

THE MARIAN MESSENGER

SAINT MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

EXCELLENCE IN FAITH + SCHOLARSHIP + SERVICE

10601 Dexter-Pinckney Road Pinckney, Michigan 48169

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Thursday, May 1, 2008

Week-At-A-Glance

Friday, May 2, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• NO BUS SERVICE• Communion Service – All School @ 9:00 AM• Popcorn Day/First Friday Food Drive• Preschool Fieldtrip to Domino Farms (P3 & P4)
Sunday, May 4, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• First Eucharist Celebration @ 1:30 PM
Monday, May 5, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Morning Prayer – Grade 8
Tuesday, May 6, 2008	
Wednesday, May 7, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Primary Liturgy – Grade 5 @ 9:00 AM• Preschool (4 Year Old) Vision Screening
Thursday, May 8, 2008	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dress Down Day Fundraiser for 8th Grade Trip

Principal Points:

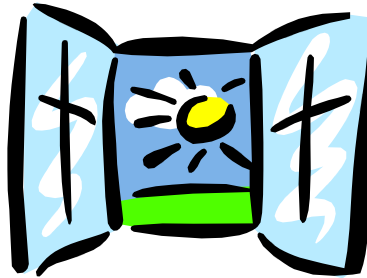
Dear Parents and Guardians,

- The School improvement Team met on Tuesday, 4/29, to continue its review of the PIP program. The features of a new program, called *VIP!*, *Volunteers Invited Program!* were presented to the team, and a great deal of positive energy and enthusiasm about how *VIP!* could be tweaked and implemented were discussed. Fr. Bill had seen the framework for the new program prior to its presentation at the SIT meeting, and his guidance, inspiration, and approval were invaluable toward bring it to final draft form.
 - Next steps include polishing final details of the *VIP!* and sending home a letter and a volunteer form in the 4/8 *Messenger* that will formally introduce the program. We consider the new program to be substantively no different in terms of the fact that St. Mary Catholic School is blessed with an extremely supportive and caring parent community that values Catholic education. We're excited that with *VIP!*, we have created a program with greater freedom and flexibility to share time and talents to achieve our goals. As always, feedback from St. Mary's families will be welcomed and encouraged!
- Thank you to Dr. and Mrs. Braciszewski for providing a great start to the week on Monday with a mini-concert performed by the Band. As always, it was a brilliant performance, and Band members and their families should be very proud of their practice hours and their performances!
- A big "Thank you" to Barb Rea for conducting the Communion services for our students this week while Fr. Bill is on retreat. Excellent reflections on the Gospel!
- Congratulations to Grade 4 for being the top team for our recent litter-less lunch effort. Grade 2 came in at second place, and Grade 3 arrived at third place. Thank you students and parents from all the grades at St. Mary Catholic School for helping to keep our Earth and our Green school an "Emerald" shade!

- Upcoming dates to remember:
 - Thursday, 5/1, First Communion dinner @ 6:30 p.m.
 - Friday, 5/2, **NO A.M. or P.M. BUSES! NO HOT LUNCH!**
 - Sunday, 5/4, First Communion Liturgy @ 1:30 p.m.
 - Thursday, 5/8, Dress Down Day Fundraiser for the 8th Grade Chicago trip

Best regards,
John Gilboe

THE WINDOW



Fourth Grade News:

It's hard to believe that we are in our last term already! We've taken our annual State Capitol/Historical Museum field trip. It was a beautiful day and we learned lots. It is a trip that fits perfectly into our curriculum. We will be referring to it until the end of the school year but will remember it long afterwards. We also went on an Earth Day field trip to Lansing last Tuesday. What a cool day! There were many things to do. We will also be going to a play next month. It is about immigration and is called "Ellis Island."

We are still studying the United States' regions in Social Studies and before you know it, state floats will be displayed in the gathering space. Make sure you come in and take a look at them! In Science, we are covering oceans and planets. We're on our last Commandment in Religion. It is interesting how much these ten rules play a part in our everyday lives. It makes us rely on God, the Father, even more. The Beatitudes will be our next area of study. Long division has been mastered recently and we will be going onto Geometry and Algebra soon.

It's amazing how busy we keep in class, and best of all, we will be considered Fifth Graders soon!

Music News:

The Vocal Music and Band Spring Concert will take place on Wednesday, May 21st at 7:00 PM in the Gym. Students should report to their homerooms by 6:45 PM. Please mark your calendars. All of the students will be participating in the vocal portion of the program. Everyone is welcome to come and hear the wonderful music the students have prepared.

For Your Information:

1. May Crowning:

Please join us as we honor Mary, Our Mother, this Mother's Day (Sunday, May 11th) at 10:15 a.m. All school age children are encouraged to put their name in a drawing to crown Mary. A girl and a boy will be chosen to do the honors. There will be a box for the drawing in the church gathering space and the school office. We would like to encourage all First Communion Children to join the procession and dress in their First Communion clothes.

We will honor Mary with a brief service of songs and devotions. Please bring fresh flowers to present to Our Blessed Mother as we show her our love and devotion!

2. Bingo Schedule for Sunday, May 4, 2008:

Position	Family/Person Responsible
Senior Chairperson	Picano Family
Chairperson	Ortiz Family
Caller	Neigebauer Family
Kitchen Worker	Flaherty Family
Floor Worker	Wise Family
Floor Worker	Wise Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Grossmeyer Family
Charity Game/Floor Worker	Warshal Family

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

3. Deadline Extended for the Tricia Berger Music Scholarship:

The applications for the Tricia T. Berger Music Scholarship are now available in the school and parish offices. To be eligible for the scholarship a student must be currently in grades K-11 and must have attended St. Mary School for at least one year. It is a music scholarship only. The purpose is to help pay for private music lessons, or music camp experiences. Applications are **due May 10th**, recipients will be notified by May 30, and funds will be distributed by August 30. If you know of any families who used to belong to our school family who could benefit from this scholarship please, pass the information along to them.

Sincerely, Ms. Lynn M. Trierweiler, scholarship committee member

4. St. Mary Rosary Altar Society – Vendor Day:

The St. Mary Rosary Altar Society is having a “Vendor Day”. We are looking for vendors/distributors or if you own your own business and would like to show your product. Join us on Saturday, June 14th here at St. Mary. For more information please contact Mary Press at 734-878-6563. We will only allow one distributor per company.

5. Christian Service Team News:

Blanket and Bedding ministry:

St. Agnes Church in Fowlerville is in need of blankets and bedding in good condition. St. Agnes is a partner church with LOVE Inc. Please drop them off in the church office. If you have any questions, please call Julie Flaherty 878-9547.

Volunteers needed:

I am looking for volunteers to make and serve lunch to the needy of the community. St Mary Church is scheduled to serve lunch on the 4th Saturday of every month. The lunch is held at Shalom Lutheran Church in Pinckney. It is very simple and rewarding. Call Julie Flaherty for details 878-9547.