This month we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ at Christmas. We embrace family, the Holy family and our own families, and the spirit of peace, hope, and joy that Christmas can bring to a broken world.

At St. Mary’s Preparatory, we say, God. Family. St. Mary’s. This is part of our campus tradition and you are a part of that. Our campus community, both near and far, is OUR FAMILY. And what better way to celebrate this month through Advent, the liturgical season preceding Christmas. Advent is the time Christians prepare to celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ. It began Sunday, November 29, when we lit the first purple candle in our Advent wreath, and continues through Sunday, December 20, when we observe the fourth Sunday of Advent.

Here on campus, we will truly miss celebrating December traditions such as Advent by Candlelight, the Chancellor’s Christmas Concert, and the Chancellor’s Senate Recognition Dinner. But know that in our hearts, we are keeping you all in our prayers and look forward to seeing you at these again next year when it is safe to do so in person.

This month, join us for a special Mass on Saturday, December 5 at 9:00 AM. It is a Mass for Peace (in English), and will take place in the St. JPII Shrine Chapel. Our full Christmas Mass Schedule is in this issue.

This month, we want to take a moment to share how blessed we are to have the support of our students, faculty, staff, families, our Regents and Board members, Moms and Dads Club, and donors and benefactors, especially in these very challenging times. We are truly blessed with the gifts of your time, talents and treasures that help us continue our mission and vision for generations to come.

This is what we do at Christmas. We celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. We embrace the abundant spirit of the season. We come together in the spirit of family. May the newborn King bless you and your loved ones this month and every day of the New Year 2021 A.D. Please pray for us and we will continue to keep you, our campus community, essential workers, and all those we cannot be with this season in our prayers.

The Orchard Lake Schools
THE CHRISTMAS WIGILIA TRADITION

This month, when we cannot be together in our campus Christmas Wigilia tradition, our seminarians and faculty will do so privately, in accordance with CDC and AOD guidelines. This is a special Polish meal tradition that is formally observed on Christmas Eve.

Wigilia, in Polish, means to watch or keep vigil, just as the Shepherds did the night of Christ’s birth. The Wigilia meal, served before the Shepherd’s Mass called the Pasterka, is meatless to honor the animals that kept Jesus warm when he was born. There are traditionally 12 dishes to represent the 12 apostles. Fish is the main course, and is complimented by many favorites including pierogi (Polish dumplings). A list can be found online, but here is a link to help your search: Wigilia Tradition Link (for Online readers)

The Oplatek, a thin, unleavened wafer that resembles the host received at Holy Communion, is often seen embossed with the image of the Holy Family. It is tradition to pass it around to each person at the Wigilia dinner, break a piece off, and offer each other best wishes and holiday greetings.

When family members cannot be together at the meal, the Oplatek can be mailed to each other for sharing.

“BE OUR GUEST” FOR THE ANNUAL AUCTION: GO ONLINE NOW UNTIL DEC 5, 2020!

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT THE OLSM ANNUAL AUCTION: ONLINE 2020

The Moms and Dads Club is working hard on its annual fundraising and encouraging all to go online for this exciting tradition.

Please join us at www.manddclub.com

Special thanks to Alliance Catholic Credit Union and LaFontaine Motors for their key sponsorships and their continued partnership.
It’s That Wonderful Time of the Year!

TRIVENT TREES’ ANNUAL
CHRISTMAS TREE LOT

NOV. 24 - DEC. 24

A portion of tree sales will be donated to help support St. Mary’s Athletics.

“We never give more honor to Jesus than when we honor his Mother.”
St. Louis DeMontfort

The Mary Project is dedicated to the beautification of the Marian Grotto of Our Lady of Lourdes at Orchard Lake St. Mary’s.
The Mary Project is a registered 501(c)(3) and all donations are tax exempt.

SADLY, THE MARY PROJECT WILL NOT BE HOSTING ADVENT BY CANDLELIGHT THIS YEAR.
We will gather and meet “The Women of St. Mary’s” in 2021.

Thank you for your support,
Maureen Gross, The Mary Project

The Mary Project would like to THANK all our volunteers for making and keeping our Grotto more beautiful than it has been in many years.
You are truly the best!

ST. MARY’S BOOKSTORE COUPON

20% OFF
Valid: Nov. 16 – Dec. 18, 2020

Good for: Apparel, Gifts, Supplies Clearance Items reduced Apparel, Religious Gifts®
Excluded: Textbooks, TI-84 Calculators, School Blazers, Crew Gore-Tex Jackets & Gift cards, Food & Beverages

BOOKSTORE WILL BE OPEN
2:00-4:00 PM Sunday, Dec. 6
(May need to modify hours due to Quarantine restrictions)
SATURDAY, DEC. 5 ~ MASS FOR PEACE
9:00 AM  Fr. Nowak • English • St. JPII Shrine

DEC. 6 ~ 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Sem. Chapel
9:00 AM  Fr. Iwańczuk • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Nowak • English • St. JPII Shrine
1:00 PM  Fr. Iwańczuk • Polish • St. JPII Shrine

DECEMBER 13 ~ 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Sem. Chapel
9:00 AM  Fr. Can. Madey • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Iwańczuk • English • St. JPII Shrine

DECEMBER 20 ~ 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Sem. Chapel
9:00 AM  Fr. Can. Madey • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Iwańczuk • English • St. JPII Shrine

THURS, DEC. 24 ~ VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY
10:00 PM Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • St. JPII Shrine
12:00 AM Fr. Nowak • English • St. JPII Shrine

FRI, DEC. 25 ~ THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Nowak • English • St. JPII Shrine
1:00 PM  TBD • Latin • St. JPII Shrine

SUN, DEC. 27 ~ FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Sem. Chapel
9:00 AM  Msgr. Browne • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Can. Madey • English • St. JPII Shrine

* Feed for the Livestream of the Polish Masses is below:
www.facebook.com/olsnews

When you can’t be with us for Mass, watch our 9:00 AM Polish Mass
Via Facebook live-stream or on our YouTube Channel,
or listen to Polish Varieties Radio at 9:00 AM on
WNZK 680/690 AM Detroit.
TREATING OUR TROOPS
Our Girls Division students collected over 300 lbs. of candy which will be sent overseas to our troops! Great job, girls!

RECREATING THE CLASSICS
Freshman students in Mrs. Yenor’s language classes studied scale, history, design, and culture as they recreated classical architectural renderings.

Congratulations to Eaglet winners of the 4Frenzy Fan Choice Awards: JASON ROSS (Favorite Quarterback) and DARRYL ROUNDS (Favorite Sophomore) and to all our Prep nominees, including:

Offensive Tackle & Favorite Senior: ADAM DOLAN
Favorite Punter: TOMMY DOMAN
Favorite Coach: GEORGE PORRITT
Favorite Staff Member: ANN BARTUS

Congrats to our Eaglets who signed their National Letter of Intent (NLI) agreements on signing day, November 11:

Tommy Allman
Alex Mooney
Steve Essig
Julian Roper
Coleson Titus
John Essig

Jacksonville University (baseball)
Duke University (baseball)
Ashland University (baseball)
Northwestern University (basketball)
US Military Academy at West Point (baseball)
Ashland University (baseball)

Register for a virtual information session via the following link and learn more about our Prep admissions process:
https://www.olsmadmissions.com/events
ALUMNI TRADITION TRAILBLAZERS

Thank you, again, to our alumni who, as seniors (P’89), helped Robin Goddard first light our Grotto for Christmas in 1988. The OLSM tradition trailblazers: Eric Barber, Bill Cosnowski, Brad Cox, Jeff Cadwell, and Mark Sawicki.

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS 2020

MASS SCHEDULE

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9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Seminary Chapel
9:00 AM  Fr. Can. Madey • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Iwańczuk • English • St. JPII Shrine

DECEMBER 20 ~ 4th SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:00 AM  Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • Seminary Chapel
9:00 AM  Fr. Can. Madey • Latin • St. JPII Shrine
11:00 AM Fr. Iwańczuk • English • St. JPII Shrine

THURS, DECEMBER 24 ~ VIGIL OF THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD
10:00 PM Fr. Chrzanowski • Polish* • St. JPII Shrine
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* Feed for the Livestream of the Polish Masses is below:
https://www.facebook.com/olsnews

When you can't be with us for Mass, watch our 9:00 AM Polish Mass via Facebook live-stream or on our YouTube Channel, or listen to Polish Varieties Radio at 9:00 AM on WNZK 680/690 AM Detroit.

December 2020 Calendar

5 Holy Mass for Peace @9:00AM, Shrine Chapel
Last day of OLSM's Online Auction 2020

6 2nd Sunday of Advent @9:00AM, Shrine Chapel
Bookstore Open 2-4:00PM
St. Nicolas Day

7-11 Final Exams (SSCMS)

13 3rd Sunday of Advent

14-17 Midterm Exams (OLSM)

14-1/2 Christmas Recess (SSCMS)

17 End of 2nd Semester (OLSM)

18-1/3 Christmas Recess (OLSM)

20 4th Sunday of Advent

21 Winter Solstice

20 4th Sunday of Advent

24 Christmas Eve
Last Day Christmas Tree Lot

25 Christmas Day

31 New Year’s Eve