



ST. MARY'S SPOTLIGHT

December 9 – 13, 2019

Week in Review:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Do you see what I see? Do you hear what I hear? If not, you missed an amazing week at St. Mary's. First of all, I am sorry this newsletter is coming out so late. My family moved this past weekend and it has been a bit hectic in the Olmes household. I am very grateful to be MUCH closer to St. Mary's and we love where we are now living.

Enough about me, let's talk a bit about St. Mary's. Our week kicked off on Monday with a Mass commemorating the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Tuesday evening was a night to remember when our students put on an amazing Christmas Music Program. I was blown away by the hard work of our students and their ability to play music and sing (in English and Spanish!) such beautiful songs. I also want to recognize Mr. Peters for his hard work to get our students to be able to perform at such a high level. I also want to recognize the amazing work of Ms. Luz Camarena. She did such an amazing job in teaching our students such beautiful Spanish songs and working with them to showcase their talents on this special night. It is also important to recognize our teachers who worked with their classes to practice their songs and present themselves in such a positive and energetic manner. Thursday brought us another wonderful day at St. Mary's with the recognition of the Feast of Our lady of Guadalupe and an opportunity for our grades 5-8 students to participate in the Hour of Code. Finally, Friday rounded out the week by having our 8th grade students visit a glass studio to make Christmas ornaments and our whole school enjoying a stunning Pastorelas performance by some of our students and their families. A huge THANK YOU to Liliana Tena for her hard work and leadership to make the Pastorelas performance so special.

Just a reminder that next Friday is an early release (12:00) and it is the end of the second quarter and semester. We will be posting second quarter grades when we come back in January. If you have any questions regarding their grades or where they stand in class, please be sure to do so before Friday.

In these last few days before Christmas, I pray that God will continue to shower his blessings on your families and bring you closer to his Sacred Heart. Have a great week and may your lives be filled with GAUDETE (Joy)!

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:

- **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.

- **HOT DOG LUNCH:**

This Wednesday, December 18 is the hot dog lunch. This is the last for this year. Thank you for your support! The 8th Grade Class of 2020.



Nice to Know:

- **Looking for opportunities to Volunteer:**

Looking for ways to help at St. Mary's? Being involved with Hospitality at St. Mary's is an enriching and easy way to give of your time and talent for both children and adults alike! Click [HERE](#) to read more about opportunities to volunteer.

- **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 reducing holiday stress. Click [HERE](#) to read some great tips.

- **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.

Important Dates (Right around the Corner):

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

Important Dates (On the Horizon):

- **December 21-January 6** Christmas Break (YAY!)
- **January 7** First Day of the Second Semester
- **January 8** Student Mass:

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...

"That was the coolest thing!" One of our 8th graders describing making a Christmas ornament out of molten glass.