

CHALLENGING MINDS

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DEVELOPING CHARACTER

•

LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,


Thank you to everyone who helped organize, work, donated and walked with us on October 21. You helped us exceed our goal! **We raised a total of \$34,702 and we get to keep 100% of the funds we raised.** These funds are an important part of our operating budget which helps us support teacher salaries. And what is a fundraiser without a little friendly competition? This year's classroom competition was to see who could raise the most money per student. And the winners are... in first place Mrs. Kleinmann's 3rd graders. They will be treated to a bowling party at Krueger's. Ms. Kaminski's first graders came in second and Mrs. Mrozinski's eighth grade class. These classes will get to set the dress code for several days. And since we exceeded our goal, we will be celebrating with an all-school movie on November 21st. Thank you again for your continued support!!

What is your vocation? National Vocations Awareness Week inspires us to reflect on our own calling. Fr. Linn will be taking on this topic as he begins presenting vocation lessons to students during his classroom visits. [Click here](#) for a grade level overview of the curriculum Fr. Linn will be teaching students.

WHAT'S GOING AROUND? We are seeing an increase in illness this week. Coughing and fevers have been the most common symptoms. One case of RSV has been reported in K5 and four cases of COVID have been reported in the last couple of weeks, at various grade levels. Please remember to keep your children home when they are ill. If a child has been ill, she/he should NOT return to school until free of symptoms and fever for 24 hours (without the use of fever reducing medication) and is ready to participate fully in all school activities, recess included.

NEWS WORTH REPEATING...

School Safety - School staff have been trained on a new version of the Standard Response Protocol (SRP). Students have also been learning the symbols and language of the SRP in their homerooms. And now it is your turn. I am hoping that each of you will [carefully read this parent handout](#) and occasionally review the symbols and their meanings with your child. Each symbol is connected to an action. For example:



The SECURE symbol - is followed by the directive: "Get Inside. Lock Outside Doors."

Your handout has more information, but when reviewing with your child please stick to the symbol, command word, and brief directive.

Classrooms have been learning and practicing these protocols and will be drilling on them in the next couple of weeks. One of the features of the SRP is that it is based on an all hazards approach rather than individual scenarios, so the same common language would be used in case of a fire, tornado, or other hazard.

Uniform Policy Update: The School Advisory Committee approved two changes to the uniform policy at the October 17th meeting. These changes are effective immediately and should be updated on the Land's End website. First, we added **red shirts as a color option for ALL grades.** Second, **the sock policy was amended to allow for small logos.** Please remember that socks **must be SOLID COLORS - navy blue, red, white, or black without STRIPES OR PATTERNS.** Click on the links below for the updated uniform charts (updates are highlighted).

[Boys K4-5](#) [Boys 6-8](#) [Girls K4-5](#) [Girls 6-8](#)

Have a great weekend!

Linda Joyner

A Prayer for our Veterans - Lord God, Almighty Father, creator of mankind and author of peace, as we are ever mindful of the cost paid for the liberty we possess, we ask you to bless the members of our armed forces. Give them courage, hope and strength. May they ever experience your firm support, gentle love and compassionate healing. Be their power and protector, leading them from darkness to light. To you be all glory, honor and praise, now and forever. Amen. (source: USCCB)

UPCOMING EVENTS

TONIGHT
Trivia Night
7pm (doors open 6:30)

Nov. 16
[Forensics Information Session](#)
Room 212
After school until 4pm

Nov. 17
[Middle School Social](#)
Activity Center
6 - 8pm
([Permission slip here](#))

Nov. 21
K3-K5 Thanksgiving Feast

Nov. 22 - 24
Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 27
Advent Prayer Service

Nov. 28
End of Trimester

Nov. 29
[Young Rembrandts](#)
Session 2 begins

Nov. 29 - Dec. 1
Holiday Treasures Gift Shop
[View Flyer Here](#)

Dec. 4
Home & School Meeting
7pm

Dec. 14
Christmas Musical
K5 - 2nd
6pm

Dec. 23 - Jan. 2
Christmas Break

[View Full Calendar](#)

Daily Playground and Lunchroom Volunteers Needed

We still have several slots open for our daily lunchroom and recess volunteer needs for the weeks ahead. If you are available to help with lunch (11:20am - 1pm) or recess (12pm - 12:55pm), please use the links below to sign up.

We currently still need many helpers next week.
Please see our upcoming needs below.

| Week of 11/13/23 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Lunchroom Servers (Need 2) | Jessica McDowell 1 Parent Needed | Christine Courtney 1 Parent Needed | Libby Hietpas 1 Parent Needed | 1 Parent Needed | Kim Cook 1 Parent Needed |
| Playground Helper | Becky Leupl | Lisa Crivello | Kristin Latham | Carolyn Stelpflug | Karen McCallieff |

| Week of 11/20/23 | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Lunchroom Servers (Need 2) | Jessica McDowell 1 Parent Needed | 1 Parent Needed | NO SCHOOL | NO SCHOOL | NO SCHOOL |
| Playground Helper | Rick Stelpflug | Becky Leupl | NO SCHOOL | NO SCHOOL | NO SCHOOL |

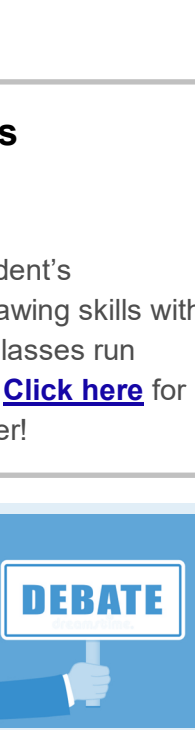
Here are the links to sign up:
[Lunchroom Sign Up](#)
[Playground Sign Up](#)

Also, we're always looking for NEW volunteers! If you have any interest in volunteering in any way to help support our students and families, please let the office know! We can connect you with various committees that fit your interests and talents and help find the best volunteer opportunities for you!

Thank you!


Hot Lunch Portal for December is Now Open!

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, we will need December Hot lunch orders earlier than usual. Please [place your students' hot lunch orders here](#). **Deadline for all orders is Tuesday, Nov. 21st at 12pm.** We will not be able to accept orders placed after that date. Thank you!



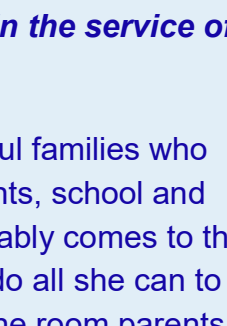
View [December Hot Lunch Menu Here](#)

Next Session of Young Rembrandts Drawing Class begins Nov. 29!



Encourage your K5-5th grade student's enthusiasm for art and help develop their drawing skills with a Young Rembrandts drawing class. Classes run Wednesdays, 3:10 - 4:10pm, 11/29 - 1/24. [Click here](#) for more information and to register!

6th Graders Debate: Who had more impact on the World, Egypt or Mesopotamia?
[Check out the full story here](#) on our school website!



Stay Tuned: Teacher Appreciation Spotlight Coming Soon!

Many of you may remember that we highlighted a different St. Mary Faculty/Staff member in our Weekly Connections last year. We will be starting these special highlights again soon! Please keep an eye on your emails for requests to come in the upcoming weeks asking for quotes from you and/or your students about the great teachers we have here at St. Mary! We know they deserve so much recognition and thanks for all they do for our students, so we are looking forward to bringing this back and letting them know how much we all appreciate their hard work and dedication!

Thank you!

Home & School Updates

Volunteer Spotlight:
Ann MacGillis

"The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." - Mahatma Ghandi

At St. Mary, we are very blessed with many wonderful families who volunteer much of their own time to serve our students, school and community. Ann MacGillis is one such parent that probably comes to the minds of many as one who will go out of her way to do all she can to serve. Between the teachers guild, coaching, leading the room parents and showing our teachers the appreciation they deserve, among so many others, Ann offers our community so many talents and does it all with a smile. Check out what other families had to say!

"Ann has been an integral part in our theater guild for the past several years and has assisted with some of the most amazing productions our school has seen. She's always willing to lend a hand around school and is a stellar volunteer!" - Jessica McDowell

"Whether she's coaching volleyball or leading a Theatre Guild meeting, I noticed that Ann has a way of bringing out the talent in everyone. I also noticed last year that she had a way to make it snow every time she scheduled a Theatre Guild meeting! Thanks, Ann, for all you do for the kids at St Mary's....except for the snow days." - Rick Stelpflug

"Ann is constantly giving of herself and her talents to our school community. From leading the room parents, to sharing her talent of photography to capture our school events, to coaching volleyball and last but certainly not least leading the Theater Guild (which may be lost without her!!) . Ann's dedication and creativity is very generous and greatly appreciated. We are so lucky to have her as part of our SMPS community!" - Kathleen Kuhn

"Ann plays a tremendous role in the success of many school events and activities. Between heading up the Theater Guild Committee, Teacher Appreciation/Room Parent Committee, and coaching Volleyball (there are probably others I'm missing), she always has a smile on her face and a camera in her hand. I had heard her name so many times before I ever met her, so I knew she was going to be something special. Now after working with her more and more, I can confirm she is in fact something special! Thanks for sharing hours of your time, dedication and fun personality Ann!" - Libby Hietpas

"Ann is constantly helping our students both during school hours in the cafeteria and after school coaching. Thank you for all your work!" - Mr. Burleigh

"Ann is thoughtful, talented and generous. She clearly demonstrates how much she cares about our St. Mary community. Thank you for all that you do, Ann! You deserve to be recognized." - Donna Roesch

"Ann is an amazing volunteer and very important person at St Mary's. Ann has stepped up to lead many critical committees and offers a wealth of knowledge and passion for these unpaid positions! Ann is always thinking of others and has a gift for making teachers, students and players feel extra special. I was lucky enough to coach alongside Ann the last three years on the volleyball court and have enjoyed every minute of it! Ann is once again offering up her talents and creativity for the Christmas play this season, so we know it will be amazing! Thank you, Ann, for putting the love in all you do for St. Mary Parish School - Teachers, Students, Parents, and Players appreciate you!" - Kristin Stanek

"Mrs. MacGillis was a great coach for all our volleyball teams throughout our middle school lives. She has put a lot of time, commitment, and effort into coaching our team. We have achieved so much with her and have created a lot of great memories. Coach MacGillis helped us get to and prepare for the Seton Tournament. We will always remember the St. Jude's game at Seton and that last win as a team! When she's not coaching, we see her wandering around school serving pizza, helping/ leading amazing plays, or setting up a lunch for our teachers. We are going to miss you so much Coach MacGillis! Thanks for making volleyball so much fun!" - Addy and Julia

"Ann is simply both amazing and incredible, with endless dedication and service to our school, community and parish! She volunteers for literally everything she can, and when she is part of those activities is so positive, nurturing and kind! We are so lucky to have you as part of our school, parish and community. Thank you so very much for everything you do and everything you are!!!!" - The Woznick Family



Middle School Hawaiian Party!
Friday, Nov. 17th
6 - 8pm
Activity Center

Please turn [permission slips](#) to the office as soon as possible so we can better plan!

Join us for Live DJ, Dancing, Games, Sno-Cones, Prizes and MORE!
Cost: \$10 per student (Billed to BlackBaud/SmartTuition)

[View Flyer Here](#)

Volunteers are needed the night of the dance!!
Items and donations are also needed.
Sign up to [volunteer and/or donate here](#).

We already have nearly 40 students signed up, but are hoping for even more! Come join the fun and send in your signed permission slip!

Hope to see you there!

Forensics Informational Meeting
Thursday, Nov. 16th,
After School, Rm 212




Is your middle schooler(s) interested in strengthening his/her public speaking skills while having fun with friends? Consider Forensics and have your student join us for an informational meeting after school on **Thursday, Nov. 16th.**

***Students who attend must have a parent complete this [Change of Dismissal form](#). Thank you.**

[Flyer and Additional Important Info Here!](#)

Holiday Treasures Gift Shop



St. Mary's is hosting a Christmas shop for the students. They will be attending with their class on **Thursday, November 30th** or **Friday, December 1st.**

Please check out the [flyer](#) for more important information and to access the link to view available gifts!

Volunteers are also needed and greatly appreciated:
You can [sign up here](#). Thank you!

[View Flyer Here](#)

Parish Updates



Speaker Series
Seminarian Aaron Siehr Presents:
"...As in Heaven..."
Learn about the Catholic understanding of Heaven and common misconceptions.
Nov. 19 at 10:45 AM
Join us in the Lower Level Conference Rooms of St. Mary Parish School.
(Celebrating the Year of the Parish Ecclesial Revival)



Reserve Your Child's Advent Activity Pack

St. Mary's Ellizabeth Ministry is offering an Advent Activity Packet for children ages 2 to fifth grade to bring Jesus' light to your family and count down the days to Christmas. Contact Ellizabeth Ministry Coordinator Geri Roskopf at geriroskopf@sbcglobal.net or 262-255-1494 to reserve yours. Packets will be available Dec. 2 and 3 after Masses.

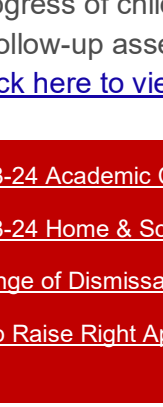
Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners drawn on Nov. 1st:
Shelby Mass, Ryan Garvey, Crivello Family, and Laura Nagan

And special congrats to this \$150 winner drawn Nov. 10th:
Margaret Hamilton

Thank you for your support and participation!

In the Community



Building a Culture of Vocations: Helping Your Child Discern God's Will: Thursday, Nov. 30th at Chesterton Academy. 6:-6:45pm: Holy Hour for Vocations; 7-- 8:30pm: Keynote and Q & A. Free and Open to the Public!
[Click here](#) for more information and to register.

Child Development Day: Germantown School District invites those interested to Child Development Day, offered Nov. 6th, Jan. 8th and April 8th. Appointments required and will offer developmental screening to confirm the progress of children and to possibly identify children who may show a need for a follow-up assessment. (for children age 2 years, 9 months through age 5. [Click here to view the flyer.](#)

[2023-24 Academic Calendar](#)

[Playground Volunteer Sign Up](#)

[2023-24 Home & School Calendar](#)



[Lunchroom Volunteer Sign Up](#)

[Change of Dismissal](#)

[November Hot Lunch Menu](#)

[Scrip Raise Right App](#)

[December Hot Lunch Menu](#)



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