



*Vision to See
Faith to Believe
Courage to Do*

September 26, 2017



WHAT'S NEW?

Fall with its cool, crisp air and beautiful, rich colors began last week! The temperatures certainly didn't indicate the beginning of autumn, but we know that it will arrive in all its glory. The autumnal equinox took place Friday, September 22nd. At approximately 3:02 p.m. the sun was in the same plane as the equator, and the hours of daylight were equal to the hours of night. (approximately) However, we know that this marks the beginning of shorter days and longer nights ahead. Enjoy this beautiful season! It is truly one of God's masterpieces!

The Quarter Auction is this Saturday evening! Grab your friends and come for an evening of vendors, bidding, prizes, and food. Some vendors include: Mary Kay, Tupperware, Thirty-one, LuLaroe, Dove Chocolate Discoveries, Perfectly Posh, Scentsy, Pampered Chef, Crafts by Jane, Bill Lang Woodworking, Crafts by Debbie, Paparazzi, Creations by Giodano, Keep Collective, various other crafters and vendors. This event begins at 6:30 p.m. and doors open at 5:30 p.m. The eighth grade class will be sponsoring a food stand serving delicious pulled pork nachos, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches, jambalaya, nachos, and cupcakes for dessert. Food will be served from 5:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Proceeds from the food stand will go towards the eighth grade trip. We hope to see you Saturday! Thank you!

The PTO is providing breakfast for the students during this week of testing. Cereal, milk, and juice will be served from 7:30 a.m. until 8:00 a.m.

Dismissal for this Friday, September 29th is at 2:50 p.m. There is no bus service.

Students in grades K-8 will be attending a field trip on Monday, October 2. Parents are requested to return the permission slips along with the \$7.00 fee by tomorrow. Also, please remember that we will be stopping for lunch after our tour. An additional amount will need to be sent for your child's lunch. You may send the money for your child's lunch in advance as well.

REMINDERS:

The 100th Anniversary of the Apparitions of Our Blessed Mother at Fatima

This year of 2017 marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Blessed Mother to three shepherd children at Fatima, Portugal. The apparitions began in May 1917, where Mary appeared once a month to the children. The last apparition took place on October 13, 1917, with the Miracle of the Sun. Although this is the year celebrated, the Fatima apparitions actually began with three apparitions of the Angel of Peace in 1916. Across America and in many foreign countries, organizers will hold Rosary Rallies to focus on the message of Fatima which is so pertinent in our world today – Prayer, Penance, and Conversion. **On Saturday, October 14, St. Mary's Parish will be hosting a Rosary Rally at 4:30 p.m. in the rectory's front yard.** The parish, led by St. Mary's Council of Catholic Women, will join in praying the rosary for peace in our world. St. Mary's School has always had student volunteers participating in this special prayer service, and we sent home student participation forms last week in the Tuesday folders. Let's honor our Blessed Mother on this very special anniversary, praying for much needed peace in our world. We encourage all our school families to attend this prayer service before the Mass on Saturday evening. Why not share this beautiful Catholic tradition of praying the rosary with your children and parish family? Please join us and ask Our Blessed Mother's intercession for a greater love for Our Lord, Jesus Christ.

St. Mary's School Board is once again hosting their Gun Raffle. The tickets are \$15.00 each. The drawing will be held at the annual shooting match at Shiloh Hill Tavern on Sunday, February 11, 2018. Every five tickets you sell will enter you into the \$500 cash drawing. Return tickets to St. Mary's School.

Ecumenical Prayer Service October 25

6:00 p.m. Choir Practice

7:00 p.m. Service

We are searching for adult volunteers for a temporary choir for the event. Please notify the school office within the next week if you wish to volunteer for this choir. More detailed information about this special event will be coming.

Reminder: *This is National Box Tops for Education Week. Ask your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to save their Box Tops as well. The students that turn in the most Box Tops this week will win a prize!!! Happy Clipping!!!*

We still need a chairperson or a group chair for the St. Mary's Christmas on the River Chicken & Dumpling Dinner on Friday, December 1st, 2017. This has been a long time annual event and fundraiser for our school. Fundraisers are one way to ensure that St. Mary's continues to thrive. All families are encouraged to volunteer for at least two fundraisers throughout the school year. Please open your hearts and consider taking on this task to keep St. Mary's a vital part of the Christmas on the River program.

City of Chester upcoming events (for more information contact City Hall at 826-1430):

Happy Halloween Party Saturday, October 21st, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at St. Mary's School Gym. Ages 0-10 years.

Zombie Containment Area at Cole Park: Saturday, October 21st from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Check in at 6:30 p.m.) Ages 11 – 17. Tickets are FREE and available at City Hall.

Witches & Warlock Walk: Friday, October 27th. Check in time 6:00 p.m. – 7:15 p.m. at Chester Square Gazebo Park. Casting of spell at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$2.00 each available at City Hall. Ages 18 and older. Costumes required; scavenger hunt; no vehicles allowed; cash prizes!

Trick or Treat in River City: Tuesday, October 31st from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

SERVERS SCHEDULE:

Tuesday, September 26

Gene Bicket, Madison Kribs

Friday, September 30

Kolton Jany, Reed Welborn, Connor Wolff

Tuesday, October 3

Shane Bicket, Brock Vasquez

Friday, October 6 – NO SCHOOL

Tuesday, October 10

Koby Jany, Nate Maes

Friday, October 13

Reed Welborn, Jack Heffernan, Gage Hopkins

Servers, thank you for arriving to school by 7:45 a.m. Please check in with the teacher supervisor in the cafeteria, and then go over to church to prepare for Mass. Thank you.

WEEKEND SERVER SCHEDULE:

September 30 – October 1

5:00 p.m. – Lauren Soellner, Madison Kribs

9:00 a.m. – Shane Bicket, Connor Wolff, Trace Fricke

October 7 – October 8

5:00 p.m. – Koby Jany, Jack Heffernan

9:00 a.m. – David Grau, Connor Wolff, Gene Bicket

October 14 – October 15

5:00 p.m. – Nate Maes, Isaac Jany

9:00 a.m. – Nolin Crain, Elseah Congiardo, Shane Bicket

October 21 – October 22

5:00 p.m. – Carson Dunn, Kolton Jany

9:00 a.m. – Maison Shemonic, Reed Welborn, Paige Vasquez

If you are unable to serve at your scheduled time, please remember to find a replacement. It is your responsibility. Please do not leave Father Gene without servers. Thank you for your ministry as an altar server. You are greatly appreciated!

CAN YOU HELP US?

Please continue to save and send in the following items: Box Tops for Education, Campbell Soup and Best Choice, Tyson Project A+ labels, and empty computer ink cartridges to the school office. For the Campbell Soup and Best Choice programs, please send in ONLY the UPC codes. We do not need the entire label. Your efforts with these fundraisers truly help our school. This does add up quickly and every little bit helps. Through the Campbell Soups Program we are able to bank points and select items for our school. In the past we have selected PE equipment and items to be used at recess. We truly appreciate your efforts with these programs. Please know that your efforts do make a difference. Thank you so much.

Remember our Scrip Program for your shopping needs this school year!

Reminder: Apples for the Students ~ SAVE those Rozier's Receipts!!! Program runs September 1, 2017 through March 3, 2018. Boxes located in the school library and in the back of church.

IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS...

...We pray for our students in grades 1-8 who are testing this week. We ask God to help them think clearly, focus, and perform to the best of their abilities.

...We continue to pray for all people affected by the recent hurricanes and earthquakes. We pray that the victims find relief in the help and support of others. We also pray that those facing another round of impending storms might be spared from the destruction and devastation. We ask that God be with them during these difficult times.

...We pray for peace in our world.

THANK YOU TO...

...Thank you so very much to all those who assisted with the field trip to Eckerts' last week. We hope that you enjoyed your day!

...We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Jim Shields family and friends for the kindness they continue to show to St. Mary's School. A golf tournament, raffle, food stand, and silent auction was held this past weekend to benefit the school in memory and honor of Mr. Shields. We are so very grateful for the time, hard work, and energy that went into sponsoring this event. Please know how much we appreciate all that you do. God bless you for your kindness.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

September 25 Day 1

ITBS Testing Week Begins
School Board 7:00 p.m.

September 26	Day 2	Mass 8:15 a.m. (Grades 1-4) Art Club 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Child Protection Initial Training Session 6:00 p.m.
September 27	Day 3	
September 28	Day 4	
September 29	Day 6	All School Mass 8:15 a.m. (Grades 3/4 Liturgy) Dismissal 2:50 p.m. – No Bus Service
September 30	Saturday	Quarter Auction
October 2	Day 5	ITBS Testing Continues as Needed K-8 Field Trip to Cape Girardeau PTO Meeting 6:00 p.m.
October 3	Day 1	Mass 8:15 a.m. (Grades 5-8) Art Club 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
October 4	Day 2	Feast of St. Francis of Assisi Confirmation Meeting 7:00 p.m. at Church
October 5	Day 3	
October 6	Friday	No School – Diocesan Teacher Convention CHS Homecoming
October 9	Monday	No School – Columbus Day
October 10	Day 4	Mass 8:15 a.m. (Grades 1-4)
October 11	Day 5	7/8 Grade Trip to Confirmation Rally
October 12	Day 1	7/8 Grade Trip to Theatre Productions
October 13	Day 6	All School Mass 8:15 a.m. (Grades K-2 Liturgy)
October 14	Saturday	Rosary Rally 4:30 p.m. in Rectory Yard
October 15	Sunday	7/8 Children’s Liturgy Rite of the Beginning of Formal Preparation for Confirmation 9:00 a.m.