

St. Mary Catholic School

"Where Christ's Light Shines"



Message From The Principal

Dear Members of the St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception School Community:

I hope that your family enjoyed the long weekend. This week I want to share what our teachers did this past Friday at the Diocesan in-service and some of the other professional growth opportunities that we have engaged in this year.

Last Friday the teachers gathered by grade level with colleagues from across the Diocese of Oakland. They engaged in meaningful discussion about the Next Generation Science Standards. They shared best practices, lesson ideas, and discussed STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) curriculum integration. Additionally, all teachers heard various presentations from the Diocese of Oakland Special Needs Board on supporting reading and writing and executive functioning. Furthermore, junior high teachers met with various Catholic high school representatives to discuss English language arts and math high school expectations and observations.

This year teachers have also been meeting with a coach from FOSS (the new science curriculum) to support the implementation of our new curriculum. During coaching sessions the teachers discuss teaching strategies, curriculum pacing, and ask questions. The coach models lessons and also provides feedback to teachers.

Today the faculty, staff, and I will be participating in a mini Lenten retreat with Dr. Doreen Jones from the University of San Francisco.

These opportunities for teachers to collaborate, share, plan, and communicate are essential. I know that days off and early dismissal days can be a challenge for family schedules, but this time for our teachers to explore research, discuss best practices, plan, and share ideas to support and impact student learning is invaluable.

God Bless,

2017-2018 REGISTRATION - TODAY!

Today you should have received **2 important registration components**:

1. **Registration Email** from PowerSchool/InfoSnap with your child's personalized "snapcode" - due April 6th.
2. A copy of your **tuition contract** in your Wednesday envelope - due April 6th.

Both components need to be submitted and registration fees cleared through FACTS for your child's registration for the 2017-18 school year to be complete.

If you did not receive a registration email for each of your students, please check your SPAM before notifying the office. In addition, if your Wednesday envelope was missing, tuition contracts went home in the oldest child's backpack - please check backpacks!

Please Note: In order to re-register your current student for the 2017-18 school year your 2016-17 tuition must be paid up to date. In addition, all tuition for the 2016-17 school year must be paid in full by May 20, 2017 unless other arrangements have been made with the principal. Please contact Peggy Mulligan, the school bookkeeper, with any questions.

PARISH STATIONS OF THE CROSS SIGN-UPS

Mrs. Guidi is looking for students interested in participating in the parish Stations of the Cross on **March 31st**. She needs readers and singers from grades K - 8. Permission forms can be found [HERE](#) and in front of the 2nd grade classroom. Submission box for the signed forms will be in front of the 2nd grade classroom.

Deadline to sign up is March 17.



SAVE THE DATE - STATE OF THE SCHOOL - APRIL 10TH

Calling all parents: State of the School - an evening of good news!

Please join Mrs. Schmidt and the Advisory Board from 6:30 to 8 pm on **Monday April 10th** for a State of the School discussion in the gym. Just three primary topics on the agenda:

1. Update on 2016 - 2017 Areas of Focus
2. Financial Update
3. Future Vision and Sustainability

Pizza and drinks will be provided!

Any questions about the meeting, please contact Karen Redwood at redwoodk@earthlink.net



FATHER/DAUGHTER DANCE

Get ready to *PLAY BALL!* This year's Father/Daughter Dance theme is "**Take Me out To The Ballgame**". Dinner, dancing & fun on **Wednesday, April 5th from 6-8pm** in the school gym. Click on the [flier](#) for details. Please confirm you will be in the lineup **no later than March 29th**. Questions? Contact Jaime Stewart at jastewart@csgo.org or Suzanne Mooney at smooney@csgo.org.

SEEKING ST. MARY SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

The St. Mary School Advisory Board is a consultative group who share their talents and expertise with our Principal and Pastor in guiding our school. Their collective goal is to ensure the success of the school, its adherence to its mission, and its consistence with

the principles set forth by the Diocese of Oakland Department of Catholic Schools. The Advisory Board meets once a month in the evening to review goals related to marketing, advancement, finance, facilities and the strategic plan.

Applications are currently being accepted for the 2017-2018 school year from interested parents, alumni or parishioners. Please visit the School Advisory Board page under the "Parents" tab at st-mary.net for more information. Please contact Karen Redwood at redwoodk@earthlink.net if you're interested. **Submission deadline is April 1st.**

GRADES 6-8 COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

Lenten Dinners - Every Friday during Lent beginning March 3rd

- 2 for set up (4:30 PM - 6:30 PM)
- 2 for cleanup (6:30 PM to 8 PM)



If you are interested in signing up please contact Brian Kavanagh at BKAVANAG@travelers.com

Vacation Bible School - June 26, 2017 - June 30, 2017

Incoming 7th and 8th grade students can volunteer to be a junior counselor at St. Mary Parish Vacation Bible School. Please click [here](#) to sign-up.

DOWNLOADS

[2017-18 REGISTRATION GUIDELINES](#)

[2017-18 TUITION AND FEE SCHEDULE](#)

[Stations of the Cross](#)

[Father/Daughter Dance](#)

[St. Mary Fun Run](#)

[Partners in Faith March](#)

[Magnificat Concert](#)

[SCRIP Order Form](#)

Thank You to ...

Mrs. Andal for helping with Spring Photos!

Volunteer Links

[Parent Club](#)

[Volunteer Sign Ups](#)

[Motor Development](#)

[Library](#)

[Art](#)

IMPORTANT DATES

March is GLOBALLY AWARE CITIZEN Month

March 16th

8:00 Gr 6 Field Trip

6:00 Junior High Auction Dance

March 17th

St. Patrick's Day

Students may wear green tops with their uniform bottoms. School sweatshirts are still REQUIRED for Mass.

8:15 All School Faith Family Mass

March 20th

Camp Caritas Gr. 6

3:00 Tech/Robotics Club

March 21st

Camp Caritas Gr. 6

Hearing Retest

3:00 Choir Practice

March 22nd

Camp Caritas Gr. 6

March 23rd

Camp Caritas Gr. 6

Fundraiser Hot Lunch

Paid Free Dress

Quick Links

[School Website](#)

[School Calendar](#)

[Escrip Online Mall](#)

[Bancroft Uniforms](#)

[ChoiceLunch](#)

Join Our Mailing List

Teacher for the Day Gr. K-5

March 24th

Camp Caritas Gr. 6

8:15 All School Faith Family Mass

****Looking Ahead: March 31 is our School Evacuation Drill - students will have staggered release times. More information will be in next week's newsletter.***

Saint Mary Elementary School

stmarynewsletter@st-mary.net | <http://st-mary.net/>

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