



CHALLENGING MINDS ● DEVELOPING CHARACTER ● LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

Our K5-2nd grade students are having a lot of fun preparing for the Christmas Musical. I have popped in a few times and it looks like things are really starting to come together. *A Christmas Yarn*, is a fun rendition of the classic *Christmas Carol* and will definitely get you into the Christmas spirit. We would like you to join in the fun by wearing your ugly (or favorite) Christmas sweater to the performance on Thursday. **That day (Dec. 15) will also be an out-of-uniform day for students so they can wear their favorite or ugly Christmas sweaters.**

All students will attend the dress rehearsal at 1:00 PM on Thursday. Grandparents and other guests who are unable to attend the evening performance are welcome to attend the dress rehearsal. Please enter through the Activity Center doors. **The evening performance will begin at 6:30 PM. Doors will open for guests and performers at 6:00 PM. Please enter through the Activity Center.**

We love being able to offer all of our students the opportunity to participate in a musical every year! Musical performances are a long standing tradition at St. Mary dating back to the early 1900's. We were very blessed to enjoy the special talents of Marie Makal for many years. During her 25+ years of teaching at St. Mary, she pretty much wrote the musicals herself. Since none of us have her special skills, we have been purchasing the musicals (scripts, lyrics, rights) which has increased production costs dramatically. Production costs for this musical are right around \$2,300. We greatly appreciate your donations during the performance and would like to extend you or your business the opportunity to become a sponsor. If you are interested, please contact the school office.

As part of our strategic planning we are looking into the Wisconsin School Choice Program. Please join us on Tuesday, December 13, or Wednesday, December 14, to learn more about this program. Both meetings will begin at 6:00 PM in the lower level conference rooms of the school. [Click here for more information.](#)

Don't miss out on your chance to win! Purchase your 2023 Calendar Raffles before the end of December! See below for more information and important deadlines.

Faithfully,
Linda Joyner

Not feeling well? At Home COVID antigen tests are available at the School Office. Please stop by if you would like one.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dec. 13 & 14th
WI Choice Informational Meetings

Dec. 15th
"A Christmas Yarn"
Christmas Musical/
Nativity
K5 - 2nd Grade, 6:30pm

Dec. 15
Out-Of-Uniform Day
Ugly Christmas Sweaters

Dec. 16
Movie Night
(Doors open 6:30pm,
Movie starts 6:40pm)

Dec. 22
Out-of-Uniform Day

Dec. 23 - Jan 2
Christmas Break

Jan. 3
Classes Resume

Jan. 16
Chipotle Night, 4-8pm

Jan. 27
No School/In-Service Day

Jan. 29
Open House
11am - 2pm

Jan. 30 - Feb. 3
Catholic Schools Week

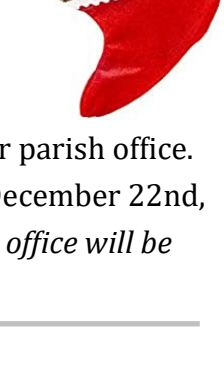
Feb. 3
Family Fun Fair

[View Full Calendar](#)

2023 Calendar Raffle Deadline Approaching!

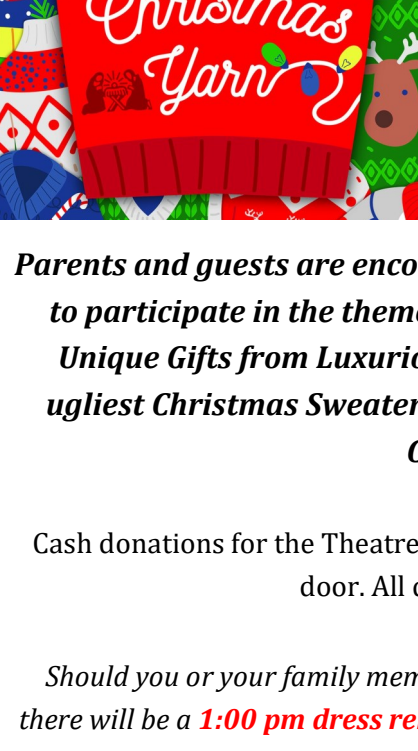
The countdown to the end of the year is here, and we need your help reaching our goal! We can do it if each family submits/purchases a minimum of 5 tickets. There's still time to submit your calendar raffle entries/payments! They are \$25 each or 5/\$100. St. Mary's receives all the money minus prizes. **They make great gifts and stocking stuffers!**

Weekly winners are published in the St. Mary's bulletin and the Connection. Checks mailed the week following the drawing. Additional tickets can be picked up at the school or parish office. Raffle entries and payments are due to the school office by December 22nd, or at the Parish office by Dec. 30th. *(please note the Parish office will be closed Dec. 23th and 26th).* **THANK YOU!**



A Christmas Yarn Musical

Please Join Us! (And wear your own Ugly Christmas Sweaters)



Students in K5 - 2nd grade will be performing

A Christmas Yarn
(& Nativity)

Thursday, December 15
6:30 p.m.

Activity Center
(Doors open at 6pm)

Parents and guests are encouraged to wear an Ugly Christmas Sweater to participate in the theme of the musical, which takes place at the Unique Gifts from Luxurious Yarns (U.G.L.Y.) Factory. So don your ugliest Christmas Sweater and have a dickens of a good time at the Christmas Yarn!

Cash donations for the Theatre Guild will be accepted (but not required) at the door. All donations are appreciated.

Should you or your family members not be able to attend the 6:30 pm showing, there will be a 1:00 pm dress rehearsal. Please feel free to attend to see how hard our students, staff and volunteers have worked on this production.

Hope to see you there, and don't forget your ugly sweaters!

Movie Night is Friday, December 16th!

We will be watching **The Star!**

Doors open for drop-off at 6:30pm, Movie starts at 6:40pm.

Come in your jammies or comfy clothes, bring a blanket/sleeping bag/pillow, and get ready to enjoy the movie with your friends!

Pick-up will start at 8:15pm.

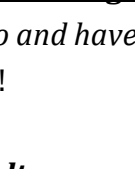
There is a \$6 entrance fee and concessions will be sold.



Please look for permission slips that were sent home this week. Otherwise, you can find them [here](#). Please return signed slips to the office by Friday, Dec. 16th.

A few more adult chaperones and middle school helpers are still needed. If you have any questions or are interested in helping, please contact Michele (Justin) Spaeth at mlspaeth1@gmail.com.

...And These are a Few Of Our Teachers' Favorite Things.....



Are you or your child(ren) looking for the perfect Christmas gift for a special teacher(s) this year? If you'd like to give thanks and show your appreciation this Christmas season but don't know what your child's teacher enjoys, check out [this spreadsheet](#). Ann MacGillis and Arin Nguyen (room parent liaisons) compiled a list of all the **teachers' favorite things!** *(Gifts are not required, of course, but we know several families do and have reach(ed) out for ideas).* And thank you, Ann and Arin!

Merry Christmas and blessings to all our St. Mary faculty, staff, students and families!

Home & School Updates

Volunteer Spotlight:

Kristin Latham

This week we want to thank Kristin Latham for all her amazing contributions. The quotes below from a teacher and a few other volunteers speak for themselves....

"Kristin exemplifies our school mission to Live and Love like Jesus. Although she was experiencing health challenges at the same time my husband was last year, she sent us a card and 2 meals for my family! She has been a room parent for numerous years and is very dedicated to all it entails. She pulled out all the stops for Mrs. Nowicki's baby shower last February and she didn't miss a beat with all the other duties throughout the year... She is thoughtful, kind, and an asset to SMPS. Thank you Kristin!" *(Mrs. Kleinmann)*

"Kristin is a dedicated volunteer at St. Mary School and always brings a positive attitude, creative ideas, and FUN to all projects/committees that she is a part of. She's always willing to lend a helping hand (along with a big smile) and goes above what is expected by giving her time, energy and much more. She quietly provides donations of various items to the school and classrooms to make school better for children and teachers. She is full of great ideas and makes everything better, and more fun! She is loved by all: fellow parents, students, and teachers." *(Shelly Lemminger)*

"Kristin is always willing to share creativity, time and ideas and always with a smile. She is currently helping with the Christmas play even without having a child performing this year, which is a good example of her selfless commitment to our school. We are so lucky to have Kristin and the whole Latham family at SMPS!" *(Ann MacGillis)*

"Kristin Latham is a true Warrior! Many people with a cancer diagnosis, treatments and side effects would take a step back from volunteering, but Kristin has done the opposite. She's always been extremely involved volunteering for the school and has taken on more responsibilities, adding co-chair to the Holiday Treasure Shop to her roles this year. Her constant smile and caring attitude is inspirational." *(Katie Esser)*

Thank you so much, Kristin, for all you do for SMPS!

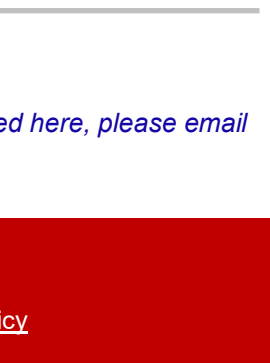
Fundraiser Update:

Thanks to all who participated in the **Smart Cow Fundraiser** night and the **Noodles Restaurant fundraiser!** St. Mary School received \$100 from *Smart Cow*, and \$162 from *Noodles!* Your participation makes a difference, and we appreciate you supporting St. Mary School (and our community)! **Thank you!**

Parish Updates

Join us on December 10 & 11 for a Blessing for Expectant Mothers

All expectant mothers are invited to receive a special blessing on Gaudete Sunday, Dec. 10 & 11. As the priests wear rose vestments at Mass this weekend to highlight the joy of what we anticipate at Christmas — the birth of Jesus Christ — expectant mothers are invited to stand and be blessed as we also join you in celebration of the gift of human life and your pregnancy. If you know an expectant mother, please invite her to attend this Mass.



Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners that were drawn on December 7th: **Ella Weyker, Judy Gambino, Carol Schulties, and the Karcewski Family.**

And special congrats to this \$250 winner drawn on Dec. 9: **St. Mary Parish School** *(Donated by the Spaeth Family)*

In the Community

**If you know of local events/programs and want them to be added here, please email mccabeh@smpls.school. Thank you!*

[Dec. Hot Lunch Menu](#)

[Change of Dismissal](#)

[2022-23 Academic Calendar](#)

[Inclement Weather Policy](#)

[2022-23 Home & School Calendar](#)

[Lunchroom Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)

[Updated Guidelines for COVID-19](#)

[Playground Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)

Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram!