



## ST. MARY'S SPOTLIGHT

December 2 – 6, 2019

### Week in Review:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Light the Advent candle one! Well, it has started. We are almost through the first week of advent and our students are diving right into the season. In the morning, we have been singing an Advent song that I sang growing up and I am amazed at how fast they have warmed to singing the song and not making me sing by myself in the middle of the gym. I found a quote regarding advent that really spoke to me, "Advent is a season of interior preparation and active vigilance. It is a time for us to remain spiritually awake, preparing our hearts for the coming of the Lord with joyful anticipation."

On a different note, we are a little over two weeks until the end of the quarter and first semester. If you have any questions about your child's grade or where they stand in class, I highly encourage you to reach out to their teachers and have a conversation. Final grades will be due from the teachers on December 20<sup>th</sup>, so I want you to have enough time to do any final work before they close their gradebooks.

I know there is a lot of information below, but I wanted to highlight a few items. Please remember that since Monday is the feast of the Immaculate Conception, our student Mass will be on Monday. Also, our online auction has been extended to the December 31<sup>st</sup>. Don't miss out on getting some cool privileges and/or experiences for your child. Finally, there are some upcoming pageants and performances here at the school and church and I wanted to make sure you had the 411. See below for more details.

I pray you all have a wonderful weekend filled with Holiday market shopping and time with family. May God continue to bless and guide you in all you do.

Continue to stay plugged in by looking at the weekly slideshow. You can't help being amazed and energized by our students' smiles and engagement in their work. Click [HERE](#) to see the photos.

### Need to Know:

- **St. Mary's Christmas Program:**

Come join us in the church on Tuesday, December 10 at 6:00pm. This year's program will feature Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Grade as well as the Bands and Choir. Students performing should arrive at 5:45pm and go to their classrooms to get ready. Performers should dress nicely, like they would on Christmas morning for Mass, when in doubt they can also wear their Mass Dress uniforms. The program is anticipated to end at about 7:00pm. Please contact Mr. Peters, [mpeters@bk.org](mailto:mpeters@bk.org), with further questions.

- **Pastorelas performance at school:**

The Pastorelas performance at St. Mary's will be on Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> in the gym at 11:00 am. All St. Mary's families and friends are welcome to join us for this fun school event.

- **Christmas Pageant at the Christmas Eve Family Mass:**

The parish's religious education director, Meg Lawless, is inviting all of our children to participate in the choir or pageant for the Christmas Eve Family Mass. Click [HERE](#) to read the flyer with more information and rehearsal dates and times. She also could use some parent help. Please e-mail Meg or return the form to the school office.

- **Online auction EXTENDED!!!:**

Did you forget to buy your child's Free Dress passes? Or Shorts for a Week BEFORE Spring Break? The online auction still has lots of great things to buy into. See the fun your child won't want to miss. Click [HERE](#) to read the flyer an get more specific information about our online auction.



### **Nice to Know:**

- **Christmas Toy Store:**

St. Vincent de Paul believes that every child should be able to celebrate Christmas. Click [HERE](#) to check out the flyer of how you can help those in need.

- **News from our Nurses:**

Our nurses wanted to share some important information on two of our most loved topics: Gratitude and Lice! Click [HERE](#) to read about Gratitude and click [HERE](#) for Lice.

- **Calling all Alter Servers:**

Attention students grade 3-8! Are you interested in becoming an altar server at St. Mary's for school and parish masses? Please fill out this [FORM](#) to be contacted by Kimberly Smith. If you have any questions/concerns, please email [altarservers.stmarys@gmail.com](mailto:altarservers.stmarys@gmail.com).

### **Important Dates (Right around the Corner):**

- **December 9** Student Mass: 4<sup>th</sup> Grade – Food Bank (**Need tuna, hand and foot warmers**)
- **December 10** St. Mary's Christmas Program. 6:00 pm in the Church (See more info above)
- **December 11** St. Mary's PTO meeting @ 3:15 pm.
- **December 13** Pastorelas performance in the gym at 11:00 am.

### **Important Dates (On the Horizon):**

- **December 18** Student Mass: 1<sup>st</sup> Grade – Talent (Christian Leaders Recognition Ceremony)
- **December 20** Early Release 12:00. Last Day of the second quarter and first semester.

You can always check out the school calendar on our website by clicking [HERE](#).

### **Wisdom from our young scholars:** Insightful tidbits we just had to share...

From a student younger than 4<sup>th</sup> grade: "I cut my hair and my parents don't even know it!"

When looking at examples of advertising for their business plans, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader said, "It looks like a ransom letter!"