



MONDAY MESSAGES

OCTOBER 5, 2026

LUNCH MENU

Monday 10/5 Chicken Tikka Masala with rice & naan bread. (GF w/o bread)

Tuesday 10/6 OKTOBERFEST- Bratwursts, pierogies, soft pretzels, sauerkraut, braised cabbage, & soft bavarian pretzels.

Wednesday 10/7 Philly Cheese steaks (shaved rib eye, peppers & onions and cheese on a hoagie roll)

Thursday 10/8 Shepherd's Pie & Dinner rolls. (GF)

Friday 10/9 Hot Dogs & coleslaw with potato chips (DF)

COMING SOON

October:

- 5- Blessing of the Animals- 3:00 p.m.
- 8 - PTO Coffee & Conversation
- 10- Blood Drive @ MCS- 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
- 12- Indigenous Peoples' Day- No School
- 13 - PTO Meeting & Parents Night Out
- 21- Fall MCS Open House
- 22-23 - Parent Teacher Conferences - no school for students

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS ON MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

Please join us on Monday, October 5th, as we honor the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of ecology and animals, with our beloved annual **Blessing of the Animals** prayer service.

All are welcome to join us in celebrating the goodness and beauty of God's creatures in our beautiful Chapel of the Sacred Heart with a brief prayer service.

We invite you to come directly up the front steps of the Mount St. Mary's convent, and proceed to the Chapel where we will begin the service shortly after 3:00 pm. MCS community members are invited to bring pet(s) or pictures of pet(s) for the prayer service, and each animal will receive an individual blessing.

Please reach out to Mr. Moore at jmoore@materchristischool.net if you have any questions.

MERCY COMMUNITY SERVICE

There are many wonderful service opportunities throughout the school year in our community. Please read about a couple of them here and reach out to Mr. Moore with any questions:

Donate to Catherine's Pantry

Please consider donating non-perishable food items for Catherine's Pantry, our on-campus food shelf. We will collect the donated food items throughout the school year, and distribute them to various local food banks, charitable organizations, and families/neighbors in need of support.

Collection boxes are placed in the lobby of each building. Thank you for your generosity, and for caring for our economically poor and food insecure brothers and sisters by helping to feed the hungry--a critical Corporal Work of Mercy.

Hope Lodge

(<https://www.cancer.org/support-programs-and-services/patient-lodging/hope-lodge/burlington.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://takethemameal.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.

Please keep an eye out for other service opportunities!

Ronald McDonald House

The Ronald McDonald House (<https://rmhcv.org/>) is looking for small groups of MCS volunteers (no more than four cooks in the kitchen at a time) to make meals for guests.

Interested families should contact Lisa Naigle at Lisa@ronaldmcdonaldhousevt.org to coordinate a date (see the options below), and your family will plan and shop for a meal, and cook the meal on site. Mr. Moore will help recruit volunteers if needed.

October: Fridays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Mondays 5, 12, 19, 26

November: Fridays 13, 20

Mondays 9, 23, 30

December: Fridays 4, 11, 18

Mondays 7, 14, 21

MCS BLOOD DRIVE

LAST CHANCE: Help Us Save Lives This Saturday! 🩸

This is the final week to fill our remaining 29 blood donation appointment slots for the Mater Christi School Blood Drive! We are partnering with the American Red Cross this **Saturday, October 10, from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM** for a blood drive in the gymnasium. Regional blood supplies remain critically low, and local patients are relying on our community to step up.

If you've been meaning to sign up, **this is your final week to grab a spot!**

- **To Donate Blood:** Please view available times and sign up here: [SIGN UP HERE](#) (Or visit RedCrossBlood.org and use sponsor code: MATERCHRISTI)
- **To Help Provide Food:** Donors always need snacks and refreshments after giving! If you would like to help by bringing baked goods, fruit, or drinks for the canteen table, please sign up here: [SignUpGenius Link](#)

Let's finish strong and show up big for our community this weekend. Thank you so much for your support!

MCS SPORTS:

A note about the games at Shelburne Middle School and the Shelburne Field House - BAY ROAD is under construction so plan for a lot of traffic and/or carpool if possible. Thank you!

10/ 5: Field Hockey - Practice 3:15 - 4:45 | **Cross Country** - Practice 3:15 - 4:15 | **Boys Soccer** - Game at Winooski A TEAM ONLY 5:15 | **Girls Soccer** - Game at Winooski A TEAM ONLY 4:15

10/6: Field Hockey - Game at Edmunds A 4:15 and B 5:15 | **Cross Country** - Meet at Essex Middle School boys at 4:30 girls at 5:15 | **Boys Soccer** - off day | **Girls Soccer** - Practice 3:15 - 4:45

10/7: Field Hockey - Practice 3:15 - 4:45 | **Cross Country** - Practice 3:15 - 4:15 | **Boys Soccer** - Game versus Edmunds AT LEDDY A 4:15 / B 5:15 | **Girls Soccer** - off

10/8: Field Hockey - Game at Shelburne at 4:15 one team only B - Game will be at the Shelburne Field House <https://maps.app.goo.gl/oN5LPq3wPERPNxNv6> | **Cross Country** - day off | **Boys Soccer** - Game at Shelburne A 4:15 / B 5:15 Games will be at the Shelburne Field House <https://maps.app.goo.gl/oN5LPq3wPERPNxNv6> | **Girls Soccer** - Game at Shelburne A 4:15 / B 5:15 at Shelburne Middle School (behind the school)

10/9: Field Hockey - off day | **Cross Country** - Practice 3:15 - 4:15 | **Boys Soccer** - Practice 3:15 - 4:45 | **Girls Soccer** - off day

PETER PAN SCHEDULE

Tuesday 10/6

3:00-3:45, music room w/ Don/Emma: (Flying) All cast

3:45-4:30, music room w/ Don: (scenes 8) Hook, Lost Children, Peter, Wendy, John, Michael, Tinker

3:45-4:30, library w/ Emma: (Tinker, Bubbles) Fairies/Mermaids

Thursday 10/8

3:00-4:15, music room w/ Emma: (sc 3 after Island Song) Pirates, Lost Children, Darlings, Peter, Tinker, Crocodile

4:15-4:30, music room w/ Emma: (Best Friend) Darlings

Friday 10/9

3:00-3:30, music room w/ Kara: (Hook's Tender, Reprise) Pirates, Crocodile

Library w/ Don: (sc) Peter, Wendy

3:30-4:15, music room w/ Kara: (Never Grow Up, Uncertain) Peter, Wendy

Library w/ Don: (sc 3) Pirates, Crocodile

MS. LAVALLEE'S RELIGION CLASS

Donate from your recycling! Miss Lavallee would gratefully take some things in your recycling bin for use in the Atrium (Early Ed/Elementary Religion classroom):

- Glass jars or bottles of any size
- Empty (clean) nail polish bottles
- Tissue paper of any color
- PS-3rd grade parents may also want to **donate flowers**. Students in all grades love to arrange flowers in the Atrium. We mainly use faux flowers, and use real flowers for special occasions. If you'd like to donate real flowers at any point in the year, students would love to use them. **Please let Miss Lavallee know ahead of time** if you do this, so she can plan ahead (rlavallee@materchristischool.net) **No sunflowers, please!** There is an allergy.

ROBOTICS CLUB MESSAGE

My name is Michael Kutsanzira, and I am the Technology Director at Rice Memorial High School. As you may have heard, Rice is merging its robotics club with Mater Christi to compete in the FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC) for the upcoming school year!

If your child is in 6th-8th grade, has been involved with robotics in the past, or you've expressed interest in seeing the Mater Christi program continue, we will begin Robotics club with the following two meetings:

- 1st Meeting: Wednesday, October 7 from 2:10 PM to 3:00 PM
- 2nd Meeting: Wednesday, October 14 from 2:10 PM to 3:00 PM

Everyone should make sure to attend these first two meetings, as we are obligated to go over essential information with the team before we get fully started.

For Mater Christi students: Mr. Mazzella will be coordinating with Mike Early to arrange transportation to and from Rice.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions, kutsanzira@rmhsvt.org Looking forward to seeing everyone there!

RICE OPEN HOUSE

You're invited to Rice's Fall Open House, Saturday 10/17 from 10am-12pm. Tour the school and check out the new turf field, gym, grandstands, and library. Visit tables to learn about academic, music, art, and sports programs. Meet our teachers, school leadership team, and chat with current parents and students. To register and find more details visit: <https://rmhsvt.org/fall-open-house>

NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

Hello MCS Community! Your volunteer librarians are working hard to organize and stock our wonderful school library, but we need your help! If you would consider purchasing a book from our Wish List to add to the collection, we would be immensely grateful (and it's almost Prime Days!). We are in need of up to date non-fiction books as our current collection is becoming quickly outdated.

[MCS Library Wish List!](#)

We are also looking for volunteers to come cover our hardcover books so we can get them out on the shelves! Please contact Nicole Farley at library@materchristischool.net if interested.

MCS COMMUNITY HOLIDAY MARKET

The market will be on Saturday, November 21st from 10:00 -1:00. Currently we are looking for vendors. If you, your family, or friends make crafts, special treats, jewelry, or any handmade items that you would be interested in selling, please contact either Mrs. Donlon at mdonlon@materchristischool.com or Nicole Farley at nicolecfarley@gmail.com. This is simply a fun, community event so there is no vendor fee this year. We just want to ensure we have enough tables.

GHOULS ON THE RUN

Ghoulsontherun.org

Click the link above for a fun, Halloween-style event developed by two of our own MCS students. It includes a zombie race, a drive-in movie, and a fund-raiser for the fantastic "Girls-on-the-Run" program.

2026-2027 YEARBOOKS NOW ON SALE!!

The **Mater Christi 2026-2027 yearbooks are on sale!!** Purchase a wonderful keepsake of our year together. All students in grades PS-8 are included, as are all the special moments we celebrate together as a community throughout the year! The yearbook is truly a great memento to look back on. The link to purchase directly from Jostens is below.

[Click to Purchase the 2027 Mater Christi Yearbook](#) Questions? [Email Ms. King](#)

MCS FALL OPEN HOUSE

Please help us share our first Open House of the year on Wednesday, October 21 from 8:30- 11 a.m.

If you use Facebook, please share our event and invite a friend to attend

<https://www.facebook.com/share/1BjtfPRrHN/>

If you are part of Front Porch Forum, please share it in your local one. You can copy and paste the blurb below, or share your personal positive experience at MCS.

We invite you to experience what makes Mater Christi School such a special place!
Fall Open House - Wednesday, October 21. With tours at 8:30 am, 9:30 am, and 10:30 am.

During your visit, you will learn about our history, community, academics, and programs. You will meet the people who are the heart of our school: dedicated and inspiring teachers, joyful students, and supportive parents.

You will hear and see how we educate and form students by promoting academic excellence, moral responsibility, and a joyful community, preparing them to become compassionate leaders ready to serve a vulnerable world.

We are excited to welcome you and to show you how we work together to make Mater Christi School a special place for children to learn and grow.

Register to attend: <https://mcschool.org/open-house-registration/>

SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS AND CHAPERONES

There are several opportunities during the year to volunteer or chaperone field trips for your child's class. The Diocese and Mater Christi School require volunteers and chaperones to complete full background checks before the event. This includes completing a background check authorization form, fingerprinting, and taking a short online child safety training (VIRTUS). The Diocese requires strict adherence to the policy and MCS will have to decline parents that have not completed ALL background steps BEFORE the field trip date.

If planning on being a volunteer or chaperone this school year, please contact Kate Lafferty klafferty@materchristischool.net to start the background check process (fingerprints can take up to a month). Several of the younger grades (K-3) have fall field trips, so now is a good time to start.

REPORTING ABSENCES, LATE ARRIVALS, EARLY DISMISSALS

Please email attendance@materchristischool.net **and** the student's homeroom teacher with all attendance matters. Alternatively, you may call the main office and leave a voicemail.

Best regards,

Kimberly Price & Mary Beth Sartorelli

Ph: 802-658-3992 Email: kprice@materchristischool.net ; msartorelli@materchristischool.net ;
or for student attendance matters: attendance@materchristischool.net