

St. Mary's Parish School Newsletter  
Week of January 3, 2022



Welcome back to school and Happy New Year of 2022!

**Items to note:**



Thank you to **the Bright and Hebert Families** for putting the beautiful stringing the beautiful Christmas lights in front of school!

Thank you to all the families who had your children shop at the 2021 *Elves Workshop* as well as assisting us by donating items to sell at the Workshop. The students had a great time and our Student Council, under the direction of Mr. Herrenbruck, did a great job setting up, organizing and selling the items at the *Elves Workshop*! A total of \$750 was raised. \$238 was sent to St. Vincent de Paul (local charity who works with individuals and families who need assistance with housing, heating, gas, food and meds. And \$238 was sent to the Ursuline Sisters in Mexico who work with destitute families. We put \$75 into the Student Council account for them to use for their various projects.



Please keep in your prayers one of our parents who will be undergoing by-pass surgery this week. Thank you so much!

- Monday, Jan. 3:**      **Lunch:**      Mac n Cheese
- Tuesday, Jan. 4:**   **Lunch:**      Hamburgers + French Fries
- Wednesday, Jan. 5**   **Lunch:**      Spaghetti with meat sauce
- Thursday, Jan. 6**    **Lunch:**      Waffles plus slices of bacon
- Friday, Jan. 7**        *Special Prayer with the school focused on the Feast of Epiphany: UNIFORMS are required today*
- Lunch:**      Hot dogs + chips

**LUNCH (hot) PROGRAM:** St. Mary's offers hot lunch that is fresh and, nutritious. The food is prepared in our own kitchen. Students are offered salads, fresh veggies, fruit, plus the main entrée, milk.

Due to increased costs for food there will some lunches (not all) that will cost more **IF** the students want double or triple the "normal" amount. What do we mean?

For this week additional costs for hot lunch will be the following:

**Tuesday** will be hamburgers: "normal" lunch for Hamburgers is **one**. Students who want more than one will be charged \$2 per hamburger.

**Thursday** will be waffles and bacon. Normal amount for waffles is 1 to 3. Students who want more than 3 waffles will cost \$.50 more per waffle. Normal amount for bacon is 1 to 3 slices. More than 3 pieces of bacon will cost \$.50 more per bacon slice.

**Friday** will be hot dogs + chips. Normal amount is one hot dog + 1 bag of chips. More than one hot dog is \$1 per hot dog wanted; chips are \$.50 for each additional bag.

Normally, the students are able to as much have fruits, veggies, and main entrée they desire (like spaghetti, mac n cheese, etc.) Additional milk is always \$.25 per carton.

A huge **thank you to** Dianna Spellman, who organized our participation in this year's Moscow's **Holiday Lights Parade**. It was so wonderful and beautifully done! And we **WON** the award for the **BEST YOUTH ENTRY IN THE 2021 LIGHT UP IN THE SEASON PARADE**.

What does this mean? **A private party at the Palouse Ice Rink for one hour for 100 person skate rental free!!** More details and date for this event will be announced later by one of our Fundraiser Coordinator, Dianna Spellman.

Thank you again for all those who made this so very special!



### Some Questions That We've Been Asked:

**Q. What was the link to the Christmas Concert in which the students sang and played their instruments?**

**A. <https://youtu.be/hbysCOnFvv8>**

**Q. Are there any updated items regarding COVID and Omicron variants?**

**A. With the continuation of the pandemic, COVID, and its variants we continue to utilize preventative health protocols/procedures that include daily temperature readings via a kiosk; hand sanitizers; Culligan water dispensers in each classroom; partitions; fogging, cleaning and sanitizing of classrooms; as well as the use of humidifiers, fans and air purifiers in each classroom. Each one wears masks. Please see pages 3-4 of this Newsletter with further information from Carol Moehrle, Director of North Idaho Health Department.**

**Q. If our child’s library book becomes damaged at home (torn page, etc.) would you like us to fix it?**  
**A.** Mrs. Jann Carson has said the following to all parents: Please know that it is never necessary for you to try to mend any library books at home. Why? Scotch tape does not mend the books correctly. I have the correct materials to fix the books here at school. Thank you for wanting to fix them, but it is totally not necessary. Just send the book back and I’ll fix it. Thank you!

**Q. Who won the raffle? And how many raffle tickets was sold?**  
**A.** Fundraising Co-coordinators, Dianna Spellman and Natalie Johnson said: *“Mark Willis of Colton won our raffle. 700 tickets were sold. Thank you so much for your participation and support!”*

**Reminder if you own a business.....**If you own a business **or** if a parish family owns a business **or** an alum of St. Mary’s Parish School who owns a small business **or** a sponsor who has consistently supported the school, then the businesses are eligible to have their businesses placed on the school’s website. Please complete the attached short form to be added to our referral list on our website. We want to encourage the **support of our community businesses, especially those owned by the parents.**

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The following information is the new CDC recommendations for all COVID variants from Director, Carol Moehrle ([CMoehrle@phd2.idaho.gov](mailto:CMoehrle@phd2.idaho.gov)) of **Idaho North Central District**

**Updated CDC Recommendations for COVID-19 or any of its variants: Isolation and Quarantine**

**A. If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)**

**Everyone, regardless of vaccination status**

- Stay home for 5 days.
- If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house.
- Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.
- *If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.*

**B. If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)**

**If you:**

**Have been boosted**

**OR**

Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna Vaccine within the last 6 months

**OR**

Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months

- Wear a mask around others for 10 days.
- Test on day 5, if possible.

*- If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.*

**If you:**

**Completed the primary series** of Pfizer of Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are NOT Boosted

- Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days.

**OR**

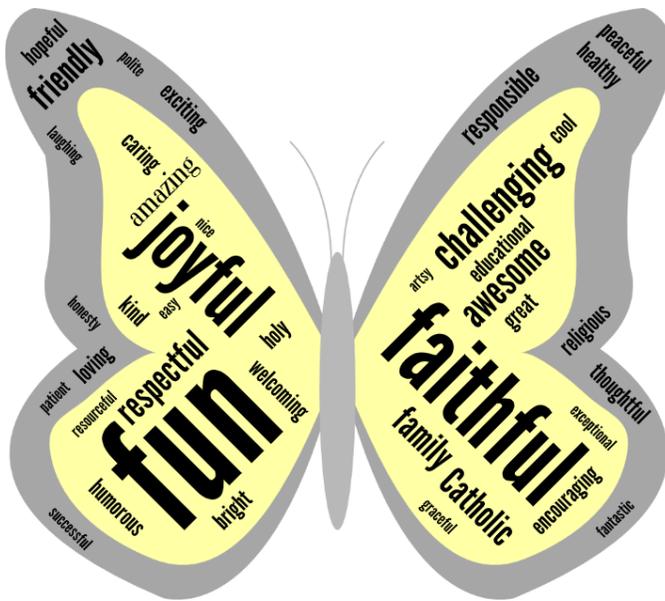
Completed the primary series of J&J  
Over 2 months ago and are not  
Boosted

- If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days.
- Test on day 5 if possible.

**OR**

**Are unvaccinated**

- If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home.



#### Prayer for the New Year:

Dear God, help me to find peace that I can carry into this new year. May this coming year be filled with passion and purpose. And let me be an inspiration to those around me. Amen.

*(This butterfly is filled with the words the student from Grades 3 through 8 used to describe their school experience at St. Mary's. Size of words show how often that word was repeated by students.)*

**Blessing for the home:** a custom of blessing homes on the **Feast of the Epiphany** when the family gathers to ask God's blessing on their home and family life. It is an invitation for Jesus to be a daily guest in our homes. What does this mean. At St. Mary's Church there is blessed chalk for you to take home. The chalk is free and it is at the doors. Please feel free to pick up the blessed chalk and then mark the lintel of your front door as follows with the chalk:

**20 + C + M B + 22** and as you use your chalk, say the following: *the three wise men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-two years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the year. AMEN.*

The letters have two meanings:

1. They represent the initials of the Magi---Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar---who came to visit Jesus in His front home.
2. They also abbreviate the Latin phrase: *Christus mansionem benedicat: "May Christ bless the house."*

The "+" signs represent the cross and the "20" at the beginning and the "22" at the end mark the year.

Taken together, this inscription is performed as a request for Christ to bless those homes so marked and that He stay with those who dwell therein throughout the entire year.

Say the following *prayer* together as a family: *Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of Your love; and grant that we may manifest Your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and I the knowledge and love of You; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen*