



ICA Family Newsletter December 21, 2018

"Let us greet the new year with hope and joy, as a gift from God."

~ Saint Francis de Sales

December

21 – school Mass, 8:15am; **FOOD FOR THE POOR COLLECTION**; dismissal, 3:10pm; Aviat Care closes, 6pm

23 – 4th *Sunday of Advent*

24 – Christmas Eve – see St. Mary Mass schedule below

25 – Blessed Merry Christmas to each of you!

January 1, 2019 – We wish you a happy and a holy New Year!

3 – Welcome back to school

4 – school Mass, 8:15am; **FOOD FOR THE POOR COLLECTION**

7 – Scantron testing begins in grades 3-7

Recess Duty, 11:35-12:25: 8th grade 1/3 to 1/11; 7th grade 1/14 to 1/25



NOTES

On behalf of our Oblate Sisters and our HCA and St. Mary Preschool faculty and staff, we wish each of you all the joy and peace of Christmas. May the love Jesus came to bring into our world fill your hearts and guide you and your families throughout the coming year. Merry Christmas!

Congratulations to the Banus family for winning the Christmas Tree raffle! Thank you to all of the donors and participants for supporting the robotics program. We raised close to \$800!

Many thanks for **your support of our 5th grade World Market**. They raised \$795.55 for the missions of the Oblate Sisters. Our Sisters appreciate their generosity. We will forward the money to them so that they can provide for the needs of the children they serve.

LAST CALL: Yearbook Reminders! Order yours now at the \$40 special rate - price goes up to \$45 after December 31st! 8th grade families, please send your baby/toddler photo to mcdonaldmd1@yahoo.com as soon as possible!

Attractions Dining and Value Guide! Three members of Girl Scout troop 430 are working on their Silver Award and are raising money to plant a butterfly garden on the school grounds. Buy our attractions book! Coupons inside just one book could save you hundreds with discounts at restaurants, stores, and family outings! One book costs just \$25 and most coupons are valid through December 31, 2019. To order a book, leave cash or check made out to Susan Keddie in an envelope in the front office. Be sure to include the name of the student and his or her class, so we know who to send the book home with. Email Susan at sutari2@cox.net if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for your support.

The National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) will present **an important workshop for parents of anxious children ages 8-17**. Highlights include how to help children with anxiety, when anxiety becomes a disorder, strategies for treating specific anxiety disorders and stress reduction tools. Participants will hear about current NIMH studies on anxiety in children. Friday, Jan. 11, 2019, 10-noon [Register for Coping Strategies for Anxious Children, National Institute of Mental Health](#)

It's About the Children!

The **Speak Up Research Project for Digital Learning**, facilitated by [Project Tomorrow®](https://speakup.tomorrow.org/ChooseQuestionSet.aspx), gives education stakeholders the opportunity to share their viewpoints about key educational issues, particularly concerning digital learning and the use of technology to support future ready schools. By participating today, you are ensuring your voice is heard not only by your school and district but at the state and national level as findings are summarized and shared with national and state policy makers every year. Speak Up is both a national research project and a free service to all schools and districts. Participating schools and districts can access their local data online, free-of-charge in February 2019. To learn more, visit the [About Speak Up](https://speakup.tomorrow.org/ChooseQuestionSet.aspx) page. Get started now!
<https://speakup.tomorrow.org/ChooseQuestionSet.aspx>

The Craft Group at St. Mary will be **creating some beautiful Christmas ornaments** Saturday December 22nd. Children of all ages are welcome to come to Saint Mary's PLC room 204 at 3:30pm for Christmas music, hot chocolate, a Christmas story, and crafts. PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD!

FACTS GRANT & AID 2019-2020 WINDOW IS NOW OPEN - please remember you will need to submit 2018 tax and W-2 forms. FACTS Management annual fees will be going up to \$50.00 per agreement for the 2019/2020 school year. They will also be adding a great new online payment system for other fees & incidentals. Stayed tuned for more information coming soon!

MSM Our Middle School students enjoyed the special days leading up Christmas by wearing their special Christmas accessories. We saw Santa hats in all colors and some rather amazing socks! Our Student Council sold hot chocolate on a dreary, cold morning and spread their own special cheer with candy cane messages prepared for each child in the school. They even made a special delivery to Saint Mary Preschool. We can't wait to see all they will accomplish in 2019!

PTO Corner: Thank you to everyone who came out to our Barnes & Noble bookfair! Yes, it was a beautiful day to be sipping hot chocolate by a roaring fireplace, watching the snow fall outside; so we appreciate it even more that so many members of our community braved the elements and supported our school. We're still awaiting final tallies but, considering that the roads became impassable halfway through, it sounds like we still raised some money for our school. And special thanks to Ms. Schmiegel, Mrs. Ellis, Mrs. Woolfolk and the Muggivan Dancers and Dance Parents who dazzled everyone with their dances, art and much-loved puppet show!

On behalf of the Holy Cross Academy PTO, we wish you a healthy, happy, safe and very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! May God Bless You All!



MONDAY, DECEMBER 24, CHRISTMAS EVE MASSES

4pm & 8:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church (English)

4pm & **6:30pm Mass at Holy Cross Academy (English)**

6:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church (Spanish)

Carols in the Church at 11pm before Midnight Mass

Both 4pm Christmas Eve Masses are very crowded! Try the 6:30 at HCA!

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 25, CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Midnight Mass at Saint Mary Church

7:00, 8:30, 10:30am, & 12:30pm Mass at Saint Mary Church (English)

Please Note: There are NO 10:30am HCA, 2pm Spanish, 5pm or 7pm Masses on Christmas Day

Announcements from Saint John Paul the Great High School:

January 12th: "How To High School" A Readiness Skills Workshop for 7th and 8th Graders, hosted by the Faculty of Saint John Paul the Great, on Saturday, January 12th from Noon - 4pm! Workshop sessions include "How to Ace the Test," "How to Make the Team," "How to Manage Money," "How to Explore Your Brain," and more! This event includes lunch and is free of charge. For more information contact us at howtohighschool@jpthegreat.org. You can RSVP for your child here: tiny.cc/howtohighschool.

January 12th: An all Senior Cast at Saint John Paul the Great presents "The Jeweler's Shop," a play written by Pope John Paul II on the values of marriage and family. Tickets are \$5 and the show starts at 7:00pm on January 12th, 2019. More info at: jpthegreatdrama.org.

March 2nd: Mardi Gras Gala! Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School is hosting their seventh annual gala on March 2nd, 2019. Come enjoy a night of fellowship and fun at Potomac Point Winery! Tickets are available at: www.jpthegreat.schoolauction.net/jpgala2018

January 29th - March 5th: Bioethics Seminars for Adults, "The Human Person - A Philosophical Perspective", hosted by Saint John Paul the Great Catholic High School. Sister Terese Auer, O.P., is the chair of the Bioethics Department at John Paul. Sister Terese has been a Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia

"It's About the Children."

(also known as the “Nashville Dominicans”) for more than 30 years. She earned a Ph.D. from St. Thomas University in Houston, TX and is the author of John Paul's four-year Bioethics Curriculum. All sessions will be held at John Paul in St. Thomas Aquinas Hall from 7 - 8:30 pm. Course topics and dates: January 29 -- Human Happiness, February 5 -- The Moral Law, February 12 -- Conscience and Truth, February 9 -
- The Human Act, February 26 -- The Moral Act, March 5 – Virtue.