

# St. Mary's Catholic School

1019 South 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Temple, Texas 76504  
254-778-8141

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

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## Falcon's Pride

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

February 7, 2017

Issue 99

[www.stmarys-temple.org](http://www.stmarys-temple.org)

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

Last week we observed Catholic Schools Week, celebrating 120 years of Communities of Faith, Knowledge and Service. It was a wonderfully successful week and I thank all who took part, whether at our Super Bowl Open House on Sunday or our many activities throughout the week. Thank you to our faculty and staff for all their work preparing for the week. You are a gift!

As we continue to move forward this year, please help us spread the good news of St. Mary's Catholic School to friends and family. Let's share our gifts with all who wish to be part of our family. Word of mouth has always been our biggest marketing tool, but for those who do not have the opportunity to speak with our stakeholders, the internet is a perfect resource. We ask for your assistance in this area with Great Schools.

Great Schools is a non-profit organization with profiles of more than 200,000 Pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade schools, public, private and charter with over one million reviews from parents and guardians, and teachers and students sharing information about their school.

At St. Mary's Catholic School we are very proud of the posted comments and promote this site as part of our development and marketing program. It is time to update our site and we are asking that if you have the time, will you post your comments. Of course we are asking for the positive comments. If you post please let us know and you will be credited one service hour.

<http://www.greatschools.org/texas/temple/7296-St-Marys-Catholic-School/>

Thank you for helping us help new families see what a great school we have ☺.

During Lent, the Knights of Columbus 3444 and the KJT Society 114 will be sponsoring Fish Fry Fridays at the KC Hall in Temple. The funds raised will be donated to St. Mary's Catholic School. We certainly want to do our part to support this event and have been invited to help each week.

**The dates for the Fish Frys are March 3<sup>rd</sup>, March 10<sup>th</sup>, March 17<sup>th</sup>, March 24<sup>th</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 7<sup>th</sup>. These are perfect opportunities to earn Christian service hours, for grades 5-8, and give back to our community. The sign-up sheet is in the office. There are only 7 spots each week and we ask that Students wear their uniforms to represent the school.**

**Father Steve and his group of parishioners left on Sunday for a trip to the Holy Land. Please keep them in your prayers. They will return on the 15<sup>th</sup>.**

**Have a wonderful week.**

**Sincerely,  
Mrs. Wyles**

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## **NEWS AND INFORMATION**

### **Great Opportunity for Christian Service Grades 6-8**

The parish office is looking for help on Tues., Wed., and Thurs. after school for an hour. They need help with things like labeling envelopes, boxing files, emptying out cupboards, etc. They are only asking for two students so let Mrs. Wyles know ASAP if you would like to work. The persons helping do not have to work all three days if there is a conflict.

### **PSIA Volunteers**

Students signed up for PSIA have received their parent permission slip letters for our District meet on March 25<sup>th</sup>. Please remember to turn in the permission slip with the fee of \$10.00 per event.

It takes many hands to make PSIA tournaments a success. Each school is required to provide volunteers based on the number of students attending. Once we have been given our list of events we must fill, I will ask that each parent/guardian to volunteer for multiple events. Faculty and staff attending will also be volunteering. Please be generous with your time as volunteer slots unfilled will result in the loss of points for TOTAL school competition points.

### **Great Schools**

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### **Thank you from 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Fourth grade would like to thank all those who supported our bake sale last week. Because of your generosity, we far exceeded our goal by raising over \$400. We are excited to now make the lunches to serve to the people of Feed My Sheep outreach.

### **PTC NEWS**

Thank you to everyone who visited us at the Open House. We appreciate everyone taking the time to come by and chat with us. For those of you who purchased class pictures they should be ready in 7 to 10 days. **We will be taking picture orders until Friday.** Our Valentine's raffle began Monday morning and we will draw names throughout the week so there is still time to purchase raffle tickets up until Friday morning at the beginning of school.

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

### **Recap of PTC Meeting**

In 2014, when I came to St. Mary's, we found that teacher's salaries were well below the bar and quite unjust, some as much as 28,000 less than their public school counterpart. As you can imagine, this is counterproductive to retaining quality teachers. Therefore, our goal was to increase salaries to 80% of TISD over three years. I am happy to say this goal will be realized in the 2017-2018 school year.

With this goal, and a careful analysis of the costs to operate St. Mary's Catholic School, adjustments had to be made to the tuition scale. The result was the creation of two tuition scales. The first was for families who had been registered on or before the 2014-2015 school and the second was for those families who joined us after this date.

Tuition scales have been determined for next year and are attached to this week's newsletter. The increase in tuition is 2.5%.

### **Educational Facts**

The cost to educate a child in public school in the state of Texas is approximately \$9,559.00

The cost to educate a child at St. Mary's Catholic School this year is approximately \$7,025.00

The cost of tuition for one child at St. Mary's Catholic School for the 2016-2017 school year is \$5,200.

The educational gap is \$1,825. **Fees and tuition do not cover the entire cost of operating the school. Various fundraisers, donations and the parish support are essential.**

### **Tuition Assistance**

Tuition assistance will be available to those who qualify. Applications will be open on February 1<sup>st</sup>. Applications must be processed by March 10<sup>th</sup>. This includes supporting documents (W-4 and tax return from 2016). You must be current on all school financial commitments to receive tuition assistance for 2017-2018 school year.

### **Registration for the 2017-2018 School Year:**

1. Returning families will receive an email giving the option to change plans or banking information. You only need to fill out this form if there is a change, otherwise information automatically will roll into the 2017-2018 school year. Once your agreement is set you will receive an email.
2. Families adding additional children will need to go on to their FACTS account and click Add Child.
3. All forms, such as emergency form, photo release, technology agreement, etc. will be uploaded onto RenWeb and available for your updates by the end of March. If they are ready sooner we will let you know.
4. Registration, building, volunteer hours, or new student application fees can be added to your FACTS account or paid in the office.
5. Bus registration will need to be completed again
6. To hold your child's spot, in his or her class, the registration fee needs to be paid.
7. Please contact Mrs. Morales with any questions.

### **God Squad Event**

When: Ash Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup> 2017

Where: Temple Police Station

What: Stuffed Animal Drive and Tour of Temple Police Station

Time: 4:00 pm. to 5:00 pm.

Who: All God Squad Members, new and old

Drivers: We need drivers to get us there, contact Mrs. Shadburn  
lshadburn-stmarys-temple.org

How do you become a God Squad member?

Any JH or Elementary student may become a member by simply participating in a God Squad event.

### **Order a Balloon & Candy Gram!**

Please see the order form at the end of this newsletter to order a Balloon and Candy gram for your Valentine. Turn in your orders to the office.

### **Help Needed: Red Cross Hippy Triathlon (attachment)**

As you may remember, we had to move the date of the Red Cross Hippy Chick Triathlon event, because of flooding damage to the park in Waco. The new date for this event will be Saturday, April 29, 2017. I've attached the new flyer with all of the details.

We would be happy to have any St. Mary's students (minimum 13 years of age), parents, teacher and faculty that might like to join the volunteer effort. Please let Mrs. Wyles know what if want to volunteer and if you are interested in a particular assignment. A flyer is attached.

Sincerely,

### **Educational Family Show at the CAC**

Junie B. Jones: Essential Survival Guide to School by Theatreworks USA

7:00PM Friday, March 24

Tickets at [www.cacARTS.org](http://www.cacARTS.org)

Now that JUNIE B. JONES has been going to school for over one-and-a-half years, who better to write the book on EVERYTHING you need to know? From bus rules to band-aids, carpools to cookies, Junie B. and friends deliver the definitive word on surviving and thriving in style. With a jillion tips, tricks and trip-ups, Junie B. shares her hard-won expertise and shows us all how school is sometimes scary, sometimes super-fun, and ALWAYS something to sing about! An all-new musical adventure based on Barbara Park's popular book.

**(One hour in length, recommended for grades K - 5) Curriculum Connections: Communication and Language Arts, Literature-Based, Music, Relationships & Family.**

Video Clip

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rJI33GTe-R8>

Steve Santacroce

Red Cross Board Member - Heart of Central Texas Chapter

### **Walking for Education (attachment)**

We would like to extend an invitation to **all** St. Mary's Catholic students to design a T-Shirt for our Walking for Education walkathon.

Contest Rules:

The T-Shirt must be an original artwork created by the student, no adult or computer generated help.

Parents must sign and date the entry form below in order for the design to be considered. Designs may only use black.

Designs must be submitted to the office **no later than Tuesday, February 28, 2017.**

Entry form must be completed and signed. Correctly submitted designs will be voted on Friday, March 3, 2017.

### **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 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.

**Important Dates to Remember**

- |                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| Wed. Feb. 1 <sup>st</sup>    | *Registration for 2017-2018 school year begins   |
| Wed. Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>    | *School Board Meeting 5:45 p.m.<br>*Parent/Child Eucharistic meeting   |
| Thurs. Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>  | *Red Cross Pillowcase Activity grades 3-5  |
| Fri. Feb. 10 <sup>th</sup>   | *All School Mass: Father Tom Chamberlain   |
| Tues. Feb. 14 <sup>th</sup>  | *Happy Valentine's Day   |
| Wed. Feb. 15 <sup>th</sup>   | *Real Estate Open House at St. Mary's 9:00-11:00   |
| Thurs. Feb. 16 <sup>th</sup> | * Spirit Day and Popcorn   |
| Fri. Feb. 17 <sup>th</sup>   | *St. Joseph's Catholic School 6 <sup>th</sup> grade shadow day at St. Mary's<br>*All School Mass 8:15 a.m.<br>*Progress Reports close for second quarter |
| Mon. Feb. 20 <sup>th</sup>   | *Inclement Weather Day: No School  |
| Sun. Feb 26 <sup>th</sup>    | *Holy Trinity Open House   |
| Sat. March 4 <sup>th</sup>   | *Alumni Luncheon 12:00-2:00  |

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## *Valentine's Day Balloon and Candy Gram*

Order by Friday February 10<sup>th</sup> to be delivered by February 14<sup>th</sup> 2017

Balloon with Hershey Bar \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 X \_\_\_\_\_

Balloon with 10 Hershey Kisses \_\_\_\_\_ \$3.00 X \_\_\_\_\_

To: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

From: \_\_\_\_\_

Note: \_\_\_\_\_