
APRIL NEWSLETTER 2017



St. Mary Catholic School

Challenging the Mind—Living the Faith

www.stmarycatholicsschool.org



Dear Parents,

During this Lenten season, our students and faculty were encouraged to perform spiritual works, such as attending the Stations of the Cross, taking time for prayer and spiritual reading, praying for others, and making a good confession. These works helped us focus on repenting sin and renewing our faith in preparation for celebrating the resurrection of Jesus. We are reminded that God sent His only Son to die on the cross so we can enjoy the promise of eternal life. In our Catholic school, our children are able to reflect on God's love and to grow in their faith! As parents, your sacrifices are providing an environment for our children to grow closer in their relationship with God. What a beautiful gift!

On behalf of Father Cibelli and the SMCS faculty and staff, I want to wish you a blessed Easter and a relaxing break. I hope your days are filled with lots of family time. When we return on April 24, the end of the school year comes into sight.

Although April is a short month, it brings many special events, such as the Middle School Social Studies Fair, the Chili Luncheon, American Legion Dinner for the Essay Contest Winners, the Intermediate Spelling Bee, the final middle school dance of the year, and the optional spring uniform. Please read through the newsletter to keep informed of all upcoming events.

As always, I ask for your prayers to the Holy Spirit to give me the guidance and wisdom to serve as principal of Saint Mary Catholic School.

May God Bless you!

Patricia A. McDermott

MISSION STATEMENT

Saint Mary Catholic School empowers children in their faith journey and promotes academic excellence and life-long service inspired by the Gospel of Jesus Christ in a nurturing community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 4

Intermediate Spelling Bee

April 7

10:30 A.M. First Friday Mass
2:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross

April 13-23

Easter Break

April 24

School resumes from Easter Break
Spring Uniform Begins

April 26

Trimester III Interims Distributed

April 27

Middle School Social Studies Fair
Projects are due

April 28

Middle School Dance

April 29

Chili Supper & Social Studies Fair

FAITH

FIRST FRIDAY MASS

Please join us for First Friday Mass on April 7.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Our last Stations of the Cross will be held on April 7 at 2:00 P.M. Please join us. Thank you, Father Cibelli and Father Larry, for giving our students the opportunity to attend Stations of the Cross during Lent.

OPERATION RICE BOWL

Donations for Operation Rice Bowl may still be made through April 12. Checks are appreciated. Thank you is extended to Ms. Ward for coordinating this worthy endeavor.

RECONCILIATION

Thank you is extended to our priests, Father Cibelli, Father Larry, Father Jicha, and Msgr. Jarboe, for giving our students the opportunity to have their confessions heard during Lent.

PRAYER SERVICE

Our National Junior Honor Society will lead our Lenten Prayer Service on April 12 before we begin our Easter Break.

TRIMESTER NEWS

ACADEMICS

The second trimester of the 2016-2017 school year ended on March 3. Middle School students are recognized for academic achievements. Students earning a 3.4 to 3.7 grade point average for the trimester are awarded Academic Honors recognition. Students earning a 3.8 to 4.0 grade point average for the trimester are awarded High Academic Honors recognition.

HIGH ACADEMIC HONORS

8th grade – Lauren Beck, Luke Clement, Olivia Craver, Caroline Dillard, Emma Flint, Lucas Hammer, Nicholas Kornilow, Morgan McMahan, Joseph Mele, Madelyn Ortiz, Jackson Pentony, Yousuf Qaum, Stephen Reiter, and Tyler Tran

7th grade – Susan Concordia, Abigail Cushwa, Daniel Duncan, Logan Flanagan, Noah Hall, Saif Khan, Maxwell Larkin, Gabrielle McCafferty, Anna Rohan, Rayan Shahid, Matthew Stine, Hannah Webster, and Zachary Zanetti

6th grade - Phillip Aguila, Gabriel Bachtell, Victoria Craver, Olivia Dyson, Brianna Ellis, Noah Karn, Armani Kenney, Jesse Mangalapati, Isabella Muto, Spencer Pentony, Sofia Qaum, Jillienne Smith, Lucy Strama, Erica Weaver, Evan Weaver, and Daisy Zheng

ST. MARY PARISH NEWS

LENTEN SOUP SUPPERS

St. Mary Parish hosts meatless soup suppers during the Fridays of Lent in the school cafeteria from 6:00 to 7:00 P.M. Stations of the Cross are at 7:30 P.M. in the Church.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Friday, April 7

7:30-8:15 P.M.

St. Mary Catholic Church

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday (April 9): regular Mass schedule (5:15 P.M. Vigil; 8:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M., and 12:50 P.M.)

Holy Thursday (April 13): 6:30 A.M. Morning Prayer (Tenebrae); no 6:30 A.M. or 8:30 A.M. Mass; 7:30 P.M. Mass of the Lord's Supper (Communion under both forms), followed by Eucharistic Adoration, with 11:45 P.M. Night Prayer

Good Friday (April 14): 6:30 A.M. Morning Prayer (Tenebrae); no 6:30 A.M. or 8:30 A.M. Mass; 3:00 P.M. Liturgy with Veneration of the Cross and 7:30 P.M. Stations of the Cross

Holy Saturday (April 15): 6:30 A.M. Morning Prayer (Tenebrae); no 8:30 A.M. Mass; no confessions; 8:00 P.M. Easter Vigil Candlelight Mass

Easter Sunday (April 16): regular Sunday Mass schedule (8:00 A.M., 9:30 A.M., 11:00 A.M., and 12:50 P.M.)

ACADEMIC HONORS

8th grade – Emma Beal, Owen O'Connor, Niko Piette, Adam Rappaport, and Mason Reed

7th grade – Ty Ambush, Lydia Giannaris, Ashley Kenny, and Rachel Rohan

6th grade – Elise Bamforth and Michelle Beck

INTERIM REPORTS

Interim Reports for the third trimester will be distributed on April 26.

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION NEWS—H.S.A.

Co-President: Mrs. MJ Sommerville
Co-President: Mrs. Jennifer Harman
Vice-President: Mr. Thomas Witt
Corresponding Secretary: Mr. Jay Zuspan
Recording Secretary: Mrs. Lisa Muto
Treasurer: Mrs. Nicole Rappaport
Associate Treasurer: Mrs. Crystal Strother

FAMILY BINGO



Our annual SMCS Family BINGO Night was so much fun! Father Cibelli and Kelly Bryne were fabulous BINGO callers! Everyone who attended enjoyed the BINGO games and the sense of community. Mrs. Carrie McMahon and Mrs. Jeanie Stark once again did a fabulous job

organizing the event. The following families sponsored prizes for the bingo event: Byrne, Corsi, Kocevar, Kumar, McDermott, McMahon, O'Connor, Quinones, Renken, Reiter, Romsburg, Rosengart, Stumpf, Swarner, and Tedeschi families. Baked goods were donated by the Augustine, Britton, Byrne, Kocevar, McMahon, and Stark families. Many thanks are also extended to Carrie and Grace McMahon, Rachel O'Connor, Carl and Jeanie Stark, Carrie Stumpf, and Georgiana Tedeschi for working the event. The BINGO Event raised \$739.58.

HSA ELECTIONS

The HSA nominating committee is contacting parents who have been nominated for the offices of Co-President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, and Bookkeeper for next year's Executive Board. More information is forthcoming.

GERTRUDE HAWK



Many thanks are extended to Susanne Harbert for coordinating the candy sale and to all the families who participated in our Gertrude Hawk Candy fundraiser. The candy arrived on March 21 and \$1,105.75 was raised.



MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The third trimester is well underway. There are so many activities and events that are only made possible through our wonderful volunteers.

As of **March 28**, **4,835.27** hours have been logged.

We appreciate all the time and effort all of you are giving to support the mission of our school. Thank you!

Our Top Ten Volunteers per Hours Logged are:

Aggie Ndong-Cantave-200.0 hours

Sarma McCafferty-166.53 hours

Jeff & Alison Ortiz—121.75

Kelly Kenny—119.0 hours

Jenny & Kevin Beck—116.0

Stephanie & Louis Concordia—104.00

April & John Nitzell—94.75

Marshall & Victoria Hammer—94.0

Brandon & Cathy Ellis—88.75

MJ & Buddy Sommerville—88.00

Remember to log into HelpCounter (<http://helpcounter.net/main/index.php>) to track your hours. **Trimester III began on March 6 and ends on June 9.** Questions can be emailed to volunteer@stmarycatholicschool.org.

MIDDLE SCHOOL SOCIAL

Middle School Social will be held from 3:00 to 4:30 on May 12 and 26. A dollar donation is required to help offset the cost of drinks and snacks.



HERSHEY PARK FUNDRAISER

Are you planning an outing to Hershey Park this year? This fundraiser is an opportunity for you to purchase tickets at a reduced rate and support the SMCS HSA. Tickets purchased are valid April 29-September 25, 2017. The sale ends April 5.



CHILI LUNCHEON

Remember to purchase your tickets for the SMCS Chili Luncheon that is being held on Saturday, April 29, from 12 to 2 P.M. in the cafeteria. Ticket information went home last week. Tickets must be purchased by Wednesday, April 12. We appreciate the generosity of **Executive Chef E. Jay Zuspan of 28 South & the Harman Family of Harman Funeral Home** for donating the meat for this delicious event. Winners of the Social Studies Fair will be announced during the luncheon.



SCRIP

Last year St. Mary families saved over \$12,000 in tuition by participating in the SCRIP Program. SCRIP dates this month are April 3 and 24.



HEALTHY SNACK SALE

Mr. Hendershot appreciates all those families who donated to his Healthy Snack Sale and all those students who purchased the healthy snacks. A total of \$160.95 was raised to benefit our physical education program.



STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

STUDENT COUNCIL OFFICERS

President: Anne Balog

Vice-President: Gabrielle McCafferty

Secretary: Mason Reed

Treasurer: Logan Flanagan

Parliamentarian: Jackson Pentony

STAND/SHIELD THE VULNERABLE

The Archdiocese of Baltimore and Saint Mary Catholic School are committed to providing a safe environment for children. Our procedures for volunteering in schools require that a volunteer who will have substantial contact with children must complete screening and training procedures that are outlined on the www.archbalt.org website.

The current and effective version of the Archdiocese of Baltimore's Child and Youth Protection Policies and Procedures, including the *Statement of Policy for the Protection of Children & Youth* and the *Code of Conduct for Church Personnel of the Archdiocese of Baltimore*, which incorporates any revisions to the Archdiocese of Baltimore's Child and Youth Protection Policies and Procedures that may be made from time to time, is available on the Child and Youth Protection page of the Archdiocese of Baltimore's website and on the Archdiocese of Baltimore's online compliance management system, *Shield the Vulnerable*.

Please register as a St. Mary Catholic School Volunteer, at <http://www.shieldthevulnerable.org/>. All new volunteers should complete the process as soon as possible. Please contact Jan McCarter, our screening coordinator, at jmccarter@saintmarysonline.org, or (301)739-0390, ext. 129, with any questions or concerns.

Shield the Vulnerable training IS NOT complete until all parts of the process are fulfilled including the background check. Just completing the online training itself DOES NOT fulfill the requirements for Shield the Vulnerable.



MARCH TAG DAY

St. Patrick's Day at SMCS is always a fun day! It is amazing how many students get into sharing their Irish Spirit! This Tag Day raised \$214 to benefit *Mercy Ships*.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

The last dance of the year will be held on Friday, April 28. Theme and attire guidelines are forthcoming.

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

The SMCS Family Fun Night is scheduled for Friday, June 2!

STUDENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS FOR 2017-2018

2017-2018 Nomination forms for Student Council Officers will be available on April 24. Sixth and seventh grade students are eligible to run for office. More information is forthcoming.

OTHER NEWSWORTHY ITEMS

SMCS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM



Our third annual SMCS Night at the Washington County Museum of Art was an overwhelming success as three hundred people attended to

appreciate the amazing art work of our students. Each year Mrs. Stacey Renken challenges our students to use their talents to create spectacular masterpieces! Each grade level studied a different artist and created projects inspired by that artist: kindergarten (Eric Carle), first grade (Vincent Van Gogh), second grade (James Rizzi), third grade (Claude Monet), fourth grade (Mary Cassatt), fifth grade (Pablo Picasso), sixth grade (Georgia O'Keefe), seventh grade (Paul Klee), and eighth grade (Maud Lewis). At least one piece of art from each student was displayed. This event was definitely a true celebration for our school community. Mrs. Renken and her art students deserve our congratulations.



NATIONAL JUNIOR HONOR SOCIETY

Executive Board members are:

Caroline Dillard – President

Daniel Duncan – Vice-President

Madelyn Ortiz – Secretary

Morgan McMahan – Treasurer

Matthew Stine – Parliamentarian

Seventeen invitations to apply to the SMCS George A. Limmer Chapter of the National Junior Honor Society were extended to current sixth, seventh, and eighth grade students who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or above for their middle school semesters. Students who received invitations must return their completed applications to Mrs. Gross by April 12. The faculty council will review the applications and extend membership to the NJHS based on each applicant's scholarship, leadership, citizenship, character, and service. The induction ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 17, at 6:30 P.M.

The NJHS will be performing their SMCS beautification service project on May 19.

AMERICAN LEGION ESSAY CONTEST

Each year the American Legion Auxiliary, Morris Frock Unit 42, sponsors the Americanism Essay Contest. This year's topic was "How does learning about government and our America help you become a future guardian of the liberties of our country?" First place winners receive \$50 cash, second place winners receive \$35 cash, and third place winners receive \$25 cash. **SMCS students received eight out of the nine awards given!**

And the winners are:

Class I: Grades 3 & 4

1st Place: **Spencer Byers**; 2nd Place: **Samuel Hall**; 3rd Place: **Joshua Hammer**

Class II: Grades 5 & 6

1st Place: **Phillip Aguila**; 2nd Place: **Jesse Mangalapati**; 3rd Place: **Brynn Lietuvnikas**

Class III: Grades 7 & 8

1st Place: **Noah Hall**; 3rd Place: **Tyler Tran**

INTERMEDIATE SPELLING BEE

On April 4, students from the third, fourth, and fifth grades will participate in the St. Mary Catholic School Intermediate Spelling Bee. Students in these grades took a written test to compete for a spot in the Bee.

Congratulations to the following students who are our spelling bee contestants:

Third Grade

Francesco Copobianco, Sabrina Harman, Olivia Kocovar, Johan Michael, Josephine Muto, James Ortiz, and Willa Pentony

Fourth Grade

Sofia Alexander, Brooks Carpenter, Samuel Hall, Adeel Khan, Leah McCafferty, Sonia Qaum, Madelynn Renken, Raniya Shahid, and Lauren Stine

Fifth Grade

Christian Concordia, Cardin Dang, Shanna Hall, Abigail Harman, Katie Hubbard, Ethan Knipple, Zachary Kumar, Mackenzie O'Berry, and Juliana Rodriguez



ANNUAL FUND

SMCS will be kicking off the start of its thirteenth Annual Fund Campaign. The SMCS Annual Fund helps the school to invest in new programs, to maintain and upgrade technology, to offset tuition increases, and to enhance other aspects of our students' educational experience. Please prayerfully consider making a donation this year. Many thanks are extended to Mrs. Carrie Stumpf for chairing this endeavor.

JUMP ROPE FOR HEART

SMCS students participated in *Jump Rope for Heart* during their physical education classes. Thanks to the generosity of our families, \$4,491.50 was raised for this worthy cause. Juliet Rosengart, Ava Romsburg, and Nicholas Smallwood were the top fundraisers. Kindergarten raised \$1,031, second grade raised \$618.25, and third grade raised \$709. We appreciate Mr. Hendershot's efforts in coordinating this event.



POSITIVE BEHAVIORAL INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORTS

SMCS students have been earning keys throughout the month of March. We are truly blessed to have students who care about each other, who strive to excel in their academics, and who greet each school day with a smile.

As of March 21, the Key Count for students by grade level is as follows:

Pre-Kindergarten: 80 keys

Kindergarten: 99 keys

First Grade: 297 keys

Second Grade: 111 keys

Third Grade: 188 keys

Fourth Grade: 77 keys

Fifth Grade: 119 keys

Sixth Grade: 166 keys

Seventh Grade: 82 keys

Eighth Grade: 300 keys

A total of **1,519 keys** have been earned by SMCS students this month!

RUMMAGE SALE

Our annual spring rummage sale will be held on May 4. Set-up day is May 3. Please consider volunteering your time to help with this event. All proceeds benefit St. Mary Catholic School. Thank you is extended to Mary Grove for her continued support of SMCS.

SMCS SPRING SPIRIT WEAR

The spring 2017 Spirit Wear sale is underway. We have put together a great selection of new designs along with a fresh spin on some old designs. Contact Carrie Stumpf (cstumpf@stmarycatholicsschool.org) with any questions about the sale. DO NOT DELAY! Orders are due by April 5th.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME & CRAFT



Mrs. Jeanie Stark and Sister Aloysius are offering a story and craft time for 3 to 5 year olds on April 26 at 12:00 P.M. Please contact Mrs. O'Connor if interested. roconnor@stmarycatholicsschool.org.

PERPETUAL ADORATION



NEW ADORERS are needed for the Perpetual Adoration Chapel located at St. Maria Goretti High School. "The time you spend with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament...will help bring about an everlasting peace on earth." (Mother Teresa of Calcutta) Call Mr. or Mrs. Ott for more information at 301-739-4167.

HEALTH NEWS



If you have any health-related questions, please contact Ms. Paula Radley at (301)733-1184, ext. 104, or by email, pradley@stmarycatholicsschool.org. Please keep the school informed of any updates to your child's immunization record.

SUNS GAME

Take me out to the Ball Park! Mark your calendars for Monday, May 8, and join us for our annual trip to a Suns game. More information is forthcoming.

OPEN HOUSE UPDATE

Our Open House on March 20th was a great success! More families than ever turned out for the evening to visit our school and see firsthand why St. Mary Catholic School is our school of choice. A big thank is extended to all families who displayed Open House yard signs for the event. Thank you also to Kathy Quinones for providing snacks



MARCH GOOD SAMs

I want to congratulate our Good S.A.M.s for March:

Kindergarten – Lauren Lewis

First Grade – Jersi Blundell

Second Grade – Molly Pentony

Third Grade – Sabrina Harman

Fourth Grade – Sofia Alexander

Fifth Grade – Annabella Kenny

Sixth Grade – Brooklynn Cathor

Seventh Grade – Anna Rohan

Eighth Grade – Nicholas Kornilow

Thanks for your Service, Attitude, and Manners!

PHASE II RAFFLE TICKET WINNERS

Thank you is extended to Mrs. Jackie Swarner for coordinating this fundraiser and to Sister Aloysius for faithfully picking the winning ticket each week.

Congratulations to the following March winners:

(\$50) Week 1: Tina Kumar

(\$50) Week 2: The Zanetti Family

(\$50) Week 3: Pam Gregory

(\$100) Week 4: Daniel Ciucci

and to Bella Barron for bringing along snacks as well as leading tours. Lastly, thanks to those who are out spreading the good word about SMCS. Your testimonials are the best form of advertisement!

We are looking forward to our next Open House on May 8th from 5-7 p.m. In anticipation of more record breaking visitors. We are seeking a few more parents to help give tours during the event. Please contact Mrs. Carrie Stumpf (cstumpf@stmarycatholicschool.org) if you are interested. Mrs. Stumpf will gladly take you on a tour ahead of time so you can feel comfortable in the role as tour guide. Parents of younger students are encouraged to lead tours, too. What better way to get to know all of our teachers and staff!

RACE 4 TECHNOLOGY

This year's Race 4 Technology will take place on May 12, 2017 (rain date: May 16, 2017). The students will be writing letters to family members and/or friends about the importance of this event. This is a great way to reach out to others to support our children and SMCS and let them know how they can make a difference.

Submissions are already rolling in for the Race 4 Technology t-shirt design contest. Please be sure your submission is handed in before dismissal on April 7, 2017, so it can be considered for the contest. The 1st place winner will receive a \$50 iTunes gift card and a private tour of Innovative, Inc., a local technology company with nearly 20 years in the industry.

Parents or companies who wish to sponsor this event may do so using the orange Race 4 Technology pledge form sent home with your child. In order to allow time for printing, company/family sponsorships who wish to be included on the t-shirt must be received by April 26, 2017.

CAFETERIA HELP NEEDED

SMCS is looking for a part-time employee to work in the cafeteria. If interested, please send your résumé to Mrs. Brooks, cafeteria@stmarycatholicschool.org. Great hours! Wonderful students!

IN YOUR PRAYERS



Please remember His Eminence Cardinal William Keeler (fourteenth Archbishop of Baltimore), Arthur Schuetler (great-grandfather of Blair and Brooke Barron), and Joseph J. Harchick (grandfather of Roman Harchick), who passed away this past month.

May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.



2017-2018 DATES

Start Date

Tuesday, September 5, 2017

Christmas Break

Thursday, December 21,
2017—Noon Dismissal;
Students return Tuesday,
January 2, 2018

Easter Break

(Holy Thursday) Thursday,
March 29, 2018 —Noon
Dismissal; Students return
Monday, April 9, 2018

Last Day of School

Wednesday, June 13, 2018