

February 3, 2017



St. Mary Catholic Schools
Grades P3-12

Our students and teachers have been having a great time celebrating **Catholic Schools Week!** Thank you to all of the families who represented our system at the parish Masses over the weekend and served delicious breakfasts to the community!

Our high school **math team** started the week with another win, this time in the small school division at Roncalli. We now have three high school **VEX teams** qualified for the upcoming state tournament, and eighth grader Mitchell Lukasik will represent us at the **state geography bee** after winning the SMCMS competition on Wednesday. In addition to these accomplishments, all of our students had fun with special plans for CSW.

Based on feedback from our short survey, we have concluded that in lieu of a formal presentation of the **State of Our Schools** this year, our team will be preparing a written summary of the highlights from the past year, as well as a glimpse into what we have planned for 2017. This information will be sent to all school families and faculty and staff, and will be made available on the SMCS website by the end of February.

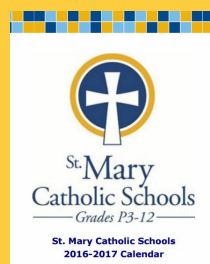


Photo courtesy of Scanlan Studios

2016-17 SMCS Calendar

The following changes were made to the SMCS 2016-17 calendar this week:

- February 22 State of Our Schools Address removed from calendar
- April 8 SMCS Elementary Eggstravaganza (moved from 4/4)
- April 8 Middle school solo & ensemble competition



Wisconsin Parental Choice Program online application now open!

St. Mary Catholic Schools participates in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP), which offers the possibility for students to receive a Catholic education free of charge.

For a link to the application (which is now active) and up-to-date information about the program, please visit the [WPCP page](#) on the Department of Public Instruction's website or attend our [WPCP Open House](#) on **Monday, February 27 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** in the high school IMC.

Fine Arts Fruit Sale--going on now!

Our SMCS community is blessed to have the beautiful fine arts facility for school concerts, shows, presentations and more! *Every* student in grades kindergarten through 12 uses and benefits from the offerings at the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center. This lovely venue requires careful upkeep including cleaning, replacement of theater lights and attention to the electronics to keep things running in tip-top shape.

Our fruit sale runs through February 15, and profits will go directly to preserving and maintaining our fine arts education center. If every family would purchase or sell *just one box* of delicious, fresh-picked apples, oranges, grapefruit and pears or tasty Wisconsin specialties, it would be so meaningful to our effort to be good stewards. Every student who has \$100 or more in sales will earn an out of uniform pass (not to be used on liturgy days).

The order forms were sent to all families this week and are also available on the website. Please contact [Kathy Bergholz](#) at 920-257-3946 after 3:30 p.m.

Booster Club Help Needed

The SMCS Booster Club is hosting a middle school boys basketball tournament on Saturday, **February 11 and Sunday, February 12** and needs your help! If you are able to volunteer, [please sign-up today!](#)

Any volunteer slots worked will go towards the SMCS Booster Club requirement. All help will be very much appreciated!

Wines Around the World-next weekend!

Wines Around the World is St. Margaret Mary Elementary School's annual fundraiser, and this year will be another great event! "All that Jazz" is the theme, and it will feature tasty wine pairings, fabulous silent- and live-auction prizes and the smooth sound of a great jazz trio. [Click here](#) to purchase tickets. [Click here](#) to see the evening's program, which includes details about all of the exciting packages you can bid on!

St. Mary Winter Escape: [Dueling Pianos!](#)

This fun event will take place this year at Pullman's in Appleton on **Saturday, March 4, 2017!** [Click here](#) to find out more and for a link to the page where you can sign on as a sponsor, purchase tickets or make arrangements to have someone in your party serenaded!

Day-to-Day at SMCS

Not everything that goes on in our schools makes the news, but many interesting and cool things do make our Facebook page! Follow our [Facebook page](#) or check out these [Facebook highlights](#) from January 27-February 2. If you have a photo of a neat SMCS experience to share, please email our [director of communications](#).

On Track: Turning Your Assets into Retirement Income

Join us on **Tuesday, February 21 at 6:30 p.m.** in the black box theater in the FAEC for On Track to learn about how to turn your assets into retirement income. Presenters sponsored by Van De Hey, Van De Hey and Associates will share with future retirees and retired people ways make informed decisions about their retirement income and help create personalized income strategies that are right for them. [Click here](#) for details.

Arts Scholarships

Les and Dar Stumpf Youth Arts Scholarship, established to provide financial assistance to area students interested in an art discipline, is accepting applications. This scholarship opportunity is offered to children in kindergarten through high school in local school districts. Applications are due April 1. Recipients can use the scholarship money toward summer arts programming. The application is also available on the [Community Foundation website](#): click on Art/Music Lessons and Music Camp.

Tuition Assistance Application Period Open

[Applications for tuition assistance](#) for the 2017-18 school year are due to the SMCS Business Office by **Friday, February 10, 2017**.

Enrichment Update

The Karate Showcase demonstration will take place on **Friday, February 10 at 6:00 p.m.**, and will take place at St. Mary Elementary School. At the showcase demonstration, students will demo their skills and self-defense moves. Please invite friends and family and any students interested in exploring this great progressive karate program!

Road Construction Updates

Read the [latest road construction updates](#) that may impact your travel to or from SMCS campuses. This was last updated on January 31.

In the Community

The Janssen Forum Luncheon Speaker Series

This month's event will be held on **Thursday, February 9, 2017** at Mount Tabor Center, Menasha. The speaker series begins with Mass at 11:15, followed by a light lunch and guest speaker at 12 noon. Jim VandeHey, Co-Coordinator of CLR Ministries, will share how he has been touched by God's mercy. Cost \$7.00 for guest speaker and lunch. To register, call Mount Tabor Center at 920-722-8918. Walk-ins are welcomed.

"The Mass: Becoming What We See"

The St. Gabriel worship committee invites you to attend [a presentation](#) on **Sunday February 12 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.** about how to experience liturgy more deeply.

SMCS Media

[SMCS Announces Fruit Sale to Benefit Fine Arts](#)

[SMCS Announces Plans to Enhance Fitness for Grades 6-12 Students](#) (*Post Crescent article*)

[SMCS to Celebrate Catholic Schools Week](#)

["Giving Back so Our Community and Area Children Can Prosper"](#)

Appleton Magazine article re: John Hogerty and SMCMS

[SMM to Host Wines Around the World](#)

[SMCS Early Childhood Promotional Video](#)

[SMCS Elementary Schools Promotional Video](#)

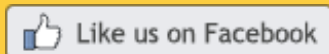
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Did you know?

SMCS was recognized by the United Way Fox Cities for the success of our 2016 campaign.

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Stay Connected



Important Links

[Apparel](#)

[Big East Conference Calendar](#)

[Elementary Enrichment](#)

[Photo Website](#)

[Update Family Information](#)

