



Father Joseph Baker, Pastor  
Mrs. Karen Jones, Principal

### Reminders

\* Our all school Mass will be held on Thursdays at 8:15am. Please join us!

\* Please be sure to write your child's name or initials on their fleeces and sweaters.

### Stay Connected with St. Mary's Church

St. Mary's Church uses Flocknote to share the most up to date information with our parishioners, organizations, and service groups. All that we request is your cell phone number and email address to make this happen. No passwords, no other personal information needed. Please text "PONTIAC" to 84576 to register. You will receive a reply and we ask that you click on the link to complete the process.

### Central Catholic Road Show

We're looking forward to bringing Central Catholic High School to Pontiac on Monday, November 27 at 6:30 p.m. at St. Mary's School. If you have a 7th or 8th grader looking at high schools, stop in to learn more about life as a Central Catholic Saint. We'll answer your questions and talk about everything from academic, athletic, and fine arts opportunities to tuition assistance to the House System and block schedule that made their debut this school year. Please [fill out this RSVP](#) and let us know what you'd like to find out about our school. See you November 27!

### Softball Girls Recognized

Our Softball girls will be recognized during halftime of the PTHS's Boys' Varsity Game on Friday, December 1st. Girls will be admitted free to the game.

### St. Mary's Spirit Wear Fundraiser Christmas Edition

We wanted to offer families another opportunity to purchase Saints spirit wear before Christmas! The items are the same as the previous fundraiser with the addition of a winter beanie hat! Attached is the updated order form. Orders must be in by December 7th to guarantee they will be ready for pickup by Christmas Eve.

Please make checks payable to The General Store and return your order forms to the St. Mary's School Office or The General Store by Thursday, December 7th.

### Upcoming Games

- Girls' Basketball:
  - Nov. 20- Regionals (8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Nov. 29- Sectionals Begin (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Dec. 2- State TBD (7<sup>th</sup> Grade)
- Boys' Basketball:
  - Nov. 21- Away; Lexington (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Nov. 28- Home; 5:30pm (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade)
  - Dec. 2- Home; 10:00am (5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> Grade)

### Save the Date

- Nov. 21- Progress Reports
- Nov. 22- NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 23- NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 24- NO SCHOOL- Thanksgiving Break
- Nov. 27- Central Catholic Road Show
- Dec. 3- Atrium Advent Family Event
- Dec. 4- PreK-4 & Kindergarten Registration Open for Current Families
- Dec. 8- Holy Day of Obligation
- Dec. 9 & 10- Nativity Walk
- Dec. 12- Christmas Program

### Student Council

The Student Council will be doing a couple of fundraisers in December. On December 3 after the Sunday morning masses, the student council will have a Christmas bake sale to benefit "Our Military Kids" which is the IAJHSC State Service Project. Kate Lauritsen is the Mideast District Representative that presented this project and won. The week of December 11-15, the student council will be selling candy canes before school. December 21 will be an Orange Leaf fundraiser. More details to come for each of these events. Thank you for your support of St. Mary's Student Council.

### Atrium Advent Family Event

Please join us Sunday, December 3rd immediately following 9:30 Mass in the Parish Hall for our "Purple is for Preparation" Atrium Family Event. The Knights of Columbus will be having a breakfast that morning as well. We hope to see you there!

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**Angel Tree**

St. Mary's will be doing an Angel Tree again this year. By the office, there is a Christmas tree with items listed. We ask that you help these families by purchasing an item from the tag, and bring the gift back wrapped with the tag taped to the outside. Please have these gifts brought back to the school by Wednesday, December 13th. Thank you for your help in making another family's Christmas special and helping spread God's love and charity.

**Nativity Walk**

We are preparing for an ADVENTure. The birth of Jesus is coming soon! In anticipation of this glorious day, we are inviting you to share your family Nativities with us. We will have a Nativity walk on Saturday, December 9th and Sunday, December 10th.

A sign up genius will be sent out in order for us to prepare room for your nativity. More details to follow.

**Christmas Program**

Mark your calendars!

Our annual Christmas Concerts will take place Tuesday, December 12th in the church.

Preschool-3rd grade: 6:15pm

4th-8th: 7:00pm

All students participate in the Christmas program. Our choir and bands will perform and junior high students serve as readers and hand out programs. The 8th grade performs the Nativity story. We can't wait to share in this special night with your children!

Mrs. Yedinak and Mrs. Erickson

Greetings,

Happy Thanksgiving! One of the traditions in our home is to say what we are thankful for before we begin to eat. We pray first, then go around the table stating what we are thankful for. My father in law began this many years ago, and it is still something we do in our own home. By doing this, it makes us feel like Dad is sitting at the table with us.

I am so thankful for my St. Mary's family. I thank God each day for our students, our families, and our faculty, and staff. St. Mary's is such a special place to me. Thank you for your kindness and your support.

Dear God, we thank You for this meal and for all the hands that helped prepare it. We give You thanks most of all for the gift of Your Son, Jesus. Please bless the food we eat, all who are gathered today to share it, and all our loved ones who can't be with us today. We ask this as we ask all things, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Have a very Happy Thanksgiving!

With prayers,

Mrs. Jones

