



Look for these Friday Notes on the school web site and in your email as well. -- [www.aquinas-catholic.com](http://www.aquinas-catholic.com)

### Rested and Ready for 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

We had our first holiday visit to Pennsylvania with my husband's family in over 20 years, so our time was filled with joy and gratitude.

On January 3, Mrs. Miriam Daro, the Campus Ministry Coordinator at Aquinas, led the teachers and staff of both schools in a faith-filled day of recollection. Sr. Cecilia Ann, formerly at Aquinas--now at Villa Marie, shared inspiring reflections on discipleship. Fr. Harrison, Fr. Holdren, Sr. Cecilia Ann, and Sr. Ann Marie (Aquinas) rounded out a knowledge-filled panel to field questions. It was the perfect way to reflect, pray, and prepare for the work ahead this semester.

It was a good reminder that we are all called to be joyful members of our faith and to share it with others. We never know who is just waiting for the seed of faith you may plant. Hopefully, we are building this confidence, joy, and knowledge in your children as well.

***I hope your family had a restful and refreshing Christmas break, too!  
Have a Blessed New Year!***

—Mrs. Zook

### CURRICULUM CORNER...

#### Technology Integration

Thanks to Mrs. Smith and Mrs. Schlautman, Kindergarteners have a fun and engaging way to practice their letter sounds and build math skills. A recent donation to the Wish List allowed the purchase of a second **OSMO iPad accessory** to be put into use in Mrs. Schlautman's room. Technology does not increase student achievement on its own, but it can improve student results by increasing their engagement. Often, they are more excited to practice phonic sounds or math facts using a technology tool than standard paper flash cards. Time on task practicing basic content and facts can greatly increase students' retention of them.



We see sound recognition scores increase and math fact proficiency soar. This makes the harder parts of learning—comprehension and story problems—much easier and more achievable.

#### Upcoming Events:

**Jan. 6: 9:30-11 AM, Mother and Son Bowling—spots still available!**

Call/Text Joanie at 402-367-8331

**\*\*Please return Textbook Loan forms by Jan. 10\*\* (envelope with forms will come home Fri. or Mon.)**

Jan. 10: Seminarians begin visits to classrooms (1-3 PM).

Jan. 11: Bank of the Valley before school

**\*\*Traveling Choir: Singers needed for this double weekend. All students welcome!\*\***

~ Jan. 13, 5 PM (4:30 PM): at Sacred Heart in Shelby

~ Jan. 14, 10 AM (9:30 AM): at St. Francis-Center-David City

Jan. 16, 7:00 PM: First Confession for St. Mary's Parish 2<sup>nd</sup> graders!

Jan. 20: St. Mary's Garage Sale

Jan. 28-Feb. 3: Catholic Schools Week

**Health Note:** We have had 2 cases of head lice reported. They occurred over break and we have seen no signs at school, **but please check your children** to be sure they are clear. [Click this link](#) or search CDC Head Lice for more information.

#### Virtue for January

**Prudence: Making good decisions in specific circumstances –** Aquinas Freshmen will present on this virtue on **Fri., Jan. 12.** *Home project is attached to the email if you would like to start early.*

*Prayers ...for new baby Olivia, born to Jason and Lissa Truksa and Logan (preschool). ...for all our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders as they prepare for their First Confession*

*Thank you.....to all the families who gave items for the St. Gianna House and Blue Valley to the St. Mary's faculty and staff who donated supplies for the Villa ...to the St. Peter's Parish PCCW (and Fr. Holdren) who gave groceries and supplies to families in need*

#### Safety and Tech Notes:

You can still access a discount on Covenant Eyes content filtering for internet. Aquinas/St. Mary's group, go to: [bit.ly/2AgEk9F](http://bit.ly/2AgEk9F) \$12.99/month protects all your devices for your family.

**From the Spiritual Director**

Friendly Defenders Catholic Flashcard - Topic: **The Virgin Birth**

Skeptical Scott asks: **Was Mary really a virgin when she gave birth to Jesus?**

Solid Sally replies: **Yes. This is an essential truth of our faith, believed by Christians from the very beginning of the Church. It is clearly taught in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke. "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit..." (Matthew 1:20) The virgin birth shows that God is truly Jesus' father. This profound truth cannot be known by reason -- God needed to reveal it to us.**

Other References: Is 7:14; Lk 1:26-27, 34-35; Mt 1:18, CCC 496-501, 510



# BOXTOPS BULLETIN JANUARY



Online Snack Sweepstakes

COLLECTED THIS YEAR:

**\$ 1284.10 box tops**

**\$ 215.90 app**

**Total: \$1500.00**



## WINTER BREAK

Due to Christmas Break we will combine December and January Box tops. We will turn in Box tops on **JANUARY 31**.



Class with the most box tops collected this month will earn a **GIFT** for their TEACHER!

# 2018

## INDIVIDUAL CONTESTS

ANY STUDENT THAT SUBMITS COMPLETED BOXTOPS COLLECTION SHEET WILL RECEIVE A CANDY CANE!



STUDENTS THAT SUBMIT 50 OR MORE BOXTOPS ON COLLECTION SHEET OR THROUGH ONLINE APP WILL BE ENTERED IN A PRIZE DRAWING AT END OF MONTH.

## 3 WINNERS PER MONTH

Thank you parents and students for using collections sheets it makes counting so much **EASIER!**