmas Break Begins at the end of the Day

Principal Points:

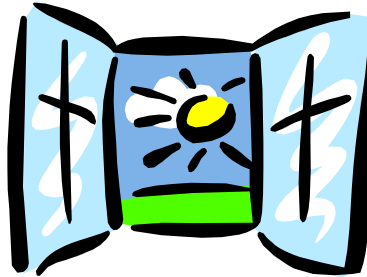
Dear Parents and Guardians,

- Reconciliation for grades 6, 7, and 8 is being held this week during the school day.
- Please remember to consider donating to the St. Louis Center. 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.
- Practices for the Christmas Program have been going very well, and the students are looking forward to performing on Thursday, December 20!
- St. Nicholas *did* leave presents when he made a visit to St. Mary Catholic School on Thursday, 12/6, his feast day! A big “Thank You” to Mrs. Smith who was the only person
- We need your help. For those whom it applies and as a matter of safety, I hope you can take time to read the information found in the *Athletic Department News* section. An important aspect of our responsibility during the school day is to make sure that students are properly supervised. Students need supervision during after school athletic activities as well, and that responsibility falls upon the athletic department and the coaches involved only for the students on teams they supervise. Siblings and friends of team members need to be supervised by a parent or another authorized adult assigned by their parent. The goal is to maintain a safe and orderly environment during athletic events that enhances our athletic program and the proud reputation we have at St. Mary Catholic School. Your time and consideration in this matter is greatly appreciated.
- Teachers will participate in a workshop today, Thursday, 12/13, after school, for the upcoming IOWA Test of Basic Skills, a new standardized test being used in the Diocese of Lansing. St. Mary Catholic School is hosting the workshop for area schools, and student testing will be held in February.

- Jesse Dzombak was the winner of this year's Geography Bee, competing on Tuesday, 12/11, with nine other finalists from grades 6 – 8. Congratulations Jesse! A big round of applause goes out to Matt McIntrye also for going through several rounds of questions with Jesse as the two boys battled to determine the final winner. All of the other contestants, Jake Stepaniak, Marisa Hur, Jacob Glaser, Jacob Raymond, Sarah Langford, Clarissa LeVasseur, Jordan Jones, and Steven Galloway, did a great job as well, demonstrating their wide knowledge of geography. A special congratulation to Mrs. Mable who conducted the Bee, including of course, doing an excellent job of teaching the subject! ☺

Best regards,
John Gilboe

THE WINDOW



Third Grade News:

It's time for cursive handwriting! Students have perfected their handwriting skills using manuscript. Now we are practicing the basic strokes needed to develop and master cursive writing. There is a lot of excitement in the classroom as students look forward to using this new way of writing.

In English we are learning that Verbs have special endings that show present, past and future time. We have also written special prayer poems which are being published as a class book! Copies of this book will be available for purchase. All monies raised will go towards our class project for the school Auction. Be sure to stay tuned for more details.

In Math we have mastered many skills involving addition. This includes concepts with regrouping, estimation, rounding and how to test and predict in solving problems. We were also introduced to more skills in algebra as we learned to use expressions by balancing numbers on both sides of the equal sign.

In Religion our focus is learning how God's family celebrates the Eucharist. In the Holy Eucharist, Jesus makes present the sacrifice that he offered to his father for our salvation. What an awesome gift he gave to us! May the gift of Jesus be with you throughout this Holy Season of Advent.

Christmas Concert News:

The Christmas concert rehearsals are going well and we have one week left to go! I just wanted to send a reminder to have your children here between 6:30 and 6:45pm on December 20th. Also, if your child is wearing a costume in the concert please arrive in plenty of time to change. Students should wear their Christmas best, NO JEANS. The concert will start promptly at 7pm. Thank you in Advance. Ms. Fry

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.

Parish Office Hours – Weather Related:

ATTENTION: Due to inclement weather School Closing & Parish Office Closing

The offices will observe the following hours during school closings:

School Office: Closed

Parish Office: Open at 12 noon (if possible)

Mass Intention will be celebrated at some point during the day.

Blessed Sacrament will be reposed.

Evening Events: If weather conditions persist all evenings events will be cancelled.

For Your Information:

1. Bingo Schedule for Sunday, December 16, 2007:

Position	Family/Person Responsible
Senior Chairperson	Hur Family
Chairperson	Zdanowski Family
Caller	Liddy Family
Kitchen Worker	Anderson Family
Floor Worker/Kitchen Worker/Tag	Anderson Family
Floor Worker	Wise Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Wise Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	

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

THERE WILL BE NO BINGO ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD OR 30TH.

2. PTC News:

Last call for monetary **Teacher Gift** donations!! The contribution envelopes for teachers, aides, and office staff will be available until the end of the day tomorrow, December 14th. Class reps will use the money to purchase a “group gift.” Participation is voluntary.

Thank you for your participation in the annual school raffle. This activity provides nearly 30% of our PTC scholarship and enrichment budget. And the **raffle winners** are....

\$5000 – Weiland Family

\$2500 – Pauline Family

\$1000 – Ortiz Family, Burton Family, Redpath Family, R. Nagy Families and JoAnn & Buhl Burton

The **top ticket sellers** are: Karen Hubbard, Richard Weiland and Jackie Sherman. These hard working families are exempt from PIP requirements of Services and Bingo points for the 2008-09 school year!

Next PTC Meeting – January 24, 2007

3. Auction News:

Next week starting MONDAY Dec. 17th- THURSDAY Dec. 20th, you will have the opportunity to start viewing the beautiful Classroom Projects and start the bidding on these one-of-a-kind unique pieces of art!! Special thanks for all the teachers, staff, and Classroom Reps for assisting in this project. Check out the display in the Gathering Space. Final bidding will take place at the Christmas Concert and all

bids will close that evening. All proceeds from the sale of the items will go toward the Wish List for the classrooms at this year's auction. Here's a sneak peak at the items up for bid...

P-3 ABC book	P-4 Calendar	K- Torongo- Treasure Chest
K-Trierwieler-Tiled Tray	1st- Your child is the star of a scrapbook for their first grade year	
2nd- Cross Picture	3rd- Prayer book	4th- Last Supper Fresco
5th-Advent Calendar Box	6th- Ceramic platter	7th- Snap Cup of Comfort & Cheer
8th-Memory Book		

Remember, donation forms for Auction items can be found in the School Office. After the holidays, all PIP item/monetary donations that are turned in before January 31st will be eligible for "Dress Down Day Passes" for their children. It helps the Team out significantly if you can accommodate us by getting your donation in early. Thank you!!

For more information, please contact Chairperson Shannon Orlowski @ 517-861-9235.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS~

4. Athletic Department News:

We are very happy to have many students supporting our teams at the home games. However, we are having an increased problem with unsupervised students loitering in the halls, locker rooms and running through the gym wing. To help aid in everyone's safety and enjoyment of the games, we have created a "student section" on the far end of the "home" section of the bleachers. Students without parents present will be required to sit in this section while attending the games. Please make sure that you inform your child(ren) of this policy and also that they act in a respectful manner towards others. Thank you for your assistance.

5. Middle School Bunco Night:

All 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students are invited to celebrate the New Year with a fun-filled BUNCO Night. Permission slips will go home after the holidays but mark your calendars and plan to join us on FRIDAY, January 11th, 2008. Ring in the New Year and ring the bell when you get a BUNCO!! If you know how to roll dice, you can play. Instructions will be given prior to play. Admission cost is \$10 and includes Pizza, Pop, and Prizes!! You may bring a friend, but a permission slip must be brought to the school the night of the event for every person who attends. For more information or to volunteer to help out that night, please call Lori Nickels at 810-231-0095.

6. Ski Club:

Ski/Snowboard Tickets for Mt. Brighton are now available. Tow rope tickets are not 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. I will begin on Saturday, December 6th.

The check-ins are in the building behind the outside ticket counters. You must go to the respective check in school on the day you go.

New this year – The school will have the passes on a limited time and so will I. Get them while we have them. Any questions please contact Mary Little at 810-923-8624.

7. 6th Grade Battery Recycling Effort - Update:

Thank you to all of the families who have sent in their batteries for recycling. We are continuing to collect household batteries. We 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 again for your support.

8. Ignition Soccer Family Night:

The Detroit Ignition Professional Soccer Team is hosting Faith & Family Night at Compuware Arena in Plymouth on Feb. 29 at 7:30pm.

If there is enough interest, I will coordinate this great night out for all our families. The games are always exciting and are very family friendly!

The tickets are \$19 each. Any proceeds will benefit our 8th grade graduation dinner. (PTC funding is reduced from last year.) Tickets have to be purchased by 2/15/08.

I am also looking into having the Ignition do another school assembly this year. Please let me know how many are interested in the going to the game. Thanks in Advance. Christine Hur 734-878-0851