

The Bulldog Barks

December 13, 2019



Mr. Brookbank – Principal

brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

The students put on great performances on Wednesday night at the Primary Christmas Program and Lessons and Carols. Thank you to Mrs. Vincent, Mr. Waldon, Mrs. Rector, Mrs. Rice, Mrs. Grove, Mrs. Meyer, Ms. McPherson and everyone that helped prepare the students. This is great way for all of us to prepare for the Christmas season.

Saint of the Month

St. Nicholas



Time flies and we can look back on a great academic first half of the school year. We still have another week to go before we take off for Christmas Break, which all students and teachers deserve. School will resume on Monday, January 6, 2020!

I hope everyone can take some time to relax and enjoy time with family over the break. As a principal, I am thankful for the incredible devotion of our staff and their unique ability to teach and inspire our children. St. Mary's is grateful for our school and parish families. We are blessed with an amazing group of individuals. Thank you all for your continued support and I wish you all a safe and happy holiday.

St. Mary's Video

Take a few minutes and check out a video that Mr. Brookbank and Lydia Bennett prepared to submit to Institute of Quality Education Video Challenge. The video has general information about St. Mary's and video footage of kids in the classroom!

Ctrl + Click to follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W8Ty4mXu6dI>

Average Daily Attendance: 08/07 – 12/12/2019 (82 school days)

of students: 73

Average # of students per day: 71.77

of absent days: 105

Average Daily Attendance: 98.3%

Sustainability Committee

Bulldog's Bounty Cookbook - \$15.00/each, there are copies available in the office for purchase. Stop in and pick one up, or send in an order form with payment and it will be filled and returned with your child.

We also have 10 pound bags of prepared barbeque! Each bag is \$40.00 and will serve approximately 40 individuals. GREAT WAY TO SAVE TIME ON THE HOLIDAYS OR SPORTS PARTIES. Call the school office for details.

We still need cafeteria monitors.

These individuals will walk around the cafeteria and monitor students, open milk, and general supervision. Time needed – 11:25 – 11:55 a.m. Call the office if you can help.

Adopt a Student Program

Our Adopt-A-Student Program is aimed at helping struggling families meet the rising cost of a good Catholic Education. It is an opportunity for you, as caring parishioner, to offer a child a quality, Catholic education. It is also an opportunity to help your fellow parishioners with financial support and encouragement.

Your contribution may be applied in one of two ways. First, it could go to help all our St. Mary's children. Secondly, it could also be applied towards a specific child for the child's tuition account. All you need to do, is to specify the child or children you wish to sponsor. In this case, the parents would be notified that their account has been reduced by X amount of dollars. You may donate anonymously, if you wish.

Our Adopt-A-Student program is also funded by the weekly student mass; one half of the funds collected go into the Adopt-A-Student fund.

Contact the school office if you have any questions.

Student Tickets – South Dearborn

St. Mary's has \$3.00 Reduced Student Tickets for the sports events at South Dearborn. We have the tickets in the school office.

Kroger Community Rewards

Thanks to everyone that has enrolled in Kroger Community Rewards and linked their card to St. Mary's. This help raise money for our school! It's easy and free to enroll! Plus, you'll earn fuel points at the same time.

If you are not enrolled, here is the link:

<https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow>

After School Care

The After School Care Program will be supervised by Ms. McPherson in the 1st grade room from 2:35 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Mondays - Thursdays and from 2:35 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. on Fridays! If you have any question about the After School Care, please call the office or email Ms. McPherson at mcperson.1@mystmarys.com.

Box Tops for Education

*** Buy * Clip * Send * Earn***



Nicole Eaglin, Box Tops for Education Coordinator

Please collect Box Tops and send them in to school with your student. The teachers collect the Box Tops, and then I mail them in to be redeemed. Each Box Top is worth \$.10. There are collection sheets you may fill out or send them in a baggie.

This year, Box Tops for Education has updated their app. Just download the app, fill in our school information, scan in your receipt and scan the item. Our school will then receive credit and a check is mailed to the school quarterly.

I appreciate all of your participation in the Box Tops for Education program. Thank you for helping raise money for our school.

Pull for Ronald McDonald House Charities



Recycled beverage tabs help support local Ronald McDonald House program, a temporary "home-away-from-home" for the families of seriously ill children being treated at nearby hospitals.

There is a can by the front door of school, with the Ronald McDonald logo on it. Please bring in your beverage tabs and put them in the can.

Kindergarten – Mrs. Denning

amy.denning@mystmarys.com

We will be doing individual evaluations for report cards next week. Please make sure to practice reading sight and high-frequency words ("pop-up" words), blending, and all other skills that were listed on the midterm letter.

In phonics we will be working with letter Cc-keyword-cat ("hard" sound of Cc). We will be learning the "K/C rule": The /k/ sound is spelled with "k" if it is followed by an **e, i, or y**; the /k/ sound is spelled with "c" if it is followed by an **a, o, u, or any consonant**. Reviewing this rule at home would be greatly appreciated.

Show-n-Tell next week is letter Nn.

Have a great week!

Grade 1 and Grade 2 – Ms. McPherson

mcperson.1@mystmarys.com

1st Grade

In Reading we will begin the story Greg's Mask. Reading Word List #12 will be sent home. Our reading test will be on Friday!

In Phonics we will be learning to spell and read new words with **combination er** (as in butter) and **trigraph igh** (as in light).

In Math we are continuing to identify odd and even numbers, count by 2's, number a clock face, and add 2 to an odd number.

We do not have a Spelling test this week!

2nd Grade

In Reading we will begin the story What Kind of Baby-sitter Is This?. Reading Logs are due by Friday!

In Phonics the students are learning to spell and read new words with **diphthongs oi** (as in oil) and **oy** (as in toy). We will learn **suffixes –let** and **–ly** and their meanings and that an analogy is a comparison made between two items.

In Math we are reading a thermometer to the nearest 2 degrees Fahrenheit and identifying and creating overlapping geometric shapes.

We do not have a spelling test this week!

Grade 3 and Grade 4 – Mrs. Meyer

amanda.meyer@mystmarys.com

Students did a wonderful job singing at Lessons and Carols on Wednesday! Khloe and Oliver also did a great job lighting the candles. Thank you for all your hard work and patience.

The last school week of 2019 is going to be a busy one! Book report projects are due Wednesday, December 18. Fourth graders will have a science test Tuesday, and both third and fourth grade will have their 10 Commandments test on Thursday and root word quiz on Friday.

We will be inviting the school to our classroom at different times on Wednesday and Thursday to do coding activities. Across the country schools participate in the "Hour of Code." We will be focusing on the computer science behind gaming!

Our Christmas Party is Friday, December 20 from 12:20-1:00. Students also need to bring their Secret Santa gift! Merry Christmas!

Grade 5 – Mrs. Grove**annmarie.grove@mystmarys.com**

All music lovers should try to attend the Southeastern Indiana Adult Choir's cantata this Sunday, the 15th, in church at 6:30. It was the most moving and beautiful part of my Christmas season last year. To make it even better, it is a fund raiser for our school! The suggested donation is \$5, but it was a priceless experience.

Thank you to Mr. Waldon for preparing the students for Lessons and Carols. It too, is a priceless way to celebrate the Christmas season.

The fifth graders have graduated from the Think Smart, Stay Safe six hour workshop brought to us by High Point Health. The program emphasizes self-confidence, assertiveness and decision-making skills to help children in a variety of situations they may encounter daily. Look for some of the program materials that came home in a bright yellow folder.

Grade 6 – Mrs. Rice**suzy.rice@mystmarys.com**

Lessons & Carols was beautiful! Thank you Mr. Waldon and all of the students for their hard work and effort!

The 6th graders have a math test on Tuesday. The 5th/6th grade have a science test on Thursday. They received their study guide yesterday. The 7th and 8th grade each have a math test on Wednesday. The end of the quarter is Friday, 12/20.

Friday, December 20 the 6th grade will watch a movie and have snacks in the afternoon. They may bring in their own drink and put it in my refrigerator and volunteers will bring in snacks.

Grade 7 – Mrs. Rector**kim.rector@mystmarys.com**

We just finished a very busy week! Hopefully you were able to attend the Christmas programs on Wednesday evening. All students did an outstanding job as usual. Many thanks go to Mr. Waldon for his work with students in grades 3-8 on Lessons and Carols, and to Mrs. Vincent and Mr. Hagedorn for helping the students in grades K-2 prepare for their program.

Students also enjoyed working with their prayer buddies to create cards to spread Christmas cheer to patients in the hospital and nursing home residents. Then they got to decorate and eat cookies. Thanks to Mrs. B, Mrs. Ruter, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Denning, and Mrs. Zigan for sending in supplies for the cookie decorating.

We have one more week of work to finish up the second quarter. All three social studies classes will have a test next week. Hopefully the 6th and 7th graders will finish their novels in language arts class. The 7th graders may bring in food items for a Christmas celebration on Friday morning. Let me know if you have any questions! Have a terrific week!

Grade 8 – Mr. Waldon**jim.waldon@mystmarys.com**

Thanks to all of the students and staff for doing such a fantastic job at Lessons & Carols on Wednesday evening. We had several guests who attended for the first time, and they were very grateful for the level of reverence and skill demonstrated in those who led the prayers, read the scriptures, sang, and rang.

Thanks to Mrs. Rector for organizing our card-making and cookie decorating activity with our prayer buddies on Thursday, and thanks to the parents who donated cookies and decorating materials!

We've begun our traditional 8th grade Christmas card ornament project. The beautiful ornaments are reminders to us that God is eternal without beginning or end and that God is a Holy Trinity of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Parents can look forward to having at least one of these ornaments on your tree this year!

Thanks to everyone who supported our Chipotle fundraiser this past Tuesday, and don't forget our quilt raffle! Chances are \$5.00 each and can be purchased from any 8th grader. The drawing will be held on January 25th and benefits the class's Splash trip with Mr. Gardner.

We're hoping to work out a visit to Hillforest next week. The students were invited to see the decorations they had carried from the Hillforest basement back in November, and they would enjoy getting to see the mansion all decorated for Christmas.

God bless you all!

8th grade fundraiser

The 8th grade class has a fundraiser to raise money for their trip to Pigeon Key, FL for Mr. Gardner's SPLASH into science trip.

- Quilt Raffle – Navy and white chevron patterned quilt. 72 X 82 (full/twin). Was pieced by Carol Smith and machine quilted by Carolyn Freeman. Drawing will be held on January 25th. Tickets are \$5/each. To purchase tickets, see an 8th grade student or stop by the school office.

7th and 8th Grade Science – Mr. Brookbank

brookbank.science@mystmarys.com

The eighth grade is finishing the Digestive System. They have shown a ravenous appetite for learning. They have been salivating to begin the lessons. Their intestinal fortitude has been impressive. Friday we tested and I hope they mentally digested all the information.

The seventh and eighth grades will complete a short paper lab consisting of matching animals with the group they are classified within. An Example, the duck-billed platypus is a monotreme, the Indiana Bat is a placental mammal. Each pair will be given 28 different animals on cards and students correctly place them in the right group. The groups are amphibians, reptiles, bony fish, cartilaginous fish, jawless fish, monotremes, marsupials, placental, & birds. Students are given a "help sheet" that lists five characteristics of each of the nine groups. Critical thinking skills help pick the right group for each of the 28 organisms.

Saint of the month – St. Nicholas

Saint Nicholas was a Christian bishop who helped the needy. After his death, the legend of his gift-giving grew. Saint Nicholas transformed into the legendary character called Santa Claus, who brings Christmas presents to children around the world.

Saint Nicholas was born circa 280 in Patara, Lycia, an area that is part of present-day Turkey. He lost both of his parents as a young man and reportedly used his inheritance to help the poor and sick. A devout Christian, he later served as bishop of Myra, a city that is now called Demre.

Several sources state Saint Nicholas is believed to have died on December 6, 343. Over the years, stories of his miracles and work for the poor spread to other parts of the world. He became known as the protector of children and sailors and was associated with gift-giving.

The Dutch continued to celebrate the feast day of Saint Nicholas, December 6. It was a common practice for children to put out their shoes the night before. In the morning, they would discover the gifts that Saint Nicholas had left there for them. Dutch immigrants brought the legend of Saint Nicholas, known to them as Sint Nikolaas or by his nickname, Sinterklaas, to America in the 1700s.

Saint Nicholas went through many transformations in America: Sinterklaas became Santa Claus, and instead of giving gifts on December 6, he became a part of the Christmas holiday.

Cafeteria/Playground

Contact Aimee Hollingsworth at 744-8738, to sign up for cafeteria and playground duty. The schedule is online at www.mytmarys.com, under “Student Life”, under “Cafeteria/Playground”. If you can fill in one of the open positions, you can call the school office to let us know!

Lunch:

11:25 a.m. – 11:50 a.m. – Grades 3 – 5
11:35 a.m. – 11:55 a.m. – Grades K – 2
12:00 p.m. – 12:25 p.m. – Grades 6 – 8

Recess:

11:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. – Grades K – 2
11:50 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. – Grades 3 – 4

Cafeteria and Playground hours:

Cafe: First lunch is served at 11:25 a.m., so arrive 10 – 15 minutes early. Serve two lunch periods and help clean up kitchen, wash dishes, etc.

Playground: Arrive around 10:50 a.m. and help the teacher supervise students on playground, Activity Center or at the park (depending on weather). You should be finished around 12:30 p.m.

Cafeteria Volunteers:

12/16 – Pat Scharf, 12/17 – Kay Gigerich, 12/18 – Marge Waldon, 12/19 – Charlotte DeVille, 12/20 – Monica Ramsey

Playground Volunteers:

12/16 – Carolyn Manford, 12/17 – HELP NEEDED, 12/18 – Randi McGraw, 12/19 – Jill Zigan, 12/20 – HELP NEEDED

Lunch Menu: \$17.50 per ticket (5 meals)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
16	17	18	19	20
Sliced Turkey Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Bread Fruit Milk	Chicken Nuggets Buttered Noodles Tossed Salad Carrots Fruit Milk	Hamburger or Pizza Burger Fries Baked Beans Fruit Milk	Taco (Beef or Chicken) Refried Beans Corn Fruit Milk	Chicken Slider Sandwich Veggie Sticks with dip Fruit Milk



Alumni News:

Special shout out to Megan Heeke, South Dearborn High School/St. Mary's Class of 2016. Megan was one of 5 finalists for the Lily Endowment Community Scholarship. The finalists are recognized as 2020 Dearborn Community Foundation Scholarship recipients. Each student receives a \$1,000 scholarship paid directly to the student's school. The scholarship is renewable for up to four years of secondary education at the college or university of the student's choice.

Calendar of Events:

Friday, December 13th	Basketball Picture Day (during school)
Sunday, December 15th	Adult Voices of Indiana - “A Midnight Clear” St. Mary’s Church at 6:30 p.m.
Friday, December 20th	End of 2nd Quarter Report cards will be sent home January 9, 2020
December 23 – January 5th	Christmas Break
Monday, January 6, 2020	School resumes
Thursday, January 9th	2nd Quarter Report card sent home 3Q PTO Meeting at 7 p.m. in school cafeteria

STO Members for 2019-2020

Grade 8: Charlie Meyer, Ellie Ryan and Bernadette Wismann
Grade 7: Elana Hollingsworth, Carson Ruter and Lakota Vincent
Grade 6: Laura Dennis, Eleanor Eaglin and Maddie Ryan

2019/2020 School Theme: Shout to the Lord

You Tube link to the song

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5_aIauL2xKA



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- Follow us on Instagram: **myst.marys**