



General Reminders for the Parking Lot

Safety of all our families, students and parishioners is our top priority. Recently there have been a number of cars that have been driving recklessly through the parking lot at drop off and pick up. Please adhere to the following expectations when entering, driving, and exiting through our parking lot:

- **SLOW DOWN!** Speeds should not exceed 15 MPH. Driving slowly through the lot is for the safety of all!
- When exiting the driveways, **STOP**. Traffic on College Avenue and St. Sylvester Drive has the right of way.
- When driving through the lot, be aware of drivers in all of the lanes. Please do not cut across lanes, rather use the farthest driving lane (near the grassy area) to drive to a lane closest to the cross walk.
- When walking students through the parking lot, use the crosswalk area. DO NOT walk in front of cars in the drop off line or walk across the parking lot. Hold your child's hand (if younger) as you walk through the lot. Students should always be attended by an adult when walking in the parking lot.
- Drop off line parents may let their children out of the car before they arrive at the crosswalk/main sidewalk. This will help to keep the line moving efficiently and quickly.
- Again, the help of all is needed to keep our students, families and parishioners safe! Please do your part and be aware.

VIP Day is back!

VIP Day, or Very Important Person Day will be held on Wednesday, May 1, 2024. VIP Day is an opportunity for students to invite their "Very Important People" to attend Mass, a special brunch, and bingo. Mass begins at 8:30 a.m. at the Divine Mercy Parish located at 800 Marquette Avenue. Brunch and bingo will follow mass. Students will be picked up by bus from the church to return to school beginning at 11:00 a.m.. For planning purposes and due to space constraints, students may bring up to three VIP's. Please use the form below to RSVP how many individuals your child will be bringing. **All RSVPs for the day are due via the form below by Friday, April 19, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.. There can be no additions to the list after this date, so please be sure to do so.**

Please use the following link to complete your RSVP. Each student will be allowed to bring up to 3 individuals/VIP's; no exceptions. When completing, be sure to include your child's name, grade and number of individuals coming. A RSVP needs to be completed for each child. Permission slips for the return bus ride need to be handed into the office by Friday, April 19, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

Thank you and we look forward to celebrating this very special day with all of you!

<https://form.jotform.com/240774605886165>

Chaperones Needed

Chaperones are needed for the following field trips that were just sent home:

Trimborn Farms (1st-5th)

Betty Brinn (K3-K5)

There are no chaperones needed for VIP Day or First Stage.

Chaperones are chosen at random when all of the permission slips are returned. This is to give an equal opportunity for parents to participate. Teachers will contact you if you have been chosen to be a chaperone upon which the field trip fee will need to be sent to the office. Please remember that in order to chaperone, you must have successfully completed Safeguarding God's Children and the required paperwork and background check. Attached is the link for dates of classes available: <https://www.archmil.org/Offices/Safe-Environment.htm>

Eucharistic Miracles

Divine Mercy Catholic Parish and School have the honor of presenting the Eucharistic Miracles from April 11- April 14, 2024. Join us for a self-guided tour of 158 Eucharistic miracles collected from 22 countries, prayerfully gathered by Blessed Carlo Acutis before his death on October 12, 2006. All verified and approved by the Catholic Church, this is an amazing opportunity to delve deeper into your faith and witness the True Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. Students will be learning about the Eucharistic Miracles and walking through them on Thursday, April 11 and Friday, April 12. Parents, families and friends are welcome to come to the school gym on Thursday, April 11 from 2:00- 6:00 p.m. to witness these amazing miracles themselves. Come one, come all to be in this once in a lifetime experience. See the attached [flyer](#) for more information.

Forward

Forward testing has begun! The Forward Exam helps schools understand how students are progressing towards proficiency towards state academic standards across multiple curricular areas. The test is an online test. Students in fourth and eighth grade will take tests in English Language Arts (ELA), mathematics, social studies and science. Students in third and fifth through seventh will take tests in ELA and mathematics. Exam results are shared with families in the fall. Below is a schedule of when students are expected to take the exams. Please note that it takes a number of days to complete the tests as multiple breaks are provided. Children who are absent during testing will need to make up tests.

Test schedule:

- Monday, March 18- Wednesday, March 27 - 4th & 8th grade **in progress!**
- Tuesday, April 9-Friday, April 12 - 3rd & 5th grade
- Monday, April 15- Friday, April 19 - 6th & 7th grade
- Monday, April 22- Thursday, April 25 - Make-up exams

Scriptural Stations of the Cross and Musical Reflections

Do you love to worship through song? Or do you have children new to Adoration for whom an hour of silent prayer might be a challenge? Please consider joining us for Divine Mercy's **2nd Annual Scriptural Stations of the Cross and Musical Reflections** during our Lenten 24 Hour Adoration on Friday, March 22, from 4-5 p.m. at Divine Mercy Church on Marquette Avenue. Brief Bible readings will each be followed by a musical meditation. There is still time to join! Come sing, pray, and spend some time with Jesus! All ages welcome!

St. Gerard's Scholarships

We are pleased to announce that the St. Gerard Fund will be accepting applications for Catholic school scholarships for students currently in grades 2-8. The St. Gerard Fund has expanded to provide scholarships to deserving 8th graders who will be attending a Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. The St. Gerard Fund will award up to 100 scholarships for the 2024-25 school year in the amount of \$800 each to students in grades 3-8, and \$1000 to 9th grade students enrolled at a Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Awards will be based primarily on:

1. Demonstrated volunteerism by the student and the student's family in the school, church, or community.
2. Academic achievement or demonstrated academic effort by the Student.
3. Special financial need of the student's family.

Applications are due to the school office by Wednesday, April 10, 2024. Please make note; this is an extension. See attached [flyer](#) for more information.

Buddy Masses

Divine Mercy's Parish School and Christian Formation Masses (formerly Buddy Masses) are an opportunity for youth from both Divine Mercy Catholic School and Divine Mercy Parish to grow as prayerful leaders. All Masses are held at Divine Mercy Parish (800 Marquette Ave, South Milwaukee, WI 53172). We invite students to sign up and participate during these masses – families are invited to join, attend mass, and connect with all parish members. Students may sign up to greet parishioners, read, present the gifts, or assist Ushers. All students are encouraged to sign up! Below are the links for the remaining Masses. Please consider signing up!

[K4 & 6th 4/14/2024](#)

[All students 5/12/2024](#)

Calendar for the 2024-2025 School Year

The [calendar](#) for the 2024-2025 school year is attached to this email. Please take note that there may be some special event days added to the calendar as the year progresses.

No Clubs

Reminder that there are no clubs during Holy Week. This includes our Title clubs and activity clubs. All will resume on Wednesday, April 10, 2024.

Dates to remember:

- 3/25-3/28 No Clubs (Title or Activity)
 - 3/27 Stations of the Cross- 1:30 p.m., doors open at 1:15
 - 3/28 Dress in Easter wear (Easter themed shirts, dresses, pants)
 - 3/28 Early Release
 - 3/29-4/5 Easter Break
 - 4/8 School Resumes, Spirit Day- wear your DM spirit wear, red or black with uniform bottoms
 - 4/9 Forward testing resumes
 - 4/19 Permission slips and money due for VIP Day, Trimborn Farms, First Stage and Betty Brinn
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Attachments

- [St. Gerard Scholarship](#)
- [Stations of the Cross and Musical Reflections](#)
- [2024-25 School Calendar](#)
- [Eucharistic Miracles](#)