



CHALLENGING MINDS • DEVELOPING CHARACTER • LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

Our Annual Open House is fast approaching! Can you help us spread the news about our awesome school to friends, family, neighbors, and co-workers? It's easy to do by sharing [this flyer](#) and/or sharing our [Facebook posts](#) to your page. If you would like paper copies of the [flyer](#) contact the school office and we will be happy to send some home with your child. **We greatly appreciate your help in getting the word out about our fabulous school!**

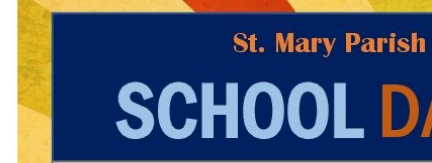
We Need You...to help with Open House. Prospective parents love to meet and talk to current parents. Please consider signing up to volunteer. We need families to help with hospitality, send in donations, welcome prospective families, and give school tours. We even provide you with tour highlights to make it easy. Please [click here](#) to sign up or contact the school office for more information about how you can help us welcome new families.

National Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. It begins with our Open House on Sunday, January 28 and runs through Friday, February, 2. This week is filled with special events and activities. Through these events, we celebrate the value Catholic education provides to our youth and its contributions to our church, our communities and our nation. Please refer to this [event calendar](#) so you don't miss out on any of the fun!

We are fortunate to be able to offer the **Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)** to our families, parishioners, and community as a whole. The WPCP is a statewide private school voucher program, which allows families who meet certain [income criteria](#) the ability to attend our school tuition free. [Click here](#) to learn more about School Choice programs. **The open application period for the 2024-25 school year is February 1 – April 18, 2024.** Current families applying for the WPCP should contact the school office for 24-25 registration details specific to that program.

The **2024-25 Registration Form** and tuition deposit is due on **Friday, January 26**. Registrations received after 3:00 PM on Friday, January 26th will be assessed a \$25 late fee.

Have a great weekend!
Linda Joyner



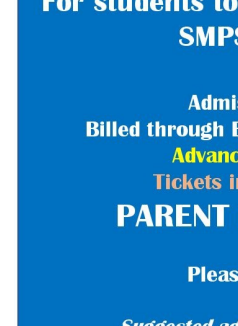
UPCOMING EVENTS	
Jan. 26	Early Release at 11:30am
Jan. 28	St. Mary School Open House 10:30am - 1:30pm
Jan. 29 - Feb 2	Catholic Schools Week Calendar of Events
Feb. 2	School Day Fun Fair Join us for: Extra Jump Time 4 - 6PM
Feb. 9	No School
Feb. 12	No School
Feb. 16	Movie Night (tentative)
Feb. 26	Home and School Meeting 6pm
Feb. 29	Early Release at 11:30am

[View Full Calendar](#)

St. Mary Parish School Open House is Jan. 28th!

We're kicking off Catholic Schools Week with our Open House! Please invite your friends, family, neighbors and anyone else you think may be interested in learning more about our school community! They can [R.S.V.P. at this link](#).

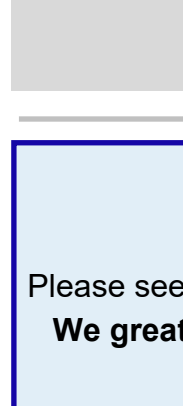
Volunteers are needed for the day of the Open House. If you are available and can offer your time and talents, please [sign up here](#). With your efforts, we will continue to pass on to others the good fortune and wonderful education our children have been fortunate to experience. **Thank you!**



February Hot Lunch Portal Open: The ordering portal for Feb. hot lunch is open. Please place your students' [lunch orders here](#).

Deadline for all orders is **Wed., Jan 24th at 12pm**. Orders after that date will not be accepted. Thank you!

[February Hot Lunch Menu](#)



Young Rembrandts Drawing Class: Join this fun art club offered after school on Wednesdays at St. Mary! Next session starts Jan 31st -March 20 (Wednesdays at School from 3:10-4:10pm). [Click the logo to register and for more info!](#)

St. Mary Parish School - Catholic Schools Week

SCHOOL DAY FUN FAIR 2024

Inflatables • Games • Cookie Walk

Friday • February 2 • 2024

For students to enjoy **DURING** school with their classmates.

Student Admission - \$5/student - billed through Blackbaud Tuition Management

Sponsorship Opportunities

Help keep the cost per student low by sponsoring an inflatable or game! We will add your name to a Fun Fair game or inflatable sign by becoming a sponsor. Fill out the google form if you can help!

[Google Form Link Here](#)

NEW EVENT ADDED!
Sign up for "EXTRA JUMP TIME" with Fun Fair Inflatables and Games **AFTER SCHOOL**

Friday • February 2 • 2024
4:00 – 6:00PM
For students to enjoy **AFTER** school in the SMPS Activity Center

Admission = \$10/student
Billed through Blackbaud Tuition Management
Advance tickets encouraged!
Tickets include snack and drink.
PARENT MUST BE PRESENT
Please click [here](#) to RSVP
Suggested ages - 5th graders and younger.
Middle School Student Volunteer Opportunities available



CELEBRATE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2024
January 28 - February 3
#CSW2024

In Celebration of Catholic Schools Week, we will have fun dress up days starting Monday, Jan 29th with a **Pa'Jammin Monday!**

[Click here](#) for a full schedule of the **dress-up days** and other fun activities we have happening during Catholic Schools Week!

Volunteers, Sponsors and donations are needed. Here's how you can help:

1. Donate candy, cookies, cupcakes and more! [Click here](#) to sign up.
2. Volunteer at the Event - sign up [here](#).
3. Sponsor a game or inflatable - [Google form](#) We appreciate your time and help. Thank you!

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Daily Playground and Lunchroom Volunteers Needed

Please see below for our daily volunteer needs for the next two weeks. **We greatly appreciate your time and help! Here are the links to sign up:**

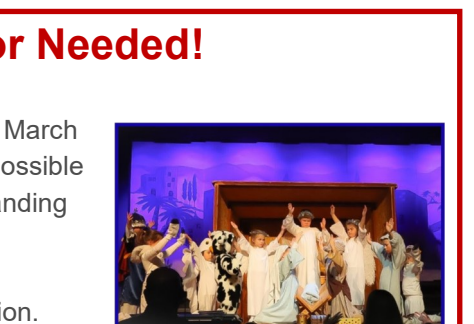
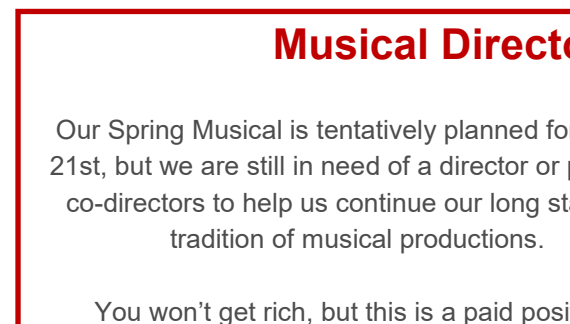
[Lunchroom Sign Up](#)
[Playground Sign Up](#)

1/22/2024	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchroom Servers (Need 2)	1 Parent Needed	Shelly Lemminger 1 Parent Needed	Ann MacGillis 1 Parent Needed	Jessica McDowell 1 Parent Needed	Early Release
Playground Helper	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	Becky Rusch 1 Parent Needed	Rick Stelpflug 1 Parent Needed	Early Release

Week of 1/29/24	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchroom Servers (Need 2)	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed
Playground Helper	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed

*IMPORTANT: all volunteers must have completed the Safeguarding Training. If you have not done so, please contact Steve at scosentino@stam.church.

First Lego League Competes in Sectional Competition!



The St Mary First Lego League team would like to compete in the Wisconsin sectional finals. The team performed well and even received a perfect score on their robot design. This was a tremendous accomplishment for a second year team. The returning members hope to keep the momentum going next fall, along with some new interested students. **Check out [more pictures here!](#)**

SMPS Forensics Team

We are proud to announce our 2023-24 Forensics team! These students will be participating in their first Forensics meet on Friday, January 26th at Central Middle School in Hartford. Good luck, team!

Loreli D. in Persuasive Speaking
Tilly M. in Non-original Oratory
Emma E. and Emma Y. partnering in Infomercial



We are so grateful for Mrs. Schroeder's coaching experience to help them prepare for this adventure. We will share information about each of their performance pieces in future Connection articles. Plus, we'll keep you updated on their success throughout the season! Keep us in your prayers!
- Coach Katie Esser

Our St. Mary Teachers are the Best!

We're proud of our St. Mary teachers and want to show off how wonderful they are and how much they're appreciated! This week we are highlighting our wonderful 4th grade teacher, Ms. Curran. Check out what students, families and fellow teachers had to say:



Ms. Curran - 4th Grade Teacher

"Ms. Curran is a dedicated teacher who works hard to meet each of her students' needs to make sure they succeed. She makes learning fun and engaging! Our daughter loves 4th grade! We are so thankful for Ms. Curran!"
- Jim and Kim Schmitt

"Miss Curran is a wonderful teacher and colleague. She cares about her students and works hard to provide them with a positive learning environment. She serves on our school's Sunshine Committee and organizes potlucks as well as provides the staff with treats. She always knows when we need them, too! Thanks for all you do, Emma!" - Mrs. Halverson

"Ms. Curran has a gifted way of connecting with students that helps them grow academically and personally."
- Marie Butler

"I like Ms. Curran because she helps me understand math. I'm not good at math. She is very encouraging. Miss Curran is the best. She makes my life better."
- Stella P.

[Click here](#) to read more kind words from students and fellow teachers!

Home & School Updates

Volunteer Spotlight: Carla Karczewski

St. Mary School is blessed with many amazing volunteers and we are so grateful for each of them. This week, we are highlighting the contributions of Carla Karczewski. Mrs. Karczewski has been a wonderful volunteer over the years, especially within our school library! Thank you, Carla, for all you have done over the years to support our school community! Check out what others had to say:

"Mrs. Karczewski is a wealth of knowledge! Having 3 boys at SMPS over the years, she helped in so many different areas, in so many different ways! She is generous and thoughtful and always willing to lend a hand or help answer a question (in find the answer). It's a pleasure volunteering with her! Thank you for all you do for the school!"
- Nicole Birschbach

"I've had the pleasure of volunteering with Carla through the years. Carla would "shop" the book fair to fulfill library wishes. She would always be on the lookout for the best new titles, but also try to complete series and fill in gaps to offer the best library selections for our students. Her input and help with Home and School projects was always appreciated. Thanks, Carla for your dedication to St. Mary Parish School!"
- Katie Esser

"Thanks for all you do to keep St. Mary School library up and running. My students love the holiday books that you put on display. I appreciate all you do for the library."
- Mrs. Halverson

"Carla has been running the school library for years. She comes in frequently on her days off to make the library a welcoming place for all students. She has taught me so much and I hope I can follow in her footsteps keeping the library in the same good shape as she has!"
- Sarah Harenke

Trivia Night! February 23, 2024 Doors Open 6:30

Looking for something fun to do to get out of your house during this frigid weather? Come join us for our next St. Mary's Trivia Night. It will be held on February 23rd at 7:00pm, doors open at 6:30. Sign up as a team, or sign up and indicate that you are looking for a team - all adults are welcome! Costumes and themes are welcomed but not required. Trivia winners will receive a cash prize and the traveling Trivia Trophy!!

Sign up [here](#) by February 19th. Questions email or call/text Matt Kuhn 414.688.1933/ [kuhnm1528@yahoo.com](mailto:kuhnmd1528@yahoo.com).

Hope to see you there!

Musical Director Needed!

Our Spring Musical is tentatively planned for March 21st, but we are still in need of a director or possible co-directors to help us continue our long standing tradition of musical productions.

You won't get rich, but this is a paid position.

If you or someone you know may be interested, please have them contact the school office. This is a rewarding role and encourages our students to showcase their talents and gain confidence, while entertaining parents and families. Please spread the word!

Athletics Updates

Concessions Help Needed

There are still a few slots that need to be filled for this weekend's tournament and throughout the remainder of the season. Please [click here for a link to our sign up](#).

The volunteer positions are open to all PARENTS, GRANDPARENTS, AUNTS, UNCLES, etc. who are available and willing to help out. A minimum of 4 spots per family should be filled per season.

Please remember that we depend on volunteers to make this happen. There is no buyout available, and all families involved in St. Mary's Athletics are obligated to help.

Thank you for your help!
-St. Mary Parish Athletic Board

Parish Updates



St. Mary & St. Anthony Irish Gala
Please join us:
Saturday, March 16th.
See image to the left for more info.

Irish Gala
A Celebration of Faith and Fellowship
Saturday, March 16, 2024
Davians Center
N56W16300 Silver Spring Drive | Menomonee Falls, WI



Event Schedule
5:00PM - Registration & Silent Auction
7:00PM - Dinner
8:30PM - Live Auction

Registration \$125 per person
Scan QR code to register
Questions email: stmaucion@stam.church

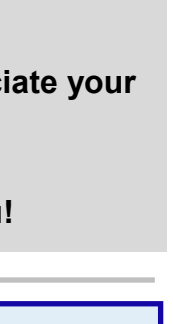
Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners drawn on Jan 17th:
Stephen Memory, Terry Nolan, Angela Cousineau, Colin Courtney, and The Woznick Family

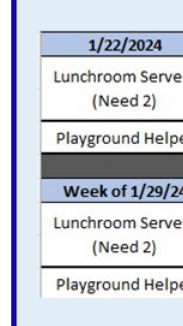
Thank you for your support and participation!

In the Community

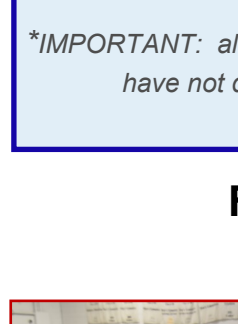
Menomonee Falls Little League Registration: Menomonee Falls Little League Registration is now open through February 15th. Little league is open for various levels for kids ages 4 through 18, T-Ball, softball, and baseball. Those interested can see the Website at fallslittleleague.org for additional information.



Menomonee Falls SPIN Night (Student/Parent Information Night) for incoming 9th grade students: Incoming 9th grade families, join us to meet our administration, counselors and learn about your child's upcoming year. Jan. 29th at 6pm. Click the logo for more info and [here](#) for a parent letter.



Pius XI Winter Youth Dance Clinic: Friday, January 19th. Join Pius XI's award-winning Varsity Poms team for a winter youth clinic from 4:30-8pm at the Pius XI Field House. Click the logo for more info!



Upward Baseball League 2024: Open to Grades K5 - 4th, boys and girls. Begins April 18th. Early bird discount now through Jan. 14th. Deadline to register is March 12, 2024. Click the logo for more information.



Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram!