

St. Mary Parish School



Challenging Minds

Developing Character

Living Jesus

The Connection

April 3, 2020

Dear Families,

We have made it through our first full week of virtual learning. Give yourselves a pat on the back as this is no easy task! Hopefully, this change over has not been too stressful for you or your children. All teachers have been asked to reach out to their students and parents for feedback regarding how things are going, so we can continue to make improvements. Parents of students in grades 6-8 are asked to [click on this link and complete a brief survey](#). It is difficult to determine if teacher expectations are too much, too little, or just right without being with the kids to see how independently they are able to complete tasks and how long it is taking them to complete tasks. This is what makes your feedback and the students' feedback so important to us. Please, take a minute or two to share your thoughts with us. We want to make this the best experience possible for the kids and for you!

As you may have heard there have been some security issues with Zoom calls that are quite alarming. Our teachers, like many others across the nation, are relying on these tools to interact with their students. We have taken the following measures to protect our students:

- All teachers have received direction on how to set the privacy settings on Zoom Meetings. They have also been given the option to use Google Meet. Google Meet has fewer options but is more secure since it is managed under our school domain.
- To keep video calls private, teachers are asked not to post the meeting ID on any social media. I would ask that parents and students not post the meeting ID or password on social media as well. Teachers will be giving students a password to join the meeting. Once the meeting begins, they can lock it so no one can unexpectedly join.

If your child is using a video conferencing app to connect with friends, I highly recommend that you discuss the above safety issues with them and monitor their chats. To increase safety on our school domain, students are not allowed to initiate chats with other students via their school emails.

It seems so strange to enter Holy Week without being able to come together for worship. Although I think this gives a whole new meaning to the practice of giving up something for Lent. It seems even more fitting now that one of our Lenten activities at school was to "bury the Alleluia's." That will definitely be the first word I shout when this is all over!

The archdiocese has put together some Holy Week resources for you to use at home. Teachers will also be posting some Holy Week activities for their students. Many churches, including St. Mary, are live streaming and recording Mass. See resources below for direct links.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to us if we can be of any help to you or your family. You are all in my thoughts and prayers!

Faithfully,

Linda Joyner



You are invited to join Archbishop Listecky for Holy Week and Easter Mass by viewing these Masses online or on TV. [Click here for a schedule](#).

You can also prepare for Holy Week at home. Here is a great resource from [Liturgical Press](#).

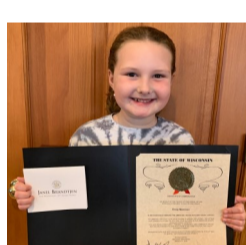
Scrip Update: As long as the parish office is able to maintain open hours, Scrip will continue to be ordered. The next few processing days are April 6, April 20, and May 4. If you are paying by check, please make sure your check arrives at the parish office by 8:00 on the processing day. If you have a Scrip order to pick up, consider calling the parish office first (262-251-0220). Although the office is committed to being open regular hours, we know how quickly things can change. **St Mary's has decided to extend the Scrip processing year by one month, until May 31.** This means that you have until May 31, instead of April 30, to meet your fundraising requirement and earn rebates toward next year's tuition. Going forward, future Scrip earning periods will run from June 1 through May 31. As always, PrestoPay and e-gift-cards are a great way to earn Scrip without leaving the house. Be safe!

Virtual Classroom News

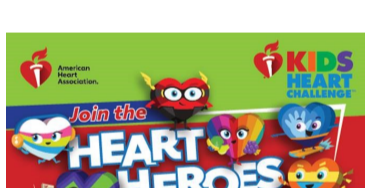
Learning continues during letter "U" week: 4K students are studying the sounds through the United States map, drawing under a table, playing with umbrellas and of course decorating underwear!!! [Check it out!](#)

Emily has some exciting news to share: She is a winner in the American Legion's essay contest!

Sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary, this year's topic was "How can we address the health and well-being of our veterans, military, and their families?" [Read Emily's Essay here.](#)



Kids Heart Challenge Update: Several weeks ago we told you that the school raised \$5,108.47 during our Kids Heart Challenge event. As a result of that amount raised, we received a gift certificate for \$500 to U.S. Games to purchase new PE equipment! Thank you again to all who participated!



Got some spare time on your hands? Thinking about cleaning out your closets?

The Pack'er Up—Donation Challenge is a Win-Win. Go to any participating goodwill Store between April 1-30 and simply indicate St. Mary's as your school and the number of items donated on the slip provided. The school with the greatest number of items donated will receive a visit from Donald Driver. [Read more about it here.](#)

2020 Calendar Raffle: Congratulations to these \$30 raffle winners drawn on April 1, 2020: **Henry Jones, Christine Polder, Tim Yokes, Sandie Buettner and Mrs. Eileen Schultz.**

Thank you all for your participation and support!

APRIL 2020

PALM SUNDAY

- 5 - [Live Stream from St. Mary's](#)
- [Live Stream from the Cathedral](#)

Holy Thursday

- 9 - [Live Stream from St. Mary's](#)
- [Live Stream from the Cathedral](#)

Good Friday, NO SCHOOL

- 10 - [Live Stream from St. Mary's](#)
- [Live Stream from the Cathedral](#)

Holy Saturday

- 11 - [Live Stream from St. Mary's](#)
- [Live Stream from the Cathedral](#)

EASTER SUNDAY

- 12 - [Live Stream from St. Mary's](#)
- [Live Stream from the Cathedral](#)

13 Easter Monday, NO SCHOOL

14 Virtual Learning resumes

Links

- [Live Stream St. Mary Masses](#)
- [Live Stream Masses from the Cathedral](#)
- [School Website](#)
- [Parish Website](#)
- [News from the Parish](#)
- [St. Mary Facebook](#)
- [Amazon Smile](#)
- [Shoparoo](#)
- [SCRIP update](#)

9 tips for parents navigating learning with their children Coronavirus

