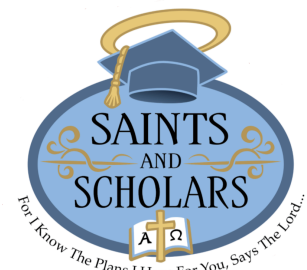


St. Mary's Catholic School

www.stmaryscatholicchesteril.org

GALA DINNER AUCTION INFORMATION

The Annual Gala Dinner Auction is our biggest fundraiser for SMS, and it is coming soon! We need your help to make it a great success. In your packet, you will find an envelope with auction information which includes: donation forms, an Amazon wishlist, and raffle tickets. We ask that you please sell two packets of tickets. If you are able to sell more, please request them from the office. A volunteer sign-up sheet will also be coming soon for auction workers. **GALA DINNER TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW!**



FROM THE PRINCIPAL . . .

With the Christmas Season now concluded, we enter into the what is called “Ordinary Time” in the Church’s Liturgical year. The term “ordinary” in this context doesn’t mean plain, boring, or unimportant. *Ordinary Time* refers to the order of Sundays through the year that don’t fall into the major seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. In “Ordinary Time” the focus is growth in faith, deepening maturity, and conversion through sharing in the *extraordinary* life of Jesus. The changing of the colors in Church to **green** helps remind us that we are called to grow and flourish by being rooted in Christ and fed by His Holy Eucharist.

SAINT OF THE WEEK



Meet St. Ignatius of Loyola

- My Feast Day: July 31
- I am the patron saint of education, soldiers, and the Society of Jesus.
- I was a Spanish soldier until my leg was injured by a cannonball in 1521 and bedridden for a year.
- I enjoyed reading fiction to pass time, but none was available to me during my recovery. I fell in love with the Lord and His saints through reading Catholic literature and decided to study to become a priest after I could walk again.
- My college roommates later joined me when I founded the Jesuits and also became saints: St. Peter Faber and St. Francis Xavier.
- I founded the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) in 1534 to spread Catholicism with zeal and defend the faith.
- My most famous writing was The Spiritual Exercises.
- I was canonized in 1622 with St. Francis Xavier.

SMS BEAK SQUEAKS - SHOUTOUT MESSAGES IN THE GYM - SEE THE FLYER!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16th - 2:50 P. M. DISMISSAL - BUS IS NOT AVAILABLE

KC'S AND PTO FRIDAY DINNERS START NEXT FRIDAY, JANUARY 23rd

The KC's is hosting Friday dinners for the next several weeks that continue through Lent as Fish Fry's. The KC's is partnering with SMS and our PTO to help host these meals. Our school receives a portion of the proceeds. A volunteer sign-up sheet will be coming soon!

NEXT MONDAY, JANUARY 19th - NO SCHOOL - MLK JR. DAY

PTO PULLED PORK FUNDRAISER

Check out the flyer for info on your opportunity to order delicious pulled pork just in time for the Super Bowl!

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK 2026

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---------------------------|
| Sunday | Jan 25 | Opening Mass @ 10 A.M. |
| Monday | Jan 26 | Celebrating our Community |
| Tuesday | Jan 27 | Celebrating our Students |
| Wednesday | Jan 28 | Celebrating our Nation |
| Thursday | Jan 29 | Celebrating Vocations |
| Friday | Jan 30 | Celebrating our Teachers |

SIGN-UP FOR OPENING MASS OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

We hope that you and your student(s) will be available to attend the opening Mass of Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 25th! Students will participate in the Mass and sit with their school "communities." See the sign-up sheet in your packet for more information.

FIRST RECONCILIATION - SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8th

Our students who are preparing for 1st Communion this year will have the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (also known as Confession or Penance) for the first time after the 10:00 A.M. Mass.

MONTHLY QUILT RAFFLE - \$20

The St. Mary's CCW is selling raffle tickets for a quilt drawing/or \$100 that benefits SMS. Please contact the school office to get your tickets!