

"St. Mary Parish School creates Catholic leaders through academic excellence, supporting diverse learners, and seeing Jesus in every person."

Dear St. Mary Families,

With only two days of school next week, this will be my last Connection before Thanksgiving. As I reflect on our many blessings, I find myself overwhelmed with gratitude for this incredible community.

First, I am thankful for you, our families. Your continued support and willingness to help St. Mary Parish School grow mean more than you know. You believe in our mission and partner with us to create a school where children live that mission every day. We could not do this without you.

I am thankful for your children. They are the heart of this school! Their laughter, curiosity, and joy bring our classrooms and hallways to life. Recently, I was sharing how our mission to create Catholic leaders is becoming more visible each year. Our eighth graders are a beautiful example of that mission through their kindness and genuine joy for learning. Even more exciting is seeing those same qualities developing in the classes following behind them. The seeds of Catholic leadership are taking root, and it is a beautiful thing to witness.

I am thankful for our extraordinary staff. Our teachers and aides continually seek better ways to help every child succeed, but what makes them truly special is how deeply they care for the children entrusted to them. Their countless quiet sacrifices and acts of love may not always be visible, but they are noticed. I am profoundly grateful to work alongside such incredible people.

Our office staff has also embraced a year of change with a commitment to learning, improving, and building systems that will serve our school for years to come. Their dedication keeps our busy school running, often behind the scenes!

Finally, I am thankful for our parish. Monsignor Shecterle continues to be an incredible supporter of our school and our commitment to educating the whole child. Despite transitions in the parish office, our shared mission remains strong. I am grateful for this partnership and the important place our school holds in the life of St. Mary Parish.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, I am reminded that gratitude is more than recognizing our blessings. It is seeing God's presence in the people around us. I am so grateful that God has placed me in this community and given me the privilege of walking alongside your families.

May your Thanksgiving be filled with God's blessings, the love of family and friends, and a heart full of gratitude.

Happy Thanksgiving, St. Mary!

With a grateful heart,
Annemarie

UPCOMING EVENTS

TONIGHT
Middle School Open Gym/Game Night
6:30 - 8:30 PM
Permission slips can be turned in at the door.

Nov. 24
K3 - K5 Thanksgiving Feast
(Last day of Trimester 1)

Nov. 25 - 27
Thanksgiving Break

Nov. 29
Advent Begins

Nov. 30
No School
(In-service)

Dec. 2
Early-Release Day at 11:30AM

Dec. 3
St. Nick Open House

Dec. 3 - 4
Holiday Treasures Gift Shop

Dec. 7
Young Rembrandts Drawing Class begins
See flyer here

Dec. 16
Noodles Restaurant Night

Dec. 23 - Jan 1
Christmas Break

Jan. 18
No School
In-Service

Feb. 3
Lava Island Fundraiser

2026-2027 Academic Calendar

PARENT VOLUNTEER CORNER:

Check out our current parent volunteer opportunities!

Playground Supervisor *(Grades K5 - 8th - daily needs)*

Lunchroom Supervisor *(2nd - 8th grade—daily needs)*

Lunchroom Helper for K3—1st Grade only *(daily needs—this isn't as much of a priority as our regular lunchroom supervisor, but we still appreciate the help)*

Athletics Dept. *Track Coach/Coordinator Needed. Reach out to Brandon Kirchoff if you can help.*

Holiday Treasures Gift Shop
Various Needs
Dec. 2-4

Winter Gear Donations?

We're looking for extra winter gear (hats, coats, snow pants, mittens, etc.) to keep in the office for times when a student needs/forgets their own. If you have gently used items in good condition, please keep us in mind. Thank you!



Registration for the Winter session of Young Rembrandts is now open

Classes are Mondays from 3:10 - 4:10 p.m. at St. Mary, beginning Dec. 7th.
Click here for the flyer and to register.





School Highlights:



Veterans Day Parade 2026 - A Meaningful Tradition

Join us for a look back at this special day as our principal, Mrs. Wood, reflects on what this meaningful tradition means to our St. Mary Parish School community. A special thank-you to St. Mary parent Jeff Poad for capturing the spirit of this special day and creating such a wonderful video to share with our community!

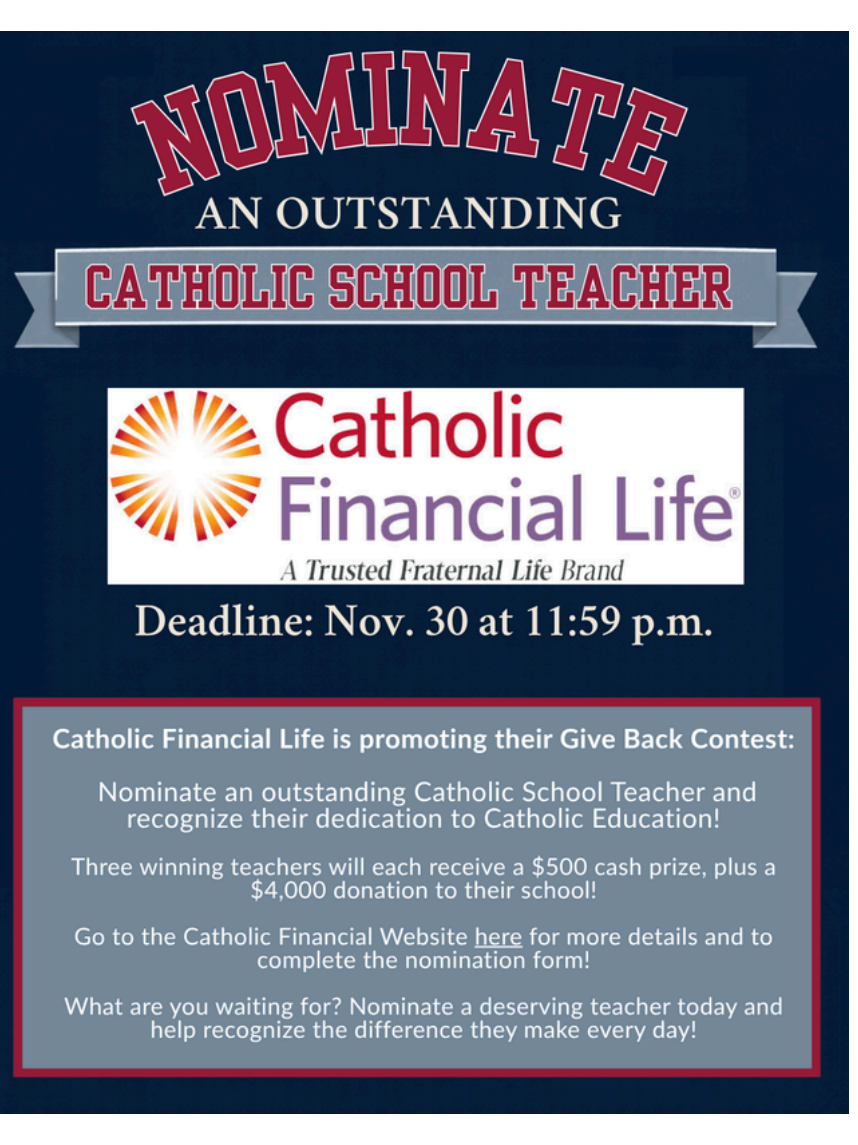






St. Mary and St. Anthony the Hermit Parishes are looking for a Director of Communication who loves coming up with ideas and making them happen. You'll lead print and digital communications for both parishes, working with the pastor, staff, school, and ministry leaders. Sound like you or someone you know? Share the employment link with anyone you know who may be interested!

Nominate a St. Mary Parish School or Catholic Educator:

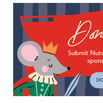


Home & School Updates and Events:

TONIGHT!
Permission slips can be turned in/completed at the door for any last minute attendees!











Warriors Athletics Updates:

🏀 **Basketball Season Is Underway!**

Our Warriors are back on the court! Basketball season has officially kicked off, and teams are busy preparing for a great season ahead. Games begin in December, so stay tuned for schedules and an upcoming parent volunteer schedule for concessions and admissions once game dates are finalized.

We're looking forward to a fantastic season!

Go Warriors!

Calendar Raffle Winners:

Congratulations to these $30 Winners drawn on Nov. 18:
Carolyn Stelpflug, Jessica Murray, Amber Minue, Mary & Todd Zelinski, and Rachel & Kevin Kallinger

Thank you for your participation!

Get Involved...Student Volunteer Opportunities



Holiday Treasures Gift Shop

Middle school students are able to help set up for the event on the evening of Dec 2. Sign up here!

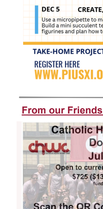
If your student is in need of service hours, please reach out to Mrs. Mansfield at mansfieldh@smps.school. Additionally, if you have volunteer opportunities to share with our school community, please share those with Mrs. Mansfield and Mrs. McCabe so we can share those opportunities with others! Thank you.

In the Community:





From our Friends at Good Shepherd:







High School Opportunities:

Scholarship Opportunity for 8th Grade Girls!

Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council of Catholic Women (MACCW), a proud supporter of Catholic Education, is pleased to offer **FOUR - $2000 scholarships to 8th grade young women planning to attend a Milwaukee Archdiocesan High School in the Fall 2027**.

Catholic education is expensive, but the lifelong benefits are invaluable and MACCW wants to help!

MACCW is trying to reach 8th grade girls, their parents, grandparents, relatives, and friends. MACCW will present the scholarship to each of the winners at their school/parish in the spring! An article announcing the winners will also be printed in both the Catholic Herald and the MACCW newsletter!

Read more HERE
Scholarship Application HERE
Applications and details are also available at MACCW.com (Under Awards).

SMPS Quick Links:

- 2026-27 Change of Dismissal/Absence Form
- 2026-2027 Academic Calendar
- 2026-27 Family Calendar
- Scrip Raise Right/Apo
- 2026-2027 Tuition Schedule
- Scrip Raise Right Schedule
- SMPS Family Guide
- Lunchroom Volunteer Sign Up
- Playground Volunteer Sign Up
- November Hot Lunch Menu
- December Hot Lunch Menu
- Safeguarding Training/CMG/Connect
- Directory Spot
- Catholic Charities: Therapy Referral Form

Connect with us on Facebook and Instagram!