

Messages from the School Office



- Back to School night (parents/guardians only) tomorrow night at 6:30 pm for Grades K-4. Enter through Assumption Hall doors.
- Teachers and the school office will not accept emails for dismissal changes for students. You must send in a note to the teacher in the morning or call the school office by 1:00 pm.
- If your children have a different way of dismissing each day, we request that you write a note to the teacher each Monday with the week's schedule.
- Room Parent Meeting is Friday, September 12th at 9:00 am in Marian Hall (church basement).



September 9, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians

Please follow the traffic patterns painted on the black top for arrival and dismissal. At dismissal, when entering the parking lot, immediately turn left and park in the second or third rows. If you park in the first row you will need to wait until dismissal has concluded to back out. This is for the safety of our students and those who pick them up. Thank you for your cooperation.

St. Mary School provides an outstanding academic curriculum focused on the needs of each student. All students, no matter their age, learn differently, and our teachers work tirelessly to find and use methods to help each student thrive. During the school year, teachers of grades 1 through 8 will be using an assessment called Star 360. This assessment has been used in grades 1-8 over the past few years, so your child is likely familiar with the assessment. Students take a reading and a math assessment on a computer 3 times during the year (September, January, and May) for a total of about one hour each time. Teachers receive student results immediately that they can use as another source of input to help them provide each child with resources and instruction that will best help them to thrive. Our first test will take place during the week of September 22nd.

The Star Assessments provide teachers with information that will help them to 1) track student progress toward grade-level standards that are aligned with our curriculum, 2) identify skills that need to be reinforced and more advanced skills for which each student is prepared, and 3) compare student learning and progress to typical learning and progress for their grade and age, and 4) pinpoint more accurately each student's instructional reading level to select the right level of challenge for their reading materials.

All parents will receive two reports that will provide you with information about your child(ren)'s progress during the year and ways that you can support their continued development at home.

We are excited about using this tool to help us continue to meet your child(ren)'s individual needs and build on the solid academic formation that our school already provides.

God Bless,
Mrs. Patricia Mancuso



ST. MARY SCHOOL—50/50 SERIES

St. Mary School will be having four 50/50 raffles this school year to help support St. Mary School and Catholic education.

Our FIRST one will be...

BACK TO SCHOOL---50/50 RAFFLE

In celebration of Back to School for the 2025-2026 school year, we will be selling 50/50 raffle tickets beginning September 9th until 3 pm on September 18th.

Cost:

1 ticket for \$3.00

3 tickets for \$5.00

15 tickets for \$10.00

40 tickets for \$25.00

You can purchase tickets at:

* Back to School Nights (September 10 and 17).

*At the Main Office during regular school hours

*You can also return the form below with the money

***The 50/50 Raffle will be drawn on Friday, September 19th at 3 pm.
We will contact the winner of the raffle after it is drawn.***

Thank you for your support of St. Mary School and Catholic Education!

PLEASE RETURN THIS BOTTOM PORTION ALONG WITH THE MONEY TO ST. MARY SCHOOL NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH AT 3 PM --ATTN: JACKIE KERN, ADVANCEMENT OFFICE

Name: (to be placed on tickets) _____

Child's Name _____ Homeroom _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Number of tickets _____

Amount enclosed _____ (cash please)

NO TICKETS WILL BE SENT HOME—WE WILL WRITE YOUR NAME ON THE TICKETS AND PLACE THEM IN THE BASKET FOR THE DRAWING!

Back to School Night

September 9, 2025

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Back to School Night for Grades 5-8 will be held on Wednesday, September 17, 2025 beginning at 6:30 p.m. Enter through Assumption Hall and you will be directed to your child's classroom. 8th grade parents/guardians will remain in the gym for the teacher presentation. All others will head to oldest child's classroom first. There will be more than one session offered so you will have the opportunity to see the teachers of all of your children. Uniform exchange will be available. The Assumption Hall Doors will open at 6:10 p.m. **This night is for parents only.**

Your attendance at Back to School Night is strongly encouraged. It is here that you will receive information about the upcoming school year and is also a great opportunity to meet your child's new teacher as well as to review classroom policies and expectations.

Thank you,
Mrs. Mancuso

St. Mary School PTA



MUM SALE

September 9th- September 24th

PICK UP October 3rd from 1pm-6pm

\$9 each or 3 for \$25
Cash or Check

Please make checks payable to
St. Mary School PTA

RED-YELLOW-WHITE-
ORANGE/BRONZE-
PINK/PURPLE-
TRICOLOR
9" POTTED



Happy Birthday!



Does your child have a birthday coming up?

We want to make it extra special!

Wish your child a happy birthday on our screens around the school!

\$5 Each

Please fill out the form below and send it back **a week before** you wish to have your message appear.

We will take dates in advance

Any questions? Reach out to Kate McDermott at pta@smarys.org

September Birthdays & Summer Birthdays accepted as well!

Childs Name: _____

Date of message: _____

Message:





CLOTHING DRIVE

date: Saturday, October 4

drop-off time: 9:00am – 11:00am

location: 8th grade doors SMS

Items Collected

Clothing & Accessories

Shoes (in separate bags)

Towels, Sheets, Pillowcases

Curtains

Small Toys (under 2ft)

Stuffed Animals, Bikes/Scooters

Strollers

**Please ensure ALL donation items are in
TIED PLASTIC BAGS**



ITEMS NOT COLLECTED: quilts, comforters, pillows, blankets, sporting equipment, board games, books, puzzles, pots, car seats, electrical devices, glass, large toys, highchairs, furniture of any type, VCR tapes, outdoor play sets

Please keep **SHOES** in **SEPARATE** bags

Any **QUESTIONS** please call or text Liz Duxbury 609-602-1913



To: St. Mary School Parents and Guardians

IT'S TIME FOR THE BOOK FAIR ~ HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT THINGS TO KNOW

BOOK FAIR DATES: October 7th through October 9th

Please see the attached schedule for the date and time your child will be visiting the Book Fair. If you would like your child to purchase a book please send money in an envelope with child's name, homeroom, and Book Fair written on front and send it to school on the day your child is scheduled to attend. The Book Fair will be held in Classroom 4B, please enter through 2nd grade doors to sign in if you wish to attend with your child/ren. Scholastic offers e-wallet, a convenient and secure digital payment option for your children to shop. Please visit scholastic to sign up.

Grandparents/Special Person Event:

On Wednesday October 8th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm your child will have the chance to shop exclusively with a grandparent or special person. They will enter through 2nd grade doors and go to classroom 4B for the Book Fair.

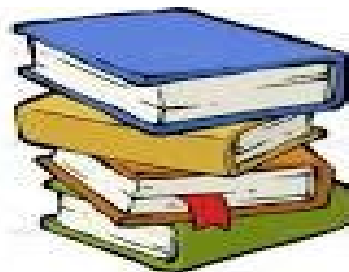
Teacher Gift Certificates:

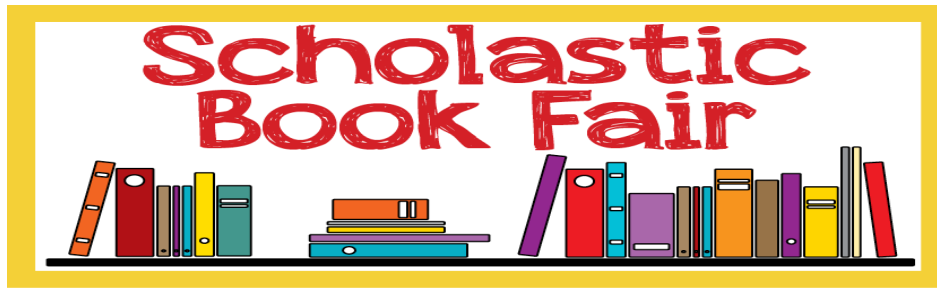
We are offering parents the opportunity to purchase gift certificates for their teachers from home. If you would like to purchase a gift certificate (can be for any teacher) please send the attached form and send to school in an envelope to the attention of Linsie Decker, Book Fair Gift Certificate. We will deliver all gift certificates to teachers to be used at the Book Fair.



PTA appreciates your help and support during this week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the e-mail listed below.

Sincerely,
SMS PTA
Linsie Decker
linsiedecker@gmail.com





SCHEDULE

**Tuesday, October 7th,
Wednesday, October 8th,
and Thursday, October 9th**

Time	Tuesday, October 7th	Wednesday, October 8th	Thursday, October 9th
8:30-9:00	8A	5A	
9:00-9:30	PK 3	PK 3	K1
9:30-10:00	PK 4	PK 4	
10:00-10:30	7A	6A	
10:30-11:00	8B	3B	
11:00-11:30	7B	5B	
11:30-12:00	2B	6B	
12:00-12:30	1B	1A	
1:00-1:30	K2	3A	
1:30-2:00	2A	4A	

**TEACHER
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
GIFT CERTIFICATE
ORDER FORM**

Teacher: _____

From: _____ Grade ____ A B

Amount: _____

Check or Cash: _____

**TEACHER
SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR
GIFT CERTIFICATE
ORDER FORM**

Teacher: _____

From: _____ Grade ____ A B

Amount: _____

Check or Cash: _____

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
ST. MARY SCHOOL ATHLETICS

DESIGNER BAG

B I N G O

Friday October 3, 2025

6:00PM TO 8:00PM
Assumption Hall
32A Carroll Ave. Williamstown, NJ

TICKETS \$35

Ticket Includes:
• 10 Bingo Cards

BYOB Ages 21+
Bring Your Own Dabbers

Bag Sponsors Wanted! More Info To Follow. Family Names/Company Names will appear in New Signage on School Soccer Field and in Assumption Hall!

**DOOR PRIZES,
RAFFLES AND MORE!**

All Proceeds Go Toward Our Athletics Programs. Questions or to Purchase Tickets, Please Contact Sharon Quigley 609-634-6201

***Detach and Send in with payment to the Main Office**



Name:

Phone Number:

Number of Tickets for Bingo:

Total Amount Due:



**St Mary School Designer Bag Bingo
is Right Around the Corner!
Sponsorships are Filling Up Fast.
Don't Miss Out!**

Grand Prize Sponsor (Louis Vuitton Purse Raffle): \$2000.00 Receive 4 Free Tickets for the event, 5 Grand Prize Raffle Tickets, 2 Drink Tickets, 2 Food Item Tickets, 15 Basket Raffle Tickets, and 3 weeks of email blasts of your company (if applicable) or thanking your family in the parish email blast, Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

Event Sponsor: \$1000.00 Receive 2 Free Tickets for the event, 5 Grand Prize Raffle Tickets, 2 Drink Tickets, 2 Food Item Tickets, 10 Basket Raffle Tickets, and 3 weeks of email blasts of your company (if applicable) or thanking your family in the parish email blast, Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

One of Each Needed-

Registration Table Sponsor:

Volunteer Tee Shirts Sponsor: \$500.00 Receive 1 Free Ticket for the event, 3 Grand Prize Raffle Tickets, 1 Drink Ticket, 1 Food Item Ticket, 10 Basket Raffle Tickets, and 3 weeks of email blasts of your company (if applicable) or thanking your family in the parish email blast, Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

10 Sponsors Needed-

Designer Bag Sponsor: \$400.00 Receive 1 Free Ticket for the event, 1 Grand Prize Raffle Ticket, 1 Drink Ticket, 1 Food Item Ticket, 8 Basket Raffle Tickets, and 3 weeks of email blasts of your company (if applicable) or thanking your family in the parish email blast, Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

One of Each Needed-

Dessert Table Sponsor:

Raffle Basket Table Sponsor:

Coffee/Drinks Table Sponsor: \$350.00 Receive 1 Free Ticket for the event, 1 Grand Prize Raffle Ticket, 1 Drink Ticket, 1 Food Item Ticket, 5 Basket Raffle Tickets, and 3 weeks of email blasts of your company (if applicable) or thanking your family in the parish email blast, Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

Field/Gym Banner Sponsor: \$100.00 Family Name or Company Name on two New Banners to Hang on Field Fence/In Gym.

**All Sponsors Will Have Their Names/Companies
Featured on TV's During The Event**

Contact Sharon Quigley at 609-634-6201 for more information or to become a sponsor for St. Mary School Athletics!



*****Detach and Send in with payment to the Main Office****

Name:

Phone Number:

Sponsorship Interested In:

SMS FRIDAY LUNCH ROSARY CHAPEL GROUP

Hello, my name Kari Janisse and I am a lunch room parent volunteer on Fridays at St. Mary School. (My son is in second grade). I am also the former Youth Minister at Our Lady of Peace Parish/St. Mary School (2009-2022).

I currently work as the Campus Minister at Rowan Catholic Campus Ministry Newman House. I always enjoy sharing the Catholic faith with the young Church!

We are blessed with the beautiful Chapel at St. Mary School, which is conveniently located outside of the Cafeteria/Gym doors. For the last two years, I have been leading the rosary group in the Chapel during the lunch periods.

I will begin the lunchroom prayer time opportunity in the Chapel this Friday, September 12th. Each week a different class has the opportunity to have students sign up to attend. This takes place the last 10 minutes of the lunch period. I can take 6-10 students each lunch period.

While in the Chapel, we will pray a decade of the rosary together. (I will teach those who do not know how to pray the rosary.) I look forward to this new prayerful opportunity with the students this year!

“The Rosary is a priceless treasure inspired by God.”

-St. Louis De Monfort





SEASONS OF GRACE:



Women Anchored in Hope Retreat

Keeping God present throughout all seasons of life

October 31 – November 2, 2025

Begins: Friday, October 31 at 5:00 PM

Ends: Sunday, November 2 at 11:00 AM

- Spirit-filled talks and reflections
- Time for prayer and personal renewal
- Fellowship with women of faith
- Beautiful coastal retreat setting



Presenter: Fr. Sanjai Devis, VC

Cost: \$250 per person

¡All women, 18 and over, are invited!

Limited Space Available

Contact for More Information: advancementoffice@smarys.org



Hosted by
Our Lady of Peace Parish

Villa Maria by the Sea Retreat Center
101 111th Street, Stone Harbor, NJ 08247

Women's Retreat Registration Form



Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Dietary Restrictions: _____

Mobility or Accessibility Requirements:

Age Range:

18-30 31-45 46-60 61+

Emergency Contact (Name & Phone):

Payment: Cash Check
(Payable to Our Lady of Peace Parish)

Amount: \$250

Register online or mail / bring this form with your payment to the Parish Office

Annual School Integrated Pest Management Notification
for St. Mary's School

As part of a school pest management plan, *St. Mary's School* may use pesticides to control pests. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) registers pesticides to determine that the use of a pesticide in accordance with instructions printed on the label does not pose an unreasonable risk to human health and the environment. Nevertheless, the EPA and DEP cannot guarantee that registered pesticides do not pose any risk to human health, thus unnecessary exposure to pesticides should be avoided. The EPA has issued the statement that where possible, persons who are potentially sensitive, such as pregnant women, infants and children, should avoid unnecessary pesticide exposure.

The following is a list of any pesticide(s) in use or used in the last 12 months on school property:

Low impact
D Nutribait
D Dual Choice

Our school district has designated an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Coordinator, and that Coordinator maintains the product label and material safety data sheet, when available, of each pesticide that may be used on school property. The label and data sheet is available for review by a parent, guardian, staff member, or student attending the school. The IPM Coordinator is available to parents, guardians, and staff members for information and comment.

Name, Address and Phone Number of our School District IPM

Coordinator: *Josh Manning* *856-629-6190*
324 Carroll Ave
Williamstown NJ 08094

Time and Place of any meetings to be held to adopt the school integrated pest management policy:



Champion Coach Note

Forming Champion Coaches Since 2006

Volume 25, Issue 2 | September 9, 2025

The GROW Approach

Champion coaches know that the GROW approach is the core formula for building *Champion* athletes on and off the field. Based on Self-Determination Theory, this approach helps our athletes to be competent, connected and in control - which means they will be motivated to strive for excellence and more capable of maximizing their potential in both sports and life. Now is a good time to do a quick "check-up" on your application of the GROW components to see where you are succeeding and where you can improve your implementation with both individual athletes and as a team.



The GROW Approach: Goals + Relationships + Ownership = Winning

Watch the short video above as *Play Like a Champion* Program Director Kristin Sheehan shares the science behind GROW. Then **evaluate** how you have developed *Goals*, *Relationships* and *Ownership* with your athletes since your initial clinic, as well as your attitude toward *Winning*. Over the next several *Coach Notes* we will go through each of these areas one-by-one, considering how we can continue to *grow* as a coach and where we can improve to best serve our young athletes.

"For this very reason make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue, and virtue with knowledge, and knowledge with self-control, and self-control with steadfastness, and steadfastness with godliness, and godliness with brotherly affection, and brotherly affection with love." ~ 2 Peter 1:5-7

Get the Friday Morning Rally!

Designed for the administrator, coach or sport parent, the *Friday Morning Rally* returns for 2025-2026 to provide busy leaders a bi-weekly dose of the latest news and



features of interest across the world of youth and high school sports. *The Rally* is your one-stop source - whether its the news you need or information to help you maximize performance, we'll do the work to aggregate and deliver it to you in a convenient, easy to digest format. From time-to-time, we'll even add our unique take on how a hot topic affects leaders in sport. This year's *Rally* will hit your inbox every other week, with the next issue coming on Friday, September 19th.

You can get get the *Friday Morning Rally* in your inbox for FREE by clicking the link below and signing up to receive the email. Join *The Rally* today and let us help you stay in

the loop over the next year!

Sign-up for the FREE Friday Morning Rally Newsletter

A Prayer for Coaches

Gracious God, I thank you for calling me to the ministry of coaching. Help me to answer that call with a generous spirit. Enable me to be a good coach, skilled, informed, fair-minded and caring. Let me see beyond the rules of sports and capture their spirit. Grant us the wisdom to see that athletics are not only about healthy bodies but healthy minds, that sports are not only about victory but enjoyment, that competition is not only about winning but building community. Let the example of Christ inspire and guide my coaching so that I never lose sight of the dignity and worth of each and every person whom I coach. Help me to follow that example by coaching not only by instruction but by encouragement and love. Lord, keep me mindful of Your presence in my life and teach me and my athletes to be grateful for your many blessings. We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.



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

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