

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 15, 2016

Issue 90

www.stmarys-temple.org

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Thank you to all who joined us for our Veteran's Day celebration last Friday. It was a wonderful THANK YOU to our service men and women who keep our country free. Thank you to Ms. Saaty and the Student Council for organizing the event and the teachers and students for preparing special songs and cards. A special thank you to David and Kelly Stewart, parents of Olivia and David, for speaking to us from your heart.

Last Friday was also our Superintendent's annual visit. Dr. Vanders and guests visited all the classrooms and met with myself and others to discuss our goals for the year and our vision for the future. It was a very successful visit. Dr. Vanders was pleased with the Catholic Identity that was present and visible, our students' use of technology, the higher level learning taking place and the yummy lunch provided by our own Mr. Broadwater. It was a great day!

On Sunday, St. Mary's Catholic School students attended Family Mass at Christ the King Parish. I would like to thank all who attended and to the students for wearing their uniform. The purpose of Family Mass is simple.....to support our multiple parishes and parishioners who send their children to St. Mary's Catholic School and to show these parishes that we are one community.

I do realize it may be inconvenient to attend a different parish at a different time (and students to wear their uniform on the weekend) but your presence shows your support and does make a difference. Our next Family Mass will be at St. Mary's on December 4th at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday Night our PTC sponsored a skating evening at Wheels Skating Rink. It was loads of fun and a great way to build community. Thank you to our PTC for holding the event and to those who were able to attend. We will have another event later in the year in case you missed this one ☺

Please help me welcome our newest future Falcon, Mia Marie Garcia. Mia was born November 8th at 8:52. She weighed 7lbs 8.1 oz and was 19.2 inches in length. Congratulations to brother Ayden in Pre- K and parents Ismael Garcia and Wendy Picasso. We can't wait to meet her!

This Friday is our last day before Thanksgiving vacation. School will reopen on Monday November 29th. On behalf of the faculty and staff of St. Mary's Catholic School, I would like to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving and a restful vacation.

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

Mrs. Wyles

NEWS AND INFORMATION

Thanksgiving Luncheon

Reservations for the Thanksgiving luncheon were due last Friday. Just a reminder, that there will be no ticket sales on that day. If you forgot to purchase you are still welcome to join your child for lunch but you must bring in your own lunch.

Pep Rally November 16th

Join us for our Thanksgiving Pep Rally! November 16, 2016 at 2:00 p.m. in the SMCS Gym

A Special Thank You

Thank you Mr. and Mrs. Schwartz and Mr. and Mrs. Marlowe for donating funds needed to pay for the Christmas program at Temple College. Because of your generosity there will be no need to sell tickets for the evening's performance. We are very grateful!

Sports News

There is no practice over the Thanksgiving break for any sports. The school will be closed.

Avenue K

Please remember that Avenue K is one way during drop and dismissal. For the safety of the children and your car please follow the signs.

School Messenger

Last Thursday we sent another test for School Messenger. We have corrected or adjusted those numbers that had issues. Please make sure you have opted in to the text messages for your cell phones. Also make sure you phone does not block tests from the school. Both of these popped up as solutions to non-contacts. We will try another test after Thanksgiving and keep our fingers crossed.

Giving Tree During Advent

I am happy to inform you that we have been invited to participate in The Giving Tree Project again this year. If you are not familiar with this project, it is a way for us to give to those less fortunate at Christmas time. We will have a Christmas tree outside the office and on this tree will be paper ornaments. Each ornament will have written upon it the details of the Christmas wishes of a person in our community who is less fortunate.

If you would like to help one of these people, simply take an ornament, record with Mrs. Morales or Mrs. Brown which ornament you have selected, and bring a wrapped gift back to school by Dec. 16th using the ideas on the ornament. Attach the ornament to the wrapped gift so it can be given to the correct person. If you have questions please ask.

Last year's response to this was spectacular. I have no doubt we will continue the tradition.

Please note Dec. 16th

On December 16th school will be dismissed at 12:00 for Christmas vacation. There will be no after school Zone care on this day. As well, faculty and staff will be leaving campus shortly after 12:00. Please make sure you have made arrangements to pick your child up on time on this day.

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 now has tickets for pre-sale in the office. 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.boxtops4education.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.

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@holyltrinitchs.org

Christmas Program Details for December 6th

We are preparing for our fantastic Christmas musical, *Angels Aware*, to be performed December 6, 2016, at Temple College! 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) or dark slacks, Christmas colored shirt and tie. 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), or dark slacks, Christmas colored shirt and 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 funds 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

Wed. Nov. 16th

Thurs. Nov. 17th

Fri. Nov. 18th

Mon. Nov. 21st - Fri. Nov. 25th

Sun. Nov. 27th

Thurs. Dec. 1st

*Pep Rally 2:00 p.m.

*Thanksgiving Day Luncheon (presale only)

*Spirit Day (no popcorn)

*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.

*Free Throw contest 1:15 (flyers attached)

*No School: Thanksgiving Break

*Advent begins

*Spirit Day

Fri. Dec. 2nd

*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.

*Kid's Night In 6:00-9:30

*AYSSB All Region Band Try Outs

Sun. Dec. 4th

*Family Mass at St. Mary's 11:00 a.m.

(school choir will sing)

Tues. Dec. 6th

*Christmas Program

Thurs. Dec. 8th

*All School Mass: Immaculate Conception

Fri. Dec. 9th

* All School Mass 8:15 a.m.

Sun. Dec. 11th

*First Penance Meeting 1:00-3:00

Mon. Dec. 12th

* All School Mass: Our Lady of Guadalupe

Mon. Dec. 12th-Thurs. Dec. 15th

*Semester Exams grades 4-8

Thurs. Dec. 15th

*Christmas Concert (details to come)

Fri. Dec. 16th

*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.

*Noon dismissal for Christmas vacation

Wed. Jan. 4th

*Second Quarter ends

*School reopens: 3rd Quarter Begins