



CHALLENGING MINDS ● DEVELOPING CHARACTER ● LIVING JESUS

Dear Families,

PowerSchool seems to be back up and running for most of the day today, so we are hopeful that we can get **report cards sent out on schedule, Friday, December 10th**.

We are so excited to be presenting our first musical since the pandemic! [The Night Shift Before Christmas](#), will be performed by our K5-2nd grade students on Thursday, December 16th at 6:30 p.m. We may be able to livestream the performance, so stay tuned for more information about that and COVID protocols.

The teachers and I would greatly appreciate your prompt attention in helping us resolve a couple of ongoing issues. First, the federal mask mandate for public transportation has been extended, so that means that **students will need to continue wearing masks when riding on a school bus. They also need to wear a mask when singing in music class.** We have asked that students keep a mask in their backpacks for these purposes but are finding that more and more students are coming to the office because they don't have masks when they need them. We had quite a few "free" masks from the government to give out, but now are having to purchase them. I understand that students will forget occasionally, lose a mask, or have one break, but having to give out dozens of masks each day is getting expensive.

Secondly, teachers have a lot to do and have been spending way too much time giving out uniform warnings to students, many of which do not seem to get corrected. Beginning this trimester students found in violation of the dress code will be given a written warning that is to be signed by a parent. After the third violation they will receive a consequence. Please take some time to carefully review the uniform policy in the [Family Handbook](#), located on our website.

Thank you for your generosity! I am overjoyed to report that our buy-out of uniform day to support the injured students at Waukesha Catholic was a great success! We raised a total of \$1,150. Our donation will be sent directly to Waukesha Catholic along with the donations from our other deanery schools. Thank you again for supporting this cause.

Many thanks to everyone who has volunteered to fulfill one or more of our service needs. If you have not signed up yet there are [still many opportunities to help out](#) and fulfill your 25-hour commitment.

Faithfully,

Linda Joyner



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 5 St. Nicholas Eve
- 6 SCRIP Day
Home & School Mtg, 6:30pm
- 8 School Liturgy, 8:10am
- 9 [Holiday Treasures](#) visit
Junior Achievement (gr 3)
- 10 [Holiday Treasures](#) visit
- 13 Blood Drive, 12:30-7pm
- 15 School Liturgy, 8:10am
- 16 [Christmas Musical](#)
1pm dress rehearsal
6:30pm Performance
- 17 Spelling Bee
- 23 Christmas Break begins



Jan 4 School resumes

[View Full Calendar](#)



New COVID Cases

11/15	11/22	11/29
0	0	0

Advent: More than a Chocolate Calendar

Advent is the season of devout and joyful preparation of the coming of Jesus. If you want to enter the season of Advent, then click on the photo to understand what it really is



Holiday Treasures Gift Shop

Students can shop for inexpensive, heartfelt gifts for their families when they visit the shop with their homeroom class on December 9th or 10th. [Follow this link](#) for more information.



Volunteers are needed to assist the children while shopping. Sign up for a time through this [link](#).

The Season of Giving

Speaking of the Holidays, **St. Mary's Calendar Raffle** is a great stocking stuffer or hostess gift. Families are asked to sell/purchase a minimum five-pack of calendars. Additional raffle tickets are available in the school and parish offices. [Click here for further details.](#) And check below to see this week's winners from last years sale.

Calendar Raffle Winners

Congratulations to these \$30 raffle winners drawn on December 1st: **Terri Noll, Johnny Nguyen, Terri Noll, Christine & Steve Herbst and St. Mary Parish School.**

Christmas Musical, December 16

St. Mary's K5, 1st & 2nd grade student present "The Night Shift before Christmas". [Join us and the other 'night-owls'](#) at Bethlehem's only 24-hour roadside restaurant, the Falafel House!



Advent Family Evening

All families of St. Anthony, St. Mary Parish, CGS families and St. Mary Parish School families are invited to join us for our first Advent Family Evening. Join us for dinner, advent activities, Adoration, music and Confession. [RSVP by December 13th](#) for:



Advent Family Evening
Saturday, December 18
4:30 Mass (Optional) 6:00—8:00 pm (includes dinner)
Hosted at St. Anthony Parish

First Friday of Advent

From Kathleen Cepelka,
 Archdiocesan School Superintendent

*"He touched their eyes and said,
 'Let it be done for you according to your faith.'
 And their eyes were opened." Matt. 9:29*

Today's readings have special significance for Catholic educators, prompting us to reflect on the importance of sight. The prophet Isaiah, in today's first reading, announces that the day will come when, out of gloom and darkness, the eyes of the blind will see.

In the Gospel, Matthew describes Jesus healing two blind men who believed in Him.

As we end this first week of Advent, we're reminded of our call to be instruments of God in opening the eyes of those among us who may be spiritually, intellectually, or emotionally blind.

Who today might be helped to "see" through a gentle correction, non-defensive response, or compassionate outreach? How should we pray to be freed from our own blind spots, in order to live more fully and humbly in the Light?

Come, Emmanuel!

