

# Currents



The Curriculum Newsletter of St. Mary's High School • Vol. 14, Issue 5 • January 2006

## Wanted:

Parents active in their child's education

## Also Wanted:

More parents active in their child's education



Welcome to 2006! The New Year has come! I hope that your holiday season has been full of family, friends, and God's wonderful blessings.

There is no doubt we have a wonderful group of parents at St. Mary's. I am always so impressed with the number of parents that come to see our athletic contests and our student performances and just offer their general encouragement. Just last week, we had a packed house for the 2005 Christmas Show. It was a wonderful show, and there were so many proud families there to support our students! Not only do they come to our home turf, but they also travel far and wide to cheer on their sons and daughters. It is obvious that the parents at St. Mary's High School are a caring and supportive group.

I have been involved in teaching for almost a decade at this point in my life and coaching for more than a decade. I have seen many, many successful students pass through the St. Mary's doors and out into society. From what I have observed, I am convinced that parents can have

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## Quick Look

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## January 2005 Exam Schedule

Monday, Jan. 23	Tuesday, Jan. 24	Wednesday, Jan. 25	Thursday, Jan. 26	Friday, Jan. 27
<p><b>Regular Classes</b></p> <p><i>Reg. = Regents Exam ( ) = Number of students taking exam; [ ] = Grade level of students taking exam</i></p> <p><i>See Page 2 for Notes regarding January exams</i></p>	<p><b>8-10 a.m.</b> Biology (70) [10] Reg. Chemistry (40) [11]</p> <p><b>11 a.m.-1 p.m.</b> Intro to Perf Arts (6) [9] Health (45) [10,11,12]</p> <p><b>12-1 p.m.</b> Comp. Eng Session One (30) [11]</p>	<p><b>8-9 a.m.</b> French I (12) [9] French II (15) [9,10] French III (13) [10,11] Spanish I (72) [9,12] Spanish II (85) [9,10] Spanish III (90) [10,11]</p> <p><b>8-11 a.m.</b> Reg. Comp. Spanish (1) [12] Reg. Earth Science (1) [10]</p> <p><b>9:30-11:30 p.m.</b> Global Studies I &amp; II AP European History (200) [9,10]</p> <p><b>12-1 p.m.</b> Comp. Eng. Session Two (30) [11]</p> <p><b>12-3 p.m.</b> AP Calculus</p>	<p><b>8-10 a.m.</b> Math IA Math IB Math IIB Math IIIA Math IIIB Math IIIB Math IIIB PreCalc</p> <p><b>8-11 a.m.</b> Mandatory Math A Review</p> <p><b>12-3 p.m.</b> Reg. Math A (75) [9,10,11]</p>	<p><b>8-10 a.m.</b> Religion 9 (99) [9] Religion 10 (100) [10] Catholic Development (101) [11] Christian Family Living (78) [12]</p> <p><b>8-11 a.m.</b> Math B (8)</p>

## Wanted *(continued from page 1)*

a profound impact on a student's success. What follows is a list of important things that all parents can help their children with:

### 1. Ask About School

- Use specific questions to find out what is going on each day at school. If there was an assembly scheduled, ask what the topic was. If you know they had a test, ask what questions were on it.
- Make sure they are using their student agenda. Ask them about the long-term projects they are working on. Help them make a plan and set deadlines for getting the work done. Have them write these deadlines in their agenda. In the back of the handbook section is an area where they can track their grades each quarter. Are they using that to know where they stand in class?

### 2. Homework

- Don't ever let your son/daughter tell you that they do not have any homework! As a math teacher, I can tell you that they will have math homework nearly every night! And even if there is no written work to be done, there is always a test/quiz coming up that they can study for or a long-term project that they can get ahead on.
- Help them by setting aside a place and time that they will work on their homework on a daily basis. For some, it may be in a dining room or in their bedroom. Just make sure that there are no distractions such as TV or telephone (including their cell phone which can quietly be used for text messaging!) to distract them from concentrating on the assignment at hand. If they need to use the family computer for research or typing,

be sure that they are not spending the majority of time sending instant messages to their friends (who they probably saw about 30 minutes earlier at school!).

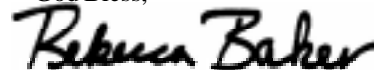
### 3. Attendance

- Talk to your son/daughter about how important it is to be present in class. Sure, they can get make-up work if they are ill, but nothing takes the place of being in the classroom when a concept is being introduced and discussed.
- Talk about how important attendance is when it comes to holding a job.
- Make sure that they are getting an adequate amount of sleep. This will help them to pay attention without difficulty and to make it easier for them to concentrate in class.
- Don't let them be late to school. This starts the day in a negative way, and they may miss important announcements about what is going on in the building.

It is never too late to become involved in your child's education. Reports have shown time after time that the more parents are involved, the more successful the student is in school, college, and life.

To all of our families - keep up the good work in 2006! We want to see all of our students be successful and move on to productive and meaningful lives in the community.

God Bless,



Ms. Rebecca Baker  
Assistant Principal

## Character trait of the Month – *Tolerance*–

As we begin the new year, we once again take a look at our character development, and the character of our students. This month, we will focus on the character trait of **TOLERANCE**. Tolerance is defined as recognition of and respect for the opinions, practices, or behavior of others.

When looking for ideas to include in this article, the following song lyrics made me stop and think about how I have been treating other people. The lyrics are from a song recorded by Peter, Paul, and Mary titled "Don't Laugh at Me." The song was written by Steve Seskin & Allen Shamblin.

*Don't laugh at me*

*Don't call me names*

*Don't get your pleasure from my pain*

*In God's eyes we're all the same*

These are powerful words that all can relate to at one time or another. We have all been picked on at some point and probably all done some of the picking on others. But the bottom line, we are all members of the human race, and we all deserve respect.

Increasing tolerance for others comes from refining some of our other character traits such as kindness, self-control, courage, appreciation, and patience. Take some time to

think about the little things that you hear yourself and others saying. Even things said in a joking manner, not meant to be hurtful, can lead to intolerance and be setting a bad example.

What will you do the next time you hear an inappropriate comment about someone of a different race, religion, or gender? Will you go along with the crowd and spread the intolerance? Or will you have the courage to tell that person to have more respect for their fellow human beings? It is your choice to make. Choose character – choose respect – choose tolerance.

## Notes for January Exams

Here are some notes in regards to the January Exams:

- Students only have to be in school for their scheduled exams.
- Students should be in dress code for the exams.
- Students who are completing semester courses must turn in their textbooks prior to taking their exam. Failure to do so may result in the students/parents being charged for their replacement.
- Busses will be picking up students at the usual time in the morning. The schedule for afternoon busses will be mailed to parents the first week of January
- Some teachers may offer review sessions for times when students are not taking exams. Students should check with their teachers to see when these review sessions are scheduled.
- If a student is at St. Mary's when they are not scheduled to take an exam or in a

review session, they are required to be in the cafeteria.

Questions regarding these exam week guidelines should be directed to Ms. Baker.

### Currents

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(716) 683-4824

Vol. 14, Issue 5

# From the Administration

## School closing information

Well, we almost had our first snow day of the year, as several local school districts closed but not Lancaster, and not St. Mary's.

As we get into the colder months of the year, here is a reminder of the School Closing Policy and Procedure at St. Mary's High School:

• Dr. Casimino is in touch with several public school districts, and a decision to close the school is usually made between 6:30 and 6:45 a.m.

• Information on school closing will then be passed on to Channels 2, 4, or 7, and WBEN-Radio 930, WGR-550, Kiss 98.5, and Star 102.5. Please listen to the announcements carefully; just because schools around

St. Mary's are closed does not necessarily mean St. Mary's is closed.

• Mr. Kidder will change the main phone message to reflect this closing.

• When the school is closed, all activities, including sports, are cancelled.

• If your school district is closed but St. Mary's is open, students are legally absent; you do not have to call your student in, though it would be helpful if you did. Students are responsible for their assignments.

• If a student comes to school, it is our expectation that they will remain until the school is closed or the end of the school day.

• Students that are absent from school are not allowed to participate in any extracur-

ricular activities on that day.

• If a district closes during the day, students will be released only to district transportation or a designated parent or guardian. We will not release students to ride with other students or other parents, except for siblings.

• If a parent or guardian decides it is necessary to pick a student up during the day, please call to let us know you are coming.

• When school resumes, the day will be the letter day that was skipped (e.g., if Tuesday was supposed to be C-Day and the school was closed, when we return on Wednesday, it will now be C-Day).

If you have any questions on this policy, feel free to contact the school at 683-4824.

## Principal's breakfast

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Casimino will be hosting a breakfast on Thursday, Jan. 12, for parents of St. Mary's students.

Discussion will include class and school activities. The breakfast will be from 8 to 8:45 a.m. in the school cafeteria.

Also attending will be Ms. Rebecca

Baker (assistant principal), Mrs. Amy Wesolek (dean of students), and counselors, Mrs. Mary Jakubowski and Mrs. Judy Brzuszkiewicz.

## End of 2nd Quarter, beginning of 3rd quarter

Friday, Jan. 27, marks the end of January exams as well as the end of the second quarter of the 2005-2006 school year.

Report cards for the second quarter will be distributed in homeroom on Friday, Feb.

3. Families whose tuition payments are not up to date or who have not made prior payment arrangements will not receive their report cards.

Following a day off on January 30 for

Faculty In-Service, school will resume on Tuesday, Jan. 31. As the first day of the third quarter, with some new classes beginning for the second semester, this day will be an A-Day no matter where it falls in the cycle.

## Course Selection

Throughout January, the course selection process for 2006-07 will begin.

Guidance Counselors will be meeting with the students – in classes and individually – to discuss with the students required courses for graduation along with recom-

mended courses to assist the students in their college and life pursuits.

All students are required to take four years of English, Social Studies, Math, and Religion; three years of Science; two years of Foreign Language, two semester courses

in art and/or music; a semester of health; a semester of computers; and physical education.

This course load allows room for electives. The following is a list of electives offered at St. Mary's:

### Complete list of Electives at SMH

<p>□□ Ceramics Advanced Ceramics Studio in Art Drawing and Painting Introduction to Fine Arts Advertising &amp; Design</p>	<p>Sports/Entertainment Marketing Advanced Computer &amp; Communications Application Introduction to CAD Advanced CAD with 3D Modeling Internet and Web Page Development Digital Art Computer Science I &amp; II AP Computer Science Yearbook I &amp; II</p>	<p>□□□□□ A.P. English Art &amp; Craft of Poetry Writing Media Communications Public Speaking</p> <p>□□□□□□□□ Spanish IV Latin - An Introduction</p> <p>□ □□□□ □□□□ A.P. Calculus</p>	<p>□ □□□□□□□□□ □□□□ □□ Introduction to Performing Arts Musical Theatre Performance Musical Theatre Production Prep Choir Vocal Ensemble Keyboarding &amp; Guitar Advanced Keyboarding □ □□□□□□□ □□□□□ □□ □ Music Theory I</p>	<p>□□□□□□□□□□ Retreat Peer Ministry</p> <p>□□□□□□ Environmental Chemistry Physics A.P. Biology Advanced Chemistry</p> <p>□□□□□□□□□□ A.P. European History AP U.S. History Psychology Introduction to the Criminal Justice System</p>
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## Peanut Butter

Because of peanut allergies found in some of the students at St. Mary's High School, Mrs. Evelyn Skalski, cafeteria man-

ager, has decided that the school will no longer serve peanut butter and jelly sandwiches and will no longer use peanuts or

peanut butter in any dessert recipes. In addition, walnuts and walnut products will also not be used for similar reasons.



## Christmas and Epiphany never end

By Greg Coogan  
Campus Minister

The shopping is done. The presents are opened. The great holiday foods are eaten and now it's 2006. Students and faculty alike (and maybe parents too) are enjoying a break before the continuation of the academic year. A new year allows us to reflect upon the many blessings we have received. Here is a brief reflection upon the great feast we celebrate everyday, not just on Christmas day.

Jesus was born and is born anew in the many classrooms of St. Mary's during the ordinary school day. Jesus is born anew when one of our family members smiles and says hello instead of starting an argument. Jesus is born anew when members of the Senior class organize and feed close to fifty families through Catholic Charities. Jesus is born anew when we recognize the complete joy in our sons and daughters' (or our students') eyes when they get the longed-for gift or concept. It is true that Jesus in others appears to us in our everyday activities.

The Gift of Jesus can not be kept for ourselves. There are twelve days of Christmas, and it ends with the feast of the Epiphany on January 6. The word epiphany means manifestation or revelation. The Epiphany recalls when the wise men, guided by a star, go searching for the new born king and eventually find him. We too go searching but we don't often have to go very far to find the Jesus in others.



Our school provides students with the opportunity to see Jesus in the service of others.

Like the wise men we'd like to leave gifts. One gift could include service that we give to our school community or the community at large. There are little epiphanies when our students serve the Body of Christ to the Body of Christ as Eucharistic Ministers or successfully proclaim the Word at liturgy. Or what about the many students who do community service with local nursing homes and outreach centers?

I am convinced that Jesus is revealed to them in the people they serve, visit, or just say hello to.

It is my hope that our community over the next year may continue to be people of service who recognize the person of Jesus we encounter everyday.

Christmas and Epiphany never end. They always are in our hearts and lives. Where do you want to see Jesus? What gift would you like to give to him?

The following is a wonderful prayer for reflection. May it come true!

*To Bethlehem we travel, the wise men from the east, across the days of Christmas to the Epiphany Feast. Give us the courage of the Magi as we begin our search for you. Give us the eyes of the Magi that we might see the star that leads us too. And when we get to Bethlehem on that holy Epiphany day, give us the heart of the Magi that humbles us to pray.*

## Let's keep in touch

By Gary Schulenberg  
Dean of Curriculum

There is a veritable cornucopia of ways that the faculty and administration keep in touch with our St. Mary's community.

Your current reading of *Currents* is one such way.

In the realm of academics, *2½ Week Reports*, *Mid-Quarter Student Progress Evaluations*, and, finally, *Report Cards* are used to communicate a variety of information about the progress (or lack of) of St. Mary's students.

This year the administration decided to have *Student Progress Evaluations* (henceforth *SPEs*) issued to all freshmen and sophomores for the first quarter.

The goal was to establish a conduit of communication between teachers and parents.

For the rest of the year, *SPEs* will be completed either at the discretion of the teachers or at the request of the parents. This might be done any time or with the scheduled issuing of mid-quarter reports.

There are other means to stay in touch. When parents receive copies of *Mandatory Homework Sessions*, they obviously discover homework is a problem in that class.

Report Card Night (which took place in November) was another means. Teachers request to see certain parents to briefly discuss their son's &/or daughter's academic situation. Further discussions can also be set up. The Guidance Department also arranges meetings for parents and teachers.

While telephone conversation can be productive, many times phone tag results. An emerging method, e-mail, may prove to be better. It's a convenient way for parents to contact teachers and for teachers to reply.

It isn't restricted by time and also allows people to have copies of any correspondence.

Unfortunately many parents have not given the school their e-mail addresses. If you could, please provide the school with that information.

Communications concerning the well being of our charges must be a two-way street. St. Mary's teachers realize that open channels help us better monitor our students. It enhances the partnership between parents and teachers.

Open dialogue helps prevent misunderstanding and stems the spread of unnecessary misinformation. Students must be encouraged, yet held accountable. Parental/teacher communications can serve both ends.

These life skills will help prepare SMH students to grow and develop into happy and productive Christian adults.

# Congratulations, Students of the Month

## November 2005

## December 2005



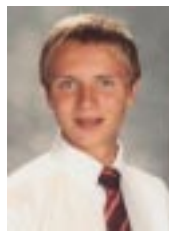
Stephanie Kremer



Brad Gibson



Ellyn Hayes



Michael Taylor



Sarah Odrobina



Keith Kropski



Brittany Carleton



Joanna Cianciosa

## “Stop the World. I want to get off.” “Sorry, you’re not allowed” or “What the Heck Is Going On Here?”

“Social Studies classes help students understand their roots, see their connection to the past... appreciate the delicate balance of rights and responsibilities in an open society...”

“...students should be able to use the knowledge and skills acquired through Social Studies courses to solve problems and make decisions in their daily lives.”

“Social Studies courses should provide students with the background to conduct research in order to cast informed votes, with skills to place conflicting ideas in context, and the wisdom to make good judgments in dealing with the tensions inherent in society such as the enduring struggle to find the proper balance between protecting the rights of individuals and promoting the common good.”

From NYSED, *Social Studies Overview*; Resource Guide with Core Curriculum

**By Gary Schulenberg**  
Dean of Curriculum

The above title may not be as inane as it may seem, at least when it comes to Social Studies. When we look at the news from our daily input of media, the world can seem to be a pretty chaotic and sometimes scary place. Many times our quest for answers to our many questions simply increases the questions we ask. With so many varying perspectives and agendas, who can you trust/believe/follow?

Are there sane solutions to our local, national, and international problems? Why isn't the world a reflection of the ancient and present holy sages' message of love and caring?

Social Studies can provide invaluable

assistance during these troubling times. As stated in the previous article on Social Studies, the social sciences are fact-filled disciplines, each with their own set of methodologies. Social Studies also contain handy helps, such as models, understanding the processes of change, learning from the past, and predictions. In this way, Social Studies can be utilized to deal with many, sometimes grave,

situations.

Another intricate part of Social Studies education pertains to current events. Today's issues have historical, geographical, economic, and political dimensions. Social Studies provide the analytical tools needed to understand present-day problems. Critical thinking skills lend itself to sound decision-making and problem-solving.



## A look back at life at St. Mary's High School — Jan. 14, 1957

**Edited by Jill Santoro**  
Librarian

The following article appeared in the "Marian Gazette" Monday, January 14, 1957.

The year 1956 has passed into the annals of time. But it is destined to become one of the most remembered years in modern times.

1956 will be recalled to the memories of many people for many things, both good and bad. It has been filled with the pathos, humor, drama, victories, happiness, and crises of daily living.

For some 1956 was a tragic year. Who can ever forget the pathetic appeal of Mrs. Morris Weinberger for the return of her baby son?

Great calamities were prevalent also. The train wreck in Los Angeles in which 30 died and 140 were injured; the sinking of the Italian luxury-liner, Andrea Doria; the raging fires which engulfed southern California, destroying homes and property, were only a few instances of such tragedy.

The constant strife for democracy was brought into focus very vividly. The world will long remember the courageous revolt of the Hungarian people against Communist tyranny.

The year 1956 saw great international crises. World trouble spot for the West was the Suez Canal, when Israel invaded the Sinai Peninsula and England and France attacked Egypt, which blocked the canal.

Great political victories were scored in 1956. President Eisenhower was re-elected to a second term with a record-breaking vote.

Worldwide attention was attracted by the marriage of movie queen Grace Kelly and Prince Rainier of Monaco.

1956 was the year of "rock and roll." Millions of teenagers joined in the Elvis Presley craze of wild gyrations and inaudible singing.

We are now faced with the year 1957. We are uncertain of what the future holds. But whatever it is, let us hope it will be as prosperous and happy as 1956.

## St. Mary's hosts SAT Prep classes

St. Mary's will hold two SAT Prep Classes the second semester. The first one will end before the April 1 test date and the second before the June 3 test date.

The cost of the class is \$225, which includes the book. Registration forms are available on our website. The dates and times are as follows:

### First Session

Sunday, Feb. 26 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
 Wednesday, March 1 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 5 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 8 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 12 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 15 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 19 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, March 22 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, March 26 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
 Wednesday, March 29 - 6 - 8 p.m.

### Second Session

Sunday, April 30 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
 Wednesday, May 3 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, May 7 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, May 10 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, May 14 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, May 17 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
**SATURDAY**, May 20 - 11 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
 Wednesday, May 24 - 6 - 8 p.m.  
 Sunday, May 28 - 8:30 a.m. - 12 noon  
 Wednesday, May 31 - 6 - 8 p.m.

*Lancer Auction 2006  
 An Evening  
 of  
 Enchancement  
 Friday, Feb. 10  
 6 p.m. - ?*

*For more information,  
 call the Development Office  
 683-4824 ext. 28*

## Officer explains arrest procedures

By **Henry Even**  
*Social Studies Teacher*

Part of the U.S. History and Government curriculum includes the study of the rights of the accused.

Officer James Robinson of the Lancaster Police Department came to Mr. Even's U.S. History classes in December to explain arrest procedures, search and seizure concepts, and rights of the accused.

The presentation was designed to show how information studied in class could be a part of

the students' daily lives.

The Lancaster Police Department has been very cooperative with these presentations for many years. The department has also assisted with the senior class Election project and the Criminal Justice class.

Besides the academic value of this presentation, there is another benefit— This officer gave the students the opportunity to ask questions and to see that police are human beings. Hopefully, this benefits good community relations between students and the police.



*Officer Robinson speaks to Mr. Even's U.S. History class*

## A waiting list to solve world problems

By **Gary Schulenberg**  
*Dean of Curriculum*

Next spring the St. Mary's High School Chapter of the Model UN will go to the University at Buffalo to participate in WorldConnect's Model UN.

Another committee was added to this event this year, and this allows St. Mary's to send a record 42 students.

Traditionally, our school sends one of the largest contingencies of delegates. Unfortunately, about a dozen students are on a

waiting list, hoping that others drop out.

The club is currently doing research on their respective countries, which includes Italy, Greece, and Australia. Here, again, St. Mary's track record is very good.

The 400 plus student delegations from Western New York usually debate a number of resolutions written by the St. Mary's contingency.

The group needed to change their meeting date from Thursday to Friday mornings to facilitate rehearsals for the Jazz Band. Both clubs have common members.

## *From the Health Office* *Suggestions for preventing the flu*

Here are some fast facts on the flu from the Center of Disease Control:

- Approximately 1/5 of the U.S. population attends or works in schools.
- Some viruses and bacteria can live from 20 minutes up to 2 hours or more on surfaces like cafeteria tables, door-knobs, and desks.
- Nearly 22 million school days are lost annually due to the common cold alone.
- Addressing the spread of germs in schools is essential to the health of our youth, our schools, and our nation.
- Students need to get plenty of sleep and

physical activity, drink water, and eat good food to help them stay healthy in the winter and all year.

Educators, staff, and parents can help slow the spread of colds and flu by:

- Covering your nose and mouth with a tissue when you cough or sneeze—and throwing out the tissue after use.
- Washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after you cough or sneeze. If water is not near, use an alcohol-based hand cleaner.
- Remembering to not touch your eyes, nose, or mouth. Germs often spread this way.

# Leadership Class adds to community in many ways

By Peter Herr  
*Leadership Teacher*

When Dr. Casimino asked me to teach the Leadership Class a few years ago, I had no idea where it would lead. The course started with only three students whose efforts produced a very successful "Hoops For Lukes" 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament raising over \$1,800 for St. Luke's Mission of Mercy. We did something right, because the following year there were 13 students.

Last year we expanded the scope of the projects to include a two-week-long school project on voting. The United States government was kind enough to participate by holding a presidential election, of which we held our own. President Bush carried St. Mary's as well.

This year's class of 14 wanted to also create a full-school project that fit in with something that was already going on. They chose to piggyback on this year's school

theme of character. Each month there is a character trait of the month and some small activities to support it. During the second and third week of January, the Leadership class is going to present a two-week-long project to reinforce the very important idea of personal character.

The project will take place beginning Monday, Jan. 9, and will run through Friday, Jan. 20. Each day will begin with a morning announcement explaining in detail one of the monthly character traits that are a part of the program that Ms. Baker has been using.

The students have been researching famous or recognizable people to use to illustrate these traits, and students will also recognize faculty/staff members who exemplify the trait. Teachers will be asked to quietly recognize students who exhibit these traits. In the afternoon another announcement will explain the next day's trait, hopefully allowing students to reflect on it and find ways to exhibit it the next day.

Additionally, Leadership students will try their hand at producing a pre-recorded radio show that will be played in the cafeteria during lunches on two of the days. The two separate broadcasts will feature talk-style radio, an advertisement for living a life filled with character, and some music that supports the theme.

At the end of the second week we will be having an assembly that will honor both the students and the faculty/staff members who were recognized as having the character traits of the day. We are working on getting a speaker for the day, who will also support the idea of living a life of character.

The Leadership students will also be running three charity projects (see the additional article on each) during that two-week period.

Those two weeks will be very busy, but the Leadership students are excited to bring this important message to the St. Mary's Community.

## *Students coordinate events for charity*

The St. Mary's Leadership Class, under the leadership of teacher Mr. Peter Herr, is holding a Dodgeball Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. in the St. Mary's Athletic Center.

Each team in the tournament will consist of six players; at least three of the players must be St. Mary's students. The fee is \$30 per team with the proceeds from the tournament benefiting a local charity, still to be determined.

All students are invited to participate; there will be both male and female divisions, with teams broken down by grade. Plus, the balls are soft.

"We encourage all students to come and let off some steam before mid-term exams," recommended the Leadership Class.

Those interested in participating in the tournament should contact Nate Casillo, Brendan Erhardt, Eric Kufel, Ryan Kufel, or Jon Pantera.

\* \* \* \* \*

As part of the Leadership Skills Class charity event program, St. Mary's will be hosting the second annual Rock for Roswell live concert.

The concert will be held on Thursday, Jan. 12, from 7 to 10 p.m. at the school.

The goal of the class is to donate ticket proceeds to the Roswell Park Cancer Institute. Roswell is a leader in cancer treatment

and research and is always appreciative of contributions.

A few local bands have been invited to participate. "The show should be awesome."

Tickets are \$4 presale, \$5 at the door. They are available by contacting students Ryan Schwartz, Laura Pasek, Bryan Nadrowski, and Clare Schaub.

\* \* \* \* \*

Seniors Kyle Lang, Alissa Tartick, and Liz Greene are organizing St. Mary's first Shoot-a-Thon, as part of the school's Par-

ticipation in Government Class.

The event will take place on January 19 and 20 from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Each participating student will take 100 shots. They will have people sponsor them per shot made or in a lump sum. Money raised from the Shoot-a-Thon will be donated to the Make-a-Wish Foundation and the St. Mary's Sports Boosters.

More information and sponsorship forms will be available when school resumes on January 3.

## Senior Class schedules Fish Fries

*Please mark your calendars:*

The Senior Class of St. Mary's High School is sponsoring a Lenten Fish Fries on Friday, March 3, and Friday, March 10, from 4 to 7 p.m. both nights. The dinners will be held in the school cafeteria.

The dinners will be prepared by the students with the help of Cafeteria Manager Evelyn Skalski and her wonderful staff.

The dinners will include fish, homemade salads, coleslaw, bread, dessert, and a drink. Take-outs will be available.

In addition to the Fish Fries, the event will include a Chinese Auction and a Split

Club each night.

The proceeds from the Fish Fry will be used to defray some of the costs incurred by these students during their senior year. This includes the cost of the Senior Prom and the Graduation.

Anyone who is interested in helping out is always welcome. The Class is especially looking for donations of items for the Chinese Auction. Anyone who wishes to contribute is asked to send their items in to the class moderators.

More information on the Fish Fries and volunteering is available by calling Mr. Kidder at 683-4824, ext. 15.





*Father Peter Karalus accepts the Gifts as part of the Christmas liturgy*



*Members of the Senior Class load donated gifts for Catholic Charities*



*Mr. Gary Beuth directs the Jazz Band during the Christmas program*

# Christmas at St. Mary's



*Christina Knapp dances to Believe*



*Who wants this hippopotamus for Christmas? Ask Brittany Carleton and Stephanie Sikorski*



*Dr. Casmino and Ms. Baker display their Christmas Spirit*



*Kicking it up, Rockette style!!*

## Greek drama comes to life



Students in Mrs. Kristen Killian's English 10 Honors class display their projects. After studying the ancient Greek drama *Antigone*, the students created masks to symbolically represent the characters.

## Jazz Band off to a great start

By Sarah Chudyk  
Class of 2006

This school year, St. Mary's High School is offering a new music program to its students.

Under the direction of Mr. Gary Beuth, a talented group of students has come together to form a Jazz Band.

As time has gone by, the band has been able to progress and learn how to play music as a group.

The band currently has 14 members. It features a variety of instruments, including trumpets, a trombone, saxophones, drums, keyboards, a bass, and a guitar.

This group had its first performance in the Christmas show, which proved to be a success.

And the band plans on playing in a high school jazz festival at Mount St. Mary's in February.

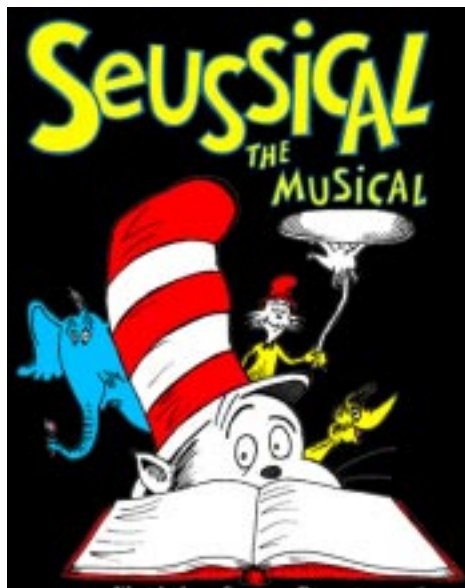
The group has also been invited to perform in a festival to take place at Darien Lake later in the spring.

The Jazz Band still has openings for anyone interested in joining. Those interested should contact Mr. Beuth for more information.

## St. Mary's to present *Seussical the Musical*

By Peter Herr  
Performing Arts Chairman

The Performing Arts Department is excited to announce that the musical for this school year will be "Seussical". The play, based on the works of a ward-winning children's author Dr. Seuss, tells the story of Horton the Elephant and his mission to save the tiny planet of Who. Many of the Seuss favorite characters are there, including Horton, the Grinch, and of course, the Cat in the Hat.



Open auditions for the production will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 10, and Wednesday, Jan. 11, from 2:30 until approximately 5 p.m. Each student will be required to attend

one audition for dance and one for singing during those two days of open try-outs.

Students may sign up for times beginning on Wednesday, Jan. 4.

Call-back auditions will be held on Friday, Jan. 13, from 2:30 until approximately 5 p.m. The cast list will then be posted early the following week.

Rehearsals will begin shortly after the cast list is posted. There WILL BE rehearsals for lead characters during the one-week break in February.

The production will run Thursday, March 23, through Saturday, March 25, with the curtain rising at 7:30 p.m. for all three performances.

Tickets will go on sale in early March.

## Scholars enjoy many varied activities

Students from the Scholars Program participated in an evening of Board Games in November, and then in December the members took part in Art Night.

In the upcoming months, members of the Scholars Program will attend events at the Lancaster Opera House, Studio Arena, and the University at Buffalo.



Juniors Tabitha Slachciak and Cameron Powell playing a game of Jenga (above) while junior Paul Bilz tries the drop method of painting.



## Boys soccer concludes great season

The 2005 soccer season turned out a new high of 28 — interested student athletes. The turn-out included 10 freshmen.

This year's focus was on increased conditioning combined with a new level of skills' training. The boys worked hard during pre-season as new college-level drills were added to the regimen.

The goal of each practice and game was clear: better today than yesterday, but not as good as tomorrow.

Continuous improvement was visible throughout the season. The team's scoring ratio for the first half of the season was one goal scored for every 1.5 goals given up. In the second half of the season, the team improved to 1.5 goals scored for every one given up.

This was clearly better today than yesterday.

When all was done, the young men had scored 54 goals and given up 55 and finished with an 8-win, 7-loss, 1-tie record. They defeated Nichols twice. They played close

games against every opponent and were viewed as a team that worked hard to the end of every game. The Lancers were also the only team to score a goal against St. Joe's the entire season.

This year's increased interest and success may position us to field a varsity team and a JV team next year. Some of the players continue to hone their skills by playing in a U-17 indoor league at the Epic Center this January.

Congratulations for a hard-fought fourth-place finish with truly competitive spirit and teamwork. Every game was winnable, and every Lancer player was better today than yesterday, but not as good as next season.

## Kropski bowls 278, sets school record

Junior Keith Kropski, a member of the St. Mary's varsity boys bowling team, recently rolled a game of 278.

In his record game, he spared in the first frame, rolled nine straight strikes, and ended

## Three vb players named All-WNY

Congratulations to three St. Mary's varsity volleyball players who were recently named to the All-Western New volleyball teams.

- Freshman Allyson Severyn was named to Second-Team All-Western New York for small schools.
- Senior co-captains Amy Jeary and Carly McNeil were named to First Team All-Western New York for small schools.

The three girls received their All-Western New York awards on December 4 when St. Mary's hosted the 2005 Super Senior Game for girls' volleyball.

Congratulations, ladies!

with a spare.

The coaches believe that the 278 is a school record. It is also the present high game in the Msgr. Martin League for this season.

## January 2006 Lunch Menu

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>2</b> No School	<b>3</b> Chicken patty on roll, potato wedges, corn, assorted fruit, milk	<b>4</b> Baked chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, broccoli, peach cobbler, milk	<b>5</b> Tacos, seasoned meat, cheese/lettuce, salsa, rice, soft or hard shell, Jell-O, milk	<b>6</b> Chicken tender subs, potato patty, fruit, milk
<b>9</b> Spaghetti with meat sauce, hot biscuits, chef salad, fruit, milk	<b>10</b> Boneless BBQ ribs with sauce on roll, tater rounds, apple sauce, milk	<b>11</b> Pizza subs with cheese/sauce/pepperoni, chef salad, pudding, milk	<b>12</b> Mini subs - turkey or ham, cheese, lettuce, nachos with salsa, fruit, milk	<b>13</b> Grilled cheese, tomato soup, hash brown patty, Jell-O, milk
<b>16</b> No School	<b>17</b> Goulash with meat sauce, chef salad, bread sticks, Jell-O, milk	<b>18</b> Turkey dinner, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, gravy, cranberry sauce, fruit, milk	<b>19</b> Hot dogs, beans, Sauerkraut, potato, cobbler, milk	<b>20</b> Tony's pizza, mozzarella sticks, cookies, orange juice, milk
<b>23</b> Fries with Sloppy Joes or grilled cheese with chili, cake, orange juice, milk	<b>24</b> No Lunch - Exams	<b>25</b> No Lunch - Exams	<b>26</b> No Lunch - Exams	<b>27</b> No Lunch - Exams
<b>30</b> No School	<b>31</b> Cook's Choice			

**Breakfast Served Every Day**  
7:15-7:45 a.m.  
Cost: \$1.00

Toasted bagel, cream cheese, donut/cereal, muffin, juice/milk

*Note:* A la carte items can be purchased at \$.60 each donut, bagel, muffin; \$.40 milk; \$.40 juice

### Special Note

Students may prepay for lunch by the week or month — \$2 per day.

### Everyday the Cafeteria serves:

- A. Balanced lunch as shown on the menu
- B. Soup of the day with tuna, or egg sandwich
- C. Salad bar

D. Deli sandwiches w/ ham, turkey, lettuce, & cheese; bread, kaiser roll

**Please Note:** Lunches are subject to change according to availability of products. Extra grains are served each day to meet dietary guidelines.

# January 2006 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b>	<b>2-Off</b> No School Office open 9am-12noon	<b>3-A</b> School Resumes Curriculum Committee 2:30pm Poetry Club 2:30pm  <i>Freshman Boys BB vs. Timon 3:30pm</i> <i>Boys BB @ O'Hara 6pm</i>	<b>4-B</b> Scientific & Medical Professions Field Trip to OP Vet Hospital 2:45pm Literary Magazine 2:30pm	<b>5-C</b> Ski Club 3-9pm  <i>Wrestling vs. Niagara Catholic 6pm</i>	<b>6-D</b> Model UN 7:30pm Freshmen Candy Bar Sale Kick-Off  <i>Girls BB vs. O'Hara 6pm</i>	<b>7</b> <i>Var BB vs. Walsh 2pm</i>
<b>8</b>	<b>9-E</b> Student Senate 2:20pm Scholars (International Food Fest) 6pm	<b>10-F</b> NHS 2:30pm Campus Ministry 2:30pm Musical Auditions 2:30pm Parent Guild Board 6:30pm Parent Guild 7pm  <i>Boys BB vs. Timon 6pm</i>	<b>11-A</b> Ext. HR - PM Liturgy Schedule (Class Meetings - Liturgy for Peace) Environmental Club 7:30am Principal's Ad Board 2:30pm Musical Auditions 2:30pm  <i>Girls BB @ Park 4:30pm</i> <i>Freshman Boys BB vs. O'Hara 4pm</i>	<b>12-B</b> Principal's Breakfast with Parents 8-8:45am Prom Committee 2:20pm Ski Club 3-9pm Rock for Roswell 7-10pm  <i>Wrestling @ Gow 6pm</i>	<b>13-C</b> Model UN 7:30am Musical Call-backs 2:30pm  <i>Girls BB @ JFK 6pm</i> <i>Boys BB vs. Niagara Catholic 6pm</i> <i>Wrestling @ Lockport Tourney 2:30pm</i>	<b>14</b> Dodgeball Tournament 7pm  <i>Girls BB vs. Immaculata 6pm</i> <i>Wrestling @ Lockport Tourney 8am</i>
<b>15</b>	<b>16-Off</b> No School Martin Luther King Jr. Day	<b>17-D</b> Poetry Club 2:30pm  <i>Girls BB vs. Alden 6pm</i> <i>Boys BB vs. O'Hara 6pm</i>	<b>18-E</b> Faculty Meeting 2:30pm  <i>Girls BB vs. Niagara Catholic 6pm</i> <i>Freshman Boys BB vs. St. Francis 4pm</i>	<b>19-F</b> Prom Committee 2:20pm Book Club 2:30pm Ski Club 3-9pm Shoot-a-thon 2:30-4:30pm  <i>Wrestling vs. Gow 6pm</i>	<b>20-A</b> PM Assembly Schedule (Guest Speaker) Pride Day Model UN 7:30am NHS Induction 6:30pm Shoot-a-thon 2:30-4:30pm	<b>21</b> <i>Freshman Boys BB @ St. Joe's 11am</i> <i>Wrestling @ Westfield Tourney 8am</i>
<b>22</b>	<b>23-B</b> Student Senate 2:20pm	<b>24-Exams</b> January Exams See Page 1	<b>25-Exams</b> January Exams See Page 1  <i>Wrestling @ Depew 6:30pm</i>	<b>26-Exams</b> January Exams See Page 1 Ski Club 3-9pm	<b>27-Exams</b> January Exams See Page 1 Second Quarter Ends  <i>Girls BB vs. Hutch-Tech 6pm</i> <i>Boys BB @ Nichols 6pm</i> <i>Wrestling @ Lew-Port Tourney 2:30pm</i>	<b>28</b> SAT Test Date  <i>Wrestling @ Lew-Port Tourney 8am</i>
<b>29</b>	<b>30-Off</b> No School for Students Faculty In-service  <i>Girls BB vs. Buffalo Seminary 6pm</i> <i>Boys BB @ East Aurora 6pm</i>	<b>31-A</b> Third Quarter Begins Scientific & Medical Professions Field Trip to Sisters Hospital 2:30-5pm	<b>1-B</b> Scholars (Lancaster Opera House) 7pm  <i>Girls BB vs. Mt. St. Mary's 6pm</i>	<b>2-C</b> Prom Committee 2:20pm Ski Club 3-9pm Incoming Freshmen Registration 6-8pm  <i>Freshman Boys BB @ Jamestown 6pm</i>	<b>3-D</b> Special Schedule (Class Meetings, Senior Blood Drive Meeting & Assembly) Model UN 7:30am  <i>Girls BB @ Niagara Catholic 5:30pm</i> <i>Boys BB vs. St. Francis 6pm</i>	<b>4</b>

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There is a way to combine the answers to both of these questions: by doing your shopping at iGive.com.

iGive.com has nearly 650 websites through which many people do their internet shopping, including e-bay, Land's End, Barnes & Noble, Dell, and so much more. Up to 26 percent of each purchase you make at

these sites will benefit St. Mary's.

In addition, by accessing the retailers through iGive.com, you will receive added discounts.

To start to save and donate, go to iGive.com, register as a new user, enter St. Mary's High School as your designated cause (our cause identification number is 30618), and start shopping.

Thank you for helping St. Mary's High School.

**ABCs**  
Of Student Success



**St. Mary's High School**  
142 Laverack Avenue  
Lancaster, NY 14086