

CHALLENGING MINDS • DEVELOPING CHARACTER • LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

In celebration of Catholic Schools Week, we would like to share a letter with you from Archbishop Listecki. (Also, read below for detailed information on all the fun and exciting events and activities we have planned as we celebrate this special week, beginning with our Open House this Sunday).

Dear Catholic School Parents,

This year, Catholic Schools Week marks its 50th anniversary with the theme "United in Faith and Community." Those core values can be found in Catholic schools across the nation. Catholic schools teach students to become future servant leaders, faith-filled disciples, and enriched citizens in our communities. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools work. They are what make Catholic schools succeed and it is the reason families make sacrifices to provide their children with an authentic Catholic education.

As parents, your decision to send your child to a Catholic school reflects a family commitment to a quality education that embraces the whole student—mind, body, spirit, and soul. In a Catholic school, Christ is the reason for the school and His presence guides instruction in all academic areas. I invite you to join in the Catholic Schools Week celebration as we recognize the tradition of excellence in schools throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Thank you for making Catholic education a priority in your child's life. Our Catholic schools are part of our future as a Church and as a nation. May God bless them, as well as all the important work you do as a parent, alongside teachers and staff, to educate the mind and shape the heart.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

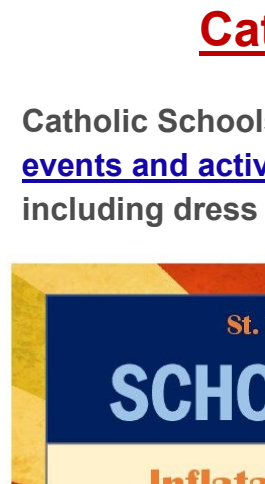
+ Jerome E. Listecki
Most Reverend Jerome E. Listecki
Archbishop of Milwaukee

UPCOMING EVENTS

- SUNDAY**
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. 20**
[Click-It-A-Night](#)
Important App/Ordering Info [here](#)
- Feb. 26**
Home and School Meeting
6pm
- Feb. 29**
Early Release at 11:30am

[View Full Calendar](#)

"The Emotional Lives of Girls with ADHD"



Many girls with ADHD say they feel different, like they don't fit in. They put a great deal of effort into masking, while they internalize anxiety, depression, and big emotions. Without proper support, teen girls can spiral into a rabbit hole of inner turmoil and self-doubt, and may begin to struggle academically and socially. It's important for caregivers, educators, and others to understand the unique challenges facing girls with ADHD.

[Click here](#) to read the full article and access a webinar video replay from Additudemag.com.

St. Mary Parish School Open House
Sunday, January 28, 2024 | 10:30am-1:30pm

Experience the exemplary academic journey that will prepare your child for a lifetime of success.

Discover What Makes Us Different

- Meet our faculty
- Experience our "Living Jesus" environment
- Tour our classrooms
- Have questions answered in a no-pressure setting

TO REGISTER, CALL (262) 251-1050 | [STMARYPARISHSCHOOL.ORG](#)

St. Mary Parish School Open House is this Sunday!
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! It's not too late to register! They can still [R.S.V.P. at this link](#).

We need your help! More Volunteers are still 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!**

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 from 3:10 4:10pm). [Click the logo to register and for more info!](#)

Catholic Schools Week 2024

Catholic Schools week begins this Sunday! Check out all the [events and activities](#) we have planned for this special week, including dress up days and more!

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 still 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!

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](#)

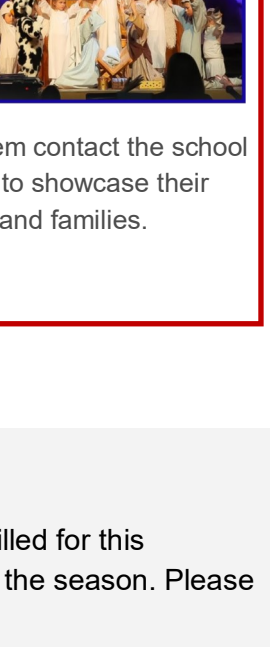
Week of 1/29/24	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Lunchroom Servers (Need 2)	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	Kristin Stanek	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed
Playground Helper	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed	1 Parent Needed

Week of 2/5/24	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.*

Optimist Club Student of the Month: Maddy N.

Maddy is an incredibly consistent and hardworking student. Maddy completes every assignment with effort and attention to detail. Additionally, she has grown in her confidence and her ability to think independently. She understands the need for analyzing her mistakes in order to learn and grow especially during Algebra class.



She works well with all students and can be counted on to help maintain an atmosphere of kindness in the classroom, to the lunchroom or on the playground. When collaborating with a group, she knows how to contribute in a positive way and has stepped up as a leader.

Maddy begins each day with a positive attitude toward learning and the focus she needs to complete her work. Her participation in our school choir, along with being a competitive gymnast, requires her to manage her time and be organized!

It's inspiring to see a student like Maddy embrace challenges and strive for excellence.

Congratulations, Maddy!

7th Graders Learn about Plate Tectonics with Shake Table Activity

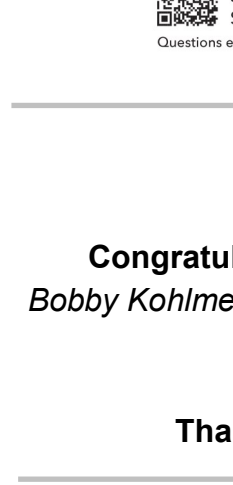


Plate tectonics and earthquakes are fascinating topics that can be both educational and exciting. Recently, our seventh graders learned about these subjects in their science class. As the unit came to a close, the students focused on building designs that could withstand earthquakes. Their task was to build a real tall building out of toothpicks and marshmallows. The goal was to test their building on a real shake table, simulating an earthquake. Prior to building, students were taught about the different types of bracing that engineers use when constructing buildings in earthquake-prone areas. This hands-on activity not only taught students about science and engineering, but also allowed them to utilize their creativity and problem-solving skills.

Thank you to Mr. Rinke for helping make this experience happen. The shake table was sponsored by Spire Engineering and belongs to the Structural Engineers Association of Wisconsin. [Click here](#) to view the building designs and how they stood up to the earthquake shake table!

Great job, students!

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 1st grade teacher, Ms. Kaminski. Check out what students, families and fellow teachers had to say:

Ms. Kaminski—1st Grade Teacher

"Miss Kaminski has been such a blessing to our school community. My son loves having her as his teacher and, 'making everything fun!' She is excellent at communicating and has a clear passion for education. We are so thankful to have her!" - Anne Dolph

"Ms. Kaminski has been a great addition to St. Mary's. She was such a blessing when she joined the school a few weeks into the beginning of the school year. Her command of the classroom and love for her students creates a comfortable learning environment for them. I have enjoyed getting to know her over the past couple of months." - Libby Hietpas

"She is very helpful with us kids. She is very fun because she comes up with fun things for us to do." - Caroline M.

"She doesn't like us, she loves us." - Autumn

"I think Ms. K is a really good teacher because she makes learning fun." - Addy S.

"She's really good at teaching." - Anna

"Addy always has good things to talk about her day. Ms. K has built a caring group of first graders." - Rachel S.

"I like when we get to have a special event when we fill up our token jar. Thank you Ms. Kaminski for your time and efforts!" - Khloe K.

"She's very kind, very pretty, and I love her." - Grace H.

Check out [more quotes here!](#)

Home & School Updates

Volunteer Spotlight: Brandon Kirchoff

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 Brandon Kirchoff. Brandon has been a wonderful volunteer over the years, especially in our Athletics program. Thank you, Brandon, for all you have done over the years to support our students and community! Check out what others had to say:

"Our family would like to genuinely thank Brandon for his dedication to St. Mary School and in particular St. Mary athletics. What he does is time consuming and sometimes thankless. But I can't think of a better person to do it. And the best part is that he models all the virtues that St. Mary stands for and is a great Catholic Christian father and a husband. Thanks for all you do Brandon. God Bless!" - Tappa Family

"I've enjoyed coaching multiple teams with Brandon over the last few years. He cares about the boys on and off the court. He is always willing to give up his time to help the kids grow as players." - Jim Schmitt

"Brandon brings so much passion and energy to the athletics program at St. Mary's. I have had the pleasure of coaching basketball under his guidance, and he has been an outstanding coach to 2 of my kids." - Beky Leupi

"Brandon is a tireless worker and advocate for the St. Mary Basketball Program. He is always on the task helping in any way he can. No task is too big or too small for Brandon to tackle and resolve with ease. From organizing, scheduling and of course, coaching, Brandon is a great leader/mentor to his fellow coaches and players. Thanks Brandon for all you do!" - Mike Micallef

"Brandon is a valuable member of the St. Mary Parish community. He is actively engaged with a number of aspects of the Parish, coaching multiple basketball teams, as well as serving on the Athletic Board as the boys basketball coordinator and the Parish Council. He is a great role model for the boys he coaches. We are lucky to have him and appreciate everything he does!" - Matt and Kathleen Kuhn

"Thanks Brandon for being a great coach! Love how you teach the kids how to be better and grow from each experience they get on the court. Thanks for all you do!" - Emily Brockman

Thank you, Brandon! You are very appreciated!

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.

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 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. ANTHONY & ST. MARY

Irish Gala

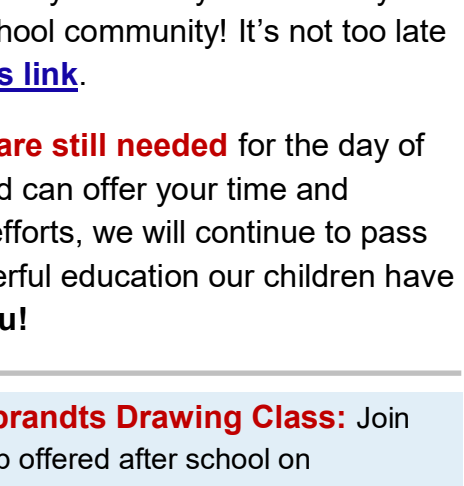
A Celebration of Faith and Fellowship

Saturday, March 16, 2024
Davians Conference 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: stmauction@stam.church

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



Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners drawn on Jan 24th:
Bobby Kohlmetz, Marlene Povolto, Nancy Wood, Zac Meulemans, and Rebecca Schaefer

Thank you for your support and participation!

In the Community

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.

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.

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

