

The Newsletter for Alumni, Parents and Friends of Saint Mary Interparochial School
Since 1782

SAINT MARY MESSENGER

What's Inside

- 2 Scholarships
- 2 Computer Donation from IRS
- 2 Advancement Update
- 3 St. Mary at a Glance
- 4 Annual Report
- 5 Flea to Fifth
- 5 Walkathon
- 5 Moving Up Socials
- 5 Upcoming Fall Events



Dear Parents,
Alums, and
Friends of
St. Mary
Interparochial,

It's hard to believe that the 2009-2010 school year has come to an end. Our closing on June 18 was very smooth and all children and staff were happy to begin some summer fun. Not that days at St. Mary's are not fun – we had many exciting days at school this year and added to that were some wonderful field trips and in-house presentations. We graduated 23 students on June 16 and among them, they were awarded 14 scholarships, totaling over \$232,000. Congratulations to all and God bless you as you continue your education.

Our eighth grade created a beautiful five panel mural for the roof area with conservation of resources and volunteerism as its theme. It was completed under the direction of Mr. Bernie Wilke and Mrs. Donna Bridy and funded by both PAEP and the St. Mary Home and School. Please view it when you stop in next year.

This summer, the school will have its annual impact cleaning done and we'll be ready for 240 students in September. Our enrollment is up by ten students for next year and we are grateful to all of you for spreading the word about our wonderful school here in the heart of the historic district.



We are preparing for the new year by purchasing a new reading series for grades K – 6 and the teachers are very excited about it. The series, *Journeys*, published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, will challenge the students with reading strategies and beautiful anthologies. The ancillary materials will provide online assistance for school and home. The Office of Catholic Education has boosted our book budget this year to allow us to purchase the entire series for the seven grades mentioned. Thank you, OCE!

In addition, we are purchasing Anthologies for grades 7 and 8 and Social Studies book for grade 4. What is better than new books on the first day of school?

Thank you to so many who have donated to school through the year in time, talent or treasure. All of us thank you for remembering St. Mary's and for showing your support in so many ways. Our volun-

teers do extraordinary work here and we welcome you to join in next year and become one of our faithful volunteers, engaged in some activity you enjoy – reading to children, showing off one of your skills, helping with lunch, helping out in the office. There are plenty of opportunities available. We'd love to have you join us when you are available.

God bless you and enjoy your summer days. See you in September.

Sincerely,

Jeanne M. Meredith
Mrs. Jeanne Meredith
Principal

Scholarship Winners

St. Mary Interparochial School Class of 2010

Congratulations to all of our students and their supportive and encouraging families!

Adrianna Anastasio

John W. Hallahan High School

Alec Barton

Roman Catholic High School

Henry Cammisa

Connelly Scholar -- Roman Catholic High School
Milay Scholar – Sts. John Neumann and Maria Goretta HS

Ana Dejesus

Neumann Scholar --John W. Hallahan High School
Nazareth Academy
Milay Scholar – Sts. John Neumann and Maria Goretta HS

Miguel Rodriguez

Roman Catholic High School

Michael Vila

Sts. John Neumann and Maria Goretta HS

Francesco Zampetti

Saint Joseph Prep (Ignatian Scholar)*
Roman Catholic HS
Malvern Prep
La Salle College HS
Bishop Eustace Prep

** Fourth Consecutive year a St. Mary student has won the prestigious Ignatian Scholar from St. Joseph Preparatory School*



ADVANCEMENT UPDATE:

Our Strategic Plan

We are happy to report that our Strategic Plan is close to completion. It will comprise three parts.

Document One:

Task Force Recommendations

This document lists each of the seven task forces summaries and recommendations. A copy of this document will be on hand for you to review in our school office. From this document, six strategic goals were created.

Document Two:

Strategic Goals

The second document declares our vision and the six strategic goals for our school for the next five years. This document can be viewed on our website.

Document Three:

Actions Steps

The final document is being mapped out this summer and will be finalized during our Advisory Board's first meeting. The Advisory Board will review action steps for each goal and dates will be assigned to complete the steps leading to the achievement of the goal.

Advisory Board:

Formation

Throughout the month of June several candidates were asked to serve on St. Mary Interparochial School's Charter Advisory Board. The members who have agreed to serve come with a variety of professional backgrounds that we believe will help implement our strategic plan and achieve our strategic goals. The formal list of members will be presented at the beginning of the 2010-2011 school year. The board will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, September 29. This meeting will include an orientation conducted by the consulting group, Churchill Leadership and Development, CHILD.

IRS Supports Technology at Our School

Since 2009, the Justice Department and Internal Revenue Service have teamed up to help St. Mary's in its efforts to make technology available to all students.

In October 2009, the IRS donated 45 Dell Laptop computers and six laser printers. Special Agent Don Fort, of the Philadelphia office, oversaw this donation on behalf of the IRS. Ken Kelly, the parent of an alum, who works with the IRS and the Justice Department, helped manage the project. The St. Mary Home and School Association provided funds to purchase wireless internet cards for each of these computers, and the school purchased carts to store these laptops. By January 2010 all of this equipment was in service.

This is the third major donation of technology from the government that St. Mary's has received in the past two years. Two years ago, Mr. Kelly arranged a donation of 48 computers from the Justice Department's Philadelphia office. Last June, he also arranged the transfer of 5 laser printers from that office.



Thanks to these donations, plus those St. Mary's has received from various grants in the past few years, the school has over 125 laptop computers available for student use, and money-saving laser printers in every classroom as well as the library.

ST. MARY AT A GLANCE

Academic Program Description

Our curriculum of study provides a basic framework in the academic areas of Religion, Mathematics, Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, the Fine Arts, Physical Education and Technology. We work within the curriculum guidelines of the Archdiocese of Philadelphia. How these guidelines are implemented is the creative challenge of faculty members, who understand the multiple ways their students

learn and integrate various methods of teaching and assessment into their classroom strategies. The professional development of our faculty is a priority. Teachers are required to update their professional certificates through in-service, workshops and other forms of continuing education throughout the year.

Demographics: (Based on 2009-2010 School Year)

Current enrollment:	230	Students
Curriculum:	Kindergarten – 8th Grade:	Co-ed
Gender:	123	Girls
	107	Boys
Tuition:	\$3,500	
Governance:	Principal & Board of Pastors	
Faculty/Student Ratio:	21:1	

About Our Students

Catholic children:	68%	of the student body (Children enter from 42 parishes in Archdiocese of Philadelphia, Dioceses of Camden and Trenton)
	8%	African-American
	12.5%	Hispanic
	2.5%	Asian
	74%	Caucasian
Student Body by Ethnicity:	27%	African- American children
	9.4%	Hispanic children
	3%	Asian children
	56%	Caucasian children
Student Body by Economic Status:	37%	Economically disadvantaged
	16%	Receiving Title One Assistance
	6%	Federal Reduced/free lunch program
Cares Program:	56%	of the student body participate in our after-school program
Scholarships:	14	children receive scholarships form BLOCS or CSF
2009-2010 Achievements:	33%	of Class of 2010 won scholarships to high school, totaling over \$232,000



School Highlights

- Spanish in Grades 7 and 8
- Honors Math in Grades 4-8
- Weekly Art, Music, Technology, and Physical Education classes
- Accredited by Middle States Association
- Serve a diverse population of students throughout the city and suburbs
- Fiscally Independent Elementary School of the Archdiocese
- Excellent Record of Achievement
- Located in the heart of the historic district



Dreams and Goals for our School:

- Foreign Language for All Grades
- Pre-Kindergarten Program
- More Space for Kindergarten
- Designated Art Room
- Designated Technology Room
- Summer Enrichment Program
- Continuing Education for Faculty
- Renovation of Assembly Room/Gymnasium
- Energy-efficient Heating and Air Conditioning
- New Windows

ANNUAL REPORT 2009-10

Thank You to All Our Supporters!

SOURCE	VALUE	USE / DISBURSEMENTS / DESCRIPTION
Donations		
Annual Fund	\$5,553	Development
Home and School	\$20,168	Technology updates
Library in Memoriam	\$75	Library Holdings
Corporate Fundraising Programs		
Target Visa Card %	\$171	Library Holdings
Box Tops for Education	\$212	Library Holdings
Grants		
City of Philadelphia-Activity Fund	\$2,500	Art Program
Philadelphia Safe and Sound-PHMC	\$108,999	After-School and General Fund
Special Events/Fundraisers		
Harvest Hoedown	\$1,865	Development, Music Program
Flea to Fifth - Spring Flea Market	\$823	Development, Music Program
Walkathon	\$13,987	Development, Music Program
Book Fair	\$484	Library Holdings
Individual Gift		
George and Catherine Koenig Scholarship	\$3,500	Scholarship Fund



George and Catherine Koenig Scholarship

Kenneth and Marie (Koenig) Wadsworth

Harvest Hoedown

The Philadelphia Dance Academy:
Ms. Lori Lahnemann
The Radisson-Warwick Hotel:
Ms. Simone McBean
Pinot Boutique
Bistro St. Tropez:
Mr. Patrice Rames and Mr. Mark Hoyt
Beneficial Bank: Mr. Michael Nichols
Bridget Foy's Restaurant: Ms. Bridget Foy
The Cammisia Family
Colleen's: Chef Les
The Comby Family
Comcast-Spectacor: Mr. Graig Selgrath
The Coval Family
DiBruno Brothers
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dieters
Downey's Restaurant
Mrs. Deborah Graci
Mrs. Patty Griffin
Jose Pistola's
Mrs. Regina Kelly
Las Cazuelas Restaurant: Mr. Freddie Aguilera
Michael Anastasio Produce, Inc.
Omni Hotel at Independence Park:
Mr. David D'Argenio
Philadelphia Java Company:
Mr. Jerry Roseman and Ms. Alia Bonna
Philadelphia Orchestra/Philly POPS:
Ms. Michelle Messa
The Philadelphia Phillies, Community Outreach Department
The Pop Shop
Reinforced Iron Workers, Riggers and Machinery Movers, Local Union 405:
Mr. Edward Penna
Mr. Alec Siegel
St. Mary Interparochial Faculty and Staff
Thomas Jefferson University Hospital:
Mrs. Jenifer DiCampi
Villa Di Roma Restaurant
Mr. Tom Ward

Annual Fund

Anonymous
The Aros Family
The Bradford Family
Ms. Karen Brown
Ms. Carole Bryson-Kubrak
Mr. and Mrs. Malcolm Brown
The Cammisia Family
Christopher and Colleen Combs
Mr. and Mrs. Martin Corcoran
The Coval Family
The Coyle Family
Mrs. Charissa Dinan
Ms. M. Frances Dolan
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Farrell
Mr. Vladimir Gabrieliants
Mr. and Mrs. Rafael Haciski
Mr. John R. Holmes, Jr.
Mr. Franklyn Isaacson
The Jaeger-Keer Family
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Kahl
Mr. Mark Kane
Mr. and Mrs. George J. Koenig
The Konzerowsky Family
Mr. William Lacey and Family
Ms. Doreen Levecchi and Family
Mr. Jack Loftus
The Maiden Family
The Massi Family
Ms. Jeanne Meredith
Ms. Christine Muldoon
Ms. Nia Murray
The Murray-Zampetti Family
The Raday Family
The Rago-Kane Family
Mr. Theodore Robb
Ms. Theresa Romeo-Aponte
The Ruskey Family
Mrs. Shahina Shah
The Siegel Family
Mr. Francis L. Simola, Jr.
The Stoiber - Hostvedt Family
Mr. and Mrs. Michael Sweeney
Ms. Maria Walker

Educational Partners

PAFA
Philadelphia Zoo
Pennsylvania Ballet
Philadelphia Opera Co.
Clay Studio
PAEP
Art-Reach
Shalom, Inc.
Connelly Foundation
Philadelphia International Airport
Dancing Classrooms

Flea to Fifth

Alfredo Aquilar
Jim and Ellen Basile
Victoria Bingham
Grace Bridy and Natalie Tolomeo
Suzanne Cavanaugh
Eilsabeth Cipolla
Monique Coval
Monica Davis
Judy DeLaurentiis
Rose McElhatton Donahue
Anastasia Goldman
Lillian Grasso
Bernadette Hilferty
Regina Kelly
Demi Kondracki
Rona Macklin
The Maloney Family
Brenda McCalister-Afflick
Emily Meredith
Gina Morgan
Megan O'Donnell
Inez Pagan
Lorraine Pappalardo
Teresa Przyblyski
Maryellen Raday
Ameris Roman
Marlo Thomas
Suzanne Ultrera
Vinnie Velez
Dean Weisman
Stacey Young
Melinda Zerambo
Jane Zhang

Home and School Association

Staff Appreciation

Back To School Teacher Fund \$2,000
Catholic School Week Teacher Fund 1,100
Service Award To Honor Three
Outgoing Volunteer Parents 200
Donation to St Paul Church
In Honor of Virgil Tabasco 100

Student Appreciation

Dances 1,996
Lunch with Santa 852
Catholic School Week Purchase for Students 70
Parent Social 515
8th Grade Graduation 865
Kindergarten Graduation 200
Spring Fling 1,889

Technology

Replacement Wireless Cards 1,200

Arts

Art Reach Reimbursement 236
Mural Arts Program 1,500

Sports

Basketball Uniforms 525
Softball Uniforms 284

Honorarium

H&S Speaker 100

Fundraisers

Candy Sale 7,283
Coupon Book 252

Total \$21,168

Services-in-Kind

Catering: Las Cazuelas: Alfredo Aguilar
Communications: Griffin Communications: Patti Griffin
Design: Alusiv: Richard Cress, Polly McKenna-Cress
Printing: Marathon Printing: Dean Weisman

Walkathon

Prize Donations:
Proietta Family, Mr. David Christian

ST. MARY EVENTS

Flea to Fifth

This past April, St. Mary Interparochial School held its first ever spring flea market. There were more than 35 vendors selling artwork, handmade jewelry, gourmet baked treats and lots of gently used treasures. Las Cazuelas Restaurant was on hand selling delicious tacos and refreshments to our shoppers. More than \$800.00 was raised through vendor registration fees and the proceeds from the sale of the tacos.

Thanks to all who participated as vendors and to those who came to shop. Mark your calendar for next year's flea market – Saturday, April 16, 2011. More information will follow in the new school year.

Moving Up Socials

After receiving lots of great feedback from our parents and students during our focus groups and task force work, St. Mary's hosted three nights of "Moving Up Socials." Held during the first week of June, these socials were an opportunity for parents to visit with their child's teacher for the coming school year, as well as with other classroom parents.

Feedback on the event was positive, with many parents saying the nights provided valuable insight into their child's upcoming school year, and St. Mary teachers have already given feedback on how to improve this event for next year.

Thank you to all the teachers who prepared for these special nights and to all the parents who participated. If you also would like to make suggestions, please email advancement@saintmarys.us.

Walkathon

In May, St. Mary Interparochial held its 8th Annual Walkathon. This year, the event raised more than \$15,000, making it the school's most successful walkathon to date.

Students, teachers, staff and volunteer parents met at Old St. Joseph's Church for a blessing before taking off for Washington Square at 6th and Spruce Sts., and Franklin Square at 7th and Race Sts. These squares are two of the five squares designed by William Penn as "green spaces" in the city where residents could meet and greet each other. The squares were selected since William Penn was the focus of this year's walk.

To prepare for the walkathon, each grade learned about William Penn and the lasting impact he had on Philadelphia. The fourth grade presented information about him to the other students and two docents from City Hall came to add to the fourth grade's presentations. They also provided a slide show of City Hall, old maps of the city, and the haunts of Mr. Penn.



Art teacher, Donna Bridy, coordinated an art project with mapmaker, Emily Erb, who was invited to show the children her own map work, including a pen and ink map of the city drawn on silk. The children replicated three maps of the city – historic map of time prior to William Penn's settling here, another historic map of William Penn's time, and finally, a modern day map of the city of Philadelphia. Wait until you see them framed and hung in the Locust Street entry. They are gorgeous! You'll love them.

Walkathon organizers – and St. Mary's parents -- Joe and Jane Dempsey, were the creators of this annual event and have managed it each year. Third grader Fionna Farrell raised the most money for the fourth year in a row.

Thanks to all volunteers, donors, and walkers. Stay tuned for the theme and date for next year's event. We hope you'll join us.

Upcoming Fall Events:

Calendar Pick Up, School Supply Sale and Volunteer Sign-Up

August 17 & 18, 2010
9:00 am to noon, 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm

First Day of School

September 8, 2010

Back to School Night

September 15, 2010, 6:00pm

Grandparents' Day

September 17, 2010, 1:30 pm in Kindergarten



St. Mary Golf Outing: Play Golf, Help Kids

September 18, 2010
RiverWinds Golf and Tennis Club
Registration fee is \$100
Fee includes round of golf and pub-style dinner. Sponsorship opportunities are available. Download registration form at www.saintmary.us or call school for more information. All proceeds will support our scholarship fund.

Advisory Board Orientation and Meeting

September 29, 2010



Harvest Hoedown

Save the Date:
Saturday, October 16, 2010
12 noon to 4:00 pm
Featuring: Live music, square dancing, delicious food, arts and crafts, face painting and balloon animals and other festive activities.



ANNUAL FUND: TODAY, TOMORROW AND TOGETHER

Mission Statement

St. Mary Interparochial School challenges its diverse student body to grow morally, academically and socially into passionate, confident, and Christ-centered leaders of the 21st century.

Five Reasons To Support Our School

1 The Annual Appeal is a yearly fundraising drive that reaches out to local businesses, major corporations, parents, alumni, etc., for the purposes of raising much-needed funds to benefit St. Mary Interparochial School's building and infrastructure. This important fund forms the foundation for all other development efforts.

2 When you make a contribution to the Annual Fund, 100 percent of your contribution will be applied to our yearly goal.

3 Your support encourages giving by demonstrating to potential donors in the business world that St. Mary's is a viable and worthy institution with the backing of our alumni, parents and friends.

4 Giving to the annual fund is the most convenient way for individuals to share in the mission of our unique school, and keep quality, Catholic education accessible to city residents.

5 Of course, the most important reason to contribute to The Annual Fund is the children of St. Mary School, who benefit greatly from all contributions.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Donate online at www.saintmarys.us or mail your donation to school.
- Double your impact by checking to see whether your employer will match your gift. Your company's personnel office will know about matching gifts.
- Spread the word about our Annual Appeal to others who, like you, believe in excellent and affordable Catholic education for children of all religious, economic, and ethnic backgrounds.

This newsletter was designed and printed with the support of Alusiv communication design and Marathon Printing

History of Saint Mary Interparochial School

The rich academic and historic heritage of St. Mary Interparochial School dates to the early days of Philadelphia, as Catholics and Protestants engaged in a spirited debate over educational practices. Founded in 1782 by the Jesuit fathers of Old St. Joseph's Church, St. Mary is known as "The Mother School" of catholic parochial education and is credited with influencing Catholic educational patterns in this country. Situated near Independence Hall and other pivotal sites in old Philadelphia, it served children for more than a century before closing in 1902 after a devastating fire. St. Mary's reopened in 1968, again with a distinction: With students drawn from six different parishes, it was the first interparochial school in the nation. St. Mary Interparochial School is situated in Independence National Park and serves 250 children from all over the City of Philadelphia and its suburbs.



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Since 1782

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