



## MONDAY MESSAGES

NOVEMBER 3, 2024

### LUNCH

[Click for lunch menu](#)

### IMPORTANT DATES

- **Tuesday, November 5 - NO SCHOOL, ELECTION DAY**
- Friday, November 8 - Morning prayer, 7:15a in the chapel
- Monday, November 11 - Veterans' Day prayer service - 8:15a in the gym
- **Wednesday, November 13 - HALF DAY - 11:30 DISMISSAL**
- November 14-15 - Days and Dreams Performances - 6p in the gym
- Tuesday, November 26 - Grades close, trimester 1
- **November 27-29 - NO SCHOOL, THANKSGIVING BREAK**
- Wednesday, December 11 - Band/Choir Concert - 6p in gym
- Thursday, November 21 - Spiritual book club gathering, 7p in the convent
- Tuesday, December 17 - All-school Christmas concert - 6p at St. Michael's Chapel at SMC

### THANKSGIVING GIFT CARD DRIVE – PLEASE DONATE!

Joseph's House, a Catholic outreach center in Burlington that serves people from all walks of life, has called upon our community to assist them in helping at least one hundred local families in need to enjoy a nourishing meal this Thanksgiving.

Mercy Community Service is hosting our annual Thanksgiving Gift Card Drive (Hannaford's) to help ensure that local families--brothers and sisters of ours who are struggling to make ends meet as the cost of food continues to increase--can feast, celebrate, and give thanks with their loved ones on Thanksgiving Day, too.

Last year, our generous community donated 127 gifts totaling \$3,760.00 to families in need. The staff of Joseph's House were moved and impressed with our efforts and they were able to use our donations to assist families for Christmas as well.

This year, Mater Christi School families are encouraged to drop off \$25.00 Hannaford's gift cards (larger amounts are also gladly accepted) in the main office in the middle school building, and in Mr. Moore's office in the elementary building from now until Friday, November 22nd when the gift cards will be delivered to Joseph's House.

Thank you, as always, for your compassion. We are confident that our response to this drive will bless those in need and surprise the staff at Joseph's House once again! Please contact Mr. Moore if you have any questions.

## PTO NEWS

The next PTO meeting will be held Tuesday, November 12 in the library after drop-off, due to the fact that there is no school on November 5.

All are welcome in the PTO. We meet monthly and encourage questions, ideas, feedback, or concerns. You can email us at [pto@materchristischool.net](mailto:pto@materchristischool.net). We hope to see you at the next PTO meeting!

### SPIRIT SHIRT FUNDRAISER:

Just a reminder that we are currently doing our annual PTO Spirit Shirt Fundraiser! It will end on November 8th when Spirit shirts are handed out in classrooms.

This is the PTO's primary way to raise money for all that we do for our school, teachers and community. In particular, a large part of this money goes to providing teacher grants that support our kids' education in creative and engaging ways in the classroom.

The suggested donation per shirt is \$10. Please consider donating this or more to support our PTO. **Donations can be made by check or cash at the office or you can pay with venmo to @PTOMCS. Our PTO venmo QR code is attached.**

**Everyone will receive a shirt regardless of donation so if it is not something you are able to do at this time do not worry about it.**

If you have any questions don't hesitate to reach out to us at [pto@materchristischool.net](mailto:pto@materchristischool.net).

### CHRISTMAS MARKET:

Date: Saturday, December 7th, 2024

Location: MCS gym, 50 Mansfield Street, Burlington VT

Time: 1 - 4 PM

Entrance Fee: non-perishable food item for Catherine's Pantry or monetary donation

### OFFICE COORDINATOR POSITION - ST. CATHERINE'S

St. Catherine of Siena Parish in Shelburne is hiring! Please see attached job description for an [office coordinator role](#).

Please contact:

*Suzanne Shahla, Office Manager*

*St Catherine of Siena Parish*

(802) 985-2373

[stcatherineofsiena@vermontcatholic.org](mailto:stcatherineofsiena@vermontcatholic.org)

Office Hours:

Weekdays (except closed on Tuesdays) 9:30 AM-3 PM

### ARTIFICIAL CHRISTMAS TREE WANTED!

Yes, it's a little early but...Mrs. Bedard is heading up the Christmas decorating for the school/convent. It takes some time and creativity to decorate our growing school! If you have a large artificial Christmas tree (8-10 feet) that you are no longer using, we would gladly accept it as a donation. We are always looking for strings of white lights, as well. Thank you!!

## TABLE OF REMEMBRANCE

In the Catholic tradition, November is a month to remember and pray for loved ones who have journeyed home to their eternal rest. November begins with the Solemnity of All Saints on November 1st and the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed on November 2nd.

On the Solemnity of All Saints we are reminded of a "universal call of holiness," and are encouraged to strive towards holiness in our own unique way. On this day, we remember and pray for deceased loved ones who, while not officially canonized by the Church, are indeed saints whose witness has blessed and enriched our lives. On the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed, we are encouraged to pray for all loved ones who have died, trusting in God's unconditional love and mercy.

We would like to extend an invitation to our community as we honor and pray for our loved ones who have journeyed home to God. A "Table of Remembrance" will be set up in the Chapel of the Sacred Heart from Friday, November 1st to Tuesday, November 26th (the day before the Thanksgiving break) and we invite students and families to bring in a framed photo or photos of deceased family members and friends for the Table of Remembrance. Please ensure the photo is labeled on the back of the frame with your family name and child's homeroom so that we can be sure to return these sacred and cherished pictures to you.

All those interested in participating in this annual tradition are welcome to bring photos to our liturgy on November 1st. We will place the photos of your loved ones on the Table of Remembrance where they will remain for our communal celebration of the Eucharist on All Saints Day, and throughout a 25 day period as we hold these beloved family members in prayer each morning.

If your family is interested in participating in this meaningful community event, your children may bring your photos to school on Friday, November 1st, or any day throughout our observance of this tradition. Homeroom teachers will ensure that your photos get to me to be placed on the "Table of Remembrance." Thank you for participating in this beloved tradition.

## MERCY COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mercy Community Service is ready to launch! Service opportunities will be offered on various Thursdays throughout the school year. The Ronald McDonald House, Our Lady of Providence, and the Hope Lodge are our community partners for community service.

The Ronald McDonald House (<https://rmhcv.org/>) is looking for small groups of MCS volunteers (4-5 individuals) to make a meal twice a month. Interested families should contact Mr. Moore to coordinate a date, and the family will plan and shop for a meal, and provide transportation. Mr. Moore will help recruit volunteers if needed.

Our Lady of Providence (<https://ourladyofprovidence.org/>) is an assisted living facility in Winooski. Volunteers play games and converse with elders who are incredibly excited to connect with young people. Typically, we can bring up to ten volunteers to Our Lady of Providence. Interested families should contact Mr. Moore.

Finally, Hope Lodge ([www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-](http://www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge.html)

[services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge.html](http://www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge.html)) is always looking for volunteers to make meals for guests. If you can sponsor a meal, e.g., select a meal for 12-15 guests, purchase the ingredients, and help direct student volunteers, you're welcome to sign up using the link below, or please be in touch with Mr. Moore. This is a great way for groups of friends or teams to connect and serve together.

The sign up link is here: <https://takethenameal.com/JVXC0633>

\*All adults participating in Mercy Community Service must have completed a criminal background check and Virtus training.

Thanks, as always, for your compassion and mercy and for the example you set for our children.

## **LIBRARY NEWS**

2024-2025 MCS YEARBOOKS FOR SALE:

Get your 2024-2025 MCS yearbook now! \$48 using the direct link below.

Jostens direct order link: [ORDER YOUR 2025 MATER CHRISTI YEARBOOK](#)

Best regards,

Kendra & Mary Beth

Ph: 802-658-3992

Email: [kgeeslin@materchristischool.net](mailto:kgeeslin@materchristischool.net); [msartorelli@materchristischool.net](mailto:msartorelli@materchristischool.net)