

February 1, 2018



As we begin the month of February, we will focus on the servant leadership trait of belief, with Mary the Blessed Virgin, St. Peter and St. Jude Thaddeus as our models of Christian faithfulness.

We hope that your family is enjoying all of the special activities planned for this Catholic Schools Week!



Congratulations to our own **Adam Bates**, SMCS athletic and activities director, who was recently recognized by the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA) as a **Certified Athletic Administrator**. To earn this distinction, Mr. Bates has demonstrated the highest level of knowledge and expertise in the field of interscholastic athletic administration. The voluntary certification process included a thorough evaluation of his educational background, experience and professional contributions, as well as a rigorous, comprehensive written examination. Mr. Bates is one of an elite group of interscholastic athletic administrators nationwide to attain this level of professionalism. Congratulations, Mr. Bates!

The **next SMCS email newsletter** will be issued on Thursday, February 8, 2017.

SMCS 2017-18 Calendar Updates

Please note that as of December 1, 2017, the online PDF calendar will no longer be updated. We will leave the current version online for families to refer to for elementary school letter days and to make updates to on their own paper copies. Calendar changes for the rest of the year will also be listed on the [calendar page](#). Please refer to the calendar on the [main page of the SMCS website](#) for up-to-date information.

No additions or changes were made this week to the SMCS calendar on the main page of the SMCS website.

New Wines Around the World

Join us for [Wines Around the World](#), St. Margaret Mary Elementary School's annual fundraiser! This year, WAW will take place in the Ballroom at the Reserve on **Saturday, February 24**, and will feature tasty wine pairings, fabulous silent- and oral-auction prizes, and fun! Click here to [become a sponsor or order tickets](#).

New 2018-19 SMCS Tuition Assistance Application Deadline

We are grateful to our subsidizing parishes and generous donors that have provided financial aid dollars and grants so we can assist deserving families in providing a Catholic education for their children. *If you are in need of assistance for the 2018-19 school year, please complete [the application](#) by **February 9**.*

Completion of this application also helps us determine if your student qualifies for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program, which is the [state-funded school choice program](#). Please contact Shelley Wautlet in the Business Office with questions swautlet@smcatholicschools.org or 920-967-0021.

New SMCS ON TRACK: Tactics for Suicide Prevention: Ask a Question, Save a Life

SMCS is pleased to host the next session in the ON TRACK education series: [QPR for Suicide Prevention - Ask A Question, Save A Life](#).

The presentation will take place on **Tuesday, February 20, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Jane Bergstrom Fine Arts Education Center. Counseling professionals from the SMCS staff will share with attendees how they can help someone who may be considering suicide by using the three QPR life-saving skills-Question, Persuade and Refer.

Each addressing appropriate tactics for students of different ages, the presenters are: Nada Newcomb, MS (elementary school counselor); Mary Lou Kalas, MSE (middle school counselor) and Julie Castagna, MS and Ralph Norton, MSE (both high school counselors).

This event is suggested for educators, parents, coaches and other adults who are concerned about the epidemic of youth suicide in our nation and who care about the wellbeing of students.

New Fine Arts Fruit Sale

Fine Arts Fruit Sale

All SMCS students and their families benefit from the use of our beautiful fine arts education center. By participating in the [2018 Fruit Sale](#), you can help us be good stewards of this system gem! All proceeds from the sale go directly to the maintenance and upkeep of the FAEC.

Please make a commitment to sell or purchase at least one item from the selection of delicious foods to do your part in supporting SMCS fine arts!

New Chinese New Year Celebration

Join us from 4:00-5:30 p.m. on

Saturday, February 24 at St. Mary Catholic Middle School when SMCS will be celebrating the [Chinese New Year](#), welcoming the Year of the Dog! The event will begin with a beautiful and exciting Dragon Dance, and workshops to learn the Lion Dance will be featured. Chinese treats and opportunities to try a variety of Chinese activities will also be included.

Although an RSVP is not required to attend, we would like to have an idea of how many guest to expect. Please [send an email](#) to let us know if you plan to come, but know that you are encouraged to attend even if you don't RSVP!

New Nominate Your Favorite Teacher

A local radio station selects a teacher of the month from among nominated educators. Each winner receives a higher education credit and plaque from Marian University, as well as prizes from local vendors. [Click here for details](#).

New Zephyrs Girls Basketball Post-Season Play

The SMCHS girls basketball team received a 4-seed in the Big East Conference tournament and will host Ozaukee, the 5-seed, on **Saturday, February 3**. The JV game will be at 5:50 p.m. and the varsity game will be at 7:15 p.m. Please [sign up online to help](#) the SMCS Booster Club host this game.

The other dates in the tournament are Tuesday, February 6 and Saturday, February 10. All games in the conference tournament will be played at one of the schools involved in the matchup. Follow the [2018 Big East Girls Basketball Conference Tournament Brackets](#), which will be updated as the games progress.

Z Cabaret

February 9 & 10

6:00 Drinks and hors d'oeuvres

7:00 Live entertainment

Join us on stage for a table-side view of our live variety show featuring SMCS alumni and supporters. Audience members will enjoy an intimate evening as we celebrate SMCS fine arts. Hors d'oeuvres and entertainment are included, with cash bar available. Table seating is limited, so purchase your tickets now at [this link](#) or call 920-722-7796.



New Eucharistic Adoration

Eucharistic Adoration will take place on **Friday February 2** at Mary Catholic High School from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. What a wonderful way to cap off Catholic Schools Week by praying for the needs of St. Mary Catholic Schools, our families and benefactors.

If you are interested in spending an hour with the Lord, please [visit the sign-up page](#) or contact [Barb Unruh](#).

For Tax Purposes (filing year 2017)

Tuition statements showing your tuition transactions from 1/1/17 to 12/31/17 will be mailed by January 31st. You can include payments made on kindergarten through grade 12 tuition fees on the State of Wisconsin Schedule PS, using this [Private School Tuition tax form](#).

Please consult a tax professional to inquire about claiming payments on preschool/prekindergarten tuition.

Contact [Shelley Wautlet](#) in the Business Office with questions via email or by calling (920) 967-0021.

New Parental Choice Program Application Now Open

SMCS participates in the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP) which awards state vouchers to selected eligible private school students. The application period begins today (February 1) and will run through April 20. Please see the attached flyer for [eligibility requirements](#). Students previously awarded vouchers must reapply each year. The application can be found on the [DPI webpage](#).

There will be a WPCP open house information night on **February 28 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.** in the SMCHS resource center. Staff will be onsite to assist you in registering and to answer questions. Contact Shelley Wautlet for more information on this program swautlet@smcatholicschools.org or (920)967-0021.

New SMCS Aquinas Program Information Session

An information session about the [SMCS Aquinas Program](#)— a multi-age, project-based initiative for students in grades 3-5 – will take place at St. Mary Elementary School on **Monday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m.** For more information, contact [Stacy Sweetalla](#) or [Jill Ahles](#) at 725-5351.



In the Community

Schuppe Family Benefit

[The benefit](#) will be held on **Saturday, February 10, 2018.**

New YMCA Activities

[BUMP, SET, SPIKE](#) (Co-ed winter volleyball clinic, grades 3-6)

[Achieving Your Goals Youth Indoor Soccer](#) (Grades 4K-6)

[Diocesan White Mass Weekend](#) (medical-themed retreat day and Mass with Bishop Ricken for Persons with Disabilities, the Sick and Caregivers) February 10, 11

Help With Tax Preparation

VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) offers free tax assistance, preparation and electronic filing services for people with low to moderate incomes. The program is available now through April, 15. [Read the brochure](#) or visit the [VITA website](#) for details.

St. Mary/St. John Parish Activities: [Build Your Own Potato Dinner](#) with all the fixings (March 24); [Pasta Dinner & Cash Raffle](#) (May 5)

Youth Ministry at St. Mary/St. John

New ["Help us out!" page](#) for info about YM's need for food, prayers and help; VIRTUS safe environment training (February 12, 6-9:00 p.m.); [Youth Alpha](#)-open to all in grades 8-12; Middle School Night (February 3, 5:45-10:00 p.m.); Middle School Lock-In (February 17-18); Contact Brianna at 725-7714 ext 426 for details.

[St. Gabriel Youth Activities](#)

Neenah Soccer Club [spring recreational soccer program](#)

Suburban Athletics [baseball and softball summer programs](#) (for kids ages 5-high school, open to all; no tryouts)

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