

THE MARIAN MESSENGER

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN FAITH + SCHOLARSHIP + SERVICE

10601 Dexter-Pinckney Road Pinckney, Michigan 48169

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Thursday, January 31, 2008

Week-At-A-Glance

Friday, February 1, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Liturgy – Grade 6 @ 8:45 AM• First Friday Food Drive• Popcorn Day• Report Cards Go Home• 2nd Reconciliation Celebrations @ 7:00 PM• Boys Varsity Basketball Tournament @ St. Mary times to be determined
Saturday, February 2, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Boys Varsity Basketball Tournament @ St. Mary times to be determined• Punxi-Gras following 5:00 PM Mass• Movie Family Movie Night
Monday, February 4, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Prayer – Grade 4• Iowa Testing Begins• P4 Fieldtrip to Michigan Theater
Tuesday, February 5, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Girls Basketball @ West Highland @ 5:00 PM – Varsity Only
Wednesday, February 6, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All School Liturgy – Ash Wednesday – Grade 8 @ 9:00 AM• Signed Report Card Envelopes due back to Homeroom Teacher
Thursday, February 7, 2008	

Principal Points:

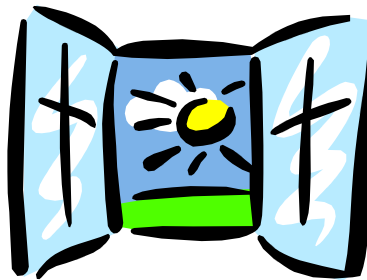
Dear Parents and Guardians,

- The Benziger Family Life Program that was introduced last year will be taught again in Grades K – 8 during the month of February. Permission slips for the program are being sent home today with this *Messenger*. Please return the permission slip by Thursday, February 7, so that we can include your student(s) in the program or have them follow an alternative schedule in the case that you do not want them to participate. *Parent Connection* booklets for the program need to be picked up at the school office by parents. The *Parent Connection* booklets will be available beginning on Friday, February 1, and must be picked up by Thursday, February 7th. Thank you for your time and consideration.
- The Invite a Guest to Lunch event was a huge success! Thanks to all those who helped to set up, serve, and clean up for over 425 guests. We could not have done it without you! Special thanks go out to David Plait for working around bad weather and power outages to produce and deliver outstanding Hungry Howie's pizzas.
- We are entering the last days of our Food Drive Challenge 2008. Please bring in every can, box, bag, and case you can in order to reach our goal of 4000 pounds. We can do it!
- Thank you to Deacon Randy Coffelt for speaking with all of our students on Thursday, 1/24, about his special call to service in the Church and for giving all of us some insight about how God speaks to us about serving others. Thanks again Deacon Randy!

- The Mass at St. Mary Cathedral with Bishop Mengeling and representatives from of schools in the diocese on Monday, 1/28, was an inspirational way to begin Catholic Schools Week. Our 8th grade class had an opportunity to represent St. Mary Catholic School well, and they did just that in very fine form!
- Upcoming dates to remember:
Friday, 2/1, 2nd Quarter Report Cards go home.
Monday, 2/4, IOWA testing begins in grades 4 – 8.
Wednesday, 2/6, Ash Wednesday
Friday, 2/8, Stations of the Cross for students.

Best regards,
John Gilboe

THE WINDOW



Fourth Grade News:

Lent is on its way and fourth grade is preparing for it by making sacrifice beads. This will help us keep track of all the little sacrifices we make each day. We also are learning what each of God's Commandments mean to us. We are currently on the Third Commandment. When we finish with all ten of them, we will have a Commandment booklet to help remind us of those Laws of Love.

We are finishing the Northeast Region in Social Studies. Soon we will start learning all the states and their capitals. In Science, we have been learning all about ecosystems.

With St. Valentine's Day approaching, we will begin our personalized Valentine hearts. Each student writes a paragraph for each of his/her classmates describing characteristics that they admire. It is a lot of work, but very rewarding at the end.

We have a few field trips coming up, too: Chelsea Milling on February 22; The State Capitol/Museum tour on April 15; and an Earth Day program in Lansing on April 22.

We are the Fabulous Fourth Graders and we are keeping very busy!

For Your Information:

1. PTC News:

We hope you and your children have enjoyed the Catholic Schools Week activities. Don't forget the **Family Movie Night** that will be held in conjunction with Punxi-Gras this Saturday, February 2nd. We will begin with a short Veggie Tales movie followed by the main feature, Eight Below. Hope to see you there!

At the PTC General Meeting last week, Mr. Gilboe provided an overview of the PIP review that will be done by a new **School Improvement Team** (SIT). The team is seeking members and input. If you

are interested in participating on the team, you must complete and return an application by **tomorrow**. The application is attached to this Messenger and is also available at the Yahoo site. If you are not able to join the team, but would like to offer input, please put your ideas in writing and submit to the school office or email to SITStMary@gmail.com.

Next PTC Meeting –Thursday, March 13, 2008 at 7:00 pm

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

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

2. Bingo Schedule for Sunday, February 3, 2008:

Position	Family/Person Responsible
Senior Chairperson	Beth Hovorka
Chairperson	Toy Family
Caller	Vroman Family
Kitchen Worker	Falinski Family
Floor Worker	Schultz Family
Floor Worker	Langford Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Campbell 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.

3. Auction News:

PIP donations are rolling in!! Thank you parents!! Those who turn in an Auction donation of \$50 cash or a NEW and UNUSED item with at least a \$75 total value, will be receiving Dress Down Day passes for their children soon!!

Here are a few Auction donation ideas. In the past, these items go extremely well in our Silent Auction...The more *unique* and hard to get, the better!!

- Garden items
- Summer outdoor activities
- Teen Sleepover Packages
- Anything Hannah Montana – Front Row Concert Tickets would be SUPER!
- Sport tickets to Tiger games, Red Wings, Pistons, or Whalers Hockey
- Autograph sports memorabilia
- Restaurant Gift Cards [especially Fine Dining ones]
- Mother's Day items
- Father's Day items
- Party time baskets [Martini glasses, Premium Vodka...]
- Game Night baskets
- Movie Time [DVD player with Kid-Friendly movies and popcorn]
- Mexican Baskets [Margarita glasses, tequila, nacho chips...]
- Camping and Fishing items
- Pool and Boating items [or even a Boat or a Pool]
- Cooking baskets [w/ Signed Celebrity cookbooks]
- "Overnight at Grandma's" Basket
- Desperate Housewives Basket [you be creative on this one!!]
- Spa Packages
- Hotel Stays [Chicago, NY, or anywhere local will work]

- Bed and Breakfast trips [Napa Valley would be really nice!!]
- Time Share rentals [Can we stay at your summer home in Tuscany?]
- House Boat Vacations, Canoeing, White Water Rafting Trips
- Cedar Point tickets
- ANY Water Park Stays [how about the new one in Dundee?]
- Wicked tickets [it's coming back to the Wharton in Lansing]
- Concert tickets [did we mention Hannah Montana, oh yeah]

The key is also to think SPRING and SUMMER. If anyone can get us a NEW gas grill or patio furniture, that would be super!!

*Special thanks to the Graves Family and 3-D Design Landscaping Group in Brighton. They are once again donating a brand new Plasma TV for our 52 Card Raffle.

Here's a sneak peak at what we are working on for our LIVE Auction offerings:

Autographed guitar by Bruce Springsteen
4 Days at the Crystal Mt Resort this August
2 weeks in Hawaii
5 Days in Disney World
Tiger Tickets, U of M tickets, and much much more

4. Campbell's Soup Labels/Box Top News:

Will the second grade emerge as the winner again or will another class come out on top?

It's time to start savings those Campbell Soup Labels and Box Tops again. The more you save the more we earn! It's easy to help! Follow these steps and I'll do the rest.

- Just look for box top coupons on items you purchase such as Kleenex, sandwich bags, cereal boxes, and crescent rolls. The Labels for Education are sometimes more difficult to spot. **Usually it is the UPC code from the label and the Campbell's kid emblem beside it. Many of you are still turning in the front product label. These are no longer accepted.**
- Clip the box top coupon or UPC code from the product. Make sure you do not cut expiration dates off of the box tops and/or that the UPC code on the label is in tact.
- Send them to school with your child.

I am going to reissue my challenge to the St. Mary's students to collect 10,000 labels and box tops during the month of February. The winning class will receive a class-wide dress down pass. Save your labels and box tops between February 1st and 29th. Put them in an envelope or bundle them together and make sure that your child's grade level is clearly marked so I know which grade level to credit. (Kindergarten students will also have to include the name of their teacher.) Deposit them in the collection container in the school office. You can deposit once at the end of the month or make several deposits as you go.

Happy Collecting! God Bless You!
Ann Langford

5. VIRTUS Class:

The upcoming class in our area are at the following sites:

You will need to contact the parish you are attending and go to www.virtus.org to register. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the school office.

Fr. Gabriel Richard in Ann Arbor on Thursday, January 31st at 6:30 pm

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

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

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.

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

7. Lenten Study for Women:

The St. Mary CAFÉ (Catholic Adult Formation Education) Team is offering an eight week Lenten study for women. We will meet weekly from 10:00-11:00 a.m. beginning on Tuesday, February 12th to discuss the weekly reading from the book Preparing My Heart for Easter, A Woman's Journey to the Cross and Beyond. If you are interested in participating, please contact the team at cafe@stmarypinckney.org or call Angela at 737-878-2217 by Monday, February 4th so we can order a book for you. The books cost \$10.00.

8. Catholic Adult Formation Education (CAFÉ) Survey:

The St. Mary Education team has formed a sub-committee to implement an exciting new adult formation program. We would like to collect information from our Parish members regarding the needs and desires in this area. The survey is attached to this Messenger and is also available on the home page of the Parish website (www.stmarypinckney.org).