



# SMCS NEWS



Left: Our Eighth Graders participate in a “Mock Trial” as part of a recent Literature lesson. Right: Mrs. Newsome leads the Military Kids Club in “show and tell.” Students brought it items from their parents deployments to share with their peers.

## Next Week:

**Monday, October 23:** Red Ribbon Week- see page 6 for details/5th Grade Field Trip

**Wednesday, October 25:** Honor Roll Assembly in the Church

- 1st-4th grade - 9:30-9:50
- 5th-8th grade - 10:00-10:20

**Thursday, October 26:** All-School Liturgy 8:15 a.m.

**Friday, October 27:** Pre-K Field Trip

## Looking Ahead:

**Monday, October 30:** 3rd/4th Grade Field Trip

**Tuesday, October 31:** Track-or-Treat

**Wednesday, November 1:** All Saints Day Mass at 8:15 am

**Thursday, November 2:** All Souls Day Mass at 8:15 am

Boxes of Joy  
Service  
Project  
see flyer for  
more info





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*Saint Mary*  
CATHOLIC CHURCH

## Clarity Questions Our Parish Playbook

### 1. Why do we exist?

To be "a place where it becomes impossible not to share Jesus with the world." Acts 4:20 --*It is impossible for us not to speak about what we have seen and heard.*

### 2. How do we behave? (What are the behavioral values we embrace?)

- 1) We are Committed to the Journey and the Process
- 2) We are Joyfully Relational
- 3) We have a Solution Finding Spirit.

### 3. What do we do? (What must your parish actually do?)

We experience Jesus personally through Mass, sacraments, prayer, evangelizing, discipling, community, and service.

### 4. How will we succeed? (Three anchors through which all decisions must be viewed.)

- 1) **Faith in the home** - Are we providing the support necessary for families young and old to live out their faith in the home?
- 2) **Equip to evangelize** - Are we giving our parishioners the tools, training, and encouragement they need to share their faith beyond the parish?
- 3) **Strive for excellence** - Are we providing the most compelling, attractive, and high quality experience possible?

### 5. What is most important--right now?

This is our current Thematic Goal:  
Unite Church and School as One Holy Family

### 6. Who must do what? See the Amazing Parish Scorecard's defining objectives which describes who does what to achieve the Thematic Goal.



What is your priority?

What we put first in our lives matters.

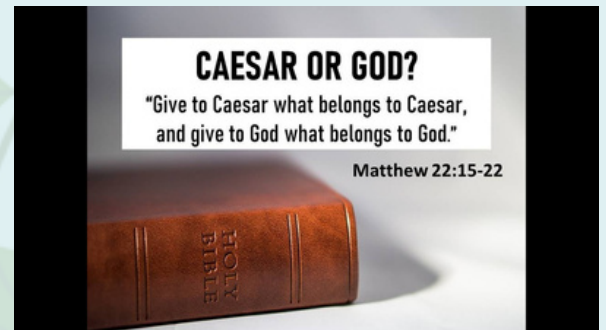
If we choose to put God first, in our living and giving, we can touch more lives, connect greater numbers of folks to Christ, and help the Kingdom of God expand.

Everything we have is a gift from God, and we are called to share it. The way we give God His share is by sharing it with others.

God asks us to share our time, talent, and treasure in order to build the Kingdom. What represents "Caesar" in your life? What is an obstacle to your giving you need to identify?

Adoration is available in the church every  
Friday  
from 9:00 until 4:00.  
Stop in after carline  
to spend some quiet time as a family  
in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

*"Come to Me, all who are weary and loaded down  
with burdens, and I will give you rest.  
~ Matthew 11:28*



Let's keep God first and see what He can do!

## Virtue of the Month October

~Reverence~

showing deepest respect for  
God  
and things of God

*Dedicated to Catholic values, Saint Mary Catholic School is a Christ-centered educational community committed to academic excellence, spiritual growth, individual responsibility, and service to others.*

# School Security Update

Recently, we received our school security assessment that the Okaloosa County Sheriff and Fort Walton Beach Police Departments conducted last month, at our request. In the coming weeks we will be addressing the findings with the School Advisory Committee and the Parent-Teacher Organization on how best to implement their recommendations. I'm very grateful to the parents on the committees who are assisting with this.



**FROM THE OFFICE**

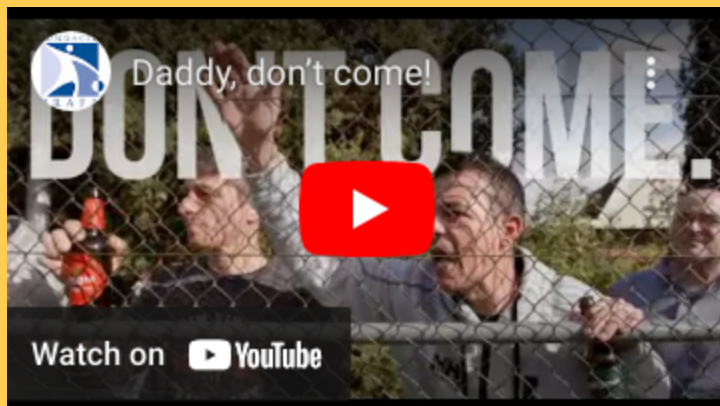
**FLOCKNOTE**

Are you receiving our text messages? We highly recommended signing up for our Flocknote for important information. <http://www.saintmaryschool.net/>

Tuition/Facts questions? Contact Kristin White,  
850-243-8913. [kristin.white@saintmaryschool.net](mailto:kristin.white@saintmaryschool.net)



## Archangel Sports



**This video has a very powerful message for sports parents. It offers a young athlete's perspective on how parent behavior impacts their game. Give this a watch and share it with other sports parents you know!**

### Cross Country

**Congratulations to all our runners!** The girls' team placed 2nd at the county meet! Mia Jucha place 2nd, Delilah Jucha 8th, Lulu Kerns 12th, Joslyn Jucha 13th, Cathryn Bridgford 15th.

### Archery

Archery team practice has begun.

### Soccer

Boys and girls practice begins on Monday, 10/23 at SMCS, 3:00-4:30 p.m.

### Basketball

Practice begins on Monday, 10/23, and will be held at Liza Jackson Preparatory School. See schedule on the website for dates and times.

# PTO CORNER



**DONATE CANDY!**

Please bring **pre-packaged** Halloween candy to the school office for us to hand out during this year's Track Or Treat event!

**Accepting candy donations  
October 10-20.**

The poster features a decorative border made of various Halloween-themed items including pumpkins, ghosts, candy corns, and lollipops, all strung together on a dark rope.



**CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**



We're in need of parent volunteers to set-up, decorate stations, and clean-up during our Track or Treat event. See open positions by visiting the link below!

**TUESDAY, OCTOBER 31**

<https://signup.com/go/KTQMnHy>

The poster has a light orange background with black stars. It features an illustration of three white ghosts; the one in the middle is holding a boombox with the word 'MUSIC' on it, and musical notes are floating around them.



# Boxes of Joy!

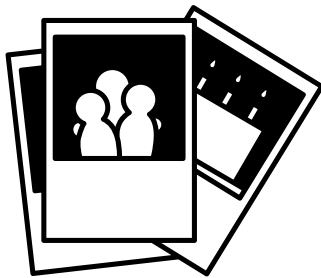


Oct 17th-31st Box of Joy

**We will continue with the tradition! Each class will collect and fill 2 boxes together as a class.**

**Teachers will send more info home.**

## Yearbook Photos



Parents, do you have group pictures from school activities or SMCS sporting events that you would like to share with others in our yearbook?

Please send them to [yearbook@saintmaryschool.net](mailto:yearbook@saintmaryschool.net)

**Thank you!**

## Red Ribbon Week

**Monday- Be A Hero.** Stand up to Drugs and Bullying!

- You will get your red ribbon from your teacher when you get to class.
- Wear your school uniform with your red ribbon and a Hero Cape.

**Tuesday - Put a Cap on Drugs and Bullying!**

- Pledge Day - students will write, sign, and turn in a pledge to stay away from drugs and bullying.
- Wear your school uniform with your red ribbon and a cap!

**Wednesday-Team up Against Drugs and Bullying!**

- Wear your favorite sports team shirt with school bottoms and your red ribbon.

**Thursday - Mass**

- Wear your uniform. Write an essay, poem, or short story about what being safe, kind and drug-free means to you and your future.

**Friday - Our School Chooses to be Drug and Bully Free!**

- Wear jeans with a red shirt and your ribbon!

**Please refer to our school handbook for guidance on dress down days (jeans with no holes...)**

# FALL 2023

**Family Adventures** begin after the 10am Mass in the PLC until 12:30pm. Only one parent needs to be present, but whole family is invited!

September 10th

October 8th

November 12th

December 10th

Register at  
[www.saintmary.life/explorers](http://www.saintmary.life/explorers)







# Fort Walton 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual **COMMUNITY DAY**

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>am</sup> to 1<sup>pm</sup>**

135 Perry Ave SE • Fort Walton Beach, FL • 850-244-5151

- FREE for everyone to attend
- Local non-profit organizations
- Live Remote Broadcast with 98.1 WHWY
- FREE Popcorn & Sno Cones
- FREE Drinks, Hot Dogs & Snacks
- FREE Face Painting & Bounce House for the kids
- Register to win give-a-ways
- Forever Warrior will be giving out Diapers & Pullups while supplies last



## Storybook Village

Presented by  Early Learning  
Coalition  
OF THE EMERALD COAST

**Please be sure to visit each table in the village to receive your free books!**

- If You Give a Pig a Pancake
- Noisy Breakfast
- If You Give a Dog a Donut
- Pancakes, Pancakes!
- Pancakes, Crackers, and Pizza
- How do Dinosaurs Eat Their Food?
- The Best Mouse Cookie
- I'll Wait, Mr. Panda
- Dona Esmeralda, Who Ate Everything
- What you Eat

**We will giving away a total of 3,000 books  
&**

**giveaway 5 tablets every hour  
(5 at 11 am, 5 at 12 pm and 5 at 1 pm)**

**We will also be giving away a grand prize at 1 pm!**



[unitedfidelity.com](http://unitedfidelity.com)

