

December 9, 2016



St. Mary Catholic Schools
Grades P3-12

Advent Greetings!

Today, our educators' **professional development day** focused on literacy, including assessment and book clubs at the early childhood level, evaluation of changes made at the elementary level and their focus on reading mini-lessons, and vocabulary and strategies for low-comprehension at the middle school level. The schools' safety preparedness plans were also reviewed and discussed.

For next week, we are looking forward to the **K-5 Christmas programs**, with St. Gabriel's on Monday, St. Mary's on Tuesday and St. Margaret Mary's on Thursday! As you are waiting for the theater doors to open for the Christmas concert, please take a moment to stroll down the FAEC hallway and view our elementary students' fantastic self-portraits, as well as artwork by our middle and high school students.

On Friday, it's **grade/middle school night** at the Zephyr boys basketball game vs. the Ozaukee Warriors. See below for more details.

IMPORTANT: It was necessary for SMCS to switch to a **new emergency alert system**, called Remind, to replace Cel.ly. If you would like to receive notifications of unexpected events such as school closings or early dismissal due to weather, etc., please do one of the following:

If you have a smartphone, get push notifications by [opening your web browser](#) to download the mobile app.

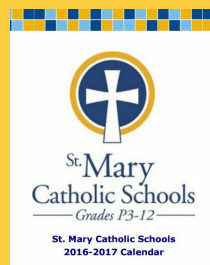
You can get text-only notifications by texting the message @9fg97 to the number 81010. If that does not work, text it to 920-933-1015.

Be assured that this system will be used *only* for very important notifications.

Have a great weekend!

2016-17 SMCS Calendar

No additions or changes were made to the [SMCS 2016-17 calendar](#) this week.



Basketball Grade/Middle School Night

At basketball grade/middle school night your children in 8th grade and younger will enjoy:

- free admission
- activities and fun!
- popcorn and a beverage (water or Gatorade)
- raffle prizes of items that can't be purchased elsewhere
- a photo-op with The Zephyrator!

If your son or daughter plays basketball, plan to come on over to the gym after team pictures! It's always a great night, so plan to join us beginning at 5:30!

Also, if you're looking for **great Zephyr gifts for Christmas**, be sure to stop at the SMCS Booster Club table for discounts on current Zephyrwear!

Christmas Shopping

As you are doing your online Christmas shopping, don't forget that St. Mary Catholic Schools participates in the Amazon Smiles program! When you choose St. Mary Catholic Schools, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the total of your purchase price to our schools! Click on [this special link](#) to make a donation to SMCS.

SMCS Donor Report

The [SMCS Donor Report](#) for the 2015-16 fiscal year is available online.

Host Families Needed Beginning in January

We currently have two boys, Muyi Miao (Morgan)- 9th grade and Zhenhua Chen (Jack)- 10th grade who will be joining our community as St. Mary Catholic High School students on January 16, 2017. We are in need of two host families to open up their home for this great cultural experience.

There is a \$550 monthly stipend and a pro-rated \$1,000 tuition credit associated with hosting an international student through STS. What a great way to make a St. Mary Catholic Schools education for your family more affordable! Host families do not need to be from SMCS so please pass on this opportunity to anyone you think may be willing to open their home. For details, please contact [Jason Tursky](#) at 722-7796 ext 808.

Scrip

[Click here](#) to see the schedule for the Christmas season.



SMCS Annual Fund Year-End Giving

Please consider making a gift to the SMCS Annual Fund. This important fund benefits *all* students and families by helping to cover the cost of improvements in programs, curriculum and technology, along with athletics and other co-curricular activities.

Did you know that the tuition you pay covers only one third of the cost of educating your

child? The remainder comes from the SMCS Annual Fund, parish subsidies, other fundraising efforts and limited grants.

Please consider making a tax-deductible gift to the St. Mary Catholic Schools Annual Fund. Your gift of any amount will help to ensure that all costs of education are covered this year! [Click here to donate online!](#)

Baseball Clinic

St. Mary Catholic High School will again host the **U.S. Baseball Academy Spring Training program**. This series of six sessions for athletes in grades 1-12 will be held on the following Sundays: January 22 and 29, February 5, 19 and 26 and March 5. Read [the flyer](#) for more information or visit usbasketballacademy.com.

In the Community

YMCA Winter Session

The YMCA Winter 1 session is fast approaching!

Registration begins on December 12th for:

- [Little Sports Classes](#) (Grades 3K-1)
- [Growth & Development Winter 1 Funshops](#) (Grades 3K-1)
- [Youth Sports Classes](#) (Ages 7-10; Grades 2-5)

SMCS Media

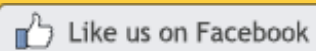
[SMCS Early Childhood Promotional Video](#)

[SMCS Elementary Schools Promotional Video](#)

Did You Know?

Every SMCS campus has special Advent projects going on. Ask your son or daughter how the school community is preparing their hearts for Jesus!

Stay Connected



Important Links

[Apparel](#)

[Big East Conference Calendar](#)

[Elementary Enrichment](#)

[Photo Website](#)

[Update Family Information](#)