



ST. MARY'S PARISH SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER



*for the last week of December 2019*

*The Mission of St. Mary's School*

*Growing Disciples of Christ*

Our **Auction Committee** has a very specific request for help with the auction. We need someone who can make a **PowerPoint presentation of all the live auction items** for the event. It would be great if the volunteer has a laptop that they can have at the auction to display the presentation. This person needs to photograph all the live items (or collect photos from the internet depending on the item/package) and then put together a presentation for Auction night. This way all the folks in the audience can see clearly what is being auctioned. Please let Chair, Dianna Spellman, know if you would like to take on this project. Thank you! Her phone number and email contact is: 208-301-3232 diannaespellman@gmail.com

**NOTE: if you do not receive a communique (Newsletter) from the school weekly, check your spam. Let the school office know IF you are not receiving communiques. Thank you!**

(From Mrs. Bieker) Middle grades will be having a Christmas celebration on Friday, December 20. My middle grades students can wear festive attire to school, if school appropriate. This may include Christmas sweaters, silly headbands, or even Christmas pajamas if desired. We will enjoy a Christmas movie with hot cocoa and snacks in the morning. Students may bring comfortable blankets and pillows if they desire. They may also bring in snacks to share. Music, recess, lunch, and math will proceed as normal. Students will be able to open their \*stockings in the afternoon and the day will end with Mr. Billings' art class.

\*Every middle grade student has a stocking hanging in my classroom. Students can choose to bring a treat for everyone or may opt out. These are typical stocking stuffers such as candy, cards, small toys, etc.

***Still needed: a few families to be involved with the various ministries at the 4:30 p.m. Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Please call Sister Margaret (208-301-0293) if you'll be attending this Mass and would like to help. Thank you!***

If you want a DVD (\$20) from the Christmas Program, Frozen, please call or email the school office [office@stmarysmoscow.com](mailto:office@stmarysmoscow.com) 208-882-2121 no later than Tuesday, December 24 to be sure you will receive a copy.

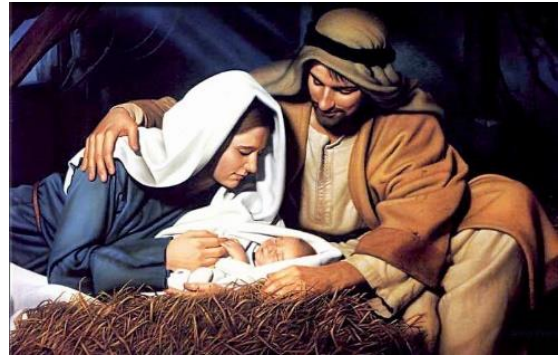


A few days ago, I had the wonderful opportunity to read the book "Song of Stars: A Christmas Story" by Sally Lloyd-Jones to the Second Graders. It is a beautifully illustrated book about the birth of Jesus, showing many different types of bugs, spiders, and animals such as lions and bears. After showing the wild picture of a lion, one of the students said, "I don't think God or Mary would let a lion be next to Jesus!!" I asked, "Why not?" He said, "Because God and Mary wouldn't want Jesus to be eaten by the lion!!" I truly chuckled at his thoughts "as out of the mouths of babes" as my grandmother always said, comes words of wisdom. At that moment, Mrs. Quesnell said, "Remember the lion and the lamb shall lie down together" (Isaiah 11:6), a wonderful symbol of peace, especially during this Advent and Christmas season.

This story is particularly apropos given that this fall, we have re-introduced the school's mascot, a lion. We have been very fortunate to have Mr. Jim Robinson work with and gain input from the school community (students, faculty, parents, and school board) to shape our mascot into a symbol we as a community believe reflects our character and mission. Thanks to everyone as well as Mr. Robinson's significant artistic time and talent, our new mascot symbol is complete and now on display. While our lion may be fierce when standing up for what is right and just, it can also lay down with lambs and be at peace.... Thank you, Mr. Robinson for your efforts and support developing our new mascot symbol!!! And, thank you to everyone who provided valuable feedback over the semester.



*On behalf of our pastor, Fr. Joe, and myself, Jennifer Beller, and all the Staff/Faculty at St. Mary's Parish School extend to you and yours our hope and prayers for peace and a most joy-filled 2019 Christmas and a wonderful New Year 2020. Blessings, Peace and Love!*



**“When will we ever realize that this is God’s world and all belongs to God and we only live and breathe within the embrace of God?”** Megan McKenna

When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and the princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks,  
Then the **work of Christmas begins:**  
To find the lost,  
To heal the broken in spirit,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the oppressed,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among people,  
To make music with the heart.

And to radiate the Light of Christ,

Every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say.

Let the work of Christmas begin! Let's begin it together!

**Then the work of Christmas begins.**

Adapted from an original piece by Howard Thurman

**IGNITING** *faith, knowledge, creativity and service*