



**Dear Saint Mary Families,**

August 31, 2022

**Hello and Welcome Back!** We would like to extend a warm and heartfelt 'Welcome,' to our new Saint Mary students and families and offer a friendly 'Welcome Back' embrace to our returning ones. It is hard to believe that summer is unofficially over. As the summer slowly fades, we start to look forward to the rich, crisp, smells and sights that autumn ushers in. There isn't a better way to celebrate it all than with the return of the **Saint Mary Family Festival!** It has been three long years since our last Festival, and the timing couldn't be better to help us peel those last fingers off our loosening grip on summer – freeing us to embrace the cool comfort and traditions of fall.

Before you go wishing for summer back, let us tease you with what lies ahead. **The 2022 Family Festival Committee** has been very busy this summer creating, planning, and preparing to bring you a Festival that is better than ever! This year's Festival will help us kick-off the Centennial Celebration of Saint Mary's Parish, which will begin with a Mass at 11am on Sunday, September 11th. Then the parking lot transformation gets started as we prepare to have you all join us Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> for Family Fun Night where the entire family can enjoy the Games, Inflatables and Children's Activities, while indulging in their favorite Festival Food. Adults can join in the fun too with our **Over 21' Games** on Friday Night including a Cornhole Tournament! Join us for happy hour on Saturday Night as a warm-up to the toughest ticket in town – **The Pub Quiz!** Sign-up early or you'll be disappointed; we can only fit so many teams under the Big Tent! The Festival runs all weekend, so be sure to pencil us in on your calendar for some fun.

As you go about the next few weeks delighting in the anticipation and excitement that a new season and new school year brings, please include us in your plans. You will see many forms and flyers soliciting your help and talents. We need more than a few good **Bakers** and would welcome with open arms any new **Sponsors or donations** for our **Basket Raffle**. With pride we say – **WE NEED YOU! Volunteers, this is your time to shine!** We know you're out there, so pencil us in early and as often as your calendar allows. Volunteering will give you a unique perspective of what goes on 'behind the curtain' of this very special school event; and if you visit our website you can sneak a peek as well. You never know, when the curtain closes on this year's Festival, you may find yourself wanting to run next year's show. All flyers as well as further details of any and everything Family Festival, can be found on the Parish [website](#) and updates will also be posted to the Wednesday announcements on the school [website](#).

For those of you who were unable to follow us all summer through the Parish, you have some catching up to do! We have kicked off our **Grand Raffle** ticket sales with much energy and enthusiasm. This year's first prize is \$10,000, second prize is \$5,000, third prize is \$3,000, fourth prize is \$2,000 and fifth prize is \$1,000! Tickets have sold out the past two years, so don't miss out on your chance to win!

Wishing all a very successful and fulfilling school year. And for the much anticipated **Family Festival Weekend - September 16th - September 18th - LET US ENTERTAIN YOU!** You'll be glad you did.

**Thank you,**

**The 2022 Family Festival Committee**

**Questions? Contact Jeannie MacDonough (jeanniemacdonough@yahoo.com)**