

St. Mary Catholic School



**May/June
2010**

Dear Parents:

Hopefully, your children shared with you their experiences from our 1874 Celebration of last week. Seeing teachers and staff dressed as nuns and priests caused many smiles. As a staff, we have a greater appreciation for those close to us in religious life. We pray that Saint Mary Catholic School will continue to be blessed by the presence of priests like Father Collin, Father James, and Father Limmer and by our Sisters of Notre Dame, Sister Corda and Sister Aloysius. Our Catholic identity is truly enhanced by their love and support of Catholic education.

Our celebration included...

Each of the classes completed a project about 1874 and was able to share their projects with the other grade levels. Students used mini-chalkboards to simulate slate boards for some of their lessons. Many students dressed in fashions of 1874. I think our students have a better understanding of the time period when St. Mary Catholic School first opened her doors.

Last week was also a time to spotlight the successes of many of our students. All three Destination ImagiNation teams were able to perform their skits in front of a most appreciative audience. First and second graders were awarded medals for successfully competing in the Reading Olympics for their grade.

On Thursday, we came together as a faith community for a special school Mass. We were blessed to have as our celebrants: Father Collin (Pastor of St. Mary's Parish), Father James (Associate Pastor of St. Mary's Parish), Father Limmer (Pastor Emeritus of St. Mary's Parish), Father Chris Moore (Pastor of St. Joseph's and St. Anne's Parish) and Monsignor Al Smith (Pastor Emeritus of St. Augustine's Parish). Many honored guests from the community and from our past joined us to thank God for all the blessings that have been bestowed on St. Mary Catholic School.

And finally, we ended our week by coming together as a school community to show our patriotism. *Prayers, the Pledge of Allegiance, and patriotic songs* filled the cafeteria as we ended our 135th Anniversary celebration.

Now we begin our final month of the 2009-2010 school year...

Calendar Reminders

Thursday, May 6: Rummage Sale
(volunteers needed)

Monday, May 17: Professional Day
No School for students
Screening for New Kindergarteners

Friday, May 28: Last day for grade 8

Wednesday, June 2: Kindergarten
Graduation at 10:30 A.M.

Friday, June 4: Last Day for Grades 1-7;
Closing Mass at 10:30 A.M.; 12:30 P.M.
Dismissal

Sunday, June 6: Eighth Grade Graduation
Mass at 2:00 P.M.

August 17, 18, and 19: Packet Pick-up

Monday, August 23: First Day of the
2010-2011 school year

Summer Office Hours
Monday through Thursday
9:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M.

OPEN HOUSE

On Monday, May 17, from 6 to 8 P.M., an Open House for prospective new students in kindergarten through seventh grade will be held.

RETIREMENT NEWS

Our St. Mary Catholic School community will be wishing Mrs. Jean Jacques a "Happy Retirement" at the close of this school year. Mrs. Jacques has been a member of our teaching staff for twenty-seven years. Over those years she has touched the lives of many students, parents, and colleagues with her compassion and kindness. We wish Mrs. Jacques the best and will always keep her in our hearts and prayers.

WEDDING BELLS & BEST WISHES

Mr. David Steenburg will be getting married in July and moving to North Carolina. Ms. Casey-Mae Fleischer will be getting married in October and will be moving out of the area. Our school community will certainly miss their smiling faces, love for their students, and enthusiasm for teaching. We wish them the best with their exciting futures and will keep them in our prayers.

THIRD TRIMESTER PROGRESS REPORTS

The last day of school is Friday, June 4, 2010. Students are expected to attend school through the last day. The Third

Trimester Progress Reports will be mailed out on Monday, June 14.

PRINCIPAL FOR THE DAY

Benjamin Byer's debut as *Principal for the Day* will be on Monday, May 3.

RUMMAGE SALE

With this packet is another Sign-up Sheet for the Rummage Sale. If you haven't completed one yet, please do so and send in as soon as possible. We still need volunteers to help set up on May 5 or to work the floor on May 6, and we still need workers to help in the kitchen both days. Also, only a few forms have been received back with either the \$2.00 or baked goods donation requests. The \$2.00 donations help to pay for the beef, chicken, vegetables, hot dogs, rolls, donuts, drinks, etc., that we need to buy beforehand. Please consider helping in any way possible to help make the Rummage Sale a success. This fundraiser has brought in \$12,000 to \$16,000 per year and goes towards the needs of the school. A warm thank you is extended to Mrs. Mary Grove and all the volunteers who return year after year!

A FRIENDLY BUT NECESSARY REMINDER

All financial obligations owed to St. Mary Catholic School, including tuition, fees, and after school care expenses, must be paid in full or official school records, such as progress reports and diplomas, will be held. All financial obligations for eighth graders must be paid in full by May 15 in order for these students to participate in the Graduation Mass on June 6.

SPIRITUALITY

FIRST FRIDAY MASS & MAY CROWNING

Please join us for our school liturgy on Friday, May 7, at 10:30 A.M. During our Mass, the fourth graders will honor the Blessed Mother with flowers and song.

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENTS

FIRST EUCHARIST

Rachel Cortina, Kaitlin Dellaposta, Alice Poffenberger, and Andrew Stine received their First Holy Communion on May 1, at St. Ann Catholic Church.

Isabel Ali, Hadley Bezanson, Gianni Blundell, Donald Borum, McKenna Clevenger, Sofia Corsi, Connor Dorsey, Avangeliya Giannaris, Graceann Heaberlin, Ethan Amos, Therese Martin, Blake Morrow, Bridget Nooney, Rory O'Hanlon, Matthew O'Neil, Nicholas Radley, Madison Ryan, Samuel Strama, and James Sword received First Holy Communion at St. Mary Catholic Church on May 2.

CONFIRMATION

Bennett Bachtell, Elizabeth Balog, Brayden Berezny, Jacob Gigeous, Drew Holderby, Taylor James, Ellen Joliet, Patrick Jones, Eva Kuehler, Madison Kutzera, Jennifer Lee, Matthew McDermott, Emma Moss, Everett Nsoesie, Leah Peterson, Kayla Peterson, Tyler So, and Emily Ward will be confirmed on May 20 at St. Mary Catholic Church.

Please keep all of these students in your thoughts and prayers as they continue on their faith journeys.

CONGRATULATIONS

SECOND TRIMESTER HONORS

I would like to recognize and congratulate Ethan Spicher for achieving *Academic Honors* for the Second Trimester. His name was inadvertently omitted from the April newsletter. Congratulations, Ethan, and keep up the great work!

GOOD S.A.M.s

I want to congratulate our Good S.A.M.s for April: Elisabeth Schmitt, Lauren Beck, Maya Murthy, Rory O'Hanlon, Ellen Judge, Emily Saylor, Colin O'Hanlon, Bryan Tedeschi, Claire Murray, Hollis Gigeous, Jacob Menard, Giselle Garnett, and Madison Kutzera. **Thanks for your Service, Attitude, and Manners!**

CATHOLIC DAUGHTERS

Congratulations to the following students who placed in the Catholic Daughter's 2009 Education Contests:

1st Place in Art Division III – **Natalie Theis**

2nd Place in Art Division III- **Joseph Theis**

1st Place in Art Division II – **Eva Kuehler**

1st Place in Art Division I – **Eric Oh**

2nd Place in Art Division I – **Maria Mir and Emma Shearer**

3rd Place in Art Division I – **Allyson Goetz**

Honorable Mention in Art Division I – **Helen Summerfelt, Dalton Blundell, Chloe Huntsberry, Katherine Alexander**

SCIENCE FAIR WINNERS

Grade 4

- 1st Place: Danielle Wells**
2nd Place: Allyson Goetz
3rd Place: Everest Shives

Grade 5

- 1st Place: Alexandra Martin
& William Jones**
2nd Place: Ashley Castell
3rd Place: Michael Carter & Ben Gilks

Grade 6

- 1st Place: Jason Marinelli**
2nd Place: Justin Semler
3rd Place: Connor O'Malley

Grade 7

- 1st Place: Ryan Hackett**
2nd Place: Kathryn Dillard
3rd Place: Michael Ewing

Grade 8

- 1st Place: Matthew McDermott**
2nd Place: Jacob Gigeous
2nd Place: Patrick Jones
3rd Place: Nicole Miller & Emily Ward

Thank you, Mrs. Barger, for organizing this wonderful event! Thank you is extended to the judges, Mrs. Kim Mentzell, Mrs. Tara Ellis, and Mrs. Elizabeth Sherwin.

1874 COSTUME CONTEST

Students were encouraged to wear clothes that were fashionable in 1874. Many thanks to all our participants:

Elementary students:

Caroline Dillard, Lauren Beck, Abigail Theis, Quinton Reed, Elias Blumenburg, Emma Shearer, Sarah Sardina, Ben Byers, Nathan Haupt, Madeline Sappenfield, Morgan Giannoumis, Gabriel Burgess, Jennifer Elbin, Jared

Semler, Ellen Judge, Amanda Thomas, Emily Concovia, Lauren Douglas, Nora Cvijanovich, Elizabeth Fisher, Maya Murthy, Annie Balog, Stephen Reiter, Alice Poffenberger, Bridget Nooney, Rachel Cortina, Elisabeth Schmitt, Rheanne Clevenger, Gabriella McCafferty

Middle school students:

Louise Dickinson, Giselle Garnett, Connor O'Malley, Justin Semler, Daanial Iqbal, Annemarie Hilmoe, Olivia Balog, Lauren Rappaport, Cierra Quantock, Megan Churchey, Amanda Baker, Kathryn Dillard, Tyler Gilks, Chase Landaker, Philip DiMercurio, Lydia Radley, Bailey Rafter.

And the winners are:

Elementary Division

Boys

- 1st: Stephen Reiter
2nd: Nathan Haupt
3rd: Jared Semler

Girls

- 1st: Ellen Judge
2nd: Caroline Dillard
3rd: Madeline Sappenfield

Middle School

Boys

- 1st: Philip DiMercurio
2nd: Connor O'Malley
3rd: Chase Landaker

Girls

- 1st: Louise Dickinson
2nd: Giselle Garnett
3rd: Amanda Baker

HSA News

HSA OFFICERS FOR 2010-11

Co-President: Teri Schmitt

Co-President: Mo Tedeschi

Vice-President: Rhonda O'Malley

Corresponding Secretary: Mary Minahan

Recording Secretary: Lisa Dorsey

Treasurer: Nicole Rappaport

I would like to thank Cathy Reiter, Debbie Corsi, and Valerie Heaberlin for giving of their time and talent to the HSA for the past two years. Their dedication, support, and love of SMCS is very much appreciated.

SCRIP

SCRIP dates for the remainder of the school year are May 10 and May 24. June 14 and June 28 are the summer dates scheduled so far.

SPAGHETTI DINNER

A very deep and sincere thank you is extended to Paul Giannaris for his very generous donation of all of the food for the Spaghetti dinner. Mr. Giannaris provided a delicious meal of unending pasta and salad for all who attended. Mr. Giannaris and Mr. Ali did all the cooking! We had a tremendous support staff for the dinner which included: Teri Schmitt, Jen Singer, Rhonda O'Malley, Tara O'Malley, Cathy Reiter, Lisa Dorsey, Tina Castell, Kristina Giannaris, Mo Tedeschi, Denise Wells, Josh Semler, Courtney Dorsey, Phillip Reiter, Stephen Reiter, Nick Schmitt and Elizabeth Schmitt.

TALENT SHOW

Mrs. Rhonda O'Malley did a fabulous job organizing the Talent Show for the Spaghetti Dinner. Annie Balog, Morgan McMahon, Alice Poffenberger, Ava Giannaris, Kaitlin Dellaposta, Connor Dorsey, Holly Kucharczyk, and Jennifer Elbin delivered star performances. Thank you, Ria Giannaris, for being the MC for the event. What an enjoyable evening!

SMCS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Saint Mary Catholic School is having a Golf Tournament on May 27 at Beaver Creek Country Club. Please tell your friends and family! There will be food, drinks, and prizes! If you have any questions, are interested in golfing with us, or want to give a donation, please feel free to contact Christine at christinequantock@yahoo.com. We have included a flier for each family to post in the community to elicit golfers for the tournament.

PHASE III RAFFLE TICKET FUNDRAISER

Congratulations to the following April winners:

(\$50) Week 1: Mrs. Menard

(\$50) Week 2: Mr. & Mrs. Grosh

(\$50) Week 3: The Heaberlin Family

(\$100) Week 4: The Spicher Family

TUITION RAFFLE

Ticket sales are underway for the chance to win one year's tuition for one student absolutely free. Tickets are \$100 each. A minimum of 60 tickets must be sold. All proceeds after the tuition payout will be used to fund field trips in the 2010-2011 school year. The winning ticket will be drawn on June 2, 2010.

**SMCS DAY AT
ANTIETAM RECREATION CENTER**

SAVE THE DATE! On Tuesday, June 1, SMCS students will spend the day at Antietam Recreation Center. More information is forthcoming! Parent volunteers are needed in order to host this fun event!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

APRIL TAG DAY

The student council wants to thank all students who participated in the April TAG Day that realized \$258.75 to benefit *Hats on for Cancer*.

MAY TAG DAY

Ravens Purple/Basketball is the theme for the TAG Day to be held on May 5 in memory of Mr. William Beliveau, former SMCS principal. All proceeds will be donated to the Beliveau family to be used for the educational needs of his son, Thomas.

FUN NIGHT

The Student Council will host St. Mary's Annual Fun Night on Thursday, June 3, from 5 to 8:30 P.M., with all proceeds going to Camp St. Vincent. Please mark your calendars for this special community-building event. Live music, games, good food, the moon bounce, popcorn, and cotton candy are among the highlights. The Student Council appreciates Mrs. Joliet's efforts to organize this event.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DANCE

The last dance of the year will be held on Friday, May 21, from 7 to 10 P.M.

Eighth graders will plan the theme and the decorations.

ARCHDIOCESAN NEWS

ACCREDITATION

Included in this packet is a letter from Dr. Valenti, Superintendent of the Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic Schools, announcing the decision to earn Diocesan Accreditation from SACS CASI and AdvancED.

BOAST

Also included in this packet is a statement from Baltimore Archbishop Edwin O'Brien, Washington Archbishop Donald W. Wuerl, and Wilmington Bishop W. Francis Malooly on the defeat of the Boast Tax Credit Bill.

OTHER NEWSWORTHY ITEMS

MIDDLE SCHOOL CLUBS

The next book club meeting will take place on Wednesday, May 26, from 3:00-3:45 P.M., to discuss T.H. White's *The Once and Future King* and the next Latin club meeting will be on Thursday, May 6, from 3:00-4:00 P.M.

Class of 2010

The Class of 2010 includes Bennett Bachtell, Elizabeth Balog, Brayden Berezny, Anthony Bracken, Tyler Caruso, Isabel Divinagracia, Jeremy Eckert, Morgan Ferguson, Giselle Garnett, Jacob Gigeous, Drew Holderby, Taylor James, Ellen Joliet, Patrick Jones, Samantha King, Eva Kuehler, Madison Kutzera, Jennifer Lee, Matthew McDermott, Nicole Miller, Emma Moss, Everett Nsoesie, Kayla Peterson, Leah Peterson, Sydney Quantock, Tyler So, Emily Ward, Iqra Waseem, and Ozair

Waseem. Please keep our eighth graders in your prayers as they complete the last few weeks of their eighth grade year.

EIGHTH GRADE DAY

Eighth graders are to wear their class T-Shirts on Monday, May 10, in recognition of their years of hard work as St. Mary Catholic School students.

UNIFORM CHANGE

We are phasing out the "St. Mary School" sweatshirts and gym tee shirts over the next two school years. New sweatshirts embroidered with our SMCS logo are available through the school. Samples for sizing are available for try-on in the Marketing Office. *Flynn & O'Hara Uniform Company* will have the gym tee shirts with our SMCS logo (silkscreen) available in May for the 2010-11 school year. The "St. Mary School" apparel may only be worn through spring 2012.

HAIR POLICY

This is a reminder that the hair policy on page 17 of the Handbook is to be followed through June 6. Please plan haircuts accordingly.

ST. MARY CATHOLIC SCHOOL 2010 ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

The Sixth Annual Fund, under the leadership of Mrs. Deb Bockrath and Mr. Bob Rankin, is now underway with a goal of \$50,000 to enhance our Science Program by upgrading our current lab, purchasing new equipment for investigations, such as microscopes and magnets, replacing textbooks, and expanding our technology resources to include science software.

BEFORE SCHOOLCARE REQUEST

A SMCS family is looking for a family in the Boonsboro area (around Rt. 65 or Alt. 40) to provide before school care support; specifically, drop off by 7:15 A.M. and a ride to school for one child. The family will gladly provide compensation for this assistance.

STAND TRAINING

In July of 2007 the Archdiocese of Baltimore updated the procedures for volunteering in schools. "If a volunteer will have *Substantial Contact* with children, then the following must be completed before he/she begins to serve in the Archdiocese of Baltimore:

1. Application for Volunteer Service completed;
2. Names of references provided and checked;
3. VolunteerSelect Criminal Screening completed; and
4. Training received regarding child abuse and protection of children, including STAND video."

If you have a Volunteer Compliance Card from another parish and want to be a regular volunteer at St. Mary Catholic School, you must complete the Application for Service, including the reference section. **The STAND training is now available online.** A complete packet including directions for the online training is available in the school office or visit our website. On the Families Tab, select STAND.

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Please remember Mr. William Beliveau (former SMCS principal), and Mrs. Mary Wetzell (mother of Debbie Carbaugh, St. Mary's Parish/School bookkeeper) who passed away this past month. May the souls of the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.

As always, I ask for your prayers to the Holy Spirit to give me the guidance and wisdom needed to serve as principal of St. Mary Catholic School.

May God Bless You!

Patricia A. McDermott