

Mission Statement: We partner with parents providing a Catholic school rooted in the gospel teachings of Jesus Christ, modeled by Mary our mother, encouraging a virtuous life following the Catholic faith and pursuing academic excellence.



MARIAN MESSENGER

January 21, 2021

Week –At – A - Glance

Friday, January 22, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 8:30 All School Mass; gr. 7❖ Report Cards home via email❖ Christmas items ready for pick up at the end of the day. Look in the cart, please
Monday, January 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Morning Prayer; Mrs. Kinsey❖ National School Choice Week
Tuesday, January 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ Spirit Wear Day❖ 4:30 JV Basketball home against St. Paul
Wednesday, January 27, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 8:30 Elementary Mass; gr. 4
Thursday, January 28, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖
Friday, January 29, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 8:30 All School Mass; gr. 8

LUNCH INFORMATION

Grades 6-8 Lunch 11:30-12:00

Grades 3-5 Lunch 12:05

Grades K-2 Lunch 12:25

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth

Please provide your students with everything they need to eat their lunch; plate, eating utensil, napkin, drink, condiments

Principal Notes



Catholic Schools Week January 31-February 6, 2021

- ✚ Monday, February 1: PJ and Reading Day
- ✚ Tuesday, February 2: Hat Day
- ✚ Wednesday, February 3: Sledding Day
- ✚ Thursday, February 4: Sports Wear/Random Fitness Day
- ✚ Friday, February 5: Crazy Socks/Movie and Popcorn Day

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth



Fish Dinners: St. Mary School will be working with the St. Mary Men's Club this Lenten season to help with their annual Fish Dinners. The Men's Club are generously donating 90% of the profits back to the school to go towards the Dible Tuition Scholarship. (The other 10% will go towards cleaning the kitchen this summer.) These funds will help replace the \$15,000.00 that usually comes from our annual auction. What a blessing!

There will be six Fridays during Lent that we will need to help. They are expecting to serve (carry out only) 500 meals each night. Lots of hands will be needed to help package parts of the meal, put meals together, clean pots and pans, run from the multi-use room to the car to deliver the meal, etc. We are going to try to have two different pick up areas, one in the front and one in the back to make things go smoothly so we may need someone directing traffic in the parking lot.

Please see the sign up genius today below to see where you can help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4caeaf2baaf4c07-fish>

IF we can get 75% of our school families to volunteer, the school students will have a most coveted PJ Day!



Diocesan Scholarship Application is now available. When you apply, please be sure that your need is greater than the \$750 per child and that your child is Catholic. Please see the information at the end of the Messenger for greater detail! Note deadlines!!

Snow Day Information: All families are on a phone chain for snow days. You will receive a text/phone message from Mrs. Kinsey letting you know if a SNOW DAY happens. It will also be put on TV channel WXYZ (7) and NBC (4) and I'm pretty sure FOX (2). Generally, if Pinckney schools are closed for snow/ice, we will be closed. (We will not close for "cold" days as we will be inside out of the cold and our students do not wait for a bus in the morning.)

Article in the paper: <https://welovedexter.com/2021/01/10/people-need-this-st-mary-students-parishioners-shine-lights-in-the-darkness/?fbclid=IwAR3ue2UU7Kt4RumOC15lvjHipPEguLZmSs5Wfonxgs-RvHTI4PChMO6Zlg8>

CLASSROOM NEWS

MR. HAYES' TECHNOLOGY CLASSES

Happy New Year St. Mary families!

What a strange and wild ride we have been on, but the students continue to learn and try their best while working on technology activities and projects. The students in 3rd grade through 8th have been working on a variety of coding activities and will be starting Scratch coding (scratch.mit.edu). This coding program will allow them to be solving problems all the while being

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth

creative in their approach and design.



The younger students have begun to use Keyboard Zoo 2 which introduces using the shift key to make capital letters as well as a few of the other keys on the keyboard. They continue to work on some fun activities that help them learn to navigate different aspects of the computer and access different websites on the internet.

Keyboard Practice



Parents (and students) of 8th graders: Please be thinking of an 8th grade project that can be showcased at graduation. Typically this is a slideshow presentation of photos of the students' time here at St. Mary and growing up, but I am always looking for a fresh idea. I will be asking the students for their input over the next week or two so we can start planning this project. More than likely the project will require photos and possibly short videos, please be on the lookout for emails and notices for what may be required for this final project.

Please reach out to me with questions or concerns.

Scott Hayes, Technology Educator mrhayes@stmarypinckney.org

MR. PICANO'S P.E. CLASSES

K-3rd

We just finished up our hockey and object control unit. For this Semester, we will be continuing our work on basic skills. We will be introducing some net games which will be leading up to Volleyball and Badminton. In March, we will be focusing on Basketball skills and introducing some of the basic rules they will see when playing a basketball game.



4th-8th

We are going to start volleyball in February. We will be learning the rules and basic skills so students will be able to play outside of school. In March we will be starting Basketball. 6th-8th graders will be following the Sport Ed model during this month. Each student will be picking a part of the game to coach (Offense, Defense, Head Coach, Ref and Fitness). They will be teaching what they have researched to the class to give them more of a say in what they are doing and learning.



ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

SECOND QUARTER

HIGH HONORS

Patrick Burke

Olivia Domen

Nathaniel Garbarz

Isabella Wittrup

Katelyn Sanchez

Jack Fill

HONORS

Charles Connelly

Eric Alexander

Olivia Munker

Sean Flaherty

Kate Schultz

Gabryel Choi

Norah Stuk

Gunnar Galdes

Lin Robb

Jessica Sample

Andersen Meisner

Take it to Christ

Encourage in Faith

Speak the Truth

FYI

Virtue of the Month:

Gratitude: meaning: seeing everything as a gift and being thankful.

When we receive gifts from others, we respond by saying, “Thank you!” To have the virtue of gratitude means to always have a “thankyou” in your heart, especially to God, Who has given us the gift of life.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church says, “Every joy and suffering, every event and need can become the matter of thanksgiving which, sharing in that of Christ, should fill one’s whole life” (#2648). It can be easy to race through a day without giving thought to how grateful we should be, even for the splendor of a sunset or the fidelity of a close friend. Yet we are called not only to be grateful for these things, but even for the difficulties in life, which God allows for the greater good of our salvation. Everything God has made, everything that happens, is a gift. So, in all things, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His love endures ...FOREVER”!

Saint of the Month for Preschool to grade 2: **Saint Francis of Assisi**; feast day is October 4th.

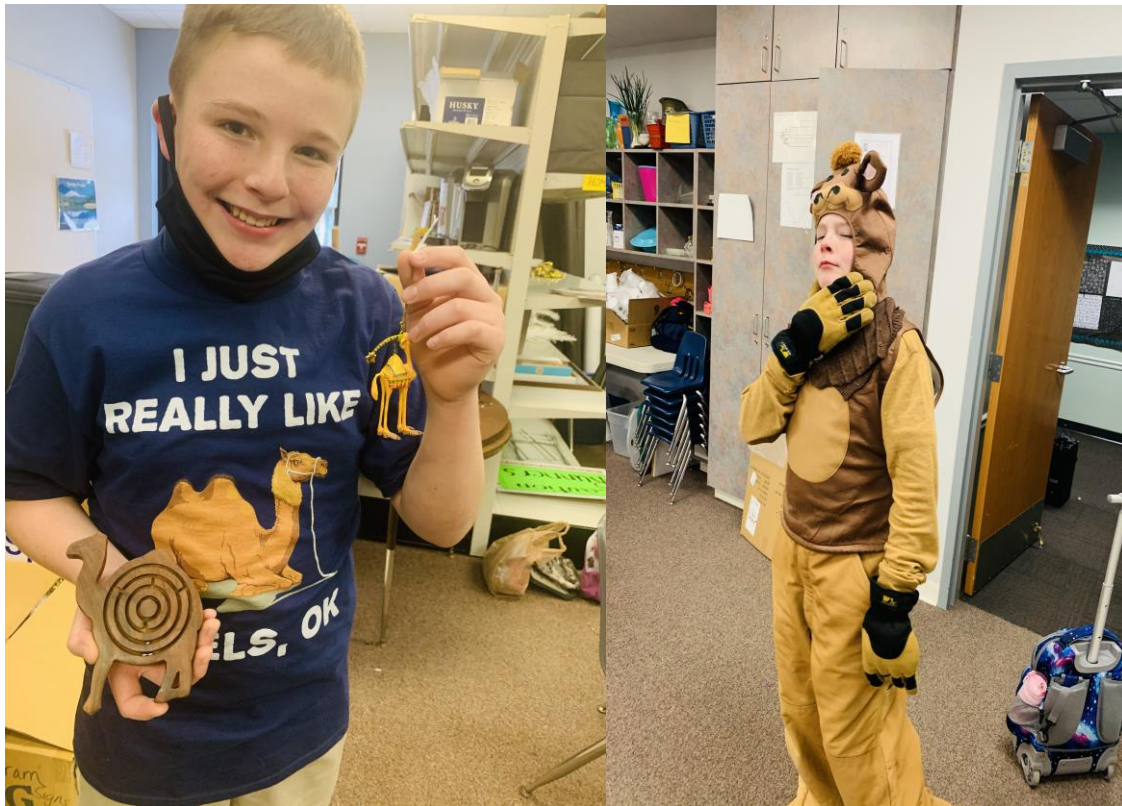
Saint of the Month for grades 3-5: Saint Julie Billiart. Feast Day is May 13.

Saint of the Month for Middle School: Saint Josemaria Escriva. Feast Day is June 26.

"All Roads" Best Costume Winner

Drumroll please.... Congratulations to Todd Darling in 6th grade who won the prize for best costume in All Roads Lead to Bethlehem. He worked very hard on his role as a camel, he even perfected an accent if camels could talk he would have it down! Todd won a camel Christmas ornament, Labyrinth game and shirt.

We loved all of our awesome live nativity costumes and characters!



Project Healthy Schools Wellness Tip: Lack of sleep can reduce your ability to fight infections. Stay healthy by getting 8 hours of sleep every night. As long as you exercise two hours before bed, exercise can improve the quality of your sleep.

Take it to Christ

Encourage in Faith

Speak the Truth

METANOIA

A JOURNEY WITH CHRIST INTO CONVERSION



METANOIA – and believe in the Gospel. In the Gospel of Mark, the first words of Jesus are an invitation to metanoia, to repent, to change, to be converted through a continual process of turning away from the things of the world and discovering a deeper union with Christ.

This 10-part series featuring Fr. Dave Pivonka of The Wild Goose leads us on a journey with Christ into conversion exploring areas of our life where conversion is so often necessary. Metanoia will examine topics such as who is Jesus, what must we do to inherit eternal life, and many other significant matters of faith, while inspiring you to seek to encounter Jesus and the new life he is constantly inviting us to.

Join us for the most important journey of our lives, a journey of grace, hope, repentance, and transformation. Do not delay, “This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the Gospel. Mk 1:15” Our journey

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth

begins Thursday, January 21st @7pm via Zoom and continues weekly through Thursday, March 25th.

Please click [here](#) to learn more and register!

Thanks! God bless, Sarah Salow

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Mark 1:14-20

In the Old Testament reading the people of Nineveh have an important choice to make. Jonah is sent by God to warn the people to change their wicked ways. Jonah is reluctant at first. But finally, Jonah makes the right choice to go to Nineveh and God gives him the power to preach God's message. To his surprise, Jonah's preaching in the wicked Gentile city of Nineveh is very effective and the Ninevites choose faith in God. God reacts generously to Jonah's preaching and everyone in Nineveh is saved.

The message in this gospel is clear. Repent and believe in the gospel. Jesus carries John the Baptist's message of repentance further, adding the important call to faith. Simon, Andrew, James, and John drop everything in response to Jesus' call. They choose to leave behind their livelihood as fishermen to take on a new mission. We see how the call to follow Jesus is a call to a new way of life for all those who respond.

- How can you help someone to make a good choice?
- Who helps you make good choices?
- What changes do you need to make in order to follow Jesus more closely?



Sin and Repentance

God created human beings and all of creation good. We are created by God to live in right relationship with God, one another, and with all of creation. However, the world God created is wounded by sin. Human beings originally created by God as good are harmed by sin. By choosing to sin, we turn away from God.

Catholics understand that with the help of God's grace we can repent and turn away from sin and turn back to God. We can choose light over darkness. Living in God's love brings healing and light into the world.

Take it to Christ

Encourage in Faith

Speak the Truth



Sacrament Connection

In the Sacrament of Reconciliation we receive the forgiveness of our sins and we are reconciled with God and the community. The Sacrament of Reconciliation celebrates God's merciful love and forgiveness.

The Gospel in Life

How can you bring the light of God's love to others this week?



Take it to Christ

Encourage in Faith

Speak the Truth



Affording Catholic Education

The Diocese of Lansing awarded more than \$523,000 in scholarships to help families afford Catholic school for the 2020/21 school year.

Many families need and receive financial assistance for Catholic school tuition. Diocese of Lansing Catholic schools believe that a Catholic education should be available, accessible and affordable to any family that wants to provide their children with an authentically Catholic, academically rigorous education.

Our Scholarship program is a need-based assistance program. Need is determined by an independent, third-party service, F.A.C.T.S., which makes its assessment based on income and tax information. However, the FACTS application does have a section that offers the family to list any changes in their financial situation, and these are taken into consideration by the individual schools.

Eligibility Criteria for All Scholarships

- Family must complete a [FACTS financial aid application online](#) on or before **March 1, 2021**.
- Student must show a financial need of at least \$750
- The Student must be Catholic, attend a Diocese of Lansing school, and belong to a parish in the Diocese of Lansing.

Scholarships for the 2021-22 School Year

Diocese of Lansing Grants

- Grades K-8: \$750 per student
- Grades 9-12: \$1000 per student

The Venerable Augustus Tolton Scholarship

- Grades K-12: \$500

The Venerable Augustus Tolton Scholarship is aimed at increasing the number of Catholic African American students in the Diocese of Lansing's Catholic schools. It will operate under the patronage of Venerable Augustus Tolton (1854-97), a former slave who became the first African American priest in the United States. This grant is \$500 per student. In addition to the Grant Criteria for all grants, student must be African-American or Black and show a need of at least \$500.

Applying for Financial Aid

- **The deadline for applications is March 1, 2021.**
- By completing the FACTS application, you are applying for all grants available through the Diocese of Lansing. No need to complete an application for each grant.
- Applicants can complete the online form by clicking the FACTS link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>

About the FACTS application: The link will be available December 1, 2020 and **will close March 1, 2021**. After March 1, 2021 please contact your school directly. There is a \$35.00 fee payable to FACTS through their online application process.

Once the FACTS online form has been completed, the following information will need to be submitted to FACTS:

- Copies of your most recent Federal tax forms including all supporting tax schedules and W2's.
- Copies of supporting documentation for Social Security Income, Welfare, Child Support, Food Stamps, Workers' Compensation, and TANF.

All supporting documentation must be uploaded online through the FACTS online form. You will receive a determination letter by May 30th. If you received a grant, your school will be notified and the grant will be sent directly to your school in October of 2021.

If you have questions about the financial assistance process through FACTS, you may speak with a FACTS Customer Care Representative at 1-866-441-4637 or Diocese of Lansing, Financial Aid Advisor, Renee Fischman at 517-267-2107 or by email: renee.fischman@lansingcatholic.org.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Financial Aid Process

- **What if my application is submitted after March 1 2021, am I eligible for financial aid?**
 - You must have your application completed by March 1st and *all required documents* to FACTS by April 1, 2021. Applications received after that date are not eligible for the Diocese of Lansing grants, but you may still be eligible for financial assistance from your school. Contact your school directly for more information.
- **Do I have to complete separate applications for my children if they attend different schools?**
 - No, you submit one application per family. You list each student and the school they attend on one application. The Diocese of Lansing and each school will receive your determination.
- **Do I have to complete separate applications for each grant available?**
 - You do not have to complete separate applications for each grant for the Diocese of Lansing. Please contact your school directly for information on their financial assistance available.
- **What if I do not have access to a computer, and cannot complete the form online?**
 - Many schools will let you use a computer in their library; please contact your school directly for more information.
- **I can complete the form online but I cannot upload or scan the documents, what do I do?**
 - Many schools can help you upload the document. Contact your school office for more information.
- **When will I know if I qualified for any financial assistance?**
 - You will receive letters by May 30 from the Diocese of Lansing, notifying you of your determination and amount of financial assistance. If you qualified for a grant, your school will also be notified of the grant and the amount.

- **I did not qualify for any financial assistance from the Diocese of Lansing, is there anything I can do to receive financial assistance.**
- If it was determined that you did not show a financial need, and you still require financial assistance. You can contact your school directly for assistance. *There is no appeal process for the Diocese of Lansing grants.*
- **I have other questions regarding tuition and financial aid, who do I contact?** If you have questions about the Diocese of Lansing grants, please contact:

Kathy Ruddock

Diocese of Lansing

Financial aid Advisor

kruddock@dioceseoflansing.org

(517) 342-2482

If you have, questions on the FACTS application please contact FACTS customer care at 1-866-441-4637. If you have questions regarding tuition and financial aid from your school, please contact them directly.

LENTEN FISH DINNERS

St. Mary's Catholic Parish Pinckney

St. Mary's Men's Club

is proudly sponsoring its Annual Lenten Fish Dinners

Friday's during Lent!



TAKE-OUT ONLY: 4pm-7pm

Friday's: February 19 — March 26, 2021

COST: \$10 with the following two menu options:

1. BAKED FISH, AU GRATIN POTATOES, MAC & CHEESE, COLESLAW, DESSERT
2. FRIED FISH, FRENCH FRIES, MAC & CHEESE, COLESLAW, DESSERT



Proceeds to St. Mary Catholic School

PTC Meeting Minutes

Take it to Christ

Encourage in Faith

Speak the Truth

1/12/21 7 PM via Zoom, 35 Minutes

21 Meeting Attendees (name shown on Zoom)

Kim Hogan- President	Mary Fill- Vice President	Rachael Morley – Secretary
Veronica Kinsey- Principal	Pam Meisner- Treasurer	Andrea Kacher- Elem Rep
Carissa Poroko- PR	Donna Aulette- Volunteer Coord.	Catherine Galdes
Annette Staley	Cristina Burkett	Alyse Liddick
Jamie Brock	Kim Asaro	Erin Rolling
Jolene O'Donohue	Ashley Cooke	Lindsay Green
Andrea Connelly	Laura Elgas	Logan

PTC email address: ptcnews@stmarypinckney.org for any questions, ideas or concerns
Future meetings: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7 PM via Zoom (links sent prior to meeting)

Carissa Poroko Update:

"All Roads Lead to Bethlehem" Drive Thru Live Nativity Scene – A big thank you to everyone who helped pull together this event and make it a success! The event raised almost \$2,200 and was a great event for both the school and community. Decorations are currently being sorted/put away - those that requested they be returned by labeling them should have them back soon. Also, as you put away your outdoor decorations this year, if you would like to donate any to future events, please drop them off at the school and they will be put to great use.

See link for a news article highlighting our event- additional articles will be coming out soon
<https://welovedexter.com/2021/01/10/people-need-this-st-mary-students-parishioners-shine-lights-in-the-darkness/>

Mrs. Kinsey Update:

Tuition Management Software- St. Mary will be moving from SMART tuition to the FACTS software for the 21-22 school year. This decision is due to administrative benefits, ease of use of FACTS and the fact we will have an assigned representative from FACTS for our school. As an end user, it will function the same as SMART, but the school will have more control of fees for late tuition payments. This change will be made soon and families will need to pay their \$100 enrollment fee/tuition deposit. The events fee (formerly called auction fee) and supervision fees will be posted later this spring.

Potential Post-Holiday Break Virtual Learning- A decision about a post Easter break virtual week will be made closer to that timeframe based on the current COVID-19 climate. The virtual weeks post Thanksgiving and Christmas break did serve their purpose in reducing potential COVID exposure in the school.

PTC Updates:

St. Mary School is partnering with the Men's Club on the 2021 *Carryout Lenten Fish Dinners* (6 Fridays from February 19 to March 26 from 4-7 PM)- We would need a lot of volunteer/parent support to help

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth

make this a success. Angela Darling and Pam Meiser are primary contacts on the school side. A sign up genius will be sent out in the next 2 weeks with volunteer opportunities. Each Friday help will be needed from 1-9 PM in various roles (runners, traffic, food packaging) and time slots. This is a great way for both middle school and high schoolers to earn volunteer hours or for families to work together to give back! We are anticipating the sale of about 500 dinners each Friday so we really need all hands on deck. *Big Spring Fundraising Event* –Save the date for Saturday, May 15 at Whispering Pines in Pinckney. Will be creating a committee to help plan event soon, will need many volunteers. Planning for this event will start soon.

Donna Aulette Volunteer Update:

Classroom Coordinators- A classroom coordinator has been identified for all grades PK-8 (list shown below) to help distribute PTC information to classrooms and organize PTC related items and fundraisers (like fish fry dinners, spring event and teacher appreciation) on a classroom basis. Coordinators will work with Donna Aulette, the PTC Volunteer Coordinator. Introduction emails from your children's classroom coordinators should be coming soon after a delay earlier this school year.

Pre-K. Communication primarily through Mrs. Stodart but Christy Klein as needed

K. Alyse Liddick

1. Jolene O'Donohue

2. Pam Holtz

3. Erin Rolling

4. Amy Berry

5. Emily Ryan

6. Catherine Galdes

7. Lindsay Green

8. Laura Elgas

Pam Meisner Treasurer Update:

2020-2021 School Year PTC Fundraising Profit:

As shown in the snapshot below, we are currently at ~\$13,00 for this school year, which is great considering that already includes a \$15,000 scholarship fund payment associated with the spring event. Coming up with have the fish fry dinners and spring event to work toward meeting our fundraising goals for the school year.

Fundraising Detail:						
		2020-2021				
		Income	Expenses	Total		
Auction/Dinner		\$ 2,210.43	\$ (2,210.43)		3 trips need to be sold/auction/raffled	
Scholarship		\$ 15,000.00	\$ (15,000.00)		15K scholarship associated with Auction/Dinner	
Raise the Paddle			\$ -			
Raffle		\$ 44,088.00	\$ 13,371.00	\$ 30,717.00		
Scholarship			\$ 5,000.00	\$ (5,000.00)		
Swag		\$ 1,101.00		\$ 1,101.00		
Movie Night		\$ 1,711.05	\$ 890.86	\$ 820.19		
Comedy Night		\$ 420.00	\$ -	\$ 420.00	For Teachers classrooms \$560 - \$140 in refunds	
Aubree Night		\$ 223.50		\$ 223.50		
Nativity		\$ 2,196.19		\$ 2,196.19	estimate	
Fish Fry				\$ -	Expecting to make about \$15K	
Amazon Smile					\$12 raised, should receive in 2021	
PTC Fundraising		\$ 49,739.74	\$ 36,472.29	\$ 13,267.45		

Take it to Christ Encourage in Faith Speak the Truth