

PTG NEWS

PTG Highlights

The Parent Teacher Guild would like to wish all the families, faculty and staff of St. Louise a Merry Christmas. Thank you for all your efforts on behalf of the children at STL. We are blessed to have so many give of their time and talents. May 2019 bring you much happiness and good health.

Upcoming PTG Meetings

Remember that you are already a member of the PTG. There are no dues. You are welcome to attend all of our general meetings. The remaining meetings this school year are as follows:

- January 8, 6:30 p.m., School Library
- May 7, 6:30 p.m., School Library

PTG Board Members

Co-Coordinators

Megan West
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A Note from the Principal

“It’s the most wonderful time of the year.” As the song lyrics state, children love the magical moments of Christmas. They are fascinated by the bright shining lights, the decorations of the season, and the overall joyous atmosphere. We as adults often are captivated by similar responses to the season.

The Season of Advent began Sunday, December 2. During Advent, we prepare our homes and ourselves to welcome the newborn King. It is a time to reflect on Christ’s presence in our everyday life. At St. Louise de Marillac Catholic School, the month of December is devoted to creating an atmosphere of preparation. We want our students to understand, experience and celebrate this special time.

In the spirit of the season, we attempt to capture the real reason that we celebrate Christmas season through the various December prayers and activities and St. Louise. Certainly, the band/ choral concerts put us in the Christmas mood. However, our children realize the true meaning of Christmas through the prayers services we conduct throughout Advent, Service Projects and Reconciliation.

I would like to extend my best wishes to your family in the upcoming New Year. I look forward to having our students back to St. Louise de Marillac Catholic School on January 2, 2019.

With Gratitude,

Mr. Klase



Gala Update



Greetings All!! The Gala is less than 2 months away and you will find lots of important information is in this newsletter.

We are still in need of many sponsors. Sponsor forms were included in your weekly family folder and can be found on the school website under fundraising and Gala. We would like to thank all sponsors who have committed to our fundraising efforts to date. Also, friends of St. Louise can be in any denomination starting with \$100. These sponsorships whether from a business or a family can be applied to your family share. Please consider a sponsorship this year, it helps defray costs of the event and it gives your business great exposure. If you are interested, please contact us.

We had a successful auction donation drop off, that was held on December 14th. Another donation drop off for auction items will be held on Friday, January 11th before/after the 9 a.m. Mass until 10:30 a.m. A committee member will be there to collect your donation. Thank you to all who have donated items.

We are still collecting gift cards for our classroom baskets. A form was sent home in the weekly family folder. The gift cards can be purchased at LeGras or sent with your child via backpack mail to the Gala Committee. These gift cards cannot be used towards the family share but can be used towards tuition reduction. Many thanks to all who have already donated.

Tickets for the Grand Raffle and Tuition Raffle were included in your weekly family folder. Be on the look out for those. Gala ticket sales will begin in early January. Information will follow in the weekly family folder.

A basket making party will be held on January 22nd at LeGras Hall (Lower Level) from 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you are available for an hour or all

day, your time is greatly appreciated. This is a fun time and will go smoothly and quickly with lots of help. Breakfast and lunch will be provided to all volunteers. We will also be taking donations for basket making supplies such as paper filler, clear cellophane wrap, and ribbon. Feel free to drop off at LeGras Hall in a bag marked "basket making party". Thanks in advance!

Our next Gala committee meeting will be held on January 3rd at 8:30 a.m. in LeGras Hall. All are welcome! Lastly, we would like to thank all of the committee members who have been working very hard to make this Gala a success! If you have any questions you may contact us by sending an email to gala@stlouisedemarillac.org.

Merry Christmas to all and Happy New Year!

~Jill Siple and Amanda Smith, Gala Co-Chairs

Wine Pull Giving Party

The Wine Pull Giving Party was held December 5th at Mary Anne Meade's house and it was a fun night for the ladies who attended with lots of great conversation and fellowship. We want to thank all the women who attended and so generously donated to the Wine Pull. This event was held to collect monetary donations or wine \$40 or greater to start the Wine Pull selections. We received some wonderful bottles of wine that evening for the Gala. Thank you to all for your donations!

We will need a total of 115 bottles for the Wine Pull that evening. You can still donate wine or make a monetary donation for the event. You can drop off the wine or we can accept a check made out to St. Louise de Marillac with Wine Pull in the memo. Also, we are still looking for two \$2000 sponsors for the Wine Pull. These sponsors will have signage above the Wine Pull and have their company or name on the tag that goes on each bottle along with additional promotional advertising. If you or a company you own or work for would like to be the Wine Pull sponsor, please email gala@stlouisedemarillac.org and let us know.

Yearbook News!

In the holiday rush, don't forget to order your STL 2019 YEARBOOK. Just go online to www.jostensyearbooks.com. Also, if you have photos of your kids playing sports, please email them to Erin Boni at eefemedia@gmail.com.

Forensics Tournament Results



Here are the results from the 2nd Forensics tournament held recently at St. Bernard's. We compete in the last of the three regular season tournaments on January 19th at

Peter's Middle School before we go on to the final round on February 23rd.

Round 1

Melina Stewart - 1st place
 Jack Sabo - 1st place
 Natalie Zukowski - 1st place
 Mason Smaroff - 1st place
 Keira Drecnik - 1st place
 Emma Gompers - 1st place
 Elizabeth Sokos - 2nd place
 Samantha Smallwood - 1st place
 Sydney Gisoni - 2nd place
 Julie Lukasewicz - 2nd place
 Anna Lucarelli - 2nd place
 Hunter Maher - 1st place

Round 2

Melina Stewart - 1st place
 Jack Sabo - 1st place
 Natalie Zukowski - 1st place
 Mason Smaroff - 1st place
 Keira Drecnik - 3rd place
 Emma Gompers - 1st place
 Elizabeth Sokos - 3rd place
 Samantha Smallwood - 1st place
 Sydney Gisoni - 2nd place
 Julie Lukasewicz - 3rd place
 Anna Lucarelli - 2nd place
 Hunter Maher - 2nd place

Again, everyone did an outstanding job!

Mac Grant Awarded

Mrs. Lijewski recently received a \$500 Mac Grant for a Forensics Unit she will do with her 7th grade students.

The MAC Grants program, an initiative sponsored by local McDonald's Owner/Operators, is designed to help teachers Make Activities Count for their students. The award is being donated to help provide meaningful, hands-on activities to enhance the learning process for students.



F.A.B. Book Night with Mrs. Joyce

Choosing a book can be a difficult task, especially for young readers. With thousands of new books being published each week, some of our 6th graders at St. Louise were having a hard time deciding which book to read next.

Mrs. Joyce hosted a F.A.B.(Find a Book) Book Night at Peters Township Library on December 6, 2018 and welcomed parents and students. She spent the evening touring the library with parents and students, discussing interests and guiding students to choose some great reads! Librarians assisted students as well, giving each child the individual attention and time necessary to find a book that met the pacing, interest and style that was important to each young reader. Students left the library with arms full of books, ready and excited to read.

Reading is a critical part of the development of a child and is essential to children's success in school. There is no better way to motivate a child to read than to guide each one to choose an engaging book. Thank you to Mrs. Joyce for providing this opportunity for our 6th grade students!

Reading Buddies



On Friday, December 7, Preschoolers (morning and afternoon 4-year-olds) met with Third Graders for a special Christmas Story Read Aloud. Small groups of Third Graders gathered in the library and in Rooms 204 and 206.

Students enjoyed practicing reading with expression, asking questions, and making new friends. After the stories, Third Grade went into Preschool to help cut and color Christmas pencil toppers. They loved the feeling of being in Preschool and using the bigger crayons while sitting in the tiny chairs. Everyone had a great time sharing the power and magic of a book.

South District Diocesan Honors Band

Congratulations to Madeleine Stone, Thomas Rodriguez, Sydney Gisoni, and Hunter Maher for being selected to represent St. Louise in the South District Diocesan Honors Band!

These four students auditioned in mid-November along with band students from around the southern part of the Diocese of Pittsburgh and were chosen based on their playing to perform in this select group. They will perform a special concert at Seton LaSalle High School on Saturday, March 23rd at 2:30 p.m. Great job, STL band members!

Advent Candle Sale



Thank you to everyone who purchased Advent candles! Over 120 sets of candles were purchased and over \$600 was raised for St. Anthony School Programs, a ministry of the Diocese of Pittsburgh for children with intellectual disabilities.

Advent Evening for Families

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2018 Advent Evening for families, either on the planning committee or as a guest. The evening was enjoyed by almost 140 guests, starting with sharing a meal together in Le Gras. We then learned about three of the saints of Advent, St. Lucy, Our Lady of Guadalupe, and San Juan Diego. St. Nicholas provided an enjoyable and interesting talk and demonstration on how the character of “Santa Claus” is really just a modern interpretation of St. Nicholas, a fourth century bishop known for his generosity and being a protector of children. While it was great fun making our own opłatki for Christmas Eve dinner, the pinnacle of the evening was the church service and candle light procession to the school for the official tree lighting and blessing of families.

Thank you to Fr. Dan Maurer for presiding over the church service and blessings and to Mr. Klase for having the tree and manger ready at the school. Thank you to the planning committee members who helped create the evening with us: Jady Conboy, Heather Drecnik, Nicole Fox, Gus Glyptis, Amy Hyrb, Sue Lukowski, Jason Naguit, Mariangela Peters, Heather “38 years of Excellence” Schwarz, Joe Sites, Jenn Theis, Juanita Timney, Dawn and John Timko, Liz Winter, and Sarah Zych.

Special thanks to last year’s chairperson, Rebecca Pettigrew, for her wisdom and guidance, and to our PTG co-coordinator contact, Tiffany Elder.

We look forward to kicking off Advent season again next year with this annual event.

~Val Glyptis and Michele Sites, Co-Chairs



Hoop Shoot Foul Shot Contest

Mrs. Jones is happy to announce the winners of the Hoop Shoot Foul Shot Contest that was held during gym class for grades 3-8. These students will have the opportunity to move on to the next round, which will be held at the Bethel Park Community Center on Saturday, January 5th, 2019. The winners are as follows:

- 8-9 year old age group: Ashlyn Morreale and Lucas Saxe
- 10-11 year old age group: Emma Gompers and Connor Listisen
- 12-13 year old age group: Jillian Gallo and Ty Iwanonkiw

Good luck as they compete in the next round!

St. Nick Shop



The 2018 St. Nick Shop was a huge success last month!! We welcomed 5 new vendors this year, giving the children even more choices in products than ever before! And as

always, we could have never done it without the help of all our amazing volunteers who worked so hard to make it such a wonderful event for our children! As new co-chairs this year, we enjoyed every minute of organizing this fun and merry event and look forward to another great event next year!

~Jennifer Carothers and Terra Crosby

Next Issue

The next issue of the PTG News is scheduled to be published on January 30. Articles are due to Michele Sites, msites1@verizon.net, on Friday, January 25.

Fall Box Top\$ Results

Thank you to all the families that saved and turned in Box Top\$ for our fall collection. Together, we were able to earn over \$700 dollars for our school. Congratulations to all our winners!

K: Rocco Logero and Savannah Vincent

1st: Liam Ginsburg and Laughlin Harris

2nd: Jayla Kendall and Makenna Marks

3rd: Sarah Sites and Cameron Williams

4th: Ashlyn M. and Justin Mattes

5th: Brianna M. and Marco Violago

6th: Evelyn West and Michaela Hruby

7th: Sidney Gisoni and Sofia Ellison

8th: Alexander Milliken and Austyn Winkleblech

Our winter collection contest begins now and will run through January 23rd. One winner from K-4 and one winner from 5-8 will win a \$10 Sarris gift card and will be announced during Catholic Schools Week!

Please remember:

- One entry for every 25 non-expired Box Top\$
- Make sure student's name and homeroom are on each submission
- Check expiration date – they will not accept outdated tops
- Tape or glue tops to sheet – no staples
- Bundle bonus Box Top\$ in a separate envelope – they count for your 25, but are submitted differently



Upcoming Events

- Classroom Christmas Parties, Friday, December 21, 1:30 p.m.
- No School, Monday, December 24-Tuesday, January 1
- School Resumes, Wednesday, January 2
- First Communion Parent Meeting, Sunday, January 6, 1:30 p.m., OR Monday, January 7, 7:00 p.m., LeGras
- PTG Meeting, Tuesday, January 8, 6:30 p.m., Library
- Kindergarten VIP/Student Lunch, Thursday, January 10, 12:30 p.m.
- Snowball Dance for 7th and 8th Grade, Friday, January 11, 7:00-9:30 p.m., LeGras
- Preschool Open House & Registration, Tuesday, January 15, 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Geography Bee, Wednesday, January 16, 1:00 p.m., Gym
- Second Grading Period Ends, Thursday, January 17
- Winter Pep Rally, Thursday, January 17, 1:30 p.m., Gym
- March for Life, Friday, January 18
- Clerical Day, No School, Friday, January 18
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day, No School, Monday, January 21
- Report Cards Issued, Tuesday, January 22
- Transition Night for 4th and 6th Grades, Tuesday, January 22
- Catholic Schools Week, Sunday January 27-Friday, February 1
- Donuts after 10 a.m. Mass, Sunday, January 27, LeGras
- Open House/Book Fair/Ice Cream Social, Tuesday, January 29, 6:00 p.m.
- Heritage Luncheon, Friday, February 1
- Talent Show, Friday, February 1, 12:40 p.m., Gym



St. Louise de Marillac, Pray for Us

