



**MISSION STATEMENT**

The St. Mary Catholic School community empowers students to grow spiritually, academically, creatively, and physically so they may experience, understand and live their responsibilities to God, family, community and self.

**St. Patrick's Day:** On Sunday, March 11, from 12:00 to 3:00, we will be celebrating St. Patrick's Day. Please join us in the Parish Center dinner of corned beef, ham, cabbage, potatoes and along with a large assortment of salads and desserts. There are sign-up sheets by the gathering space to bring salads, desserts or just to help out. We will need lots of help!!

**Pasty Sales:** Builders Club members are selling pasties. The last day to order is Wednesday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. Please see any Builders Club Member (any 6, 7 or 8 grade student) or the school office. Pasties will be delivered the week of March 19.

**Lent** begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14. Lent is a period of 40 days that we set aside for prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (doing good things for others). On Ash Wednesday, we receive a cross of ashes on our foreheads. This is a sign of sorrow for sin. It is a public sign. It tells everyone that we are not perfect, we sometimes do wrong. Lent is a season of growth. May we all grow during this season of preparation for Easter, the greatest feast in the Church, when we celebrate Jesus' rising from the dead! We will attend Mass at 9:00 a.m. and you are welcome to join us!

**Valentine's Day** parties will be held on Tuesday (NOT WEDNESDAY!).

**Reminder:** I would like to reminder everyone that February 16 was originally a day off on our calendar, but we swapped it with an extra day at Christmas. We will have a half day of school that day. Dismissal will be at 11:00 and there will be Public School bussing.

**Spelling Bee.** If you are unable to take your child to the Spelling Bee, please let us know as soon as possible so that we can make arrangements for them.

**Upcoming dates:**

- February 13: Valentine's Day parties
- February 14: 9:00 am Mass - Ash Wednesday
- February 14: Spelling Bee at Petoskey Middle School
- February 16: ½ day of School - dismiss at 11:05
- February 21: 8:30 K-5 Mass
- February 22: 8:30 6-8 Mass
- February 23: 2:30 Stations of the Cross
- February 27: Lenten Mission 5pm dinner 6pm Mission
- February 28: Lenten Mission 5pm dinner 6pm Mission
- March 1: Lenten Mission 5pm dinner 6pm Mission
- March 1: No afternoon bussing
- March 4: Pancake Breakfast
- March 11: St. Patrick's Day Party
- March 22: ½ day of School Spring Break Begins!

**What's happening in the Parish....**

**Looking for a prayerful and reflective retreat experience for your spiritual enrichment this Lent?**

Mantle Women's Ministry will be hosting a Lenten Women's Retreat March 2-4, 2018 at the Augustine Retreat Center, entitled "Trustful Surrender to the Heart of Mercy" with presenter Elizabeth Gengle. The invitation to receive God's love, to let go of fear, to open the heart to forgiveness, and to journey more deeply into a trustful surrender to the heart of mercy - will all be highlighted during this weekend retreat. Registration forms are available online at [petoskeysfx.org](http://petoskeysfx.org) <<http://petoskeysfx.org>>. The cost is \$135 for overnight participants and \$75 for commuting participants. The retreat begins at 6:00pm on Friday, March 2 and concludes by noon on Sunday, March 4. Open to all women. For more information call 231.347.4133