



CHALLENGING MINDS • DEVELOPING CHARACTER • LIVING JESUS

Dear St. Mary's Families,

Next week, we begin our Lenten journey—a sacred season of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Throughout these 40 days, our students will engage in meaningful moments that connect them more deeply to our shared faith. We invite you to join us for Ash Wednesday Mass as we, as a community, embrace this call to spiritual renewal: turning away from sin and remaining faithful to the Gospel. Our Lenten observances will include daily prayers, acts of kindness and service, and a culminating reflection on Christ's sacrifice through the Stations of the Cross.

I encourage you to embrace this season as a family—set aside time for prayer, make small sacrifices with great love, and seek opportunities to serve others. If you're not sure where to begin, we have resources available to guide you. This journey toward Christ is one we take together, and with each step, we strengthen both our faith and our community.

Next week also brings a very different kind of journey—one filled with imagination, adventure, and the joy of reading! Read Across America Week is just around the corner, featuring themed dress-up days, surprise DEAR (Drop Everything and Read) moments, hands-on STEAM activities, and, of course, the Book Fair! Reading is a gift that fuels curiosity, expands knowledge, and strengthens minds—so let's celebrate it with all the excitement it deserves!

These upcoming events reflect the heart of who we are as a school. When we say we support *diverse learners*, that means *every* child. Each student is uniquely created by God, with different strengths, challenges, and ways of learning. Our mission is to see them, meet them where they are, and help them grow into the person He calls them to be. Whether through faith formation, academic growth, or joyful experiences like Read Across America, we are committed to nurturing each student's full potential.

Thank you for being part of this mission. I look forward to walking through these meaningful moments with you in the coming weeks.

Blessings,  
Mrs. Wood

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TONIGHT**  
[Mother-Son Cornhole Tournament](#)  
Doors open 5:30pm

**Mar. 2**  
[St. Mary Ministry Fair and Knights of Columbus Pancake Breakfast](#)  
8am - 12:30pm (Marian Hall)

**Mar. 3 - 7th**  
[Literati Book Fair & Read Across America Week](#)

**Mar. 6**  
End of Trimester 2

**Mar. 12**  
Home & School Meeting 5:30pm

**Mar. 14**  
Movie Night: Leo 6:30pm

**Mar. 20**  
Moana Jr. Musical 3rd-5th grades 1pm & 6:30pm

**Mar. 24 - 28**  
Spring Break

**Apr. 11**  
[Trivia Night](#) 7pm  
[Sign up here](#)

[View 2024-2025 Academic Calendar here](#)

**Cleveland Ave New morning Procedure**

We are making an important change to the Cleveland Ave morning drop-off to ensure student safety.

Beginning immediately, all students will enter the building upon arrival rather than waiting outside.

This change keeps children away from moving traffic, ensures supervision, and creates a structured start to the day.

There is NO change to the Activity Center drop-off.

Thank you for partnering with us to prioritize safety.

**Last Call for Parent Survey!**

If you haven't already done so, please complete the annual parent survey below. Thank you to those of you who have already shared your feedback.

**PARENT SURVEY**

PLEASE SCAN QR CODE TO COMPLETE OUR PARENT SURVEY

**ST. MARY PARISH SCHOOL**

**Resources for your Lenten Journey**

LOYOLAPRESS, NCEA, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, WORD OF FIRE, Hallow

**Dr. Seuss Literacy Celebration**  
March 3rd - 7th

Join us in celebrating Dr. Seuss' Birthday and Read Across America Week with a Seuss-tastic Spirit Week!

One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish Monday  
*Dress Down:* Choose to wear Red or Blue. We'll graph the number of students wearing each color.

Fox in Sox Tuesday  
Wear silly or mismatched socks with your uniform

We are Kind Wednesday  
Students will be encouraged to display Random acts of Kindness

Hats Off to Seuss Thursday  
Wear your favorite hat with your uniform

I'm Not Going to Get Up Friday!  
*Dress Down:* Wear pajamas for a reading celebration!

**Who Reads? We Read!**

**HELP NEEDED: Read-a-thon Readers/Volunteers Still Needed!**

We will conclude our weeklong celebration of reading with an all-school read-a-thon. We are in need of a few volunteers to circulate, pass out supplies, and read with our younger readers. Show up in your comfiest clothing and be ready to read! 10 Slots available. Please [sign up here](#). Thank you!

**Director of Teaching: From the Desk of Mrs. Mogilevsky:**

Looking for extra math practice for your K5-5th grader? Check out the [Math at Home](#) site for engaging activities aligned with your child's current math unit!

**Telling our Good News:**

**Our Good News: 6th Grade STEM Challenge at CMH**

Congratulations to our 6th grade STEM challenge team for rocketing into 4th place at CMH's STEM Challenge. You really engineered success with your bright ideas and calculated moves—what an electrifying achievement! Keep experimenting, problem-solving, and shooting for the stars!

**Our St. Mary Teachers are the Best:**

We are so proud to have such amazing teachers here at St. Mary, and we want to show off how much they are appreciated by our students, families and fellow faculty! This week we are highlighting our Learning Support Specialist, Mrs. Riffle. Check out what some students and others had to share about her.

**Teacher Spotlight: Mrs. Riffle, Learning Support Specialist**

"She is awesome! She teaches us really important things about writing that I would not even imagine. She also helps me understand the English language."  
- Hazel

"I like Mrs. Riffle because whenever I walk in the door, she greets me with a smile that brightens up my day. I also like that she helps me with my learning."  
- Lucas B.

"Mrs. Riffle is nice and helps me understand things."  
- Joey P.

"I like Mrs. Riffle because she is kind, helpful, and caring."  
- Stella M.

[Read more quotes shared about Mrs. Riffle here.](#)

**Home & School Updates:**

**Literati STORY ARCADE BOOK FAIR**

LEVEL UP YOUR READING GAME + SPRING 2025

**BOOK FAIR Happening Online Now! In-Person Book Buy is March 6th!**

Our in person book fair is almost here! Students will **preview the books on Tuesday, March 4th** and have the option to **buy on Thursday, March 6th**. Attached is the gift card purchasing guide. This will be easier than cash for your student(s) on book buy day. Money can easily be lost, especially by younger children. With purchasing giftcards, we are able to look up your child's name to be able to pay for the books. If not all of the giftcard is used, it will be saved in your child's account for future use. Our school's link for the book fair is [here](#).

Something new offered for our students is the Literati Book Club Membership. They send 5 books each month that are curated to your child's likes and reading ability. You keep what they love and send back what they don't. If you sign your child up anytime before March 7th, our school receives added benefits and will be able to purchase more books for our classrooms and library.

[Book Club Membership](#)

A few helpers are needed for Thursday. If you can help, please send an email. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to also contact me at [ashley.kohanowski@gmail.com](mailto:ashley.kohanowski@gmail.com). Thank you!

**Movie Night (Last one of the year!): Leo**  
March 14  
6:30pm - 8:15pm

This event is for enrolled St. Mary students only.

**Cost:** \$6 donation per student billed through BlackBaud.

The students bring sleeping bags and pillows, and many of the younger students like to wear pajamas!

Parent and middle school helpers are needed. Please [sign up to help here!](#)

Questions? Contact Mary Strankowski at [m.strankowski@yahoo.com](mailto:m.strankowski@yahoo.com)

**Trivia Night**  
FRIDAY, APRIL 11TH  
7PM  
SIGN UP HERE TODAY!

**(DOORS OPEN 6:30) ACTIVITY CENTER**

**CLICK HERE TO SIGN UP!**

Trivia night is open to all school families and parishioners but also family, friends, neighbors. Compete for a cash prize and the traveling trophy! Spread the word! Make a team and come join the fun!!!

**TICKET \$10**

Trivia night is a fun adult night out- bring your own snacks and beverages (adult beverages are welcome)! Costumes are welcome but not required! Cost is \$10 per person, teams up to ten people Contact the school office for a babysitter list! Hope to see you there!

**QUESTIONS? EMAIL KUHNMD1528@YAHOO.COM**

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

We need your help! Weekly volunteer slots are available! Thank you in advance for your consideration in signing up and volunteering! *\*Please note, all volunteers must have completed the Safeguarding Training. If you have not done so, please contact the School Office at [office@smps.school](mailto:office@smps.school)*

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

**Join us for our next Home & School Meeting:**

**PUT THIS ON YOUR CALENDAR!**

All our welcome to join us at our next H&S meeting on March 12 at 5:30pm. Take a look at our Home and School Activities Calendar [here](#) for a peek at all H&S sponsored events scheduled this school year!

**Athletics Updates:**

**St. Mary's Track and Field Team**

**Boys & Girls Grades 5th through 8th**  
**Sign up Deadline is March 7th**

Please click [here](#) for the flyer with more information and the registration link!

**WARRIOR ATHLETICS**

**St. Mary 7th Grade Girls Tournament**  
Continues Saturday and Sunday!  
Please join us!  
View Bracket [here!](#)  
Good luck and Go Warriors!

**VOLUNTEERS FOR CONCESSIONS/ ADMISSIONS NEEDED THIS WEEKEND!**  
[Please sign up here.](#)  
Thank you!

**Parish Updates:**

**St. Mary Ministry Fair AND KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS PANCAKE BREAKFAST**

Learn about opportunities to get involved in the parish while enjoying a delicious breakfast.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 2**  
8AM - 12:30PM  
MARIAN HALL

St. Mary School (Lower Level - Handicaps accessible)  
Prices: \$6 Adults, \$5 Seniors, & \$3 children (4-12)  
PANCAKES, FRENCH TOAST, SAUSAGE, HASH BROWNS & EGGS

**Calendar Raffle Winners:**

Congratulations to these \$30 winners drawn Feb. 26th:  
*Becky Leupi, Ryan Strankowski, Carol Kazmierczak, Christine Herbst, and Lynn Rinzel*

Thank you for your participation!

**In the Community:**

**Rocket Aquatics Learn to Swim Clinics:** For children between the ages of 4-14 and interested in improving and developing basic swimming strokes geared towards competitive swimming, building endurance, swimming and having fun. Click [here](#) for more info.

**University School of Milwaukee Summer Camps:** Options exist for full summer, extended session, mini session, and weekly registrations, open to age 3 - 9th grade! Click [here](#) for more info on all of the opportunities offered!

**WI Conservatory of Music Summer Camps:** Options for grades 2 - 12! From Music Exploration Camps for our youngest campers, to specialized camps for teens, we've got you covered! Click [here](#) for more info.

**WISCONSIN CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC**

**CSTS**

**Join the CSTS Community:** A community of empowered athletes. Explore the training options for all middle and high school athletes [here](#).

2024-25 Academic Calendar | Home & School Calendar

[Strip Raise Right App](#) | [Lunchroom Volunteer Sign Up](#)

[Change of Dismissal](#) | [Playground Volunteer Sign Up](#)

[Safeguarding Training/CMG Connect](#) | [March Hot Lunch Menu](#)

Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram!