



Good afternoon St. Mary's Families,

Winter weather has officially arrived – it is cold outside! As we are in December, our St. Mary's Holiday/Christmas market is in progress. The market is open today through Sunday. This is a great fund raiser for the school and a fantastic way for you to find some unique Christmas gifts and enjoy some wonderful baked goods!

I have been in all the classrooms this week and have observed everything from learning place value to inequalities; from map reading to learning about smoke jumpers. Our students learned about frontier living in Idaho history as well as what the Santa Fe trail was like. Beethoven, Google sheets, and reverse freeze tag were also part of the learning taking place at St. Mary's. The favorite part of my job is being in the classrooms and on the playground- I am privileged to be here and to work with our teachers and students.

Next week, we will have school Mass on Friday instead of Wednesday. Friday is the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary and is a holy day of obligation. We will follow our regular schedule otherwise – we will have a late start on Wednesday. Please make sure your child is in Mass dress on Friday – not Wednesday.

Please make sure your child has a warm coat, gloves and a hat as we will continue to go outside for recess if the temperature is above 25°.

**Logging Volunteer Hours-** Families now can log the required volunteer hours into our Plus Portals system. This is our new SIS where you can view your child's grades, see posted assignments, etc. We will no longer have a binder in the front office.

Go to <https://plusportals.com/stmarysboise> and  
 Log into the system  
 Click School Announcements in the tab at the top,  
 Click on View and fill out the form.

Please let me, Mrs. Davis or Mrs. Pratt know if you need help

We have two Bishop Kelly students who have volunteered to help tutor our students on Wednesdays from 3:30 – 4:30. We haven't had many students show up – as we get ready for middle school finals, this is a good opportunity for students to get some additional help/guidance. They will be here at St. Mary's on, December 6<sup>th</sup> and December 13<sup>th</sup>. If your child needs help with homework or concepts and skills in a certain subject area – here is a great opportunity for them to get some extra help.

Here are some upcoming events to mark in your calendar:

- Friday, Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> – Sunday, Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> – Christmas/Holiday Market – see times below
- Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> – First Sunday of Advent
- Tuesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> – St. Mary's Christmas music program – grades K-3 and will include our school band and choir.
- Wednesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> – Saint Nicholas feast day!
- Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> – School Mass – Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception
- Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> – Our Lady of Guadalupe Celebration – School treats and presentation at 8:00 AM.

We are entering into Advent and a very blessed time of the year – take some time for peace and reflection!

Blessings,  
*Tammy Emerich*  
 Principal



Advent Wreath



Immaculate Conception



Our Lady of Guadalupe

### Weekly Calendar

- Nov 29 **Mass** (*Corpus Christi*) 2nd Grade
- Dec 1 **Junior High Rally** @ BK (6-8th grades)
- Dec 1–3 **St. Mary's Holiday Market** Gym
- Dec 5 **Christmas Program** 6 pm Church
- Dec 8 **Mass** (*Food*) 5th Grade  
**Feast of the Immaculate Conception**
- Dec 12 **Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe** *schedule to follow*
- Dec 13 **Mass** (*Time*) 1st Grade

### Up Coming Dates

- December 20** **Mass** (*book or stuffed animal*) 8th Grade  
**Christian Leaders Reception** after Mass
- December 21** **End of 2nd Quarter—NOON DISMISSAL**  
**3rd Grade Advent Retreat** Gym
- \*December 22-Jan 7 Christmas Break\***
- December 25** **Christmas Day—Enjoy The Day!**
- January 8** **School Resumes**
- January 17** **Honor Roll Assembly** after Mass
- January 20** **Student Led Parish Mass** 5:00 pm Church



It's time for....  
**CUPCAKE WARS....**  
**CHRISTMAS EDITION!**

Tuesday, December 19th  
 the Baking will commence.  
 More details and a registration form can be found [here!](#)

### CALLING ALL BAKERS!



We are looking for volunteers to provide baked goods (and other sweet specialties) to our Christmas Market Baked Food Booth. Check out [this flyer](#) for all of the important information.

### ST. MARY'S SCHOOL HOLIDAY MARKET

Friday, Dec. 1 • 12 PM-4 PM  
 Saturday, Dec. 2 • 10 AM-5 PM  
 Sunday, Dec. 3 • 9:30 AM-1 PM

2620 W. STATE STREET, BOISE, IDAHO

### BK Christmas/Winter Concert

The Bishop Kelly High School Music Department is holding their Christmas/Winter Concert on Tuesday, December 12, beginning at 7:30pm in the Carley Center (the large gym at BK). It will feature the BK Band, Choir, Orchestra, and Guitar Class performing a wide variety of music for the season!

Tickets are only \$5 for adults, \$3 for students with a school ID, and \$2 for senior citizens and elementary school students.

### Lunch Orders for January

The forms for December are ready! Start by reading the [Ordering Guidelines](#) Then read the [How to Order Lunch](#) And, depending on which lunches you are interested in ordering, check out the [Blimpie Order](#) and [Lunch Order Form](#) Orders are due back to the Office **by 3 pm, December 20th.**

### St. Mary's Christmas Program



Tuesday December 5th  
 @ 6 pm  
 In the St. Mary's Church

Join our Bands, Choir and Kindergarten thru 3rd grade students.

Always a great event!

### Didn't get enough Oktoberfest cheer?

The PTO will have a booth during the Christmas Market and they have Oktoberfest shirts and "refreshments" for sale. Shirts will be \$10 each (or 2 for \$15) and "refreshments" will be \$30 per (24-bottle) case. I'd say at those prices, you could finish up some of those Christmas presents for hard to buy friends.

### Nurses Note: 5 Quick easy health tips for the week:

- Pack a handful of almonds for an afternoon snack to combat heart disease, and add protein, fiber, calcium and iron to your diet.
- Instead of pasta or potatoes, eat a chicken breast. Subbing protein leads to slimmer middles and can lead to lower blood pressure.
- Listen or sing a favorite song. Music can provide drug-free help for stress and aches and pains.
- Floss you teeth tonight. Flossing four to six times a week can add about three years to your life.
- When you go to bed, try slow, deep breathing, counting to 10 as you inhale and again as you exhale. Ten to fifteen minutes of this breathing daily can restore balance to your nervous system and can also help you sleep better.



### 'Tis the Season Health Office Supply Drive

Illness season is among us and the Health Offices would be very appreciative of donations of the following items:

- Children's chewable Ibuprofen tablets
- Children's chewable Acetaminophen tablets
- Band-Aids