



ACADEMY NEWS

St. Mary's Academy Weekly Newsletter

May 1, 2019

Our Mission Statement:

St. Mary's Academy promotes academic excellence within a Christ-centered Catholic community. Students from Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8 learn acceptance and appreciation of others and develop to their full potential within a nurturing, family environment."

Gospel Reflection

GOSPEL

At that time, Jesus revealed himself to his disciples at the Sea of Tiberias. The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish. When they climbed out on shore, they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore full of one hundred fifty-three large fish. Even though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast." And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they realized it was the Lord. Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them, and in like manner the fish. This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples after being raised from the dead.

REFLECTION

"Even though there were so many fish, the net was not torn." What abundance there is in the Kingdom of God! The Church, the primary means through which God's Kingdom breaks into creation, is such a wide net that all can find a place without tearing its fabric. The love of the Risen Christ has an endless capacity for holding together all who find their way into this network of love. Can we say the same for our hearts? Is there room in them to welcome with love all who come into our lives?

Important Dates:

- 4th – Designer Bag Bingo
- 11th – Our 2nd grade students are almost ready to make their First Holy Communion.
- 13th – Mass. We will celebrate with our 2nd grade student at Mass. The students will come dressed in their 1st Communion outfits or a dress up outfit.
- 21st – Our spring book fair will begin on Monday, May 20th. It is a buy one get one free book fair. It will run through Thursday, May 23rd.
- 21st – Art Show and Cultural Fair
- 23rd – We will celebrate Mary Day at 10:00 a.m. Please join us if you are available.
- 28th – Tie Dying t-shirts for Field Day
- 28th – Celebrating June 14th through 30th birthdays
- 29th – Celebrating July birthdays
- 30th – Ascension Thursday Mass
- 30th – Celebrating August birthdays
- 31st – 8th Grade Banquet

Principal's Message



- Students in grades 3, 4, and 5 will be attending the Battle of the Books next Tuesday, May 7th at Mater Dolorosa School in Holyoke. We are looking forward to some very lively book battles!

Graduations and Last Days of School!!!

- 8th grade graduation will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 6th in the church. Followed by a reception in the Parish Center.
- Kindergarten graduation will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 7th. Following their graduation and reception, they will go to their classroom and have final goodbyes with Miss Leclair and Mrs. Chapdelaine. They are then free to enjoy their summer!
- Pre-Kindergarten graduation will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, June 10th. Following their graduation and reception, they will go to their classroom and have final goodbyes with Mrs. Mankowsky, Mrs. Hussey, and Mrs. Griffin. They are then free to enjoy their summer!
- Our Pre-K 3 students will have a celebration party on Monday, June 10th. Following their party, they will have their final goodbyes with Mrs. Nicholson and Mrs. Reavey. They are then free to enjoy their summer!
- The last day of school for students in grades 1-7 will be on Thursday, June 13th. Grade one will say the prayers with Fr. CJ at the closing Mass. Everyone will return to the school to gather their belongings and receive their final report card for the 2018-2019 school year. They will be able to leave with family members that may be here for them. The official dismissal time is 11:30 a.m.

Good byes

Change is hard for any family. It is hard for all of us in our St. Mary's Academy family as well.

Miss Leclair has been a teacher at St. Mary's Academy for 32 years!!! She has been such an integral part of our family. She has taught 32 classrooms of children. She has worked with numerous staff members through out those years. She has been a chairperson for our Accreditation process and our Re-Accreditation. She has had many, many service projects with her students, Hop-n-ing for Easter Seals, Trick or Treat for Unicef, and Box Tops for Education. She has mentored new teachers and shared her guidance with each and every adult along the way.

Miss Leclair has had so many special activities with her students, Thanksgiving Feast, Christmas craft day, and The Polar Bear Express to name a few. Most weeks her student leave the building with extra information about a Saint's day or a special event in our history. Lastly, who can forget the new life that Miss Leclair and her students foster each year with the chicks and butterflies!!

Miss Leclair will be leaving us this June. She has decided that it is time to retire and begin new adventures. She has a very active life outside of school with her family and friends and many, many projects.

We will celebrate Miss Leclair's retirement on May 29th. We will all have lunch together followed by cakes and time spent together with students remembering all of their exciting times in Miss Leclair's classroom. Please join us if you are available.

A Busy Time of Year

On Thursday, May 9th, my husband and I will be travelling to join all three of our children to celebrate our daughter's graduation. She will be receiving her Doctorate Degree in Molecular Bioscience and BioEngineering. I will be away from school beginning the 9th and returning the 20th. I will check in each day with Mrs. Barrows so that I can hear about all that is going on. Miss Leclair and Mrs. Brodeur will be in charge during my absence.

Fair Share Opportunities:

Legacy Brick Campaign:

Have you seen the beautiful Legacy Bricks lining our front sidewalk? These were all purchased by SMA families, parishioners, and donors who want to honor or remember a loved one, commemorate a student's time at the Academy or advertise a local business. Each summer we personalize another batch and this summer is no exception. If you would like to purchase one for \$125, please fill out the attached form and return it to the front office. ***All brick purchases are 100% tax deductible.*** Not sure what to get your 1st communion student or graduating 8th grader? This would make an incredible gift! If you have any questions, please contact Jenna at jbanaitis@stmaryslongmeadow.org or 413.567.0907.



- Thank you to everyone who participated in the Pennies for Patients campaign. The deposit has been made and the event raised \$376.88. Thank you
- Thank you to Mike Moreau and the Parent's Association for putting together such a wonderful evening at The Yard Goats last Saturday evening. We all enjoyed our very cold evening together!

