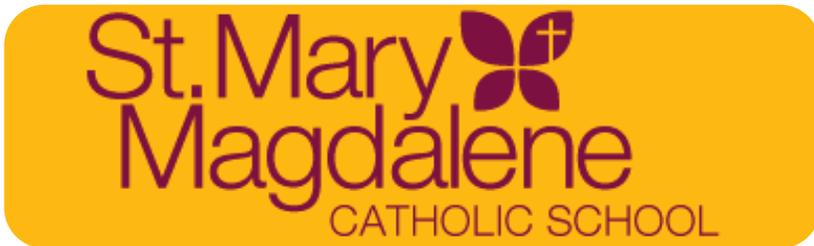


PSO NEWSLETTER



Every month a magazine called PTO Today lands in my mailbox. As you can imagine, its audience is parents who serve on school volunteer organizations, like our very own PSO. I like to page through it to get ideas on teacher recognition and fun events for our kids. I also like to measure up our efforts against the ones highlighted in the magazine and, trust me, we're right up there!

This month, the note from the magazine's editor talked about why she volunteers. She recalls the school events of her childhood and how much she enjoyed them. She treasured them so much that when she became a parent, she found it essential to be involved in her children's school so that she could help create those same memories for them.

Talk about hitting the nail on the head! I could totally identify with the things she was saying! It's been over 30 years, but I still remember fondly folding pizza boxes at our school pizza sale, stripping palms with the sisters during Lent, helping my dad rinse paintbrushes after painting the school library during summer break. I remember helping staple decorations on bulletin boards, sitting at the bake sale table with my mom, hand delivering letters from the school so they could save on postage.

Service is important for so many reasons. The act itself gets things done, makes things happen. But the reward, the feelings and the memories and the influence, well, those are just priceless!

The PSO has reached the time of year where we are looking ahead to the next school year. We have spent a lot of time looking at our volunteer committees and identifying our volunteer needs. We have been able to fill many of the holes in our volunteer structure, but there is still work to be done! So here is where I offer up a challenge to you, our StMM parents.

If you have cherished grade school memories or even if you don't but want them for your own kids, please consider volunteering for a PSO event or committee or even to serve on the board. In the next few weeks we aim to print a complete list of PSO board and volunteer committees in this newsletter. Please take a look and see if anything piques your interest!

In the spirit of service,
Laura

IMPORTANT DATES

February

2/26, 3:30 pm

Carolina Hurricanes Game

2/27-5/3

Cindy Biles, Clay Artist, K-8 art classes

March

3/6-10

Tony Peacock, Storyteller, 3rd & 4th grades

3/8, 8 am

Spring Festival planning meeting

3/8, 5-9 pm

Chipotle Fundraiser

3/12, 2:00 pm

Adopt-A-Highway

April

4/28

Spring Festival

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & PSO NEWS

Cultural Arts News

February 27 - May 3 Clay artist Cindy Biles will work with all K-8 art classes. She will teach the kids how to make a self-portrait clay face. Many of the final faces will be featured at the end of the year in a permanent art display!

March 6-10 Tony Peacock will be back with the 3rd and 4th grades. He will be teaching the kids about story construction and creation. He's been a STMM teacher favorite for many years, and we always look forward

spring FESTIVAL

The Spring Festival Committee needs you! Please join us on Wednesday, March 8th, after drop off in the Lobby to discuss our plans for Spring Festival which will be held on April 28th. We promise to make this easy and fun! If you can't make the meeting, but would like to help, please contact Anne Burge at anneburge143@gmail.com or Laura Aiken at lauramaiken@yahoo.com.

Adopt-A-Highway

Parents—help your school community and keep Apex BBQ Road clean & beautiful. Please join us in our quarterly Adopt-A-Highway clean up.

Sunday, March 12th, 2:00 pm

Volunteers must be at least 12 years of age, and all minors must be accompanied by an adult. It is a great way for students to earn service hours. Sign up at

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0b48a8a8292-adoptahighway>

Email Amanda Laborde with any questions and for more details:
amanda@laborde.net



Spirit Wear Day is this Friday, the 24th!
Don't forget to wear your Spirit Wear tee shirt!

Thank you for making Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week a huge success. All of your donations were very much appreciated, and everyone loved the children's kind words on their Valentine's hearts. Here are a few photos of the supply bags & the salad bar.



SCHOOL SPIRIT TASTES GREAT



Make dinner a selfless act by joining us for a fundraiser to support St. Mary Magdalene School. Come in to the Chipotle at **1081 Pine Plaza Dr** in Apex on **Wednesday, March 8th** between **5:00pm** and **9:00pm**. Bring in this flyer, show it on your smartphone or tell the cashier you're supporting the cause to make sure that 50% of the proceeds will be donated to St. Mary Magdalene School.



MEXICAN GRILL

If placing an order online during your fundraiser, please note you must choose the pay in-store option and inform our cashier of your participation before paying. Gift card purchases during fundraisers do not count towards total donated sales, but purchases made with an existing gift card will count.