

St. Mary's May Newsletter

2019

Dear Parents,

Christ Is Risen! Alleluia! The simplicity and sacrifice of Lent are over. We turn our eyes to the glory of Jesus and the joy he has given us in the Resurrection. The natural world reflects this joy, as springtime causes the earth to burst with new life. We reclaim the joyful music of our Alleluias. For fifty days we will keep the season of glory that completes our Lenten season of penance and discipline.

Eastertime is about new life, and the signs of new life are all around us. There are eggs, rabbits, chicks, flowers, green grass, and butterflies. We celebrate Jesus again with symbols of light. The paschal candle, the giant candle that is lighted during this season whenever we celebrate in the church, shows that Jesus lives. His light was not put out with death but shines now because of His Resurrection.

The sun rises each morning, bright and strong. It too is a sign of the Resurrection of Jesus. The sun has always been recognized as a sign of God's warmth, love and life-giving power. What would we do without it? Let us think about this as we enjoy the longer and warmer days and as we see the plants and flowers that the sun seems to be calling out of the earth.

We are in the Easter Season which lasts through Pentecost Sunday, June 9th. It is a season full of life. In the northern hemisphere it is springtime. Rivers and streams come alive. Trees sprout new leaves, flowers blossom, birds sing. The calendar is full –May Crowning, Ascension Thursday, Mother's Day, Spring Concert, and Memorial Day Weekend.

The Church says to us, "This is the perfect time of the year to celebrate life - a life that lasts forever. Enjoy! Let there be a 50-day festival. Let the Paschal Candle, lit from the Easter fire, burn brightly throughout these days. Catch the spirit in the air and let it remind you of the Holy Spirit within you."

Re-registration Please respond by May 17th. Plans are already being made for next year's textbook orders and firming up teacher positions. Forms are attached to the newsletter.

Registration is ongoing for all grades. Pre K and Kindergarten have limited space so if you have someone for either of these grades please register them as soon as possible or call the school office.

Sports: **Golf** will be every Monday and Wednesday starting April 29th for grades 5-8. Mr. Jebb and Mr. Arzberger will be the coaches. Permission forms were sent. Pick-up promptly at 5:00 at the golf course.

Girls on the Move will be starting. It will be for girls in grades 4-8. Mrs. Leerkes and Mrs. Arzberger will be in charge. Permission forms were sent.

April 30 **NYS Math Testing Gr. 4**, Computer Based

May 1 and 2 **NYS Math Testing grades 3, 5, 6, Paper Based. 4, 7, 8, Computer Based.** Please be sure students are well rested, are here on time and have a good breakfast.

May 1 **Chocolate Sale ends.** Dress as you like in June only happens if all chocolate is sold and all money turned in by May 1st. If you and your family have sold 4 boxes you are guaranteed dress as you like for June (we have a list).

May 3 **First Friday Mass** at 9 A.M. and **May Crowning.** The Mass will be said by Father Howard. *Everyone is to wear his school uniform today.* No dress passes. All are invited. Please bring a non-perishable food item or paper product for the food pantry.

May 6 **Education Council Meeting** 7 P.M. – Sale of \$100 Tickets will be discussed. Also on the agenda will be a replacement fund raiser for the Gala.

- May 8 **Math Test Scoring.** Teachers from 3, 4, and 5 will travel to Plattsburgh.
- May 9 **Math Test Scoring.** Teachers from 6, 7, and 8 will travel to Plattsburgh.
- May 10 **Principals' Meeting** in Lake Placid. Sister Sharon will attend.
- May 12 **Happy Mothers' Day!** Do something nice for Mom and Grandma.
- May 15 **Conservation Field Days** in Westport. 5th grade will attend.
- May 16 **"The Ned Show"** is a positive behavior assembly. The show will begin at 10:30 in the school gym. Thank you to the Festival Guild for making this show possible.
- May 19 **1st Communion during 9:00 Mass**
- May 21 **Bird Banding** field trip for grades 5 and 6.
- May 22 **NYS Science Performance Test grade 4, 8:15.** Please be here on time.
- May 23 **NYS Science Performance Test grade 8, 8:15.** Please be here on time.
- May 24-28 **Memorial Day Weekend - No School.** See you on Wednesday, May 29th
- May 30 **Ascension Thursday** Mass at 9:00. This is a Holy Day. All are invited.
- May 31 **Family Breakfast**

Thank You to all who have kept up with their tuition payments and paid their supply fees. If you have any cafeteria charges we would appreciate it if you would pay them. Year-end statements will be sent.

June Dates:

- | | |
|---|---|
| June 3 – NYS Written Science Test 4 & 8 | June 14 – End of Year Carnival |
| June 5 – Floating Classroom grades 2 and 4. | June 17 – Pre K and Kindergarten Graduation |
| June 7 – 1 st Friday Mass | June 19 – 8 th Grade Algebra I Regents |
| June 8 – Nun Run | June 19 – 8 th Grade Graduation |
| June 12 – Spring Concert | June 26 – Last Day of School, Report Cards |

Letter to Parents

We talk often about building our children's self-esteem. This is important if they are to grow up to be confident, independent young men and women. However, self-esteem, like respect, must be earned if it is to have true value. Children who are praised for doing less than their best are learning the wrong lesson.

Parents and teachers may feel they are walking a tightrope. Too much criticism is hurtful - all children need to feel loved and appreciated. Yet praising mediocrity can be equally damaging. A child who is allowed to be satisfied with minimal effort will never feel the true satisfaction that results from hard work well done. If we want students to reach their potential, we must challenge them and encourage their creativity. We must do less for them and give them more responsibility.

Set reasonable, not impossible, goals. Encourage your youngster to recognize what has been done well and what might be improved. Show in your own work that people can make mistakes and try again, that success is all the sweeter when it results from real effort and commitment.