

# THE ST. MONICA REPORT

## Principal's Corner

*"Christmas is the gift from heaven of God's Son given for free. If Christmas isn't found in your heart, you won't find it under the tree."*

-Charlotte Carpenter

As we rush around this December with our holiday shopping, I think this is a good time to reflect on the gifts that are already present to us in our lives each day. Where do you find Christmas and with whom? The best gifts that we can receive are those freely given and graciously received. The gift of Jesus in the Eucharist is a special gift that is available to us each day.

Consider this holiday season, sharing with those that want a Catholic education for their children. By participating in the Share the Vision for Saint Monica School you can bless other children. Attached to this report is our annual giving brochure. A copy is also being sent home with youngest and only students. Contributing to the Share the Vision is rewarding and easy, and it helps the school thrive at the same time. Your gift to the St. Monica Tuition Assistance Fund is the purest way for you to support our school.

Additionally, you can attend events, purchase items at the PTO Auction, sponsor events, and more! By doing these things, you help Saint Monica meet the mission of providing to a diverse group of students opportunities for spiritual, intellectual, social, emotional and physical growth!

Fill out the brochure and either drop it by the School, Parish Office or place it in the mail. We won't officially roll out the annual giving drive until Catholic Schools Week, but we wanted to give those families and perhaps companies with matching programs to get a 2011 deduction.

Of course, the power of prayer helps sustain St. Monica Catholic School. We ask that you keep St. Monica in your prayers on a daily basis.

Mrs. Michelle Boyd

Principal

### **Congratulations!**

**Stacie Hernandez** 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teacher

St. Monica School' 2011 Saint Theodora  
Award Nominee

## COMPASS FOR CHRIST

Students moving in the direction of God...

Hannah Exline

Katie Gillig

Emma Sanders

Brady Armstrong

Harrison Polak

Katleyn Dottery

Zoe Duncan

Isaiah O'Neal

Zane Middaugh

Abby Fenchak

Justin Wininger

Mrs. Villarias Class

Joe Mathioudakis

Gavin Kunst

Matthew Walters

## Month at a Glance...

12-2	Poinsettia Pick-Up 2pm – 6pm in St. Augustine R.m.
12-3	Cardinal Ritter Placement Cathedral Placement Test Chatard Placement Test Market Day Pick Up (4 <sup>th</sup> grade)
12-4	SMS Volleyball Open Gym 3:30pm – 5:30pm Ritter Volleyball Open Gym 6pm – 8pm
12-5	
12-6	PTO Meeting 7pm <b>(CANCELLED)</b>
12-7	
12-8	
12-9	
12-10	Guerin Placement Test Gabriel Project Collection
12-11	Gabriel Project Collection
12-12	
12-13	Teamwork Tuesday! Wear your t-shirt and uniform bottoms.
12-14	December to Remember
12-15	
12-16	Christmas Program 9am & 12:45pm Volleyball Reg. due for Chatard Spirit Store orders ready for pick-up
12-17	
12-18	
12-19	School Commission Meeting 7pm in St. Augustine Hall
12-20	PK Christmas Program @ 1:30pm in the Emmaus Center
12-21	
12-22	1pm Dismissal ~ NO EXTENDED CARE!!! CHRISTMAS BREAK BEGINS
12-23	Christmas Break ~ NO SCHOOL
1-9	School Resumes

### Mass Schedule

Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> ~ Miss Grodzicki ~ Immaculate Conception ~ All School Mass

Friday, December 9<sup>th</sup> ~ Sr. Merrita ~ All School Mass

### PTO MEETING INFORMATION

December's PTO meeting will be a VIRTUAL MEETING. No meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>.

### Student Council

There will not be a 7<sup>th</sup> / 8<sup>th</sup> grade student council meeting next week. We will not have a meeting until January.

### Remember Scrip for Christmas

With Christmas quickly approaching, buying Scrip gift cards through the school office is a quick and easy way to fill the gaps in your holiday list. It is also a great way to support your school without any extra spending. We have many popular cards in-stock, you can see the list of cards available by looking on the school website [www.smsindy.org](http://www.smsindy.org) under the parents link. If you don't see what you need you can go to our gift card supplier's website [www.glscrip.com](http://www.glscrip.com) to see if they carry what you are looking for. We can get any card that they offer on their website, you just have to let us know what you need. We will be very busy selling Scrip this holiday season so please plan ahead and get your orders in to the school on **Monday morning** to ensure that you receive the cards you need that week. You can purchase your cards with a check, cash, or FACTS withdrawal. If we are out of stock of cards you need, or you want a card not listed on our school form, we will order these cards on Monday and receive them and get them to you on Thursday. We will be working hard the next few weeks to fill all orders as promptly as possible. Please send your completed order form with payment on Monday morning to get your cards that week. Remember as well that you do receive a portion of your purchases back in the form of a tuition credit. Thanks for supporting the schools Scrip program!

### Religious Ed News

Children's Christmas Eve Mass choir and pageant: Children 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to sing in the children's choir at the 4pm Mass Christmas Eve. Practices are Wednesday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> from 6pm – 7pm.

Children 3 year old through 6<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to be in the Christmas pageant at the 6pm Mass Christmas Eve. Practices are Sat. Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> and Friday Dec. 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9am - 10am. If you have not registered please pick up a form from the religious education/school office. Any questions please call 253-2193 ex. 4 or e-mail [mjthomasday@stmonicaindy.org](mailto:mjthomasday@stmonicaindy.org)

### Chatard Christmas Volleyball Camp

Holiday Volleyball Clinic for Grades 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>  
Bishop Chatard is hosting its 13<sup>th</sup> annual Holiday Volleyball Clinic. The clinic will be held on Dec 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> from 9am-10:30am for grades 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>, then 10:30-Noon for grades 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. This will provide volleyball players a chance to work on their skills before their upcoming CYO season. Clinic is directed by Bishop Chatard 2011 State Finalists Volleyball coach Larry Leonhardt and team members. Please register before Dec 16<sup>th</sup> to guarantee a t-shirt! Cost \$35 payable to BCHS. The registration form is available on the SMS website under "What's New."

**December to Remember**  
**No More Desserts Needed**

A huge thank you to those who have already contacted me to send in a dessert for the “December to Remember” dinner on Wednesday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. Since we have gotten such enthusiastic response, we no longer need additional dessert volunteers. For those of you who have agreed to provide a dessert, I will send out a reminder e-mail the week of the event.

For those of you who still wish to donate to the “December to Remember” program, we still need the following:

- Gift wrap and shirt boxes – especially gift wrap (due by Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>)
- Artificial Christmas trees - preferably, 5 feet or taller (We will return trees to you after the program if you just want to loan them to us.)

The gift wrap and shirt boxes will be used next Friday, when our Student Council students wrap the gifts they purchase for the children and their families. These gift-wrapping items may be sent to the school office any time early next week. If you plan to donate or lend us a Christmas tree, please let me know (e-mail address below).

You will earn 1 service hour for 3 rolls of gift wrap and/or shirt boxes donated or 2 service hours for donating/lending us a Christmas tree.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in making this year’s “December to Remember” a meaningful event for everyone involved. We truly appreciate your support, which will ensure a rewarding and memorable experience for the children and families we are hosting, as well as our students, school and parish community.

Gratefully,

Candy Lang  
December to Remember Committee  
733-9057  
[LANGGANG12345@indy.rr.com](mailto:LANGGANG12345@indy.rr.com)

**December to Remember Ornament Sale**

The ornament sale is the final fundraiser for the December to Remember event, which will take place on December 14<sup>th</sup>. Our goal is to be able to provide dinner and Christmas presents to children from the Children’s Bureau who are either being fostered or are in the process of being adopted. We want to be able to provide clothing, personal hygiene products, books, and toys to these children because of the support of the St. Monica family. We have had an out of uniform day and a bake sale but still need more funding to reach our goal. We have 8 families this year and 24 children to buy for. The night of the event we will have a Christmas tree for each family to gather around and open their presents. We would love for you to be included in the evening by participating in the ornament sale. With any donation, your child will receive a paper cut out, which will come home via back pack mail, either Monday or Tuesday next week. Your family can then right a prayer or message on the ornament with your family name on it (instructions will be provided with the ornament). The ornaments are to be returned to your child’s homeroom teacher by December 7<sup>th</sup>. We will use these ornaments to decorate the trees, and then the families can take these uplifting words home with them over the holiday season. Please consider donating to the December to Remember event by purchasing an ornament. If you would like to make a donation checks can be made out to St. Monica School with December to Remember in the memo line or by using your FACTS account and noting the donation is for December to Remember.

Thank you for your support,

Laura Blackburn  
December to Remember Committee