

St. Mary's Catholic School

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St Mary's,
Continuing Our Commitment to
Quality Catholic Education

Falcon's Pride

A weekly newsletter of the current events at St. Mary's Catholic School

November 8, 2016

Issue 89

www.stmarys-temple.org

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope you had a nice weekend. Thank you to all who attended and donated to the Prayer Blanket event on Friday afternoon/evening at Holy Trinity. It was uplifting to see so many come together for the good of others. Thank you to Holy Trinity Catholic High School for including us in this worthy cause.

Thank you to everyone who had the chance to be part of Casino Night on Saturday. What a blast! Thank you to all who donated, helped and gave of their time, talents and treasures to make the night a success. We are grateful to the St. Mary's Catholic School Trust Fund for holding this event each year and helping raise money for our Trust Fund. I will let you know how much was raised as soon as the final number is given to me.

This Thursday, at approximately 10:30 a.m., we will send out another School Messenger test alert. I am hoping that we have gotten everyone into the program via phone and/or text. If you do not receive a notice please let us know.

The tradition of our Thanksgiving Luncheon will continue this year on Thursday, November 17th. We will hold the event in the cafeteria and we will split lunch times. We ask that you make reservations if you will be joining us on that day. Last year we ran out of food because we had so many drop ins. Parents and guests will pay for their lunch with the reservation. Students will have their lunch charged to their lunch account. The details for the luncheon are on the attached order form. All orders are presale only please. All meals are \$5.00.

Please pay special attention to lunch times as students whose parents and/or relatives attend will eat lunch during the youngest child's time. **Reservations are due by Friday, November 11th.** We will need help serving lunch this day. Please let me know if you can help when you are not eating with your child.

10:30-11:30: Pre-K- 10:30, K- 10:40, 1- 10:50, 2-11:00
11:45-12:45: 3, 4, 5
1:00-1:45: 6, 7, 8

The Scholastic Book Fair will be in the auditorium the 11th through the 18th so all may visit after your lunch time.

**Thank you for all your support.
God bless,**

Mrs. Wyles

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Family Mass this Sunday at 10:30

Please join us for our Family Mass at Christ the King Parish, 210 E. 24th Ave., this Sunday at 10:30 a.m. St. Mary's Catholic School is blessed to bring children together from many different parishes. Family Mass is our opportunity to show all that we are one community in Christ. Please have your child wear their uniform. This too is important. We want the parishioners to witness our amazing students as they celebrate the Mass. Thank you for your attendance.

Annual School Visit this Friday

Each year the Assistant Superintendent or Superintendent of Catholic Schools, and personnel, visit each Catholic School in the Diocese of Austin. St. Mary's Catholic School will have the pleasure of welcoming Dr. Ned Vanders, Superintendent, Andrea Bizzanelli, Diocesan Development Director and Ann Sudduth, Technology Consultant for the Diocese, to our fine school this Friday.

Our guests will join us for Mass, our Veteran's Day Presentation, visit the classrooms and meet with myself and others on the staff. The purpose of the visit is to not only validate what we are doing to provide a quality Catholic education, but to guide our path in the future of Catholic education for our community.

Our day will be filled with much excitement. If you are not busy we will be in need of help with first lunch duty from 11:20-12:00 as I will be with our guests and Mrs. Hickman will be setting up for our Book Fair. Please let me know if you can help. Thanks, Mrs. Wyles

ITBS Scores Have Arrived

ITBS test scores have arrived and will be sent home on Friday. Your child's teacher will be utilizing these scores throughout the year to determine areas of strengths and weaknesses not only for individual students but the class as a whole. Teachers have access to all scores, not just their class. This enables them to see patterns of strengths and areas of growth in other grades.

The following are some questions the teacher will consider while reviewing test data.

- How is each student performing on each test? Where are the students' low scores? Where are students' high scores?
- Is a group of students performing lower or higher on a particular test?

- In which domains/subtest does each student need additional work?
- Are those domains/subtests also a weakness for a group of students or for the class as a whole? Are these weaknesses present in other classes as well?
- What instructional practices and materials can I use to help strengthen student learning in those domains/subtests? How can I enrich my students whose achievement is high?

The schools in the Diocese are in no way ranked. The reason we test in the fall is for diagnostic purposes. We look for strengths and weaknesses in our students and work with them. That being said, our classes scored average to above average across the board.

This is great news!

All teachers will use an online data manager to study scores, interpret and plan lessons to help our students achieve and excel academically. Teachers are available to conference if you have questions. Should you want a conference, please contact your child's teacher.

From Mrs. Rockwood

Students are needed to serve at the Family Mass at Christ the King Catholic Church on November 13th at 10:30 Mass as lectors and ushers. Please contact me at srockwood@stmarys-temple.org if your child is interested in serving.

Thank you for your support of last month's bake sale. Thanks to the generosity of the families of school and parish, we raised \$950. The money raised will purchase books for students who will make their 1st Reconciliation and 1st Holy Communion at St. Mary Catholic Church. Your support is greatly appreciated! Suzi Rockwood

Veterans Day Program

Please join us Friday, November 11th at 9:00 a.m. to honor our Veteran's, in the Parish Hall. All grade levels will participate in honoring our Veteran's and showing our respect and admiration for all they do for us and our country. Please come and take part in our celebration. The program will last approximately 45 minutes, and there will be light snacks for our guests following.

Dear Veterans,

In addition to inviting you to the St. Mary's Catholic Veteran's Day Program, we would like you to send us a picture of yourself or family member in full uniform so that you may be included in our Veteran's Day presentation. You may send it to Mrs. Wyles. Due date for pictures is Wednesday, Nov. 9th.

God Bless,

Cate Barkis, St. Mary's Catholic School Student Council

Student Council News

Dear Parents,

We're just weeks away from our Christmas season, and Student Council would like to help YOU get your Christmas shopping done early! In order to help you with this, we are pleased to announce SMCS's 1st ever Kid's Night! This fun-filled event will be held on Friday, December 2nd from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. in the gym and cafeteria. Children may be dropped off as early as 6:00 p.m. to the members of the Student Council and volunteer teachers so that you may put on your elf hats and start shopping. We will be providing pizza and drinks, so bring your children hungry and ready to have some fun!

Student Council will have tickets for pre-sale in the office starting this Thursday, November 10th. Pre-buying your tickets will ensure we order enough food and have enough people on hand to run the activities. Tickets are \$15 for the first child in a family, and \$10 for each additional child. While the price is unbeatable, you'll enjoy a happy child and a few things crossed off your to-do list even more!

Please contact ssaaty@stmarys-temple.org if you have any questions. Also, please see the Kid's Night Flyer attached. We look forward to seeing you on December 2nd!

St Mary's Student Council

Upcoming EIM Workshops

Waco: Sacred Heart Catholic Church 2621 Bagby Ave. Nov. 19th 10:00 a.m.

Austin: St. Thomas Moore Parish 10205 FM 620 N. Dec. 6th 6:30 p.m.

Box Tops for Education Competition

Please collect the Box Tops for Education off your groceries and send them into school to your child's homeroom teacher. For every Box Top that is donated, the school receives 10 cents.

There will be a competition between the classrooms from now until February 10th. The classroom with the highest average box top per student will receive a Pizza Party.

The Box Tops need to have the Expiration Date on them. When cutting, ripping or tearing them off the packages please be sure to keep the dotted line surrounding the Box Top visible. You may place your Box Tops in an envelope, plastic baggie, or on a collection sheet. Be sure to visit [CashForYourEducation.com](http://www.cashforyoureducation.com) to print a collection sheet. This is a great way for your kids to track their collection progress.

You can also go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com> to find out how you can use the New Box Tops Bonus App to earn even more cash for St. Mary's.

Choir Festival

This past Friday, St. Mary's Catholic School choir participated in the 15th Annual Catholic School Choir Festival in Austin. This is the second year that St. Mary's Catholic School has participated in the festival. It was truly an amazing experience to be able to join together with other Catholic schools from the Diocese of Austin and worship God through song. Our students represented their school well.

PSIA Coaching Schedules

Please check coaching schedules on the Google Calendar on the School website.

Holy Trinity's November Basketball Skills Academy

Free and Open to ALL boys and girls grades 5 - 8 interested in improving their basketball skills are invited to Holy Trinity's gymnasium from 12 (noon) - 2:00pm on Saturday November 12 and 19.

Questions may be directed to the Athletic Director, Rebecca Brink at rbrink@holytrinitchs.org

PTC News

This Sunday, November 13th, is our Family Mass at Christ the King Parish. With the holidays fast approaching we are excited to have a **Thankful For Our St. Mary's Family** get together at **Wheels** from 5:30-7:30. As well as skating there will be St. Mary's merchandise for sale and some fun raffles.

We do need to purchase picture frames for some of the raffle prizes. They are available at Walmart for about \$5 a piece. If you are able to donate Walmart gift cards or purchase a frame please email meganhswoda@gmail.com for specifications.

Attached is the flyer for Wheels, if you would like to pre-purchase tickets please send your money to the office marked wheels and we will send tickets home.

Thank you for your continued support,
St. Mary's PTC

Christmas Program Details for December 6th

This year, we have been blessed again to secure the Temple College Performing Arts Center for the theater space needed for our Christmas musical, "Angels Aware" on December 6, 2016. However, Temple College policies have changed this year, which means we are required to pay for the Auditorium, equipment, and the services of the staff at Temple College.

The estimated cost of everything is \$800-\$1000. Because of these unanticipated expenses, all St. Mary's families will be asked to pay a ticket price of \$5.00 per individual at the door. If you would like to make a donation before December 6 to defray the overall expenses and help St. Mary's make this the best drama season ever, please contact the St. Mary's Catholic School office. Details of costume descriptions are below.

We are preparing for our fantastic Christmas musical, *Angels Aware*, to be performed December 6, 2016! Here is the list of costumes:

Elementary Students (pre-K - 5th): **Girls** will wear white shirts with either skirts or pants in their Christmas color of choice (green, red, gold, or silver), and dress shoes. **Boys** will wear white shirts and slacks in their Christmas color of choice (green, red, gold, or silver). Both boys and girls will wear a tinsel garland that will be provided for them.

Middle School Students: **Boys** will wear their Sunday best in the Christmas colors of their choice (green, red, gold, or silver) and a tie and dress shoes. **Girls** will wear Sunday best (either skirts to the knee, or slacks) in the Christmas colors of their choice (green, red, gold, or silver), and dress shoes.

Our all-school dress rehearsals will be Tuesday, November 29 and Thursday, December 1.

Car Decals

Car decals for the outside of your car have arrived and are now on sale in the office for \$5.00 each.

Free Throw Contest Friday, Nov. 18th

Please see attached flyers for details

Celebrating Catholic Schools

This year's nominee for St. Mary's Catholic School is Mrs. Angie Stolp. Mrs. Stolp has been a dedicated member of the St. Mary's family for over 30 years and is very deserving of this award. The event will take place January 28th at 6:00 p.m. at the Hyatt at Town Lake in Austin. The featured speaker this year will be Cardinal Dolan.

Please visit the Diocesan website for Catholic Schools <http://csdatx.org/>, and look for this picture. Help us fill the house in support of Mrs. Stolp! Ticket prices will go up to \$150 on December 1st so please purchase your ticket before then.



Strategic Planning

It is time to revisit the Strategic Plan for St. Mary's Catholic School. Our Consultative School Board will head up this process with the full support and participation of the faculty and staff. If you would like to become part of the creation of our new plan please contact Mrs. Wyles. Your input is valuable.

Amazon Smile

As you are getting ready for the holidays, don't forget to shop for their treats, and decorations at smile.amazon.com and Amazon will donate to St. Mary's Catholic School.

#StartWithaSmile at smile.amazon.com/ch/74-1297273 to stock up for the holidays and Amazon donates to St. Mary's Catholic School.

Christmas Parade

We are in need of a Volunteer to head up the SMCS Float for the Temple Christmas Parade. We will also need volunteers to help make this float happen. This project is a team of volunteers that come together to create a theme and then carry out the artwork on a trailer that will be in the parade in early December. If you are interested please contact the school so we can get started on this.

Lana Shadburn
Director of Development
lshadburn@stmarys-temple.org

Raffle Tickets for OLG

Our Lady Of Guadalupe Catholic Church is selling raffle tickets that will take place December 11, 2016 (need not to be present to win) the following items included are:

- Grand Prize- 2007 Ford Convertible Mustang
- 2nd- Toshiba LED HD TV 55' TV
- 3rd- Stainless Steel and Porcelain Burner Gas Grill
- 4th- 7.9' 16GB iPad Air
- 5th- \$500 Visa Gift Card
- 6th- \$459 Gift Card Basket
- 7th- Dinner for 2 with Father Cesar Guzman valued at \$150

If you could please support our church it will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Mrs. Hilda Fernández de González (Brisa & Cielo's Mom)

*Please feel free to call or text me at [915-637-2050](tel:915-637-2050).

*Also you all can send money in an envelope in your child's backpack to be sent to the schools office with my name. Inside the envelope please send the following information:

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

Tickets are numbered from 0681 to 0949

COST: \$20.00 cash or check

These fund are to help reduce the Church's Debt on construction and repairs made to building

Thank you again!

Hilda Fernandez [915-637-2050](tel:915-637-2050)

Recycle Ink with us

The box is ready to be filled. Bring in your empty ink or toner cartridges from home or the office. The money raised will help with office expenses. Thank you to Johnnies Office Systems for donating two big tubs of ink.

School Spirit Items

Have you had the chance to purchase our very cool looking Spirit items yet? We are proud of our school and want all to know. We have hats, koozies, cooler cups and stickers in the office. All have the school logo. Stop by the office and take a look.

I Give Catholic

To celebrate our unique Catholic Heritage, we are participating in a wonderful program entitled #iGive Catholic. This is a giving day created to rally the Catholic community on #GivingTuesday, November 29th –a global day of giving. It is a call to share our many blessings with St. Mary's Catholic School.

Please visit <http://iGiveCatholic.org> and select the Diocese of Austin and search for St. Mary's Catholic School, Temple.

#Giving Tuesday, November 29th (Advanced giving begins November 18th)

WHAT IS #IGIVECATHOLIC?

#iGiveCatholic is the first-ever online giving day for the Catholic community. This year, #iGiveCatholic is being celebrated by 6 Catholic dioceses in the southeast region: The Archdiocese of New Orleans, Diocese of Austin, Diocese of Baton Rouge, Diocese of Biloxi, Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux, and Diocese of Jackson.

The goal of the #iGiveCatholic Giving Day is to inspire our Catholic community to come together with giving in support of organizations that shape our souls: our parishes, schools, ministries and not-for-profit organizations. #iGiveCatholic's goal is to deliver \$1,500,000 to our Catholic organizations in a 24-hour period.

Let's come together to share our gifts lovingly in justice with others, and return them with increase to the Lord. WHY HOST A DAY OF CATHOLIC GIVING ON #GIVINGTUESDAY? We have a day for giving thanks. We have two for purchasing gifts for loved ones - Black Friday and Cyber Monday. And now, entering its fifth year, we have #GivingTuesday, a global day dedicated to giving back that kicks off the charitable season.

This year on Tuesday, November 29, 2016, individuals and organizations around the world will come together for one common purpose: to celebrate generosity and to give. We know that, for Catholics, generosity and giving have a profound meaning. As children of God, giving is the ultimate expression of mercy as we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, give shelter to the homeless and preserve our Catholic heritage for future generations. Compelled to action by our shared faith, Catholics are energized to give back knowing that little is much when God is in it.

HOW DO I GIVE?

It's a simple process. A 24 hour period, between midnight and 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 29th is the time to donate. Just go to www.igivecatholic.org, select our school, donate \$25 or more, finish the transaction and an email confirming your donation will be sent. Links are up on the school website. You can only pay by credit card (Mastercard, VISA, Discover and American Express). As it gets closer to the #iGiveCatholic date, we will be providing links to keep up with our progress, additional information about this event and answer questions you may have.

Important Dates to Remember

Tues. Nov. 8 th	*K, 1 st and 2 nd to CAC 12:00-2:00
Wed. Nov. 9 th	*First Penance Meeting 6:30-7:45
Fri. Nov. 11 th	*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*Annual School Visit from the Diocese
Sun. Nov. 13 th	*Veteran's Day Presentation 9:00 a.m.
	*Family Mass at Christ the King 10:30
	*Wheels Skate Night 5:30-7:30
Wed. Nov. 16 th	*Pep Rally 2:00 p.m.
Thurs. Nov. 17 th	*Thanksgiving Day Luncheon (presale only)
	*Spirit Day (no popcorn)
Fri. Nov. 18 th	*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*Free Throw contest 1:15 (flyers attached)
Mon. Nov. 21 st - Fri. Nov. 25 th	*No School: Thanksgiving Break
Sun. Nov. 27 th	*Advent begins
Thurs. Dec. 1 st	*Spirit Day
Fri. Dec. 2 nd	*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*Game Night (details to come)
	*AYSSB All Region Band Try Outs
Sun. Dec. 4 th	*Family Mass at St. Mary's 11:00 a.m. (school choir will sing)
Tues. Dec. 6 th	*Christmas Program (tickets on sale Nov. 14 th)
Thurs. Dec. 8 th	*All School Mass: Immaculate Conception
Fri. Dec. 9 th	* All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
Sun. Dec. 11 th	*First Penance Meeting 1:00-3:00
Mon. Dec. 12 th	* All School Mass: Our Lady of Guadalupe
Mon. Dec. 12 th -Thurs. Dec. 15 th	*Semester Exams grades 4-8
Thurs. Dec. 15 th	*Christmas Concert (details to come)
Fri. Dec. 16 th	*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.
	*Noon dismissal for Christmas vacation
	*Second Quarter ends
Wed. Jan. 4 th	*School reopens: 3 rd Quarter Begins