



August 22, 2023

Greetings to Saint Mary School Families,

I pray that this letter finds you all having a happy, safe, and restful summer, enjoyed with loved ones. My name is Liam Wintroath, and I am honored to be joining the Saint Mary School community serving as the new principal. I am looking forward to meeting and working with each one of you in supporting the mission of Saint Mary School. I have already begun to learn over these summer months just how special of a community this truly is and I'm humbled to be able to serve you all. It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you all today to officially welcome you to the start of the 2023-2024 academic year at the Saint Mary School.

The staff of Saint Mary School are eager to partner with each one of you as we support the growth of our students through a holistic education. We are very much looking forward to seeing the classrooms and hallways filled without bright students once again.

I also want to use this opportunity to officially welcome several new teachers to you all as they prepare to serve Saint Mary School in their roles. Please join me in welcoming...

- Mr. Andre Pare (Spanish Teacher, Grades K - 8, Grade 8 Homeroom)
- Ms. Erynn McKay (Lead Preschool Teacher)
- Mrs. Kate Curley (Grades 7 & 8 ELA, Grade 7 Social Studies & Grade 7 Homeroom)
- Ms. Melissa Lesieur (Grades 7 & 8 Religion)
- Mr. Jim Ferdella (Grades 7 & 8 Math)

I am confident that each of these new teachers will faithfully live out the mission of Saint Mary School and serve the students of our community to the best of their ability.

I would also like to share with you all a few reminders and updates as we kickoff our new school year in community together next week!

- The Popsicles in the Playground event will be taking place on **Monday August 28th, 4:30-6:00 PM** at Saint Mary School. This will be an opportunity for families to connect with teachers, drop off supplies in the classroom and enjoy a tasty frozen treat with the community!
- **The first day of school for students is Tuesday, August 29th. Students should be dressed in the proper summer uniform and may begin entering the building at 7:40am. All students should arrive by 8:00am.**
- The students will ease into the start of school with a three-day school week as the faculty will be involved in a Professional Development Day on **Friday, September 1st.**
- **Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten:** Please follow your first day schedule and drop your child off at their respective classroom. Last names A - L will come for a half day on **Tuesday, August 29th.** Last names M - Z will come for a half day on **Wednesday, August 30th.** All Pre-K and Kindergarten students will come for a full day on **Thursday August 31st.** Please be aware that there is no PM bus transportation (kindergarten) or after school program available for these students on 8/29 and 8/30.



- We strongly encourage that each child comes to school with his or her own labeled water bottle each day, particularly when the temperatures run high.
- There will be an informational meeting for parents and students in grades 5 – 8 who are interested in joining the Cross-Country Team. This meeting will take place on **Wednesday, September 6th at 2:30pm** in the Media Center. Please contact Mrs. Jamie Horvath horvathjamie14@gmail.com, or see the information in the Wednesday envelope if you have any questions.
- School is closed on **Monday, September 4th** for Labor Day.
- Please take note that the first Mass of the school year is on **Friday, September 8th** at 8:30am. Please join us!
- We invite all Saint Mary School families to the always popular Ice Cream Social on **Wednesday, September 6th**. The festivities will begin in the side parking lot at 6:30pm.
- The Volunteer Registration for the Family Festival (9/15-9/17) is available in the Wednesday envelope. Please remember to sign up soon to volunteer for the slot that is most convenient for you.
- Curriculum Night for Grades 5 - 8 is on **Wednesday, September 20th at 6:30 PM**. Grades K - 4 will have their Curriculum Night on **Thursday, September 21st at 6:30 PM**. Please mark your calendars.
- We are also still looking to fill the lunch cook position so we can offer the hot lunch program. As soon as that position has been filled I will follow up with families about signing up for hot lunches.
- In addition you may have recently seen in the news some policy language that has been issued to schools in the Diocese of Worcester by the Bishop. This addendum has been added to the most recently updated Student & Parent Handbook that is now available on the Saint Mary School website. We will continue to operate in the tradition and values and upon which the Saint Mary School was founded. Please feel free to reach out directly to me if you have any questions.

Please know that my door will always be open to you all for collaboration and support. Thank you for entrusting your child into our care as we work with you to instill in them Catholic values as they develop into intelligent, moral and servant - minded leaders. I look forward to welcoming you all back to the Saint Mary School community to kickoff this new year!

God Bless,

Liam Wintroath

Principal