

# St. Mary Parish School



Challenging Minds • Developing Character • Living Jesus

## The Connection

**Tuesday, December 22 is Wear your Christmas Spirit Day!**

December 18, 2020

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Dear Families,

As we head into Christmas break, I would like to take a moment to reflect back on the past ten months. Last March, when we first heard that the flu season was being complicated by a new coronavirus that had been detected in China, none of us knew what was coming. Despite our lack of experience in dealing with a pandemic, we, like every other school across the country, developed completely new ways of operating. Last spring saw all students learning virtually from home and there were so many unknowns.

Over the summer we worked hard to develop and implement policies and procedures that would allow the reopening of our school for in-person learning in the fall. And here we are at the end of 2020, with four successful months of keeping our students safe, healthy, and learning in-person. Virtual “zooming” into class when students are quarantined or at home with the sniffles has almost become commonplace. And who could have ever imagined that teachers in quarantine would be zooming into classrooms to teach their students from home? To say that the pandemic has had an impact on education is an understatement. I think it is safe to say that education will never be the same and in some ways this is good.

This pandemic has challenged us to step outside of our comfort zones to be more creative, flexible, resilient, and responsive to the needs of our students, staff, and families. I am so appreciative of our faculty and staff who have risen to this challenge and continue to work hard for their students and our school. And, I applaud you, our families, who have persevered and adapted with us as all this continues to unfold. Your patience and support of our staff has been greatly appreciated!

As we move into Christmas break, please take a minute to read this [important message from Waukesha County Executive Paul Farrow](#). Please take note of his advice to modify traditional activities to protect the safety of the community while participating in the holiday season.

On behalf of our entire faculty and staff, I would like to wish you all a safe, healthy, and blessed Christmas. And here’s hoping for a new year that is somewhat less adventurous than 2020!

Faithfully,  
Linda Joyner

### UPDATED QUARANTINE GUIDELINES FOR COVID-19

The Waukesha County Health Department and the Wisconsin Department of Health Services have accepted new quarantine recommendations from the Centers for disease Control and Prevention that allow for some asymptomatic individuals to shorten their quarantine period.

[Click here for detailed information.](#)

### ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT

During December, students collected special items to fill Christmas boxes for Burmese refugee children who have been relocated to Wisconsin. Thanks to everyone’s generosity, we were able to put together ninety gift boxes that will be delivered to the refugee children in time for Christmas.



### November Optimist Club Student of the Month



Congratulations to Maddie Mrozinski. Maddie is a great example to the rest of her classmates as she always comes to class prepared and ready to learn. She is kind, caring and respectful of her peers and teachers. Maddie shows a genuine curiosity about her Faith and knows God is calling her to be an example to others.

### December Optimist Club Student of the Month



Congratulations to Nick Lipski. Nick has demonstrated many positive qualities in class and works extremely hard. He is respectful of his classmates, polite, helpful, organized and takes initiative. Nick has a lot of positive energy and is curious about learning. He has grown into a fine, upstanding young man.

### 2021 CALENDAR RAFFLE

Please make sure to turn in your calendar raffles before the end of December. As of today, only 63% of our school families have turned in their raffles. We really need everyone’s participation since the proceeds from this fundraiser are part of our general operating budget.

You may send your Calendar Raffles to the school office through Tuesday, December 22. After Tuesday, they can be dropped off at the parish office through December 30.

### 2020 Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 raffle winners drawn on Dec. 16: **Alice Palank, Frank & Michele Kohanowski, Betty Groh, Randall Yokes & Diane Yokes and Matthew Memory.**

Thank you all for participating.

**Spiritwear Order Update:** Orders will be distributed to your youngest or only child on **Monday, December 21st.** If you do not want your student to see the order, please contact the office to make arrangements for pickup.

### December 2020

22 Out-of-Uniform Day  
8:15—Liturgy: K3, K4, 1 & 2

Christmas Break  
December 23—January 1

4 School resumes

### Tuesday, Dec. 22

Students may dress in their favorite Christmas Attire. Out-of-uniform guidelines apply.



Please refer to the [Family Handbook for more information.](#)

### Links

- [Dec-Jan hot lunch menus](#)
- [Out-of-Uniform Policy](#)
- [School Closing Policy](#)
- [Change of Dismissal](#)
- [Scrip Schedule](#)
- [Scrip Raise-Right App](#)
- [2020-21 Academic Calendar](#)

### In the Community

[Spring Futura Virtual Spanish](#)



LIVE JESUS,  
ADORE THE EUCHARIST