



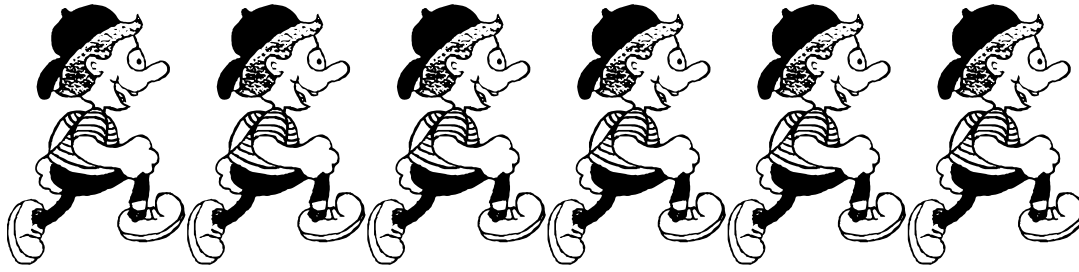
February 9, 2016

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Last week we had the opportunity to enjoy Catholic Schools Week festivities! We celebrated our role as a community of faith, knowledge, and service where today's students become tomorrow's leaders. Our open house provided parents and grandparents with an opportunity to see the children shine as they presented plays, reports, etc... in their homerooms. We wish a special congratulations to all of our contestants in the spelling bees including our winners: Alex Hernandez grade 4, Kevin Valerio grade 5 and Dylan Martone grade 8. Thank you to our parents who support us in our mission as well as our motto: *Learning and Living in Christ*.

Our 8th graders were very excited about the traditional volleyball game that was played last Wednesday and they displayed great sportsmanship throughout the game. Last Thursday the children enjoyed a presentation by the Walnut Street Theater group and last Friday was our Pep Rally to celebrate our athletic program. Our faculty and staff enjoyed a nice lunch and a homemade treat from our PTA as a way to thank them for their dedicated service to St. Mary School. May God continue to bless you and your family.

Mrs. Patricia Mancuso
Principal



Race for Education News

On behalf of St. Mary School, we want to thank all of our parents/guardians who helped make our "Race for Education" on October 22nd such a success. We are grateful for the label names you sent in, your contributions, and those of you who helped out during our Race Day activities. Thank you so much!

We are excited to report that we received a total of **\$42,587.60** from the contributions of our sponsors!

We would like to congratulate our winners of the Target gift cards:

For every 10 names a student brought in, the student's name was entered into a drawing for a \$25 Target gift card. The prizes were awarded on each level and the winners are:

K-3rd grade---**Maura Madden**
4th-8th grade—**Adrian Gonzalez**

Anyone who contributed stamps or a donation toward stamps was also placed in a drawing for a Target gift card. Our winner was: **Carleigh Folk**

We are also happy to announce that **ALL CLASSES** received an average of 5 names per student and therefore will have **3 extra recess periods**. Teachers in each individual class will determine when they will take place.

And **finally!!!!** Because we reached our school goal of \$35,000 **ALL STUDENTS** will receive **two NO UNIFORM DAYS on Tuesday, February 16 and Thursday, March 3. *If it is your gym day, please be sure to wear sneakers.***

Again, THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our 3rd Annual St. Mary School Race for Education such a great success!!! We are looking forward to continuing our Race for Education for the 2016-2017 school year.

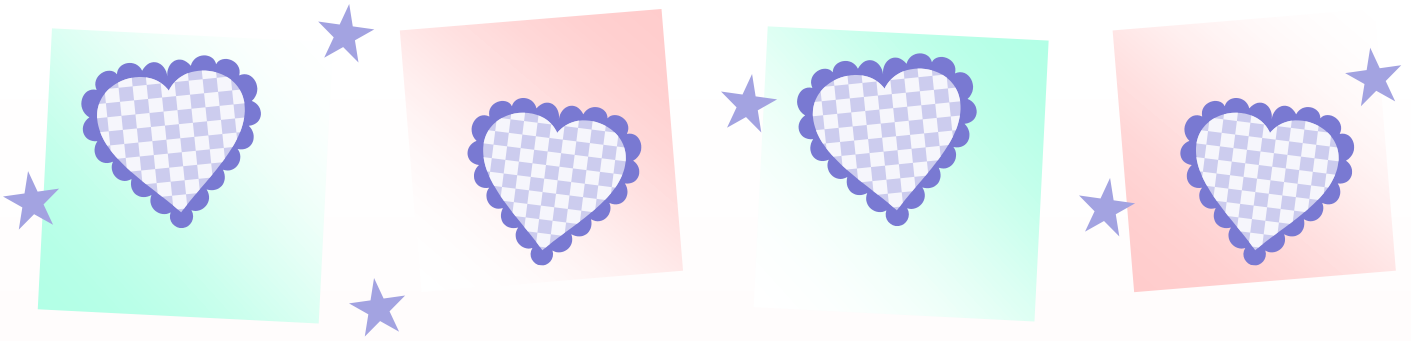
Gratefully,

Mrs. Patricia Mancuso
Principal

Jackie Kern
Race Coordinator

SPORTS NEWS

- Track practice for grades 6-8 will be Thursday, February 11th, Thursday, February 18th and Thursday, February 25th from 3:00 pm – 4:30 pm in Assumption Hall. **The deadline for track registration is Friday, February 12th.**
- If your child is interested in playing Varsity Baseball or Varsity Softball for grades (6-8), registration is now in process. The deadline for Baseball and Softball registrations is Friday, February 19th.
- We are in need of a coach for our boys varsity baseball team. Please contact Ann Marie Morales at mainoffice2@smarys.org if you are interested.
- Please see smarys.org for the required forms.
- Please note that no student will be able to participate in a practice or a meet until all paperwork is received. Students in grades 5-8th are required to have a physical clearance as well. If your 5-8th grade child has participated in a fall sport no physician clearance is needed. If you are unsure, please email Ann Marie Morales at mainoffice2@smarys.org.



St. Valentine's Day Celebrations

Friday, February 12th our students will celebrate St. Valentine's Day with classroom celebrations in the afternoon. Students may wear appropriate valentine/red t-shirts and jeans or sweatpants for the day.

No yoga pants please.



LAST DAY TO PURCHASE VALENTINE DAY GRAMS



St. Mary's PTA is sponsoring a Valentine Day Gram Sale! Parents, Grandparents, Sisters, Brothers, Aunts, Uncles, Friends and even Pets can send a Valentine Message to students. The cost is \$1.00 per Gram which will include a lollipop and a message. All Valentine Day Grams must be purchased no later than Wednesday, February 10th. The Valentine Day Grams will be delivered to the classrooms on Friday, February 12th.

Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Holiday Message _____



Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Holiday Message _____



Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Holiday Message _____





SAVE THE DATE

SAINT MARY SCHOOL CASINO NIGHT / AUCTION DINNER



April 2, 2016
7 ~ 11 PM
ASSUMPTION HALL

**PLEASE LOOK IN YOUR CHILD'S COMMUNICATION FOLDER
NEXT WEEK FOR MORE DETAILS**

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY TO COME OUT AND TRY YOUR LUCK.



ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT OUR CHILDREN AT SAINT MARY SCHOOL

GRANDPARENTS CLUB

St. Mary School would like to invite all grandparents to join our
NEW Grandparents Club.

We hope to plan a variety of activities that will give our students the opportunity to spend some quality time with their grandparents.

If you are interested in learning about upcoming events please fill in the form below and return it with your grandchild's teacher by
Friday, February 12.

You can also contact Christine Galindo at
856-218-2946 or by email at chrissyg19@verizon.net
We also invite any interested grandparents to join our
planning committee.

Grandparents Club

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

_____ YES, I am also interested in joining the planning committee

Please return by Friday, February 12th.

Thank you!

UNIFORM EXCHANGE!

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16TH, 2016

5:00pm-7:00pm

**UNIFORM EXCHANGE WILL BE HELD IN
THE SCIENCE LAB**

****PLEASE ENTER SCHOOL THROUGH 8TH
GRADE DOORS ONLY!****

**THIS IS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO STOCK
UP ON WARM WEATHER UNIFORMS AND
WINTER UNIFORMS FOR NEXT YEAR!**

**PLEASE FEEL FREE TO BRING ANY GENTLY
USED UNIFORMS THAT YOU ARE NOT
USING, TO ADD TO OUR INVENTORY**

**THANK YOU
SMS PTA**

The St. Mary Ministry of Student Leadership

is hosting a “win-win” opportunity

to participate in a Corporal Works of Mercy project:

“Soup for the Soup-er Bowl”



Beginning Monday, January 25th until Friday, February 12th each student who brings in a can of soup (or several) will receive a NUT card (one dress down day) to use this marking period.



All collections will go to the Our Lady of Peace food pantry.



It's a cold winter. Let's show how warm our hearts are!



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP JESUS' FISH 6TH-8TH GRADE



JANUARY

Sunday, Jan. 10th

NO Meeting due to Kari being away at the ACTS retreat this weekend.

Sunday, Jan. 24th

Trivia Night for Prizes! We will also hear some talks about our Faith and what it means to be "Pro-Life" from the High School CORE Team Members. 7-9pm in Marian Hall.

FEBRUARY

Saturday, Feb. 6th

Annual Snow Tubing Trip.

Details are on the back of this schedule.

Sunday, Feb. 14th

Valentine's Day Party 7-9pm in Assumption Hall.

Sunday, Feb. 28th

NO Youth Group due to Kari being on the JP2 Retreat this weekend. Please keep the JP2 teens in your prayers.

(8TH GRADE ONLY) GUYS AND GIRLS SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE GROUPS

JOIN THE JP2 YG EVERY THURSDAY, FROM 5-7PM FOR PERSONAL SHARING OF TYPICAL HIGH SCHOOL PROBLEMS AND EVENTS, THEIR SPIRITUAL REMEDIES, AND HOW TO GROW CLOSER TO GOD THROUGH IT ALL! MEET IN THE YOUTH OFFICES IN THE PARISH OFFICE. ENTER THROUGH ST. JOSEPH'S ROOM BACK ENTRANCE.

SAVE THE DATES...

THE JESUS FISH 8TH GRADE (ONLY) OVERNIGHT RETREAT IS MARCH 4-5TH AT THE JOHN PAUL II RETREAT HOUSE IN VINELAND. MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW. THERE WILL BE A PARENT INFO NIGHT ON JAN. 26TH FROM 6-7PM IN ST. JOSEPH'S ROOM.



Follow us on SnapChat:
@OLOPPYouthGroup



Face book name:
"Jesus Fish OLOPP"



Follow Us:
@JFYouthGroup



Videos on YouTube
OLOPP YouthMinistry



Follow us on Instagram:
@OLOPPYouthGroup

CALLING ALL PARENTS!!!!!!!!!!!!!! WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!!

Please call, write, or email the office of Governor Christie and ask him to increase the per-pupil allotment for nonpublic school transportation in his 2017 budget. In particular, parents who have been affected by lost bus routes should contact the Governor and explain how their children face much greater challenges in getting to school than the neighboring public school children.

Mailing Address:

The Honorable Chris Christie
Governor of the State of New Jersey
The State House
P.O. Box 001
Trenton, NJ 08625

Phone: (609) 292-6000

Email: <http://www.nj.gov/governor/contact/>

NJCC Voter Voice System:

<https://votervoice.net/NJCC/Campaigns/43871/Respond>
(you can simply add your signature to the sample letter)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME. THE FUTURE OF OUR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS DEPENDS ON ALL OF US!



DIOCESE OF CAMDEN
Office of Child and Youth Protection

We can be sure that we love God's children when we love God and do what he has commanded. 1 John 5:2

The Office of Child and Youth Protection is announcing CAP (Child Assault Prevention) sessions. CAP is the safe environment training program for adults who have regular contact with minors. Attendance is required in order to comply with the USCCB's *Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People*. The policy of the Diocese of Camden is that adults will attend CAP once every five years.

CAP 1 teaches attendees to **recognize child abuse and neglect** and how to report to the proper authorities. Adults are taught that children have the right to be safe, strong and free. CAP 1 is for new volunteers and employees.

CAP 2 is called **CAP's Bullying Prevention Program** and is a workshop addressing bullying awareness and bullying prevention. Cyber-bullying is also presented.

CAP 3 is called **Cyber-Empowerment** and is a workshop which promotes adults understanding of cyber activity of youth while teaching them realistic ways to help children keep their own rights and guard the rights of others in the cyber-sphere.

Each presentation is 90 minutes.

Adults who are new employees or volunteers should attend CAP 1 before attending CAP 2 or CAP 3. After five years, adults have the option of attending CAP 1, 2 or 3 when they renew their CAP.

The following sessions will be offered in **February 2016**:

CAP Phase 1

Thursday, February 4, 2016; 7:00pm; Church of St. Katherine Drexel; 6075 W. Jersey Avenue; Egg Harbor Twp.; NJ 08234

Thursday; February 25, 2016; 7:00pm; Church of the Holy Family; 226 Hurffville Road; Sewell, NJ 08080

CAP Phase 2 – Bullying Prevention Program

NONE

CAP Phase 3 – Cyber Empowerment

Monday, February 1, 2016; 7:00pm; St. Thomas the Apostle Church; 331 8th St.; Brigantine, NJ 08203

Tuesday, February 2, 2016; 7:00pm; Infant Jesus Parish; Ministry Center; 845 Third Street; Woodbury Heights, NJ 08097

Thursday, February 11, 2016; 7:00pm; St. Teresa School Hall; 27 E. Evesham Road; Runnemede, NJ 08078

To attend one of these classes, please call the **CAP REGISTRATION LINE** with the Office of Child and Youth Protection at **(856)583-6165** or contact Lucie Alcazar at luz.alcazar@camdendiocese.org. **Please leave your name and the Session Date** you are attending; you **will not** receive a call back. **Please register at least five days before the session you would like to attend.**

The CAP schedule, location, phone numbers and directions may be found on the diocesan website www.camdendiocese.org/cyp.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER PLEASE CALL THE LOCATION DIRECTLY.