



CHALLENGING MINDS ● DEVELOPING CHARACTER ● LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

**What a spectacular night!** Our K5, 1st, and 2nd grade students did an amazing job performing A Christmas Yarn last night!

**Many thanks to:**

- Mrs. Halverson and Ms. Barez who stepped out of their comfort zone to co-direct the musical
- Miss Schaeffer for sharing her vocal talents and her love for music
- Mark Mauer who has been dedicated to helping us produce our musicals for 20 plus years

**And Thank You To Our Sponsors:**

- McDonald's (Kennedy family)
- MacGillis Wiemer, LLC (MacGillis family)

Lastly, **Thank You** for your generous donations! Your support helps us provide every student with the opportunity to participate in a musical performance every year they are at St. Mary.

Total Cost of Production	\$2774
Sponsorships/Donations	\$1488
Uncovered Balance	\$1286

We were very pleased at the number of parents, faculty and parishioners who attended one or both of the Wisconsin School Choice Program (WSCP) informational meetings this week. If you were unable to attend the meetings, we are hoping you can watch the video recording and follow up with me if you have any questions or concerns. See links below.

[Nicholas Kelly, Wisconsin School Choice Presentation slides for video #2](#)

Our last day of school before Christmas is Thursday, December 22nd. This will be an out-of-uniform day so students can wear those fun (ugly) Christmas sweaters again! School will resume on Tuesday, January 3rd.

Have a great weekend!  
Linda Joyner

UPCOMING EVENTS	
<b>Dec. 16</b>	Movie Night <a href="#">(link to permission slip)</a> (Doors open 6:30pm, Movie starts 6:40pm)
<b>Dec. 21</b>	Marquette Basketball Game Field Trip (8th Graders)
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Out-of-Uniform Day
<b>Dec. 22</b>	Christmas Caroling at Millpond Senior Apts (1st & 8th grade)
<b>Dec. 23 - Jan 2</b>	Christmas Break
<b>Jan. 3</b>	Classes Resume
<b>Jan. 16</b>	Chipotle Night, 4-8pm
<b>Jan. 9</b>	Junior Docent School Program at Art Museum (3rd, 4th, some 5th)
<b>Jan. 27</b>	No School/In-Service Day
<b>Jan. 29</b>	Open House 11am - 2pm

[View Full Calendar](#)

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: Calendar Raffles are due to the school office by Thursday, December 22nd or to the parish office by Friday, December 30th.**

## A Spectacular Night at A Christmas Yarn Musical and Nativity!

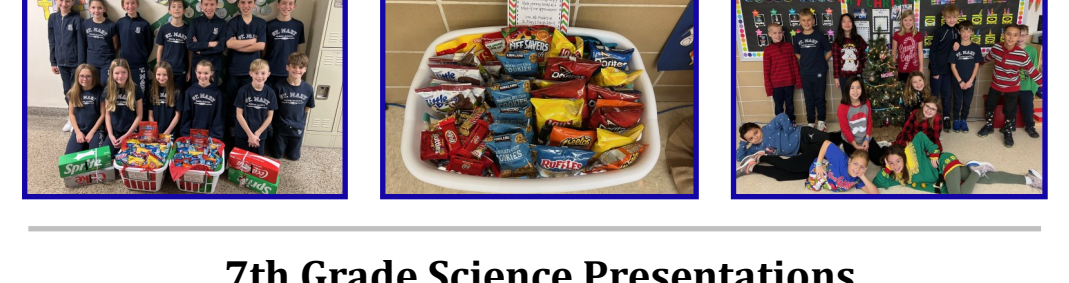
We are so proud of how wonderful all of the students performed at last night's musical and nativity! We can't say thank you enough to all of the teachers, volunteers, sponsors and parents who helped make this possible for our students and community! It was a magical night that these students will remember for years to come, and we should all feel so proud to be a part of this St. Mary Family!

[Click HERE for an album of more photos from the musical/nativity!](#)



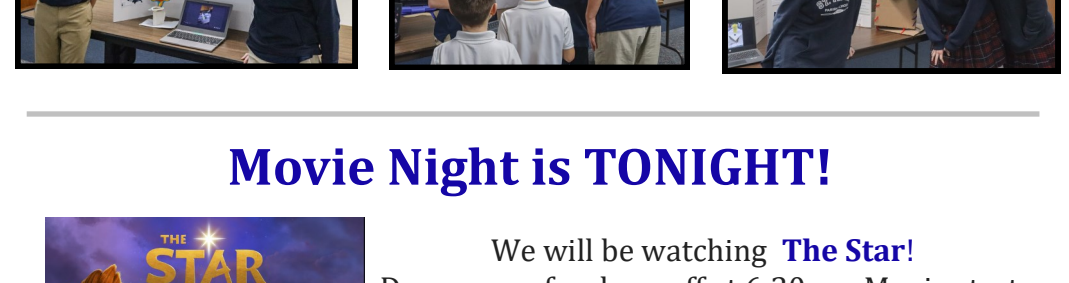
## ADVENT SERVICE PROJECTS ARE IN FULL SWING

Our students have been busy collecting items for baskets that they are donating to various police stations, fire stations, hospitals and clinics in our local communities. Below is Mrs. Nowicki's class proudly showing off the goodies they collected for Aurora Health Care, and Ms. Curran's class showing off their ugly sweaters along with their Advent Project basket for the Milwaukee Police Department. We're grateful for all the students who have donated to help spread goodness, cheer and the work of Jesus in our communities. Thank you all!



## 7th Grade Science Presentations

In 7th grade science, the students learn about natural disasters (floods, tornadoes, hurricanes, and earthquakes). Students were tasked with becoming an expert on one natural disaster and researching the answer to questions like why does the natural disaster occur, what region in the US does the natural disaster tend to happen, how do we measure the natural disaster in terms of severity, and more. Students prepared a tri-fold display to share their research. [Check out the photos and a full description of the project here](#), and you'll see that many other students were able to learn and ask questions about their projects, too!



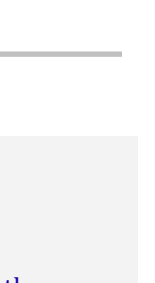
## Movie Night is TONIGHT!

We will be watching **The Star!**  
Doors open for drop-off at 6:30pm, Movie starts at 6:40pm. **Pick-up will start at 8:15pm.**  
*Come in your jammies or comfy clothes, bring a blanket/sleeping bag/pillow, and get ready to enjoy the movie with your friends!*

There is a \$6 entrance fee and concessions will be sold. Signed [permission slips](#) can be turned in at the door if needed.

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

Still looking for a gift idea for a special teacher? Check out this list of our [teachers' favorite things!](#)



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

## Home & School Updates

### Volunteer Spotlight

#### Katlyn Kennedy

We can't think of a better time than now to give a huge thank you to Katlyn Kennedy for all she does for our St. Mary Community. Not only did she give her time and creative talents to help make the Christmas Musical and Nativity happen, she and Mr. Kennedy also stepped up as a sponsor (McDonald's) to support the production. Kate has been an amazing volunteer in so many different aspects outside of the musical/Theatre Guild, as well. Check out what a few others had to say..

*"Kate is such a positive and helpful person who is always willing to go out of her way and put in the extra time and effort to make whatever volunteer role she's filling extra meaningful. She recently said yes to leading the Theatre Guild with me for the Christmas play, and jumped in head first, making this production and long standing tradition possible. Grateful for Kate and the Kennedy family for their generous spirit!"* - Ann MacGillis

*"Katlyn is always willing to lend a helping hand. She is positive and has great ideas. Ms. Barez and I enjoyed working with her on the Christmas Musical. She had creative ideas for costumes, props for the set, as well as decorating different pieces of the set. Thank you for being a part of our St. Mary community!"* - Mrs. Halverson

*"Kate Kennedy has always gone above and beyond for St. Mary's. She always has a smile on her face and ready with a positive attitude. She is one of the most selfless women I know. We are truly blessed to have her at St. Mary's."* - Marie Welch

*"Kate Kennedy is an amazing parent volunteer. She is always willing to lend a hand wherever and whenever help is needed. Anything from room parent, to pizza lunch, to the school play, Kate does it all. She is a wonderful person inside and out and I am grateful to have her as a friend within our school community."* - Arin Nguyen

*"Kate has been a blessing to St. Mary Parish School! She started volunteering as a room parent and has expanded her time and effort to many more St. Mary school activities over the past two years. Kate is quick to lend a helping hand and does all she can to make an event successful! Kate has expanded her volunteer roles to help with serving pizza lunch on Wednesdays, School Day Fun Fair, Catholic Schools Walk and Theatre Guild, to name a few! She is a pleasure to work with and an awesome person and friend."* - Kristin Stanek

*"Kate is always willing to help out the school with her time and talent. Currently, she helped make the Christmas play successful. But other times you will see her at pizza lunch or getting the mother/son started again. Kate is willing to drop what ever she is doing to help St Mary when they need it and she always brings her positive attitude and pretty smile."* - Katie Weiske

**THANK YOU, KATE, FOR ALL YOU DO!**

### Home and School Meeting Update

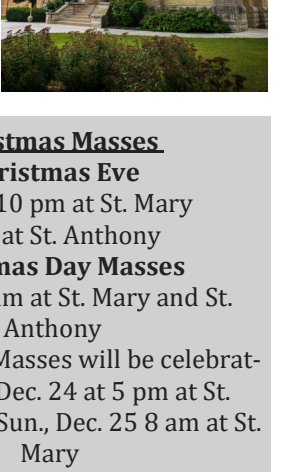
Check out the Meeting Minutes from the last H&S Meeting from Jan. 6th.  
Next H&S Meeting is scheduled for **Jan. 9th at 7pm** in the School Conference Rooms. All are welcome!

## Parish Updates

Dear Parish School Families,  
This year my message to you is in the form of a simple prayer. Keep this letter and pray with your family at mealtime or bedtime. The extra time spent in prayer will bring amazing grace and peace to your hearts and your homes and strengthen us as a parish family.

Heavenly Father,  
You have given us the model of life, in the Holy Family of Nazareth. Help us, O loving Father, to make our family another Nazareth where love, peace and joy reign. May we love one another as God loves each one of us, more and more each day, and forgive each other's faults as you forgive our sins. Help us, O Loving Father, to take whatever you give and give whatever you take with a big smile.

In Christ,  
Monsignor Ross Shecterle & Fr. Andrew Linn



**Christmas Masses**  
**Christmas Eve**  
4:30 & 10 pm at St. Mary  
5 pm at St. Anthony  
**Christmas Day Masses**  
8 & 10:30 am at St. Mary and St. Anthony  
Incense-free Masses will be celebrated on Sat., Dec. 24 at 5 pm at St. Anthony and Sun., Dec. 25 8 am at St. Mary

**Blood Drive is Dec. 29**  
St. Mary Parish & School and St. Anthony Parish are hosting a community Blood Drive from 1:30 to 6:30 pm on Thursday, Dec. 29. The location will be St. Mary Parish School, N89W16215 Cleveland Ave., Menomonee Falls. Sign up online at [bit.ly/StMaryStAnthony122922](http://bit.ly/StMaryStAnthony122922) or call (877) 232-4376. You will receive a \$15 e-gift card as a thank you for donating blood during the holiday season. Your name will also be entered into a drawing for a car.  
**Please Note: The Parish Office will be closed on Dec. 23 and 26**

## Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 winners that were drawn on December 14th:  
*Rita Carstens, Joe McCabe, Frankowski Family, Brian Farvour, and Tony Nguyen.*

**Thank you for your support.**

## In the Community

*\*If you know of local events/programs and want them to be added here, please email [mccabeh@smps.school](mailto:mccabeh@smps.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](#)



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