

St. Mary's School

Morning Memo – Week of February 12, 2018



1. Follow us on Twitter: @stmarys_mh, Instagram , and Facebook
2. Open registration is on now. Students have brought home “prepopulated” registration forms. Please check these to ensure they are current and complete, and return them by as soon as possible. Space in the Fine Arts Academy is limited, so please return your registration forms promptly to avoid disappointment. If you know anyone who is looking for a school for their child for next year, encourage them to call the school and arrange to meet with administration. We accept both Catholic and non-Catholic students.
3. St. Mary's School “Our School” student survey will be conducted this week. Parent Accountability Surveys were sent by Alberta Education to grade 7 parents. Please complete the survey by February 24. If you are a grade 7 parent and you have not received a survey, please call the school. The survey provides us with valuable information when developing our three-year education plan.
4. Congratulations to all Fine Arts students who had their artwork displayed and put up for auction last week at the annual Fine Arts Gala and Auction. The quality of artwork was exceptional. Well done to all our student artists and parents who coordinated this event.
5. There will be no school for students next week. Enjoy Family Day on Monday! Teachers will attend Convention Thursday and Friday.
6. Upcoming Events
 - Monday – No Assembly
 - McCoy Open House – 5:30
 - Tuesday – Shrove Tuesday – breakfast beginning at 8:30am by PAC Students will be allowed time to eat after getting off their bus. **Preorder is required!**
 - Crush delivered to your “crush” for Valentine's Day
 - Red/Pink Day
 - Homework Club 3:30 to 4:30
 - Wednesday – Ash Wednesday Service at 9:00am
 - Homework Club 3:30-4:30
 - Thursday –
 - Friday – Pizza \$3/Slice – **Cheese only to help observe Friday as a day of abstinence during lent.** (see article below)
7. Congratulations to all students and staff who participated in our “Word of the Week” program last week. We will continue this week.
 - a. Staff and students are encouraged to be “caught” using the word of the week. If this happens they will be given an entry form for a draw to be completed on Friday mornings during announcements (Staff draw will occur monthly).
 - i. Student word – desecrate – (verb) – to treat something usually sacred with disrespect
 - ii. Staff word – infelicity-(noun) – a thing that is inappropriate, especially a remark or expression
8. Today's article explains the tradition of abstaining from meat on Friday's during lent. Enjoy...

Here's why Catholics don't eat meat on Fridays during Lent



Philip Kosloski | Mar 01, 2017

And why fish is on the menu instead

You know you are in a Catholic town when, only during Lent, every single restaurant advertises one item on their menu: fish! I have even noticed how major fast-food chains point out on their fliers the date of Ash Wednesday! Suddenly everyone cares about the liturgical seasons of the Church!

So why is it that the Church instructs Catholics to abstain from meat on Fridays (as well as Ash Wednesday and Good Friday), but gives the “thumbs-up” for Catholics to eat fish? Sounds fishy to me!

First of all we must ask the question, “why Friday?” The USCCB gives a succinct explanation:

Catholic peoples from time immemorial have set apart Friday for special penitential observance by which they gladly suffer with Christ that they may one day be glorified with Him. This is the heart of the tradition of abstinence from meat on Friday where that tradition has been observed in the holy Catholic Church.

Since it is believed Jesus Christ suffered and died on the cross on a Friday, Christians from the very beginning have set aside that day to unite their sufferings to Jesus. This led the Church to recognize every Friday as a “Good Friday” where Christians can remember Christ’s passion by offering up a specific type of penance. For much of the Church’s history meat was singled out as a worthy sacrifice on account of its association with feasts and celebrations. In most ancient cultures meat was considered a delicacy and the “fattened calf” was not slaughtered unless there was something to celebrate. Since Fridays were thought of as a day of penance and mortification, eating meat on a Friday to “celebrate” the death of Christ didn’t seem right. (As an aside, some bishops have chosen to lift the ban when Saint Patrick’s Day falls on a Friday during Lent, as it is considered a “solemnity” for many Irish Catholics.)

But why is fish not considered “meat”?

According to the USCCB, the laws of the Church classify the abstinence from “land animals.”

Abstinence laws consider that meat comes only from animals such as chickens, cows, sheep or pigs – all of which live on land. Birds are also considered meat.

Fish, on the other hand, are not in that same classification.

Fish are a different category of animal. Salt and freshwater species of fish, amphibians, reptiles (cold-blooded animals) and shellfish are permitted.

In Latin the word used to describe what kind of “meat” is not permitted on Fridays is *carnis*, and specifically relates to “animal flesh” and never included fish as part of the definition. Additionally, fish in these cultures was not considered a “celebratory” meal and was more of a penance to eat.

Our current culture is much different as meat is generally considered the cheaper option on the menu and no longer has the cultural connection to celebrations. This is why many people are confused about the regulations, especially those who love to eat fish and do not consider it a penance.

In the end, the Church’s intention is to encourage the faithful to offer up a sacrifice to God that comes from the heart and unites one’s suffering to that of Christ on the cross. Meat is given as the very basic penance, while the purpose of the regulation should always be kept in mind. For example, it does not necessarily give a person the license to eat a lobster dinner every Friday in Lent. The whole point is to make a sacrifice that draws a person closer to Christ, who out of love for us made the ultimate sacrifice a person can make.

Important Dates 2017-2018

February

13	Shrove Tuesday
13	Red/Pink Day
14	Ash Wednesday
16	Pizza \$3/slice (cheese only), Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
19-21	PD Days – No School for students
22-23	Teacher’s Convention – No School for Students
26	Assembly
28	Pink Shirt Day

March

2	Pizza \$3/slice(cheese only), Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
5-6	Choral Music Festival
7	Face to Face Retreat
7	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
9	Pizza \$3/slice(cheese only), Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
11	Daylight Savings Time Begins
12	Assembly
13	Friday’s Schedule
13	Pizza \$3/slice (all flavors), Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
13	Parent Teacher Interviews 4:00-7:30PM
14	Band Music Festival
15	Green Day
15	FA Grade 8/9 Field Trip to Choral Fest and Sherlock Holmes
16	PD Day
20	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library

21	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
22	PARTY Program- 9 Law
23	Pizza \$3/slice (cheese only), Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
26	Assembly
29	Holy Thursday Celebration
29	Find The Bunny Activity
30	Good Friday

April

9	First Day back after Easter
11	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
13	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
16	Assembly
16	Canstruction at MHC
17	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library
20	Zoo Day
20	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
23-27	Madagascar Jr. Production
25	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
26	Students will attend Madagascar Jr. Production at 1:00PM
27	PD Day
30	Assembly

May

3	Track Day
4	Fake An Injury Day
4	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
8	Grade 9 English Language Arts Achievement Part A Exam
9	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
10	Grade 9 French Language Arts Achievement Part A Exam
11	Attending McCoy "Back to the 80's" at MHC Theatre
11	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
13	Mother's Day
14	Assembly
15	Gr. 9 Immunizations
16	Friday's Schedule
16	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
17	PARTY Program- 9 Rus
18	PD Day
21	No School
23	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
25	Disney Day
25	Grade 9 Practice Math PAT- period 1-3
25	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
28	Assembly

June

1	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
4	Parent Council Meeting 6:30 PM in the Library
6	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
7	Friday's Schedule
7	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
7	St. Mary's Dance 6:00-9:30 PM
8	PD Day
11	Assembly
11	Rehearsal for the Spring Show
12	Spring Show at the College
13	School Mass 10:00 AM – Holy Family Parish
15	Neon/80's Day
15	Pizza \$3/slice, Kernels Popcorn \$2 and Frozen Yogurt \$2
17	Father's Day
20	Art Club 3:18-4:30PM
21	Year End Picnic (tentative)
22	Grade 9 French Language Arts Achievement Part B Exam
22	Grade 9 Farewell
25	Grade 9 Social Achievement Exam
26	Grade 9 English Language Arts Achievement Part B Exam
27	Grade 9 Math Achievement Exam
28	Grade 9 Science Achievement Exam
29	Last Day for Teachers