

+J.M.J.

March 9, 2022

Dear SMS Families,

I listen to Pandora's "Classical for Studying Radio" often when I am working, especially after school, and an instrumental version of the following song by Lauren Daigle is playing as I write this. The original song has a powerful message, and, I hope, one that will resonate with you today too:

I keep fighting voices in my mind that say I'm not enough
Every single lie that tells me I will never measure up

Am I more than just the sum of every high and every low
Remind me once again just who I am because I need to know
Ooh-oh

Refrain: You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
And you say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong, oh You say I am Yours
And I believe (I)
Oh, I believe (I)
What You say of me (I)
I believe

The only thing that matters now is everything You think of me
In You I find my worth, in You I find my identity
Ooh-oh

Refrain...

Taking all I have, and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You have every failure, God, You have every victory
Ooh-oh

Refrain...

Source: [Musixmatch](#)

Songwriters: Lauren Daigle

You Say lyrics © Appstreet Music, Centricsongs, See You At The Pub

Around the School:

- **BIG SHAMROCK SHOUT-OUTS to SMS dads: Mr. Shawn McConnell and Mr. Mike Sellards and teacher: Mr. Brandon Busch for some heavy-lifting last week! Mr. McConnell and Mr. Busch carried 4 very heavy laptop carts down several flights of steps for us, and Mr. Sellards graciously cleaned at the school when Mr. Neral wasn't able to. Thank you, gentlemen! Many hands really do make light the work!**
- **Tomorrow is a \$1 (or more!) Dress Down Day** to benefit [Community Food Warehouse of Mercer County](#). It is also our **McDonald's Hot Lunch** for those who ordered!
- **Friday is a Mass day.** Remember: parents are always welcome to attend with us. We are very excited to have student Lectors and Cantors at Mass again!
- **2nd-8th Grade will have Basketball this Friday after school. Please refer to the Basketball schedule.**
- **Please kindly be mindful of due dates/return date on forms.** It helps us out a great deal.
- **On March 12, SMS PTO will be hosting a St. Patrick's Day Glow Dance from 5:30-7:30pm! Free pizza and drinks will be provided. A parent/guardian must be present with their child(ren) at all times.**
- **Please prayerfully consider nominating another parent, teacher, or yourself to serve on the PTO Executive Board for the 2022-2023 school year.** A Google Form was sent out on which you can submit your nomination(s). Open positions for next year will include President, Vice President, Secretary, and Co-Treasurer. **Elections will take place at our next open PTO Meeting: Monday, March 14 at 5:30pm in Lateran Hall.** *Thank you to our current Board: Shannon Thomas, Leighanne Bert, Tina Sheirer, and Shalyn Martin for all you have done and continue to do to support our school!*
- Our **snow make-up day** from Friday, February 4 will be remote a Flexible Instruction Days (FID): Monday, March 21. Packets of work will be sent home with students on March 17. Since the day we are making up was a noon dismissal day, packets will reflect a lighter workload. Completed packets will be counted for attendance for that day. No students or staff will be reporting to the school building on that day.
- Thank you to the many families who have volunteered to be on the **Car Raffle Committee!** We need several more, so please keep sending in your slips. **We need AT LEAST 20 school parents to make this a reality. This is the BIGGEST FUNDRAISER for our school (we typically raise \$50,000+), and we REALLY NEED YOUR HELP!** Our next meeting will be after Easter.
- **Our website has some fun new things on it**, including a new banner called "Do You Wanna Buy a Planet?", a [video featuring 2 Heart Heroes from our school!](#), and a new series, featuring an alumni titled "Why I Value Catholic Education".
- **Applications for financial assistance through the diocese for the 2022-2023 school year (STAR and BTAP) were sent home with students last Monday.** These applications, along with an application fee are to be mailed to the diocese by April 15. An internal financial aid packet will be coming home within the next few weeks.
- **Scholarship forms and applications for our school and community will be coming home soon.**
- **Do you have your clearances with us (or would be willing to get your clearances) and like working with our littlest students? We can use your help as a PreK Aide**

Substitute! This will be a volunteer role, and only needed occasionally throughout the rest of the year. Call the school's office to get on our sub list!

- **YOU and your CHILD are the best PR for SMS!** Please share positive stories with your friends, family, and neighbors: in person and on social media to help bring more students and families into our community!
- Join the **40 Club!!** It is one of the biggest fundraisers for our school!! You can win 100s and even 1,000s of dollars! Call the church or school for more information! Spread the word to your family and friends!
- **Please bring your families to Mass! St. Michael School is a mission of and an integral part of St. Michael and St. Margaret Church!** Going to Mass on Sundays, I miss seeing and praying with young families, especially our school families. Our parish offers 4 Masses each weekend: 4:30pm on Saturday, 7:00am, 11:00am on Sunday (this is the Mass I always go to!) at St. Michael in Greenville and 9:00am on Sunday at St. Margaret in Jamestown.



You're invited to the Synod!

Pope Francis has called the Church to a World-Wide Synod. The "Synod on Synodality" has begun, and the Church wants to hear from every baptized person.

Why? To develop the practice of becoming a "listening Church," one that effectively journeys with its people.

Who is invited to participate? All people of goodwill, Catholics who practice the faith or not, and everyone in between. Deacon Marty Aubel and Deacon Frank Luciani will be facilitating the listening sessions where you will be invited to pray together for the coming of the Holy Spirit, then offered time to share your thoughts for the Synod.

When & Where?

- March 10, 2022 (In Person) at St. Margaret from 1:00 to 2:30 PM

RSVP online @ <https://form.jotform.com/220274946310148> or to Sandy Ohl at 724-456-5209.

What will you be asked to share? The Synod is an opportunity for people to evaluate how the church and our parish are doing in terms of living out the Gospel message that Jesus entrusted us with. There are things we are doing well and need to keep doing and things that have not gone quite as we had planned or hoped and can do better. So, pray about what you will share in this process. We want to hear your stories about how we ARE meeting your needs specific to your life circumstances, how we are NOT meeting your needs specific to your life circumstances, and about how is God speaking to you and through whom or in what way. Your thoughts will be compiled into an overall report to the Diocese. The Diocese will gather information from all its parishes and forward it to the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops. They will gather it from across the US and forward it to the Vatican. Every country in the world will be participating in this same process. The final results and the Pope's direction on all this information will be published in 2023. - Hope to see you! Deacon Marty & Deacon Frank

- **The following is from Maggie Shaughnessy:**

It's the **Second Sunday of Lent, already!** You're probably well on your way to **preparing your heart** for **Jesus**, to celebrate Easter. Remember, we try to **GIVE UP** something that *keeps us away* from **Jesus**, and **ADD** something to our lives that brings us *CLOSER* to **Jesus**! We also try to *talk more often* with **Jesus**, in **PRAYER!**

Have you ever found out something **wonderful and surprising** about someone you thought you thought you knew very well? In today's gospel, **Jesus** is **TRANSFIGURED** before His disciples' eyes, and they begin to realize that **He is much, much more** than who they thought He was. Today's story: *The Sleeping Rose* (Angela Elwell Hunt, Chuck Gillies). **Click below to begin!**



- **If your child is sick, please keep them at home!!** Kindly contact the school if you or your child does develop any symptoms and also check with your child's doctor for next steps. Talk with your doctor and your child's doctor about whether the COVID vaccine is right for you and your child. **COVID vaccines are available now for children ages 5-12.** Speak with your child's pediatrician about the right decision for your child.
- **If your child is in need of a uniform, please let us know!** We can save you a lot of money! We have a PLETHORA of uniform shirts and pants that we are willing to give away at no charge. If your daughter is in K-4, we have plaid jumpers of many sizes! If you have a daughter in Grades 4-8, we have a LOT skirts of many sizes as well! All plaids from us are \$20. If you are *exchanging* a plaid, there is **NO COST!**

Thank you for partnering with us to make our students' year a great one!

St. Michael, pray for us!

Many Blessings,

Emily Zgone 😊

Principal

"Open wide the doors of your heart to Christ! Do not be afraid!" - St. John Paul II