

St. Mary's

BLUE NOTES



Wednesday, December 1, 2010

St. Mary's School

323 Vermont Ave.
Oak Ridge, TN 37830
(865) 483-9700
Fax 483-8305

<http://www.stmarysoakridge.org/>

Dates to Remember:



TODAY, 12/1: Class, absentee, & sports pictures



Wed., 12/8: all-school Mass (Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception of Mary)

Thurs., 12/16: Advent Family Mass with Bishop Richard Stika, St. Mary's Church; **Prelude begins at 5:30**



Fri., 12/17: Last (full) day before Christmas break



Wed., 1/5: Classes resume

Advent Mass Reception: HELP NEEDED!

All parents are invited to help with this most special tradition at St. Mary's School on Thursday, December 16th! Please contact

Teresa Tidwell @ redneckyankee123@hotmail.com if you can help with decorations, food preparation, set-up, etc. for the reception.



Principal's Corner

Dear Families & Friends,

"At an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."



These words of Our Lord from last Sunday's Gospel for the first week of Advent remind us how suddenly—and unexpectedly—we can realize the presence of Christ in our midst. No one was anticipating the coming of God to Earth as a helpless infant...a good reminder for us to look with the eyes of faith and recognize

Jesus in the most vulnerable and forgotten.



To help us prepare for the coming of the Christ Child, we have three saints who exemplify the virtue of *generosity*, our virtue for the month of December. St. Nicholas of Myra (the real "St. Nick"), St. Mary Magdalene, and St. Maximillian Kolbe all expressed generosity toward God and neighbor in heroic ways. Saving



young children from a life of degradation, anointing the Lord with her abundant tears of repentance, and giving his life so that another may live all typify the Christian generosity of "giving without counting the cost."

During this holy time of hope in God's promise to save us, let us be mindful of the virtue of generosity—to see Christ in unexpected places and to give to Him without counting the cost.

In Christ,

Sister Andrea Marie, O.P.
Principal

Oak Ridge Christmas Parade



The City of Oak Ridge Christmas parade is **Saturday, December 11, at 6:00 P.M.** Line-up will begin at 3:30 in the high school parking lot. Everyone is invited to

come and decorate after school on Friday, December 10th. Please bring a sack of candy to toss to the crowd during the parade!

Crazy Quilt Giving Tree



Each year, St. Mary's 8th grade is responsible for the Giving Tree. The students make ornaments and collect gifts to be taken to Crazy Quilt Friendship Center in Jellico for their annual Christmas party. The center gives presents to about 600 children each year. St. Mary's is the main supplier of these gifts.

Crazy Quilt Friendship Center is a community action center for the rurally impoverished mountain community. It is a place where low- and fixed-income family heads of households can clothe their families at low prices and with dignity. For many of the children, the gift they receive at the party may be their only Christmas gift.

We ask that the students of St. Mary's help with this project. Please pick up an ornament from the tree in the back of church or in the school hallway and buy an age-appropriate present for the child on that ornament. **The unwrapped gift must be brought to school by NEXT Tuesday, December 7th.**

SPIRIT WEAR DAYS AT SCHOOL



Show your St. Mary's spirit and wear your **Crusader spirit wear, Blue Ribbon shirts/sweatshirts, OR Fall Festival 2010** shirts to school on the following days: Tuesday, 12/14; Friday, 1/7; and Monday, 1/24.

Blue Ribbon Shirts

Blue Ribbon T-shirts may still be ordered. Order forms may be found in the Resource Documents section of RenWeb. **Order forms with payment should be returned no later than Friday, December 3rd.**



Fantasy of Trees—CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to our Fantasy of Trees Club and Gingerbread Club for their entries in the Fantasy of Trees/Gingerbread Village event last weekend at the Knoxville Convention Center! Our "Victorian Village & Train" tree was purchased the night of the big auction and the "Holly Jolly Christmas" gingerbread (complete with Yukon Cornelius and the Abominable Snowman) won first place! Thanks to Mrs. Maston and Mrs. Lowden for their dedication in leading both of these clubs!



ST. MARY'S SCIENCE TEACHERS IN THE NEWS!



St. Mary's Teachers to present at NSTA Convention

Mrs. Marsha Segal and Mrs. Cathy Lowden will both be presenters at this Friday's National Science Teachers Association convention in Nashville, where they will demonstrate their Lab Certification class.

ASM Materials Camp Scholarship Awarded to Mrs. Segal

The American Society for Metals (ASM), which sponsored the ASM Materials Camp this past summer in Oak Ridge, has awarded our own Mrs. Segal one of only two scholarships! Mrs. Segal plans to use the scholarship award for purchase of accelerometers to demonstrate how various materials affect impact and cushion.

Congratulations to Mrs. Segal and Mrs. Lowden!

Posting Announcements in RenWeb & Blue Notes

All general/school-wide announcements must be submitted to Bettie Johnson at bjohnson@smcor.org by 3 p.m. on Tuesday to be posted by Wednesday in RenWeb and/or Blue Notes. RenWeb and Blue Notes will only be posted/updated by noon on Wednesdays. Be sure you have Adobe Reader 9 to read/download the Blue Notes (available as a free download at <http://get.adobe.com/reader/>)