

# ST. MARY ON THE HILL CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Friday, November 30, 2018



Dear families,

SMCS is preparing for the start of Advent on Sunday with the display of our Star from Afar crèche, which was donated to us last year by Michael and Pat Nordmann. The pieces, which are replicas from the book, [A Star from Afar](#) by Natalie Ard, were kindly made by FastSigns. We continue to be grateful for these gifts of time, talent, and treasure so that our students can focus on the true meaning of this season: the Birth of Jesus.

This morning, during the Saints Morning Show, Mrs. Webster read the book [A Star from Afar](#) to the SMCS student body. On Monday, December 3rd, grades K-4 homerooms will begin the search for the Star of Bethlehem. Also on Monday, grades 5-8 homerooms will start the wise men on their journey. Once the star is located, the student will read the attached Bible verse. The assigned class from grades 5-8 will move the wise men to their new location, inching ever closer to the crèche each day. We look forward to sharing this tradition with you each week as Christmas draws near. Stay tuned for more photos!

Many blessings,

*Ashley J. Fisher*

Assistant Principal

St. Mary on the Hill Catholic School

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<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryOnTheHillCatholicSchool/>

Follow us on Instagram: @st.maryssaints

## News and Events for the Next Two Weeks

### Week of December 3rd:

#### Sunday, 12/02

- First Sunday of Advent

#### Monday, 12/03

- Star from Afar: School-wide Advent Activity begins

#### Tuesday, 12/04

- Reconciliation offered for Jr. High students
- AU Christmas Tree lighting on Summerville Campus @ 6pm
- 5:00 PM & 6:00 PM Basketball A-teams play against Heritage

#### Wednesday, 12/05

- 2 PM PAGE Scrimmage in the Gym
- 3-5 PM Dress rehearsal for musical
- 7 PM Family penance service

#### Thursday, 12/06

- 4:00/5:00/6:00/7:00 PM Basketball v. SMS-Aiken

#### Friday, 12/07

- 9:15 AM First Friday Mass
- Class picture day- Mass uniform is required today. This includes appropriate footwear. Students who come to school in sneakers will be issued a uniform violation today.

#### Saturday, 12/08

- SMCS will host the area PAGE Academic Bowl competition on our campus today. Go Saints!!

### Week of December 10th:

#### Monday, 12/10

- 4/5/6:15 PM Basketball v. Westminster (No girls B game)

### **Tuesday, 12/11**

- Christmas Bazaar, Day 1
- Reconciliation offered to 3rd grade students

### **Wednesday, 12/12**

- Christmas Bazaar, Day 2
- Full dress rehearsal for musical
- 4/5/6:15 PM Basketball v. Alleluia (No girls B game)

### **Thursday, 12/13**

- Final day of Christmas Bazaar
- Christmas musical performance during last 10 min of 8<sup>th</sup>/all of 9<sup>th</sup> periods
- 6:30 PM Christmas musical

### **Friday, 12/14**

### **Week of December 17th:**

### **Monday, 12/17**

### **Tuesday, 12/18**

- Reconciliation offered to 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade students

### **Wednesday, 12/19**

- Junior High exams

### **Thursday, 12/20**

- Junior High exams

### **Friday, 12/21**

- 9:15 AM Kindergarten Christmas program. All grades welcome.
- 11:30 AM dismissal. **Please note there will be NO After-Care today!**
- Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! SMCS will reopen on Monday, January 7th.

## This Week in Photos



4th-grade students continued the tradition of painting windows at the Central Avenue Dairy Queen. Each year 4th-grade students design and paint DQ windows for the Christmas season.



All 4th-grade students had the opportunity to paint either the windows at Dairy Queen or windows at SMCS, as shown above. All 4th-graders celebrated with an ice cream treat!



Thank you, Dairy Queen, for allowing us to continue this special tradition, year after year!



With Advent beginning on Sunday, 12/01, our students are eager to focus on the true meaning of this special time of year.

## Other News and Information

### **IXL now includes Spanish!**

Parents, your child's IXL account now gives access to Spanish enrichment material by using your child's same IXL login information. Please email [marina.rodriguez@smcsaug.org](mailto:marina.rodriguez@smcsaug.org) with any questions that you may have.

### **Supporting Catholic Education:**

Grace Scholars is a student scholarship organization (SSO) that helps students attend St. Mary's and other Catholic schools in Georgia. GRACE Scholars donors support Catholic education while receiving a Georgia tax credit for their donation. Donors include individuals, individual business owners (S corporations, LLCs, and partnerships), "C" corporations, and estates and taxable trusts. It is easy to be a donor. Please visit [www.gracescholars.org](http://www.gracescholars.org) for more information and to pre-register for your 2019 Georgia tax credit. Pre-registrations for 2019 Georgia tax credits are due by December 15, 2018. Donations to Georgia Scholars are not due until March 2019.

**Attention Gymnasts/Tumblers!** Mrs. Haley needs your help in this year's Christmas program. Please contact her if your child is interested in tumbling in the Christmas musical, which will be held on Thursday, December 13th.

**Make it an Irish Christmas!** Buy your Christmas tree now through Aquinas High School, and then go to A Very Merry Christmas Tree Farms with your receipt to select your tree. All proceeds from this sale support Aquinas athletic teams. The deadline to order is Saturday, December 8th. You must visit this link to get ALL of the details! [https://secure.edlio.com/ssl/christmas\\_tree\\_store/index.jsp?ech=www.aquinashigh.org](https://secure.edlio.com/ssl/christmas_tree_store/index.jsp?ech=www.aquinashigh.org)

### **The SMCS Christmas Bazaar is almost here!**

- Classroom shopping schedules will be sent out by the homeroom or classroom teachers by next week.
- The Christmas Bazaar will be held at the computer lab next to the library.
- Christmas Bazaar items range in price from .25-\$3.50
- Share your crafting talent and donate an item or two to the Christmas Bazaar. Deliver items on December 7th from 11am-2pm, or leave them with Mrs. Leonard before 11am.
- Join the fun and volunteer! Contact Jessica Torres-Pryor at [driesstp@gmail.com](mailto:driesstp@gmail.com).

## Prayer for Advent

*Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, ever faithful to your promises and ever close to your Church: the earth rejoices in hope of the Savior's coming and looks forward with longing to his return at the end of time. Prepare our hearts and remove the sadness that hinders us from feeling the joy and hope which his presence will bestow, for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.*

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*In a Christ-centered atmosphere, the mission of St. Mary on the Hill Catholic School is to teach, to learn, and to become faith-filled servants of Jesus.*