



## DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 2018

Dear St. Mary Catholic School Families,

The Advent Season will begin Sunday, December 2, 2018. This is certainly a time for expectant waiting, preparing, and celebrating the anniversary of the Lord's birth. The Advent wreath is a wonderful reminder of this glorious season and St. Mary Catholic School proudly has one displayed in the main hallway.

All students will attend Adoration on Friday, December 7; and Grades 3-8 will participate in Confession on Friday, December 14. Please don't miss the band concert Wednesday, December 19 at 7pm in the school gym, and the vocal concert Thursday, December 20 at St. Mary Catholic Church. Both events are sure to warm and envelop your heart for the season.

Please take a moment and rediscover the following reading:

### **Matthew 1:18**

**18** This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about : His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. **19** Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. **20** But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. **21** She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." **22** All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: **23** "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us"). **24** When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. **25** But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

May the Holiday Season bring you comfort and joy!

Mr. Andrew Carner, Principal

***St. Mary Catholic School resumes January 7, 2019. The January Newsletter is your information highway for current events, especially, news regarding Catholic School Week and registration for the 2019-2020 school year, so please remember to read the email.***

### **Yankee Candle Sale**

Many thanks, to those who participated in The Yankee Candle Fundraiser. The catalog and online sales profits were over \$2,331.80, and St. Mary Catholic School receives 40% of ALL sales. Online shopping will remain open through January 9, 2019. Christmas orders can be placed online at [www.yankeecandlefundraising.com](http://www.yankeecandlefundraising.com), Group Number- 990001283.

### **Berea Jack Frost Christmas Parade**

The Berea Jack Frost Christmas Parade takes place, Saturday, December 1, 2018 at 5pm in the Coe Lake parking lot (parade begins at 5:30pm). Parents and students are invited to march in the Jack Frost Berea Christmas Parade. Families are encouraged to represent St. Mary Catholic School by wearing spirit wear. St. Mary Catholic Students are NOT PERMITTED to pass out candy. All students need to have an adult accompany them.

### **Eighth Grade Students and Parents**

High School Selection Week will be held in January. The eighth grade students have been given a variety of opportunities to assist them in making an informed choice for high school. Mr. Jones has worked with each child to secure high school visitation days. Students received the ACAD (Association of Catholic Admission Directors) High School magazine listing all Open Houses and admission testing dates.

Your child is encouraged to spend some time over the holiday break making a final decision on where to apply and writing an application essay. Remember the application essay may be the first and only chance your child has to impress the administrators of the high school they are hoping to attend.

Parents of eighth grade students should be aware that **2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter grades** will be sent with the application. The selected high school will then expect parents to send a copy of your child's final June report card.

### **Scholarship Fund**

We are beginning to plan for our eighth grade graduation! For the past 24 years we have been able to provide financial assistance to our graduates who will move on to a Catholic high school. We would like to continue offering these scholarships as we have done in the past, however, our funds are depleting, and we need your support to continue this practice. Please consider supporting the Scholarship Fund this year when determining your year-end contributions. Don't forget that many employers match contributions. We will happily complete any paperwork necessary to match your donation. A Scholarship Fund Donation Form can be found on our website.

### **Progress and Interim Reports, 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter**

All Kindergarten students will receive a Progress/Interim Report. Students in Grades 1 through 8 will only receive a written report when the student is having difficulty in a subject area. Parents will need to sign, and return envelope only, to the classroom teacher. Parents are encouraged to visit Progress Book every week to access student grades, classroom assignments, and homework.

### **SMS Uniforms**

Christmas Break is the perfect time to look over your child's uniform. Our Uniform Policy can be found in the Parent/Student Handbook, [www.smsbera.org](http://www.smsbera.org). We are noticing some jumpers and skirts needing to be lengthened, and pants with holes. Dress Code violations will be issued in January.

## December Calendar of Events

Saturday, December 1	Father/ Son PTO Home Depot Event, 10am-2pm, SMS Gym Berea Jack Frost Christmas Parade, 5pm-7pm, Coe Lake
Monday, December 3	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am, Activity room All School Mass, 1:50pm, St. Mary Catholic Church
Wednesday, December 5	Band practice, 3:30-4:30pm, Spanish room
Thursday, December 6	Eager Artist, 3:30-4:30PM, Activity room
Friday, December 7	Adoration, All day, St. Mary School Chapel Power of Pen, 3:30-4:30pm Classroom of Champions, 3:30-4:30pm, room 115
Sunday, December 9	Sacraments, <i>Grades 2 &amp; 8, 9:30AM Mass, St. Mary Catholic Church</i> <i>Grade 2, 10:30AM Class, Father Garrity Center</i> <i>Grade 8, 6:00PM Class, Father Garrity Center</i>
Monday, December 10	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am
Wednesday, December 12	Classroom of Champions "Competition Day", St. Edward HS Band practice, 3:30-4:30pm, Spanish room
Thursday, December 13	Be Kind T Shirt Day (Please wear if purchased, otherwise, uniform)
Friday, December 14	Confession, Grades 3-8, St. Mary School Gym, 1:10-3pm
Monday, December 17	Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am, Activity Room
Wednesday, December 19	Band Concert, 7pm, St. Mary School Gym (All are welcome)
Thursday, December 20	Vocal Concert, 7pm, St. Mary Catholic Church (All are welcome)
Friday, December 21	Stewardship Day, Dress Down Day (\$1) All School Mass, 10am, St. Mary Catholic Church Power of Pen 3:30-4:30pm Classroom of Champions, 3:30-4:30pm, room 115
Monday, December 24 - Friday, January 4	Christmas Break (No School)
Monday, January 7, 2019	Happy New Year! Welcome Back! Chess Club, 7:30-8:30am, Activity room

### Extended Care

Extended Care and Preschool Day Care provided on:

Thursday, December 27

Friday, December 28, 2018

Wednesday, January 2

Thursday, January 3

Friday, January 4, 2019

Parents will be notified in the event we do not receive enough pre-registrations to warrant being open on any of these days. A registration form can be found online, in the school office or from the Extended Care staff.



November 12, 2018

St. Mary School  
265 Baker Street  
Berea, Ohio 44017

Dear Students and faculty,

Thank you for holding and generously donating to the Thanksgiving food drive. We serve many families, and try to make Thanksgiving a time when they too share the bounty. This would be impossible without people like you!

Please know that your generosity is greatly appreciated.

God Bless you and your families.

Sincerely,

*Christians in Action*