



October 20, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

In order to best protect our school community and thinking ahead to the upcoming holidays, St. Mary School is asking that families follow the recommendations of the CDC and New Jersey regarding the 14-day quarantine when returning from states on the travel advisory list or hosting persons from those states. We do not advise vacations during the school year; however, we understand that families may travel over the weekend or holidays. Thank you to our families for your continued cooperation with this. For information on NJ travel advisory list go to <https://covid19.nj.gov/faqs/nj-information/travel-and-transportation/which-states-are-on-the-travel-advisory-list-are-there-travel-restrictions-to-or-from-new-jersey#direct-link>.

Just a reminder that as per our 2020-2021 School Year Plan, parents/guardians are expected to maintain a minimum of 6 foot distance from others and wear a cloth mask when waiting for the children to exit the building. In addition, please move directly to your cars after dismissal.

Winter sports in the Diocese of Camden, including practices involving students from the same school and competition between students from different schools, are postponed tentatively until the spring.

Information regarding parent conferences for this school year will be coming home today hard copy in student's communication folders. Please complete the bottom portion and return to your child's homeroom teacher as soon as possible. This information will be emailed to our remote learner parents/guardians.

Due to the Monroe Township K-4 schools starting back to school yesterday we had to make changes to our school calendar. All of our 1:00 dismissals changed to 12:15 pm dismissals with no lunch served. Please see the attached updated school calendar.

Thank you,

Mrs. Patricia Mancuso

Saint Mary School
Calendar 2020-2021 Revision 2

32A Carroll Avenue, Williamstown, NJ 08094
Phone: (856) 629-6190 Fax: (856) 728-1437
School Hours: 8:15 a.m.—2:45 p.m.
Website: www.smarys.org

September

- 8—Full Day of School Grades K-2 only
- 9—Full Day of School Grades 3-5 only
- 10—Full Day of School Grades 6-8 only
- 11— First Full Day of School for All Students
- 16—Back to School Night Zoom
 - 6:30 pm Grade K
 - 7:15 pm Grade 1
 - 8:00 pm Grade 2
- 23—Back to School Night Zoom
 - 6:30 pm Grade 3
 - 7:15 pm Grade 4
 - 8:00 pm Grade 5
- 24—Back to School Night Zoom
 - 6:00 pm Advanced Math
 - 6:30 pm Grade 6
 - 7:15 pm Grade 7
 - 8:00 pm Grade 8

October

- 2—Faculty Meeting—1:00 pm Dismissal
- 9—Teacher In-Service—No School
- 12—Columbus Day—No School

November

- 6—Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch
- 18—Parent Conferences...evening 6:00—8:30 pm
- 20—Parent Conferences...8:00 am-12:00 pm and
12:40 pm—3:00 pm No school for students
- 25—12:15 pm Dismissal—No Lunch No Aftercare
- 26,27—Thanksgiving Holidays- No School

December

- 8—Immaculate Conception—No School
- 23—12:15 pm Dismissal—No Lunch, No Aftercare
- 24-31—Christmas Vacation—No School

January

- 1— Christmas Vacation—No School
- 4—Welcome Back To School
- 8— Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch
- 18—Martin Luther King Day—No School

February

- 5—Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch
- 15—President's Day—No School

March

- 5—Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch

April

- 1-9—Easter Vacation— No School
- 12—Welcome Back To School
- 23—Teacher In-Service— No School

May

- 7—Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch
- 31—Memorial Day—No School

June

- 11—Faculty Meeting—12:15 pm Dismissal—
No Lunch
- 21—12:00 pm Dismissal—No Lunch
- 22—12:00 pm Dismissal—No Lunch
- 23—10:30 am Dismissal—Last day of School
No Aftercare

Please refer to monthly calendar for any updates.

JOIN ST. MARY SCHOOL VIRTUALLY FOR A FACEBOOK LIVE OF OUR MONTHLY SCHOOL MASS

Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 9 A.M.

St. Mary School Monthly Mass

Led by our 7th Grade Class

Watch our monthly St. Mary School Mass – LIVE on our official St. Mary School Facebook page during a Facebook LIVE.

Mass begins at 9 A.M.

You can like our official St. Mary School Facebook page by searching on
Facebook:

stmarysschoolwilliamstown

Or if you are not on Facebook, you can click our official Facebook page located on the bottom front of our website, www.smarys.org. Just click the Facebook icon—you may have to refresh the screen a few times before Mass begins or even during the Mass.



Facebook:

Stmarysschoolwilliamstown

School masses will be held once a month. Due to social distancing restrictions, one grade will attend the mass while the other grades will live stream through Facebook. Parents/guardians will not be able to attend the mass but will also be able to watch through Facebook. Grade 7 will be attending our second mass. We will be following all guidelines set forth by the Diocese of Camden regarding masses.



November, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

For your planning and convenience, FACTS Tuition Assistance application is now available for the 2021-2022 school year. There is a \$25 application fee which will need to be paid online before submitting the application.

All applications must be completed electronically at <https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3KGBP>. You will come to the home page and then be able to log on using your username and password for your FACTS account. You will then see a link that will take you to the tuition assistance application. The 2019 tax returns will be used for your application. All required documentation must be submitted for the application to be processed. **Only completed applications will be considered.** It is the responsibility of the family to supply all necessary paperwork.

The deadline for applying for tuition assistance is December 31st. If you have any questions regarding FACTS Tuition Assistance procedures please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Patricia Mancuso
Principal

BOO GRAMS

St. Mary's PTA is sponsoring a **Halloween Boo Gram Sale!** Parents, Grandparents, Sisters, Brothers, Aunts, Uncles and even Pets can send a Halloween Message to students. The cost is \$1.00 per Gram which will include a lollipop and your Halloween Message. All grams must be purchased no later than **Wednesday, October 28th**. The grams will be delivered to the classrooms on **Friday, October 30th**.
Please cut them out on the dotted lines.

Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Halloween Message:

Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Halloween Message:

Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Halloween Message:

Child's Name _____ Class Room _____

Halloween Message:



SMS PTA

“Halloween Gift Basket Raffle”

Take a chance on one of three baskets filled with candy, gift cards and other goodies!

Grades K-2, Grades 3-5 & Grades 6-8

Tickets \$0.25 or 6/\$1.00

Send money in an envelope marked

“Halloween Raffle”

Drawing: October 30, 2020

Tickets purchased will be placed directly into the drawing with the child's name

Halloween at SMS

October 30, 2020 

Thank you so much to all of our school families for donating candy for our goody bags!

Students are welcome to wear simple costumes or their favorite Halloween theme or colored clothing on Friday, October 30th. Examples might be a Halloween T-shirt, sports team jersey or sweatshirt, superhero shirt etc... Costumes must be uncomplicated and comfortable to wear all day. Large costumes and blow up costumes are not permitted. We also understand that many of our families may not be trick or treating this year and we do not expect a costume to be purchased. Please note that teachers are unable to help students with costumes and costume pieces. Regular face masks must be worn. Costume masks will not take the place of the face masks. We are unable to have the parade this year.



YEARBOOKS

September 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The 2019 – 2020 St. Mary School yearbooks arrived in late August. The eighth grade yearbook staff worked very hard and diligently on this project.

If you are interested in purchasing a yearbook 2019-2020 yearbook, please fill out the bottom of this form and return it along with your cash or check made payable to St. Mary School in an envelope marked “Yearbook”. The price is \$21.00 per yearbook. **The yearbooks will be sent home the week of September 14th.**

Thank you!

YEARBOOK ORDER FORM

Student's Name _____ Class _____

Student's Name _____ Class _____

Student's Name _____ Class _____

Number of Books _____ Amount enclosed _____

SMS Celebrates Thanksgiving

Every November, we celebrate with a special Thanksgiving Luncheon for our students. This year our celebration date is Wednesday, November 18th. The luncheon will be different this year. The cafeteria will prepare the meal for the students to eat in their classrooms. It will be the only meal available through the cafeteria that day. If your student does not want to eat the turkey lunch that day please be sure to pack them a lunch.

The SMS Ministry of Student Leadership is selling "Turkey Feathers". These feathers will be sold in the classrooms and cost \$.25 cents each or 5 for \$1.00. The money will be used to purchase food for the Thanksgiving Food Drive. The homeroom that sells the most will get a dress down day.

SMS also joins our parish community in donating non-perishable food to contribute to the Thanksgiving Dinner of families in need. Your contributions could include stuffing, soup, cranberry sauce, pasta, pasta sauce, gravy, boxed potatoes, boxed desserts, canned vegetables and canned yams. This food will be kept in the classrooms and gathered on Wednesday, November 18th. **Please be sure to check expiration dates on these foods.**

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

July 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are writing to you on behalf of **St. Mary School, a mission of Our Lady of Peace Parish, Monroe Township**. Our mission is to teach and inspire our students as they discover and develop their talents, enabling them to attain their God-given potential. In turn, they contribute to a vibrant parish and community now and in the future.

Our 2020-2021 St. Mary School Annual Fund is currently underway and we would like to invite you, a local business owner, to participate in our campaign in a very special way.

St. Mary School is offering a program called the **"SMS 100 Club"**. This program enables local businesses to donate a tax-deductible gift of \$100 to this year's Annual Fund. Your business' generosity will be acknowledged on our website, in our Annual Report, on social media and in a variety of written communication to our school families during the 2020-2021 school year. Your business name will be seen by close to 400 school families as well as the hundreds of visitors to our website. We welcome our local businesses to take part in this new initiative which greatly supports our school. Our goal is to have at least 100 local businesses participate in our new program.

Gifts in support of the St. Mary School Annual Fund are used for programs that allow our parish school to carry on their mission and motto of ***Learning and Living in Christ***. Donations will be used for supplemental materials to enhance our math and language arts curriculum, additional technology resources, hands-on equipment for our science lab, professional development for our teachers, purchase of classroom furniture and other essential educational needs. Through your support we can continue to enrich academic life by providing critical resources for new technology and academic initiatives for 21st century learning, which allows our students to develop the necessary skills to succeed now, in high school and beyond.

As St. Mary School continues to educate our students during these unprecedented times, both in school full-time and remotely, we at St. Mary School are committed to faith formation and education in the Catholic tradition. We invite you to join us in showing your commitment to the future of St. Mary School and to please consider St. Mary School among your philanthropic priorities. On behalf of our school community and especially our children, thank you for helping to invest in the minds of tomorrow as we are Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's World.

Gratefully,

Rev. Cadmus Mazzarella
Pastor, Our Lady of Peace Parish

Mrs. Patricia Mancuso
Principal, St. Mary School

Attached you will find the form needed to participate in our "SMS 100 Club" program. Please complete the form and send it with your \$100 donation to SMS 100 Club, St. Mary School, 32A Carroll Ave., Williamstown, NJ 08094. Please make all checks payable to St. Mary School Annual Fund.



SMS 100 Club Application:

(Please print)

Company Name (as you would like it to be listed):

Address: _____

Phone Number (as you would like it to be listed):

Company Website: _____

Contact Person: _____

Contact Person's phone number:

Office: _____

Cell: _____

Contact Person's E-mail: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Thank you for your support of St. Mary School

Your company name and phone number will be listed on the St. Mary School website (as you have indicated above) upon receipt of your donation and application form and will remain there for the 2020-2021 school year.

Your business name will also be listed in our 2020-2021 Annual Report as well as periodic communications, including social media and with our school families throughout the year. Also a reminder, that your donation is tax-deductible.

On behalf of our school community and especially our children, thank you for helping to invest in the minds of tomorrow as St. Mary School continues, for another 70 years, Learning and Living in Christ.

Jesus Fish Jr. Youth Group

6th-8th grade



IMPORTANT INFO:

If we catch a "warm" day we would have our meeting outside. If not, we meet in Marian Hall. Please wear your mask & social distance when possible. Disinfecting takes place before & after each meeting.

EVERY youth needs a "General Permission Form" on file before attending. It can be found on www.YouthGroupInfo.com under "Download Forms". If it is not on file, bring it to the first meeting/Spiritual Guidance you attend!

NOVEMBER

Sunday, November 8th:

Saint Paint Night! We will paint rocks as well as canvases with our favorite saints' quotes on them. Wear a shirt that is ok for painting.
Meet from 7-9pm in Marian Hall

Tuesday, November 24th:

Service Opportunity: Be a part of the Annual Jesus and the Lepers Gospel skit at the 7pm Thanksgiving Eve Mass on 11/25. Rehearsal is from 5:30-7pm on 11/24 in the Church. Please email Kari for details & to sign up.
(Both days will count for service hours for those needing it).

DECEMBER

Saturday, December 12th:

Service Opportunity: Join us on the church steps at 5:30pm in a Christmas hat to sing Christmas Carols to the spectators driving down Main Street for the new Christmas Parade in town! Dress Warm!

Sunday, December 13th:

Meeting: Advent Prayer Service and Christmas Party! Bring a WRAPPED gender neutral \$5-value gift for the white elephant gift exchange. 7-9pm in Marian Hall.

Guys and Girls Spiritual Guidance Groups Every Thursday, at our NEW LOCATION

Join us every Thursday from 2:45-4:15pm for Guys & Girls faith sharing groups lead by Fr. Mazz, Youth Minister Kari and our CORE Team Youth Group Leaders. Free Pizza will be served, followed by faith sharing time. SMS Students please send in a cars & walkers note to come over. Other students can come late during the pizza time (we will save you some)! Meet in Marian Hall which is located under the Church. Enter through side door of the church which leads to Marian Hall. (NO Guidance on 11/26, 12/24 & 12/31)



Follow us on SnapChat:

@OLOPPYouthGroup



Face book name:

"Jesus Fish OLOPP"



Follow Us:

@JFYouthGroup



Videos on YouTube

OLOPP YouthMinistry



Follow us on Instagram:

@OLOPPYouthGroup

**PLAY LIKE
A CHAMPION
TODAY**

Character Education Through Sports

Champion Coach Note

Educating and Forming Champion Coaches

Oh Captain, My Captain

The phrase, “*Every team needs a leader,*” is not just a tired sports cliché, but something that has been demonstrated by research, according to [Sport Coach UK Research Summery No.4 – Developing Team Captains.](#)

Sports Coach UK says that only 30% of leadership is hereditarily based, giving credence to the famous quote by Vince Lombardi, “**Leaders are made, not born.**”

So, how much time do you currently spend developing the leadership skills of your captain(s)? The Sport Coach UK research summary presents several ideas for developing leadership skills in captains based on interviews with identified experts in the field.

sports coach UK Research Summary 4
Developing Team Captains



Every team needs a leader. This is not just another sporting cliché, but something that has been demonstrated by research. Over that only 30% of leadership is hereditarily based – in other words, leaders are made and not born – how much time do you spend developing the leadership skills of your captain? This summary presents ideas for developing leadership skills in captains based on interviews with identified experts in the field.

Here are some major learning points covered in the research summary:

- Create a trusting team and motivational climate.
- Foster a coaching philosophy that places importance on developing captains as leaders of the team.
- Be intentional in cultivating youth leadership in captains.
- Discuss with players and fellow coaches what leadership involves.
- Determine the method of selecting your captain(s).
- Explain to captains what their roles and duties involve and the approach that will be taken when working with them.
- Help your captains learn to lead. Don't expect them to already know how to do it.
- Hold regular meetings and provide feedback to captains.
- Recognize that young people will make mistakes - teach them how to lead rather than criticize their current skill levels.
- Discuss with your captain how the leadership skills they learn can transfer beyond sport.

Common Mistakes

Gould, Voelker, and Griffe (The Sport Psychologist, 2013, 27, 13-26) in their research on *Best Coaching Practices for Developing Team Captains*, identify **seven common mistakes coaches make in selecting and developing team captains:**

1. Using poor selection practices (e.g., “giving it to a senior”, not having specific and communicated selection criteria)

2. Giving captains an excess of responsibilities or relying on captains too much (i.e. have them do a lot more of the coaching responsibilities)
3. Not giving captains enough responsibility or opportunities to lead
4. Not communicating effectively with captains
5. Failing to reinforce and educate captains on the roles and responsibilities of team captains
6. Making assumptions about what captains know and understand about leadership
7. Waiting until the season begins to select captains.

How well does your current captain selection and development process measure up?
See below how one *Play Like a Champion* Partner School engages in a best practice for their captains.

Scripture of the Week:

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. (Galatians 6:9)



Create a Captain's Council

Play Like a Champion encourages partners to create a Captain's Council. This involves getting your captains together monthly to discuss their leadership role on their teams, provide them with skill development and enable them to support one another. The picture above is St. Mary's High School in Annapolis, Maryland. They call their Captain's Council, **S.A.I.L.** which stands for **Student Athletes in Leadership**.



The goal of S.A.I.L. is to help Captains reach their full potential by teaching them how to create a culture of excellence on and off the field. The captains come together once a month to discuss the qualities, commitments and responsibilities of team leaders and they learn to rely on each other for support in becoming their best leader. S.A.I.L. also promotes positive communication between coaches, administration and athletes. [Watch the Video](#) to the left explaining this excellent Captain's Council and contact us at information@playlikeachampion.org for more information on creating a Captain's Council for your school community!

Allison Fondale, Athletic Director at St. Mary's asserts, "S.A.I.L. was implemented to further develop the leadership skills of our athletes and to inspire a culture of excellence within our

athletic teams. Having the students choose the topics and run the discussion sessions provides them with ownership of the program and allows them to collaborate with students on other teams and further their development as leaders. Play Like a Champion and the United States Naval Academy have provided the program with tremendous resources to help it excel and succeed. I am proud to say that our students value the program and aspire to be a part of it."

Sport Reflections on the Mysteries of the Rosary

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. *Play Like a Champion* provides a resource for teams to reflect on the mysteries of the rosary, including an athletic reflection. You can view all the reflections [HERE](#). Here's a sample from the Luminous Mysteries:



The Proclamation of the Kingdom of Heaven (Mark 1:14-15)

"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 'The time has come,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'"

Reflection: God's kingdom is not far away, above us in the heavens. The kingdom is up to us to create with justice, mercy, compassion, care, love, concern for all. How can we, individually as athletes and together as a team, bring the Kingdom to our team and the game?

Access Resources & Learn More at [PlayLikeaChampion.org](https://www.playlikeachampion.org)

Play Like a Champion Today Educational Series
PO Box 72, Notre Dame, IN 46556 | information@playlikeachampion.org
www.playlikeachampion.org

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