



## A Week at A Glance...10/16/2017 - 10/20/2017

Today, October 16, 2017, the Church celebrates the feast of Saint Margaret Mary Alacoque. Margaret Mary was born in France in 1647. As a child she became ill with rheumatic fever and was bedridden from the age of five until she was fifteen. During this time Margaret Mary developed a special devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. At the age of twenty, she began to experience visions of Christ.

When Margaret Mary was twenty-four, she entered **The Visitation Convent**. This order of religious sisters remains to this day. It is a cloistered order which means they are enclosed in a monastery. They withdraw from society to devote themselves to prayer and contemplation. Today, a **Visitation Convent** can be found in Tyringham, MA. The sisters do welcome visitors during times of public prayer. Check it out on the Web.

While at the convent, On December 21, 1674, Jesus began to share a series of revelations with Margaret Mary that would continue for the next year and a half. In them He informed her that she was His chosen Instrument to spread devotion to His **Sacred Heart**. Jesus wanted His Human Heart to be a symbol of His Divine-Human Love. Jesus then showed Margaret Mary His Sacred Heart. It was encircled by a crown of thorns, the symbol of His great sacrifice for us.

Jesus instructed Margaret Mary in a devotion that was to become known as the "*Nine Fridays and the Holy Hour.*" Jesus asked that the **Feast of the Sacred Heart** be established. Today, this wonderful devotion to the Sacred Heart is celebrated throughout the world. It is commonly known as First Friday Devotions. On nine consecutive Fridays, Mass and Holy Communion are to be received in honor of Jesus' Sacred Heart.

Our Lord made twelve promises to Saint Margaret Mary for those who are devoted to His Sacred Heart and follow His request.

1. I will give them all the graces necessary in their state of life.
2. I will establish peace in their homes.
3. I will comfort them in their afflictions.
4. I will be their source of refuge in life and in death.
5. I will bestow abundant blessings upon all their undertakings.
6. Sinners will find in My Heart the source and ocean of Mercy.
7. Lukewarm souls will become fervent.
8. Fervent souls shall mount to perfection.
9. I will bless every place in which an image of My Heart is exposed and honored.
10. I will give to priests the gift of touching the most hardened hearts.
11. Those who shall promote this devotion will have their names written in My Heart.
12. I promise you in the excessive Mercy of My Heart, that My all-powerful love will grant to all those who receive Holy Communion on the First Fridays in nine consecutive months the grace of final perseverance. My Divine Heart shall be their safe refuge in their last moments.

Our school children attend First Friday Mass each month during the academic year. How blessed they are to have this gift. What a wonderful treasure it is for them to be able to freely learn about The Sacred Heart Devotion. Perhaps you might join them at these Masses on the First Friday's of the month at 8:30 AM. You will be glad you did!

*Oh most Sacred Heart of Jesus, fountain of every blessing...*

**Next Week:** The conclusion of the Secrets of Mary as told to the children at Fatima.

**DIOCESAN INSERVICE:** Just a reminder that we do not have school on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup> do to the staff in-service.

**PICTURE RETAKES:** On Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, we will have our retakes for school pictures. If you are having your child retake his/her picture or your child was absent on picture day, they can get their picture taken on Thursday. If you have a packet of pictures, please return them. Please have your child wear their white polo.

**NOVEMBER 7:** Just a reminder that we do not have busses on Tuesday, November 7. Pick up will be as it has been in the past. Grades K – 4 will be picked up in the regular carline and grades N and 5-8 will be picked up at the nursery door.

**MEAT PIES:** Please consider spending an hour or two and helping us out with the meat pie project. With the help from volunteers, they have given us a substantial amount towards our budget. The project will start October 11<sup>th</sup> and run through Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will start around 7:00 am and the actual making of the pies goes to about noon. Thank you for any help you can give us.

**CONFERENCES:** Conferences have been scheduled for Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> and Friday November 3<sup>rd</sup>. Both days are early releases at 10:20 am. We will once again use the online sign up: [www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C45ABAF2AA7F94-conferences1](http://www.SignUpGenius.com/go/30E0C45ABAF2AA7F94-conferences1). Conference run every 15 minutes.

**CONFERENCE DAYS:** Just a reminder that on conference days (November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>) the students will be dismissed at 10:20. There are busses and extended care.

**ROSARY:** Thank you to our 2, 3 and 4<sup>th</sup> graders who led us in the rosary at Our Lady of Fatima last Friday night.

**MCDONALDS NIGHT:** Please join us for our McDonalds Night on Wednesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 4 – 8 (Dine in or Take out) No vouchers are necessary.

**TRUNK OR TREAT:** We have set the date for Trunk or Treat for Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 6 – 7 pm. Parents can start decorating their car at 5:30. If you need more time, just let me know. Information was sent out last week and it is also on our website.

**POPE FRANCIS OPEN HOUSE:** Pope Francis High School will host an **OPEN HOUSE** for prospective students currently in grades 8 and their families on **Sunday, November 5, 2017**. Join us for a [tour of our new facility](#) on Wendover Road and a presentation at St. Michael's Academy. This is a great time to learn about the unique and exciting opportunities that await your child at Pope Francis for the 2018-2019 school year. Refreshments will be served. Register online at [www.popefrancishigh.org/open-house](http://www.popefrancishigh.org/open-house) or call [\(413\) 331-2480](tel:4133312480).

**VOLUNTEER/CORI INFORMATION:** If you are interested in volunteering this year, you will need to either attend one of our workshops which is about 3 hours long or view the program online which will be a little over an hour. You will also sign off on the Code of Conduct at the same time. If you even think that you may go on a field trip or volunteer, please go on the site and watch the

videos. Your CORIs also need to be up to date. If you were in need of a CORI update, it was put in your back to school packet that the students brought home today. The site is [https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg\\_2.cfm?theme=0&org=37495](https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_2.cfm?theme=0&org=37495). If you sign up and take part of the course and then decide you need to finish this later you would actually go to **virtusonline.org** and then put in your username and password and finish the course.

**ALTAR SERVERS:** Anyone in grades 4 – 8 who are interested in Altar Serving either daily or weekend masses please let us know and we will give you paperwork to fill out. You can also find the paperwork under After School Programs and then Altar Serving.

**LUNCH TOKENS:** Tokens can be purchased on the following days: October 27; November 9 (Thursday), 30 (Thursday); December 8, 20 (Wednesday); January 11, 26; February 9; March 2, 16, 29 (Thursday); April 13; May 4, 18; June 1. Student may bring in money to purchase tokens on their first day of school.

### **FUNDRAISER INFORMATION**

**TASTE OF WESTERN MA DINING BOOKS:** We will be sending home shortly the Taste of Western Mass Dining and Activity books to every family. If you do not want to purchase it, please send it back in the bag it came in. If you are interested in purchasing it, please send it back with \$25. They make great Christmas gifts. If you are interested in purchasing more, please send in the paperwork or a note and we will send it home with your child.

**CANDY BARS:** Congratulations to our top sellers: In first place: The Smith family selling 9 boxes; In 2<sup>nd</sup> place there was a 5 way tie selling 7 boxes: Madison Charette, The Fisher family, The Murphy family, The Richter family and Nathan Winters. Thank you all for selling and helping us raise money for the school. We had 17 students qualify for the Ice Cream and Limo Ride.

**STOP AND SHOP:** Our school is participating in the A+ School Rewards program. Please register your card at Stop and Shop or online to help raise money for the school. You can either visit [www.stopandshop.com](http://www.stopandshop.com) and select Savings and Rewards and follow the prompts to create your account. You will need your 13 digit Stop and Shop card number and our school ID (05181) or if you do not know your card number you can call 1-877-366-2668 and choose option #1. If you registered last year, you do not need to register your card again. You can track the number of points you are earning for our school by checking your grocery receipt starting October 6 2017 – March 15, 2018.

### **COLLECTIONS**

**BOXTOPS/CAMPBELL UPCs/INK CARTRIDGES:** We continue to ask for your support with the Box Tops, Campbell UPCs, Ink Cartridges

**BOTTLES AND CANS:** We are collecting clean bottles and cans with deposits. They can be dropped off in the containers in the parking lot by the other side of the dumpster.

### ***AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS***

**MAD SCIENCE:** Mad Science will start Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and run through December 20<sup>th</sup>. They will be in the first week of October to give a little demonstration and paperwork will go out after that.

**SEWING:** Classes will begin on Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> from 2 – 2:30 pm. Information will be emailed to everyone and found on our website under After School Programs – Sewing.

**JUDO/JUTSU:** Please talk to your child(ren) about joining the Judo class on Tuesdays and Thursdays after school. They can come out and try it, and if they like it they can join.

God bless,  
Shelly Rose, Principal