

# ST. MARY SCHOOL

## Weekly Newsletter

### Catholic Schools Week Fun!



Congratulations to our Geography Bee winner Benjamin Williamson!  
We are proud of all participants: Lily Hanzel, Airi Seib, Marjan Labib, Will Graham, Cameron Malone, Ben Graham, Megan Kavanagh, and Rachel Eger

Dear St. Mary School Families,

Catholic Schools Week is such a special time for us because it is a true celebration of the people and programs that make our school and community so special.

**Thank you** to all the families and friends who attended our Open House this past weekend. We appreciate your coming to celebrate the wonderful work of the students. **Thank you** to our faculty and staff who worked extremely hard to prepare for this special event. **Thank you** Mrs. Guidi for planning our Liturgy that included current and alumni students. **Thank you** to our student ambassadors, Brian Garske, Meighan Farrell, Rachel Eger, Michelle Andal, Ava Dornseif, and Carina Dornseif, who did an excellent job speaking at our informational meetings and touring prospective families around the school. **Thank you** Mrs. Crvarich and Mrs. Kavanagh for your hard work running the annual Book Fair. Finally, **thank you** to those who generously made a donation to the national day of giving to Catholic schools. We are **so grateful** for the many hands and hearts who help us fulfill and advance our Mission.

As mentioned in previous newsletters, I would like to highlight and share progress on our goals and priorities for the year. This week I would like to focus on **Priority V: A Vibrant and Healthy Community of Families, Faculty, Staff, and Parishioners Rooted in Our Faith.**

We are asking for your help and support in reaching one of our goals within Priority V. Our goal is to collaborate more with the parish on additional events and opportunities.

Coming up on February 10th is the parish Crab Feed. From what I have learned, "back in the day" the Crab Feed was an event highly attended by school families and

we hope to revive this standing tradition this year. This is a fun evening to come together, share a meal, and connect with friends and our parish community. Many St. Mary students serve at the event, which makes it all the more special. St. Mary School, let's "Crowd the Crab Feed!"

Please click [HERE](#) to purchase your tickets. Early bird pricing ends on Sunday, so purchase your tickets soon.

Blessings,  
Mrs. Tracey Schmidt



The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2018 is **Catholic Schools: Learn. Serve. Lead. Succeed.** Throughout the week we will celebrate those who help support our mission as a Catholic school, including our parish, parents, students, community members, faculty, staff and volunteers.

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

*Students of Gratitude*

- Students will express their gratitude to parish, school, and community members who support us. Thank you Father Fred, Father Dante, all the SMS volunteers, teachers, the Walnut Creek Police and Fire Departments!
- LAST DAY of the Book Fair - 9:30AM - 3:30PM

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

*Students of Love*

Thank you parents for all you do to make our school an incredible community of faith, knowledge and service!

## 2018 BOOK FAIR - LAST CALL!

St. Mary's annual Book Fair closes tomorrow, **Thursday, February 1!** Come discover some great new books and stock up for those rainy winter days ahead before it's too late!

### Book Fair Hours:

Thursday February 1, 8:00am - 3:30pm

Contact Lisa Kavanagh at [lisakavanagh@comcast.net](mailto:lisakavanagh@comcast.net) or Shannon Crvarich at [skcrvarich@gmail.com](mailto:skcrvarich@gmail.com) with any questions.

## GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALES!

It's that time again - Girl Scout cookies are back! Third grade Brownie Troop 33838 will be selling Girl Scout cookies this **Thursday, February 1st**, after school next to the flag pole. See the attached [flier](#) for details. If you can't make the after school sale, you can also purchase cookies using the attached [order form](#). For questions please



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## ROBOTICS CLUB

Robotics Club is gearing up for a second semester! Grades 5th through 8th, here's your chance to join the fun! Please see the [flier](#) for details and how to sign up.

**Registration and fee due no later than Friday, February 2nd.**

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## TUITION ASSISTANCE INFORMATION

St. Mary is committed to making Catholic education affordable to all academically qualified students regardless of financial circumstances. To the extent that our funds permit, financial assistance is available to admitted students whose parents are able to demonstrate financial need, which is determined by a thorough evaluative process beginning with an application through [FACTS](#) . **Applications for 2018-19 are due no later than March 16, 2018.**

### The BASIC Fund

In addition, all students entering private school for the first time may apply for the [BASIC Fund](#). The BASIC Fund makes grants on a "first come first serve" basis and therefore the sooner you submit your application the more likely you are to receive a grant. **All applications are due not later than March 16, 2018.**

### FACE

Furthermore, families can apply to [Family Aid - Catholic Education for the Diocese of Oakland](#) (FACE). **The deadline to apply is March 16, 2018.**

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## 40 DAYS FOR LIFE PRAYER VIGIL

You are invited to join in a [40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil](#) - forty days of prayer and fasting for an end to abortion, from **February 14th - March 25th**, to peacefully witness the dignity and sanctity of life.

Participants will be standing and peacefully praying during a 40-day vigil in the public right-of-way outside in Walnut Creek (1357 Oakland Boulevard). Vigil hours are from 7am-7pm, and you are encouraged to join for an hour a day, an hour a week, or even an hour in total! Your prayerful presence makes a difference in witnessing for life and in helping to present options for women other than abortion.

On **Sunday, February 11th**, there will be a kick-off event at St. Mary's Church gymnasium in Walnut Creek from 1:00-3:00pm featuring guest speaker Dr. Haywood Robinson, a former abortionist who will present his story of conversion which led to him now witnessing for life. Come hear his powerful testimony!

If you'd like more information - and especially if you'd like to volunteer to join the prayer vigil, for an hour or more, please contact: [friendsforlifetrivalley@gmail.com](mailto:friendsforlifetrivalley@gmail.com) or call 925-212-7938.

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## BANCROFT UNIFORM SALE

Mark your calendars, Bancroft Uniforms will be on campus **Tuesday, February 6**, 2:30-4:30. Please see the [flier](#) for details.

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# FEBRUARY

## IMPORTANT DATES

### February 1st

Catholic Schools Week  
Book Fair

### February 2nd

Catholic Schools Week  
PK&K Applications Due  
8:15 All School Mass

### February 5th

### February 6th

Kindergarten Testing and Interviews  
Grad Photo Retakes  
9:00 Field Trip Gr. 7  
1:00 Student Council Meeting  
2:30 Uniform Sale  
3:00 Choir Practice

### February 7th

Kindergarten Testing and Interviews  
8:05 Parent Club Meeting-Our Space

### February 8th

Fundraiser Hot Lunch  
Principals Meeting  
8:30 Field Trip Gr. 5

### February 9th

8:15 Mass Gr. 6-8  
Bake Sale

### February 10th

Parish Crab Feed



## LINKS AND DOWNLOADS

[Girl Scout Cookie Order Form](#)

[Robotics Club](#)

[Uniform Sale](#)

[Parish Crab Feed](#)

[40 Days for Life Prayer Vigil](#)

[Purchase SCRIP With Benefit](#)

[SCRIP Subscription](#)