

Celebrate Rosary

Families are invited to a celebration of the Rosary next Thursday, Oct. 18, 2:15 p.m., at St. Peter Church.

Eighth-graders will lead the school in prayer with a Living Rosary in which each Hail Mary will be represented by the lighting of a candle.

Quick change

Mr. Pierce's class has jumped out to an early lead in this year's Pennies from Heaven contest.

As of Oct. 5, the fourth-graders had collected \$150 in loose change, which was the tops schoolwide. Mrs. Griffore's class was in second place with \$107.

Funny footwear

The Student Council will hold a "Socktober" fundraiser to fight poverty Oct. 16. Students are asked to donate 50 cents to wear crazy socks to school. They may also wear tennis shoes with their uniforms and crazy socks.

Season wrap-up

The annual Recognition Night dinner for St. Mary's fall CYO varsity teams will be held Oct. 29 in the cafeteria.

Doors will open at 6:30. The reservation slip with payment is due by this Friday.

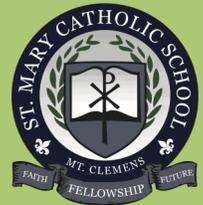
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OCTOBER 2018

The Messenger

THE STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ST. MARY MT. CLEMENS



Gym construction enters home stretch

Started last spring, construction on St. Mary's new gymnasium addition is nearing completion.

Mrs. Miscavish gave us an update on the project and what it means for our school.

When is the gym going to open to the school?

Our target date to be up and running is for the start of basketball season, which is the first weekend in December.



What will go on in the new gym?

Gym class, kindergarten and 1st, 2nd grade Christmas pageant, preschool and kindergarten graduation, and other special school events.

The parish will also host special events for the whole St. Peter community in the gym.

What will the old gym be used for?

We will continue to keep the old gym for Mass twice a week. Preschool & Kindergarten will be able to use the gym more, other grades as well, and all our school assemblies will be held in the old gym.

(Continued on page 2)



Up in arms

The mantis has long been considered a symbol of good luck in some cultures. If that's true, fortune may soon favor St. Mary School and Ms. Belknap, who allowed one of the insects to clamber up her arm after it was found in the parking lot after dismissal Oct. 3. Maya Haddad, background, was among a handful of students transfixed by the rare sight.

Time to scare up plans for Halloween

What are you doing for Halloween? Chances are, you've been thinking about that lately. The staff of The Messenger shared their plans for Oct. 31.

Rita Yammine: This year for Halloween I am probably going to dress up as Little Red Riding Hood. Last year I dressed up as Dorothy from The Wizard of Oz, so I'm going to keep going with the "traditional" character getup. Plan-wise, I'm probably going to go to Trunk or Treats, Halloween parties, and stuff like that.

Abby Farah: On Halloween, I plan to get candy. Lots of it.

Gavin Gaynor: My

(Continued on page 2)

Around School

Fractions and decimals making math fun

BY JAMES ANDARY

In 6th grade, we are learning about plenty of things.

In social studies, we are learning about ancient artifacts and how people discover the artifacts and rituals. This is all about geographers, historians, and archaeologists.

In math, we are learning about equivalent fractions, and we've started learning how to make fractions and decimals equivalent. It is

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where you have a decimal — for example 0.34 — and you have to turn it into a fraction. You say it like thirty-four hundredths so, the fraction is 34/100.

"I think this is easy!" Quinn Addis said.

"This is really fun!" Vito Haddad said.

In religion, we are learning how we should think of Mass as a gift. Many people

do not value Mass as much as they should. Jesus has sacrificed his life and the least we could do is go to church for one hour on a Sunday. That is a very good lesson for children who are younger and complain about going.

Last but not least, in science we are learning about elevation, contour lines, etc. for mountains. We are also learning about the layers of the Earth and the size of each layer.



Student Spotlight

Joseph Banaszak is 10 years old and in Mrs. Sorgeloos' fifth-grade class.

This is his first year at St. Mary.

His best subject in school is science because science really interests him.

His favorite hobby is building Legos because he has been interested in them since he was 5. He said his dream job is working at Lego headquarters in Denmark.

His idea of a perfect day is no school, going to CJ Barrymore's, and of course building Legos.

He decided that if he could have a super power, it would be super speed because it's cool to be fast. He said that the best thing his friends ever said was the fact that he is very tall. (He's 5'4.)

Most people don't know that he played basketball at Upward and has also played soccer.

He said that he admires his mother most because she's really, really nice.

— Katelyn Catana

Halloween

(Continued from page 1)

plans for Halloween are to get lots of candy so I have ice cream toppings for a month, and not get creeped out so I do not have bad dreams. Try to get most of the neighborhood, Those are my plans for Halloween.

Alexis Byks: For Halloween, I am going to be a caticorn: a cat + a unicorn. I am going with my cousins around my grandma's neighborhood. I am going to get lots of can-

dy, but I can't eat all of it... Too many grams of sugar, and calories, and SO much sticky stuff to get into my braces.

There are lots of hard candies that will break my braces, like jawbreakers. But I can't wait to eat SOME of my candy. Like one-third of my bag is what I will probably eat. But it is still candy!

Caden Siler: I have no plans for Halloween. So I will probably stay home and relax.

Dash Heath: My plans for Halloween are to simply hand out candy with my mom at the front door. An added



bonus is I probably get to keep the candy that's left over!

Gymnasium

(Continued from page 1)

We will also be able to hold indoor recess in the gym when it is too cold or too wet to go outdoors.

Will we use lunch room door to go out for recess?

We will continue to use the same door for lunch recess, we will not be going through the new gym to get to recess.

How big is the new gym?

It is approximately 12,000-13,000 square feet. The gym area itself has a pitched roof, so it has a nice high ceiling. The stage is bigger than our current stage too.

How much does it cost?

Estimated cost is \$2 million, though through generous donations, it is our hope that it will come in under budget.

We have not reached our goal for fundraising for the gym yet, so hopefully we come in under budget and people continue to donate so we can get everything paid for in order to open the doors on time!

How do you like it?

The new gym looks great! Every day there is something new going on and it is exciting to see it unfold right before my eyes.

I think everyone is going to be very happy and we should all be very thankful to those parents, parishioners, family & friends of St. Mary who have donated to help us build our "gym of dreams" for all our students today & for years to come.



Features

This hurricane season actually quite mild

BY ANGIE ITCHON

Experts say this hurricane season is below average, despite all the attention.

Five total hurricanes — Beryl, Chris, Florence, Helene, and Isaac — have or will hit the Atlantic coast this year, which is nothing like the 17 hurricanes and tropical storms that hit last year.

The damage is estimated by some at as little as \$38 billion this year. In 2017, the cost was about \$282 billion.

This hurricane season started June 1 and will end Nov. 30. The biggest hurricane name was probably Hurricane Florence, which was downgraded to a Category 1



hurricane when it hit the Carolina coast. A few days before it reached the U.S., it was a Category 4 hurricane.

You can prepare for a hur-

ricane by getting lots of food, getting lots of water, getting to the highest place in your house, or by evacuating immediately.

Hurricanes powered by ocean heat

BY CADEN SILER

Hurricanes form from imbalance of heat between the Earth and its atmosphere. During the warmer seasons especially spring and summer the sun will heat up the upper portion of the ocean. As the sun warms up, the ocean energy builds up and the atmosphere tries to remove all the energy through condensation.

Hurricanes are basically a massive engine transferring high oceanic energy (heat) content into the atmosphere.

After a hurricane reaches the shore it loses all the energy from the warmed up ocean and the source weakens.

The average amount of hurricanes that occur a year is 2-3.



Florence still delivered a mighty wallop

BY GAVIN GAYNOR

Hurricane Florence is done, but it caused massive destruction to North and South Carolina.

The big problem about this storm is that it moved slowly, dumping 8 trillion gallons of water along the Carolina coast. By the time it made landfall

the morning of Friday, Sept. 14, it was a Category 1 hurricane.

As of late September, there were approximately 32 deaths reported caused by this hurricane. Rainfall left people stranded on rooftops of houses and buildings. Right now there are about 7,800 people still in shelters in North Caro-

lina.

President Trump visited the storm zone recently. He handed out meals to Florence victims and promises a quick and lasting federal assistance to both states.

Cost estimates for damage caused by Hurricane Florence's range from \$17 billion to about \$170 billion.

Autumn

By: Alexis Byks and Caden Siler

Autumn comes once a year,
Autumn is a time of color and chill when the leaves turn colors,
Kids enjoy their candy and turkey,
And parents are at stores shopping for Black Friday sales!
Saving and discounts here and there...Look around they are EVERYWHERE!
Kids are feasting upon their treats while their parents shout, "NO MORE CANDY!!!"
People, glued to their computers on Cyber Monday, while kids enjoy the time to themselves,
O' what a wonderful Autumn this is!



Features

SHORT STORY

This Halloween party was a scream

BY ERICA JOHNSON

It was a cold Halloween night and four kids — Chris, Julie, Kate, and Josh — wanted to go to a Halloween party hosted by the popular girl in school, Leai Wells. It wasn't a regular Halloween party, but they did not know that beforehand.

Leai was one of those "perfect" girls. The one thing was, she was nice — she was not one of the popular mean girls.

Leai and Kate were sisters, so her other friends knew Leai very well. Kate wanted to tell her friends what was different about the party, but she couldn't, because it was going to be for her best friend Julie, who was turning 16



years old!

The day before Halloween, Julie went to Kate's house to find out what to wear. Kate said, "Wear whatever costume you want, because you will be the birthday girl!"

The next day was Halloween, the most popular day of the year! It was after school and Kate was getting ready for the party later. Leai was nervous because she did not know

if everything was fine. Once she was done putting on her costume, she told Leai that everything looked great! Leai smiled and thanked her sister.

Now it was time for the party and everybody arrived except Kate's friends. She told them the party was later, so everybody could get in their positions.

Once the doorbell rang, Kate turned off the lights. The door opened.

"Happy Birthday Julie!"

Everybody was here including Kate and Julie's parents. Julie came over to Kate and said, "Thanks Kate and Leai! This is the best birthday yet!"

The End



Carrier met with terrible end in WWII

BY GABRIEL FISCHER

H.M.S. Glorious, a mighty carrier and the second of the three Courageous Class Carriers, was built in 1915 and completed in 1916 just before World War I ended. Glorious was finally commissioned in 1917, a year before World War I ended.

In 1930, H.M.S. Glorious was re-commissioned and was mostly operating in the Mediterranean Sea. After the start of the Second World War, Glorious spent most of her time hunting for the German battleship the Admiral Graf Spee in the Indian Ocean. She was recalled at home in April 1940 to support operations in Norway.

Then danger came for the Glorious. German battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau spotted Glorious in the North Sea. The battleships opened fire and Glorious was heavily damaged.

The Glorious finally sunk in the bottom of the North Sea. The next day the English questioned why the Glorious didn't launch her aircraft.



Takeoff from Glorious, 1936.

Saint of the Month: Saint John XXIII

Via www.franciscan-media.org:

The firstborn son of a farming family in Sotto il Monte, near Bergamo in northern Italy, Angelo Giuseppe Roncalli was always proud of his down-to-earth roots. In Bergamo's diocesan seminary, he joined the Secular Franciscan Order.

After his ordination in 1904, Fr. Roncalli returned to Rome for canon law studies. He soon worked as his bishop's secretary, Church history teacher in the seminary, and as publisher of the diocesan paper.

His service as a stretcher-

bearer for the Italian army during World War I gave him a firsthand knowledge of war. In 1921, Fr. Roncalli was made national director in Italy of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith. He also found time to teach partristics at a seminary in the Eternal City.

In 1925, he became a papal diplomat, serving first in Bulgaria, then in Turkey, and finally in France. During World War II, he became well acquainted with Orthodox Church leaders. With the help of Germany's ambassador to Turkey, Archbishop Roncalli helped save an estimated 24,000 Jewish people.

Named a cardinal and ap-

pointed patriarch of Venice in 1953, he was finally a residential bishop. A month short of entering his 78th year, Cardinal Roncalli was elected pope, taking the name John after his father and the two patrons of Rome's cathedral, St. John Lateran. Pope John took his work very seriously but not himself.

His wit soon became proverbial, and he began meeting with political and religious leaders from around the world. In 1962, he was deeply involved in efforts to resolve the Cuban missile crisis.

"Good Pope John" died on June 3, 1963. Saint John Paul II beatified him in 2000, and Pope Francis canonized him in 2014.



Opinions

Raz-Kids could offer more to engage young readers

BY ABIGAIL FARAH

Personally, I don't like the Raz-Kids reading program all that much.

Some people do, however, and I guess I can see why. One reason may be that they like some of the stories. Another could be that some students like earning an outfit for their robot avatar, or decorations for their rocket ships. They may just like that they don't have to do a book report instead.

Although these are all reasons to like

Raz-Kids, there are plenty of downsides. One of the big ones is that there aren't many book options. If you like fiction and adventure, but finish all the books about that, well, you're out of luck. Another is that kids are complaining that the program doesn't accurately record the amount of time they spend reading.

Angie Itchon and Hannah Ca-bal said the program does not offer



enough to keep them interested. They don't really care about earning fancy outfits for a robot, or decorations for a rocket ship.

A lot of the kids say they just want to do a book log. Some want to do Scholastic instead.

I would say the vast majority of the school dislikes Raz-Kids. I'm one of the haters. To be fair, it's okay if you do like Raz-Kids.

The main idea is, maybe we SHOULD have a book log.

Put God first, and everything else will follow

Dear Rita,

My parents are divorcing, my sister got a phone and now she is ignoring me, and my grades are failing. The reason I turned to you is because I have no one else to talk to, because my friends think I'm not cool enough for them anymore because I now have braces.

I really hope this is not too much for you to handle. My life does seem pretty intense right now, coming from the person who has to go through it. Hope you can help me.

Failing Francine

Dear Francine

You're not failing! Don't be so down! This is a time to make God the focal-point of your life. Just pray and you will find comfort in your faith. This will help you, in the future, not to hold a grudge about this phase of yours.

As for your parents, just because they're divorcing doesn't mean you can't share your feelings with

them anymore. They are your parents, and they will always love and support you. Also, your sister is probably a teenager, so it's normal what she's going through. And remember, like your parents, she will always love you. And your "friends", if they can't see past your braces, then they are not your true friends. Plus, your grades will be fine.

Just remember... You are a fearless girl and you always will be!

Dear Rita,

I am stuck in the middle. I have a younger sister and an older brother. Let me tell you about my usual morning routine.

I wake up, my sister is already begging me to play dolls with her, my brother chucks a football at my face, I am bruised and annoyed... and all of this has happened while I haven't even gotten out of bed yet! I mean, I kind of understand my sister, mostly because she's young and adorable. But my broth-

er is 16 and he acts like a jock. I swear, sometimes I feel like he can only talk about stuff that's related to football!

Please help me out.

Pleading Prissa

Dear Prissa,

You have nothing to worry about! If you already have some patience with your sister, you're halfway there!

I understand why you're having trouble with your brother, though. He's older, so it's sort of hard to be patient with someone who acts like he's better than you. But if you take your time, say the right thing, and don't let him get on your nerves so quickly, you'll be fine.

If you do end up running out of patience, before you start screaming, let your parents know so you don't get in trouble for yelling. Plus, you can train yourself. The longer you use a calm voice in a fight, the less your brother will annoy you because he realizes he can no longer get to you anymore.



DEAR
RITA

MOVIE REVIEW

Diary of a Wimpy Kid

BY ADAM HODGES

Director: Thor Freudenthal

Cast: Zach Gordon, Robert Capron, Rachel Harris, Steve Zahn, Devon Bostick, Connor and Owen Fielding, and Grayson Russell

Rated: PG

"Diary of a Wimpy Kid", is about a kid named Greg Heffley (Zachary Gordon) in his years of middle school, and for him, it's pure TORTURE. He is stuck sitting next to a bunch of "losers" and "cool kids", except for his best bud Rowley Jefferson (Robert Capron). Also he has an older brother named Rodrick (Devon Bostick) and younger brother Manny (Connor/Owen Fielding).

I thought it was a good movie mostly because it was HILARIOUS. It was so funny because of how Greg tried being so cool but than has some mega fails. He is also SO wimpy (obviously, because it's in the title).