

October 2019



Can you believe we have been in school for almost a quarter of the school year? The students are settled in and are learning, playing, and praying!



One of my favorite things about our SMCS Family is how we are the hands and feet of Jesus everyday. Families, faculty and friends of SMCS show their serving hearts by helping out in our local and global communities! We have already started serving our community in several ways:

- Fourth and fifth grade students have been making rosaries to share and will volunteer at the Galveston Food Bank later this month.
- SMCS kicked off Box of Joy, 10/1. Many families have made this an annual tradition of packing boxes for children who would not experience the gift of giving otherwise.
- Eighth graders have packed 25 backpacks that will be sent to the Child Advocacy Center of Galveston for children in need.
- Kindergarten students wrote letters to all of the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston asking others to join them in prayer for World Peace on October 7 @8:30am.
- Second and third grade students will visit residents at a local nursing home dressed in their Saint's costumes.

There are many more projects that will be coming up throughout the year! As Father said in one of his homilies, we are all SAINTS in TRAINING! I am so glad to be able to call this community home and see SMCS students Enter to Learn, and Leave to Serve!

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*And much more!*

  
**Mrs. Halbardier**





# MARK YOUR CALENDAR



Date		Time	Activity
October	5	10:00am	Bobcat Athletes Compete at Cross Country Meet
October	6	12:00pm	First Sunday Mass — See <a href="#">page 3</a> for details <i>At the noon Mass this month only!</i>
		1:15pm	Pizza and Ice Cream Social — Cargill Hall <a href="#">RSVP requested but not required</a>
October	7	All Day	Free dress for those who attended 12:00pm Mass in uniform on Sunday, October 6
		4:30pm	Bobcat Volleyball vs. True Cross — Cargill Hall
October	8-11		Accreditation <i>No after care offered on Friday, October 11</i>
October	12	10:00am-2:00pm	Car Wash Fundraiser — Details <a href="#">page 3</a>
October	13	10:00am-6:00pm	St. Mary of the Expectation Bazaar — See <a href="#">page 3</a> for details
October	14		No school — Bazaar Clean Up Day <i>Students &amp; parents encouraged to help out</i>
October	16	3:00-9:00pm	Spirit Night at Chuck-E-Cheese
October	17	All Day	Free dress for \$3 donation <i>Proceeds buy supplies for a service project 7<sup>th</sup> grade is doing for <a href="#">The Advocacy Center for Children</a></i>
October	18	4:30pm	Bobcat Volleyball vs. St. Joseph — Cargill Hall
October	21	8:15am-2:30pm	4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Galveston County Food Bank
		6:00pm	School Board Meeting — Library
October	25	8:00am-4:00pm	Junior High Field Trip to Texian Market Days Last Day for <a href="#">Boon Supply Fundraiser</a>
October	28	8:00am	Red Ribbon Week Begins — Details <a href="#">page 4</a>
		2:15pm	Pep Rally to kick off Steps for Students
October	31	8:45am-2:15pm	Halloween Carnival — Details <a href="#">page 8</a> <a href="#">Sign up</a> to work at a booth or to provide treats/snacks
November	1	8:30am	All Saints Day Mass
		9:00am	Living Saints Museum — See <a href="#">page 4</a> for details
November	2		Basketball Camp — Details on <a href="#">page 6</a>
November	3	10:15am	First Sunday Mass

*Check the online calendar at [stmarylc.org](http://stmarylc.org) for the most up-to-date information.*

# First Sunday Mass



October 6, 12:00pm

Students who attend Mass wearing full dress uniform will earn **free dress the following Monday**. Sign in at the table in the narthex when you arrive. There is a section reserved for school families in the back, but you may sit anywhere in the church. After the Prayers of the Faithful, students gather in the back for the Presentation of the Gifts as a group. **This month only First Sunday Mass will be the noon Mass. Don't forget to join us for the social immediately after!**



Mayor Pat Hallisey met with PreK and Kindergarten classes during Community Helpers Week.



Car Wash!

**What:** Car Wash Fundraiser  
**When:** Saturday, October 12  
 10:00am-2:00pm  
**Where:** Chick fil A, Kemah  
 321 Marina Bay Drive

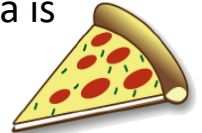
Come out and let the 8<sup>th</sup> graders wash your car! All proceeds go toward their class trip to Washington, D.C. Any donation appreciated!



# St. Mary Pizza & Ice Cream Social

October 6, 1:15-2:30pm  
 in Cargill Hall

Come meet with friends old and new, while enjoying pizza and ice cream sundaes with all the fixings, games, pinatas, and door prizes. Pizza is available for \$1.00 per slice. Ice cream sundaes are complimentary! RSVP [here](#).



# St. Mary of the Expectation BAZAAR

October 13, 2019

The Parish Bazaar is almost here! SMCS is running two booths this year, the Spin-a-Toy and the Cake Wheel booths.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

- Students can earn service hours by working but must be accompanied by an adult.
- ◊ Booth set up will be on Oct. 12 at noon. No sign up necessary!
- ◊ Contact the school office to schedule a shift at the Bazaar on Sunday, October 13.



### DONATIONS NEEDED!

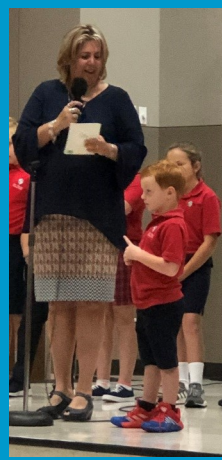
- Spin-a-Toy - Send in New or Slightly Used toys (no stuffed animals) with your child.
- Cake Wheel - Please bring two cakes or pies for the Cake Wheel to the school office on Friday, October 11.

### CLEAN UP HELP!

- Students accompanied by a parent can earn service hours by helping clean up on Monday, Oct. 14 starting at 8:30am.



Show your school pride and wear spirit shirts to the Bazaar!!



<i>Week</i>	<i>Class Leading Morning Prayer</i>	<i>Class Singing at Friday Mass</i>
Oct. 7-11	Mrs. Rivet's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade
Oct. 15-18	Mrs. Carr's 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade	N/A
Oct. 21-25	Mrs. White's 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	5 <sup>th</sup> Grade
Oct. 28 - Nov. 1	Mrs. Keaten's 1 <sup>st</sup> Grade	N/A
Nov. 4-8	Mrs. Whatley's Kindergarten	TBD



## St. Mary Catholic School *invites you to*



## The Living Saints Museum Friday, November 1, 9:00 AM

An annual tradition at SMCS, the second and third grade students honor All Saints Day with a Procession of Saints through the church after Mass on November 1 featuring each student dressed as a saint. Then the "saints" become a "Living Museum" in the church courtyard and answer questions for visitors to share what they have learned about their chosen saints. The museum highlights the religious foundations of our education at SMCS as well as demonstrating the application of the writing process.

The second and third grade students will also participate in a "Little Saints" presentation to the residents of Regal Estates, an assisted living center in League City.

Also, this year the first graders will complete a "mini-saint" project, creating a puppet and a flyer on their chosen saints to present to parents at 10:00am on All Saints Day in the library.

Come see and talk to these students after Mass on November 1!



## RED RIBBON WEEK

### October 28 - November 1 Monday

"Be the Key to Your Own Future"

### Tuesday - Crazy Sock Day

"Keeping Our Paws Off Drugs"

### Wednesday - College Spirit Shirts

"My Future Matters"

### Thursday - Halloween Costumes

"Too Smart to Do Drugs"

### Friday

"Let's Taco 'Bout Being Drug Free"

*Look for small surprises to be passed out to students this week!*

## Technology in Education: How SMCS Is Embracing the Future

St. Mary has introduced a new technology curriculum this year for all grades. It aims to make students proficient in the use of Microsoft Office tools, knowledgeable about the hardware that comprises a computer, and informed about basic coding principles.

“The objective of the new curriculum is to prepare students to be well rounded leaders who make a difference in the world around them using their knowledge and faith,” says Mrs. Halbardier. “Technology is constantly changing, and the program will expand and update as needed.”

The first priority for the year across all levels was internet safety and personal safety online. Keyboard familiarity and skills were then highlighted. From there, topics vary by grade.

PreK students work on use of a mouse and opening apps to play educational games. Kindergartners additionally use Paint and learn to save files.

Throughout the elementary grades, students become proficient in the use of Word, PowerPoint, and Excel through various projects.



“More than 80% of corporate America uses Microsoft's Cloud Suite, and that number is rising,” says Mrs. Pate. We need to prepare our students for success by giving them an excellent education in these necessary tools.”

Elementary aged students also learn more about internet searching strategies, reliable sources, and social media including how their actions online impact themselves and others. As time permits, they will even gain exposure to coding principles using a program called [Blockly](#) and use tablets to record and edit video.

At the junior high level, students will be using all their MS Office skills on big projects. They will also learn about the computer hardware and the various technical specs. This will help them to fix their own issues and know how to evaluate different options when purchasing.

The technology curriculum also incorporates the [Virtues in Practice](#) series developed by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia as an integration of traditional Catholic values and modern technology.

## THANK YOU

- ... **Mrs. Richards** for the myriad jobs seen and unseen that you do to support the school
- ... **Mrs. Battle** for managing the school's social media presence
- ... **Mrs. Steinberg (grammy)** for helping out in art classes
- ... **Dr. Tambling** for being a WatchDOG every week
- ... **Mrs. Taylor** for coordinating the restaurant fundraisers
- ... **Mrs. Demetrios, Mrs. Richardson, and Mrs. Tambling** for helping students in kindergarten and second grade with their reading and math.
- ... **Mrs. Crum and Mrs. Battle** for organizing September's Teacher Appreciation lunch



## Bobcat Basketball

Registration has started for the upcoming basketball season!  
Some important information:

- Basketball is currently open to boys and girls in grades 5-8.**
- Practices will begin the week of Oct. 28, and games will start the following week.**
- Fill out a registration form and an athletic handbook form. Also, a current physical is required to play.**
- All forms can be found [on the school website under "athletics"](#).**
- Deadline to register is Oct. 18!**

Questions? Contact [Coach De Leon](#).



# Teacher Spotlight

## Mrs. Analie Rivet

Teaches: 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

Education: Bachelor of Science  
in Elem. Education

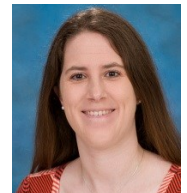


Mrs. Rivet has been part of Catholic education for most of her life. She attended Catholic school for elementary and high school years, and prior to moving to Houston she taught 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades at a Catholic school in Louisiana. Before deciding to become a teacher, Mrs. Rivet considered careers in speech therapy or advertising. Visiting the classroom where her older sister taught convinced her that she, too, would enjoy teaching. Mrs. Rivet wanted to teach in a Catholic school because she appreciates praying with her students. She says that the faculty and students at St. Mary have been "helpful and welcoming" to her in her first year. Mrs. Rivet is newly married and loves the outdoors, photography, and painting.

## Ms. Jaclyn Matthews

Teaches: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Education: Bachelor of Science  
in Education



"Teaching is in my blood," says Ms. Matthews, whose mother and sister are both teachers. This year she is excited to return to teaching 3<sup>rd</sup> graders after leading a Pre-K-3 classroom at St. Mary for the past few years. Prior to coming here she taught in a South Houston elementary school in the Deaf Education Program. But, she says, "I knew St. Mary was the place for me when I saw the crosses on Mrs. Halbardier's office wall." Ms. Matthews loves that the students teach her about the books they read and about their life experiences at the same time she teaches them. Outside of school she enjoys reading books, traveling, and spending time with family, especially her niece and two nephews.

## BOX OF JOY CAMPAIGN

This fall, St. Mary Catholic School will be collecting items for the Box of Joy Campaign. Please stop by the office to pick up a box, or fill your own shoebox or plastic container. Boxes must be returned to the school **by Friday, November 8.**



**What is the Box of Joy Campaign?** Through this program, you can ensure that children in poverty stricken and developing countries receive some Christmas Joy.

**What items are collected?** Gift suggestions include small toys, hygiene products, school supplies, hard candy, etc. For each Box of Joy, a \$9.00 donation is also requested to cover S&H overseas and life-saving ministry costs.

Visit [Cross Catholic Outreach](#) for more information and gift suggestions.

# Basketball Camp

**When:** November 2 - 9:00-11:00am Grades 2-4  
12:00-2:00pm Grades 5-8

**Registration Deadline:** October 24, 3:00pm

**Cost:** \$25

Coach Ray Ingram will be hosting a basketball camp at St. Mary. He has over 30 years of experience coaching and teaching basketball to players of all ages emphasizing fundamental basketball skills and also developing "the person inside the player."

Check out the [flyer](#) for more information.

# Save the Date! St. Mary Spring Gala April 18, 2020



Please consider joining a committee to help St. Mary with your time and talent. Committees include venue, décor, music, raffle, photography, marketing, graphic design, guest list, sponsorships, and more!  
[Email Mrs. Halbardier](#) if interested.

All are invited to see our own Mrs. Miller perform as part of the Clear Lake Symphony on October 25 at 7:30pm at the Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Nassau Bay. Tickets and further information available on the [Clear Lake Symphony website](#).



Please remember St. Helen Catholic School and its students, faculty, and staff in your prayers. They are our prayer partners this year!



Box Tops® for Education is changing this year! You can now download the Box Tops® for Education App on the App Store or Google Play and scan your receipt!



Forward the confirmation e-mails or screenshots from the Box Tops® app to our Bucks for Bobcats coordinator, [Mrs. Gardner](#), to record the credits and which teacher it goes to.

See the old pink box tops? Clip them and send them to school with your child - **but still scan**; double dipping is encouraged!



Want to avoid apps? Scan your receipt and input yourself on [BTFE.com](#) OR send the receipt to school with your child (email any electronic receipt from curbside service to [Mrs. Gardner](#)).

Visit [BTFE.com](#) for more details.

The class that collects the most Box Top credits will win a prize! A raffle will also be held for the winning class. SCMS 2019-20 goal is \$1,000!

## Resources

ParentsWeb (FACTS, grades, lunch ordering)  
[stmy-tx.client.renweb.com/pwr](http://stmy-tx.client.renweb.com/pwr)

Safe Haven Training  
[galvestonhouston.cmgconnect.org](http://galvestonhouston.cmgconnect.org)

St. Mary Facebook Page  
[facebook.com/stmarylc](https://facebook.com/stmarylc)

Bobcat Buzz Archives  
[stmarylc.org/the-bobcat-buzz](http://stmarylc.org/the-bobcat-buzz)

# HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

OCTOBER 31<sup>ST</sup>, 8:45 AM - 2:15 PM

Face Painting ● Putt Putt ● Cookie Walk ● Haunted House ● Photo Booth  
Minute to Win It Games ● PopCorn ● Bean Bag Toss

## Carnival Schedule

8:45am-9:30am	PreK*
9:30am-10:15am	Kindergarten*
10:15am-11:15am	1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grades
11:15am-12:15am	3 <sup>rd</sup> , 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Grades
12:15am-12:45pm	Volunteer Lunch
12:45pm-2:15pm	6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> Grades
2:15pm	Clean Up

\*Students will attend with their Mass buddies

- Send in one bag of candy or toy/trinket items on or before Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.
- Bring your child (ren) to school wearing a Halloween costume on Oct. 31<sup>st</sup>. No witches, devils, masks, or weapons allowed.
- Students should be able to use the bathroom independently while in costume.
- SAFE HAVEN trained adults and younger siblings welcome! Be sure to sign in at the office.
- New this year students with peanut allergies will be given teal bracelets in alignment with FARE's Teal Pumpkin Project and offered appropriate prizes.

*Sign up here* to work at a booth or to provide baked goods, snacks, or drinks.