



The Merry Measure

St. Mary's Welcomes A New Art Program

Mission Statement

St. Mary's School serves students, Pre-kindergarten through Grade Eight, from Longmeadow and surrounding communities. Students are encouraged to develop to their full potential within a Christ-centered challenging academic environment. Students learn acceptance and appreciation of others by fostering a sincere love of God, in a nurturing family environment.

Give students the same task of drawing something and the outcome is a good indication of our uniqueness. Art, in its many forms, gives each of us a venue for expression.

St. Mary's students are now able to incorporate their unique creativity into their weekly academic schedule thru the new art program, run by Mrs. Karen Dupuis.

Karen Dupuis is a professional artist having worked for large corporations in marketing, interior design and product development before entering teaching. Samples of her work for Lego Systems

intrigue her young students. Karen comments, "interacting with other artists helps to ensure fresh ways of looking at the work and I think it is much the same in the classroom. I may be teaching my students techniques and concepts but they are inspiring me to continue seeing the work through young eyes". Karen is involved with several art leagues and guilds,

including the Springfield Art League.

St. Mary's is thrilled to have Karen on staff. Entering into Mrs. Dupuis' classroom, you can palpate the enthusiasm of her students.

Brigit Bunce (grade 1) *"I like to paint; I like the different colors."*

Anna Moraitis (grade 2) *"I like that she lets us use our own creativity."*

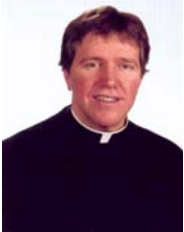
Scott Hebert (grade 3) *"We do lots of different things. We do things for each of the holidays. Today we learned about hot and cold colors. I (continued pg 3)*



From The Pastor

Dear Students, Parents, Teachers, and Friends of St. Mary's School,

The most festive time of the year is upon us. We have renewed our sense of gratitude with our National Thanksgiving Celebrations and traditions. As we head toward Christmas, the reason why our school and parish exist becomes clearer to us. Jesus is the reason for the season. To teach as Jesus did and to share His joy and love with all of you, is why we are here day in and day



out. I thank you all for making this a very successful enterprise!

One event that we all are looking forward to is our annual Christmas assembly on Thursday, December 22nd at 9:15 a.m. I especially enjoy this because we get to see our students and families at their best. Each and every child is a star on the stage. It is remarkable to see the different grade levels of children that we serve in our school. At this Christmas Assembly it is evident in the eyes and in the smiles on everyone's face that we are one big family of families. Here, it is especially wonderful to see the Grandparents. I especially like to

sing and play guitar for a couple of favorite Christmas songs with the whole school. Everyone seems to enjoy this!

This year again, our Family Frolics was a fun time where our school came together for Halloween. It was a fine opportunity for me to meet more of you in a different context. I am also pleased to see that more of our children and families are coming together in our developing school sports programs. It is always good for us to come together, especially for our monthly masses. Our December mass will be on Monday December 19th at 9:00 A.M. All are welcome!

During Advent we have opportunities planned for our students in grades three through eight to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All these activities contribute to make our school an outstanding and safe, spiritual environment for growth in and practice of Christian faith, virtues and values.

Wishing you all the best at this holy time of year, I encourage you all to spread the good news about St. Mary's School as the best place for you to be. Your positive voice will help us increase our enrollment and grow our family.

God bless you! Fr. Reilly.

From The Principal's Desk



What an incredible year so far! There is so much to say. We began school with such energy and enthusiasm, and the momentum is still going. Actually, our secretary, Mrs. Lewis, started us off in high gear with the implementation of the Rediker Software Program. She attended summer workshops and has since set up this program at St. Mary's School. We are now able to keep family information, daily attendance, and report cards in our computer system. Our first quarter report cards went out November 17 and 18, and we received a tremendous amount of positive feedback concerning our new format.

The junior high school students began school with a new Science series; one that is Internet accessible and challenging for them. Our third grade students are finding new challenges with their new Social Studies series, as well.



A wonderful new addition to our faculty and school is our Art Teacher, Mrs. Karen Dupuis. She has added a new piece to St. Mary's School curriculum; one that has been eagerly anticipated for many years. We are very pleased to have such a talented artist teaching our students.

We have seen continued growth in the spirituality of St. Mary's School, also. We came together as a school community with parents and Fr. Reilly in the month of October to celebrate the Month of the Rosary. On October 24, our eighth grade students led our student body in reciting the rosary. Everyone left that afternoon feeling a sense of renewal and it was decided that we would continue this activity each month. We have chosen a different day of the week for each month so that we can celebrate the different mysteries.

Our newly formed Athletic Association is off and running at record speed. The amount of St. Mary's sports teams has grown in numbers. We now have three basketball teams, three soccer teams, and two baseball teams. They are also working on a skiing program for our students. The Athletic Association has had tremendous success in all of their endeavors.

As far as other extra-curricular activities, we certainly have been busy. Our Parents' Association had their annual magazine drive that helps fund many of our programs and field trips. Because of the magazine drive, many students enjoyed an ice cream social, a limo lunch, along with other prizes. Our annual Family Frolics offered our school families an evening to come together to enjoy each others company, and participate in activities put together by our Parents' Association.

Our students have also been busy! Their academic work has kept them quite engaged, as well as, their after school activities. Many are currently involved in our spring play, Pride and Prejudice. Others have been actively involved in our Gardening Club. The front of our school looks so beautiful, thanks to their efforts. Some of our junior high students have planned and implemented a FunFest afternoon for our Pre-K through 3rd grade stu-

dents.

I also must commend our fundraising committee, without whom we could not operate, for their great accomplishments. Our second annual Monsignor Thomas Devine Golf Classic was, once again, tremendous success. All who were in attendance certainly enjoyed the event. Our new fundraising program, "Our Scrip program", is showing signs of producing great success. We have had four order days so far and many parents have ordered store debit/gift cards. This program will continue to run throughout the year and the potential for this program to grow is terrific.

As you can see, it has been an incredible year so far. We are just beginning the month of December and there is still so much energy and excitement at St. Mary's School.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who works so hard for and gives so generously to St. Mary's School. It is with the support of so many that we are successful. I would also like to wish everyone a very blessed Advent Season as we take time to prepare for the coming of Christ. May your Christmas Holiday be one of love shared with family and friends.

**Come
Discover Our
Difference**



**Come
Feel Our
Pride**

Art Program (continued)

like that we are free to draw whatever you want. I look forward to working with curves and computer lines..."

Gabriella Sarkis (grade 8) *"The clay is neat to work with..."*



"The true work of art is but a shadow of the divine perfection"
Rumi

It is with immense gratitude that we thank our sponsors of ACE 2005 for the opportunity you have given the children of St. Mary's School by supporting an art program.

"Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once he grows up."

Pablo Picasso

Thank You ACE 2005 Sponsors!

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St. Mary's Gift Items

Just in time for the holidays! The Athletic Association is pleased to offer several items available for purchase. These make great gift items for friends, family, alumni, and students. Items will be available for view and purchase during parent conferences. These items are a limited time offer. Don't get left out in the cold. Items include; soft, heavyweight hoodie sweatshirt, cool t-shirts for St. Mary's soccer, basket ball or baseball, sports blankets, ¾ zip heavyweight embroidered sweatshirts, embroidered jacket, etc. Below are a few examples of items that will be available for purchase in the very near future. Watch your Wednesday Family Envelope for further details.

Show your School Spirit!

The Athletic Association is pleased to offer school spirit apparel available for purchase as gift items.

