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**Parent Newsletter**

**February 9, 2024**

**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.

**Happy St. Valentine’s Day!** Wednesday is St. Valentine’s Day, a day that has its roots in Rome, where it was a tradition to give handwritten messages of admiration that included Valentine’s name. St. Valentine is the Patron Saint of Love, Young People and Happy Marriages. Happy St. Valentine’s Day! If your child is bringing Valentines in, please be sure they have one for every child in their class. **All Valentine’s Day parties will be held on Tuesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>.**

**Ash Wednesday/Lent:** Ash Wednesday is the first day in the season of Lent. Lent is a beautiful way to remember Jesus’ sacrifice for us and prepare us for the Easter season. During Lent, we remember the 40 days that Jesus spent in the desert being tempted by the devil. We do extra prayers, fasting, and almsgiving. On February 14<sup>th</sup>, (Ash Wednesday), our students will begin Lent with Mass at 8:30am. Please join us!

**February 16:** There is no school on Friday, February 16<sup>th</sup>. Our Teachers will be participating in Professional Development.

**Fish Fry:** We have four Lenten fish fries scheduled; February 16, February 23; March 1 and March 8. All Proceeds go to St. Mary School. Help is needed! Please sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0C45ABAB2EAAFDC25-fish2#/>

**Stations of the Cross:** During Lent, the students will lead the Stations of the Cross every Friday at 8:30am. These Stations make it possible for all of us, young and old, to see how we can align our lives to that of Jesus on his sorrowful walk to the Cross. Please join us.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Conferences will be held on Thursday, February 29. This will also be a half day of school, dismissing at 11:20am. A Sign Up Genius has been created to schedule your time:  
 Mrs. Michanowicz: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888556-parentteacher>  
 Mrs. Smith: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888524-parentteacher>  
 Mrs. D: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888560-parentteacher>  
 Mrs. Walker: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888528-parentteacher>  
 Mr. Solomon: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888566-parentteacher>  
 Mrs. Prepejchal: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4DABA822A0FAC61-47888598-parentteacher>

Week at a glance.....				
Monday, February 12	Tuesday, February 13	Wednesday, February 14	Thursday, February 15	Friday, February 16
	P.E. Hot Lunch: Walking Tacos	<b>8:30am Mass</b> Hot Lunch: Tuna Noodle Casserole	Music Hot Lunch: Soup and Sandwich	<b>5-7pm Fish Fry</b> <b>NO SCHOOL</b>
Pray for Owen	Pray for Phillip	Pray for Faolan	Pray for Hannah	Pray for St. Mary Parents
Pirie: help needed	Maggrett; Brief	Jess: Peak	Tofil; Help Needed	

**Upcoming Dates:**

- February 13: Valentine’s Day Parties
- February 14: Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins
- February 14: 8:30am Mass
- February 16: No School – Teacher Professional Development Day
- February 27: iSwim Safe Water Safety Instruction 5 Grade 12pm-2:30pm
- February 29: Half Day of School Dismiss at 11:20am
- February 29: Parent/Teacher Conferences 1pm-7pm
- March 17: 10am Student Mass
- March 17: St. Patrick’s Day Dinner
- March 21: ½ Day of School Dismiss at 11:20am
- March 22: Spring Break Begins