Newsletter

Information for St. Mary's Academy parents and friends

December 2016

### President's Message

Mrs. Connie Yunyk (Scerbo '77)



"Await the Lord with hope. Await the Lord with joy. Keep vigil for the coming of the reign of God."

In less than two weeks, we will celebrate Christmas –

however we journey to Christmas through this special Advent season which reminds us of the coming of Jesus Christ. As a *People of Hope* and in the true spirit of the season, our staff and students have been called to reflect on how to prepare the way for the Lord by creating space in our lives for God and others. May this Advent season bring you a renewed sense of God's presence and may you all experience a peaceful and HOPE-filled Christmas!

I love this time of the year as I extend my profound gratitude for our community's incomparable commitment to our school's mission – to nurture young women in spirit, mind and body! Some highlights from this fall: our Cross Country Team and our Varsity Volleyball team won provincial titles – how impressive! Our Flames Hockey programs continue to draw positive attention locally, nationally and internationally – well done Flames! Our Debate program continues to have unprecedented success – way to go S.M.A.C.K.E.D.! Finally, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown!, our musical production presented a light-hearted yet meaningful message of acceptance and hope!

MERRY

hristmas

My heartfelt appreciation to the SMA Parents' Guild with a special mention to International Day co-conveners Ramona Thomson and Heidi Chuback for another successful International Day event held on November 6. It takes a large number of committed volunteers to make such a community event so successful; I am humbled by the attendance record set this year!

Finally to my sister alumnae, the SMA Alumnae Association has experienced great success this fall with the planning and very positive results at Homecoming in October, Cocktails on the Crescent in November and the December Celebration of the Immaculate Conception in December – Teneamus Altam Facem!

### Senior School Principal's Message

Mrs. Michelle Klus



This is indeed a wonderful time of the year! It is with heartfelt warmth that we take an opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of the students, parent/guardian community and staff of St. Mary's Academy. Together we focus everyday on the learning and well being of our children. To walk through our halls, one sees students intrigued by new concepts and passionately discussing

their ideas, parents volunteering to help events and activities run smoothly and staff working collaboratively to ensure everything is optimized for student learning.

At the extra-curricular level, our sports teams have excelled, our school drama production was wonderful, our debate teams continue to shine and all of the school clubs continue to plan and execute purposeful and fun activities for the entire school body.

December (and January) heralds Mid Year Assessments (MYAs). The schedule is posted on the SMA website. This year, seven days will be dedicated to the MYAs to maximize student success and give our students the opportunity to prepare to the best of their abilities to write these assessments.

We are well into Advent Season, a time of waiting, a spiritual waiting for the birth of Jesus. It is moments like this, when we can pause, catch our breath and truly appreciate what surrounds us. As we wait for His coming, may we be guided to be instruments of hope and peace in our world.

Wishing you all the best during this season of faith, joy and love. I Hope that you all have a wonderful Christmas and continued good health in 2017.

### Junior School Principal's Message

Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie (van Es '80)



Mother Nature has blanketed our city with fresh snow, temperatures are dropping, and winter is settling in. So too, our junior students are settling well into their year.

For our junior students, November and December are truly a 'settling in' time. Students are deepening their awareness and expanding their skills and competencies in all areas of school life. The routines of school are now

well-embedded, allowing the girls to focus on growth in comprehension and application skills. Activities and clubs abound, with our youngest community members becoming more involved in what SMA has to offer – whether the school musical, athletics, Club Lemon, junior debate, or Green Team (just to name a few).

Our first round of Mid-Year assessments takes place in December, with the next round in January – intentionally timed to reduce tensions for students who may find 'doing it all' in one week too much to balance in their busy lives. This also allows for continuous learning to proceed in a more natural fashion.

Having finished our first round of Parent-Teacher conferences, many of you will have had an opportunity to discuss your daughter's progress with her teachers. Open communication between home and school is such an important factor. Please keep the communication lines open – whether by email or phone.

In this season of Advent, we are all preparing for and anticipating the coming of Christ. Advent services in Chapel, led by our Campus Ministry team, began the season. Our faculty is nurturing the understanding that we slow down, ready ourselves and prepare our hearts for the birth of Christ.

I wish you hope, love, joy and peace this Christmas. What blessings we enjoy in our lives!



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#### December 2016

# **Charism and Mission Office**

#### Sr. Michelle Garlinski '88, SNJM

Greetings from the Charism and Mission Office! As I write this it is still Advent and I am trying very hard to keep myself there – the time of Waiting, Hoping, Joy and longing for Peace. Yet, it is a challenge when celebrating, baking, and shopping is also demanding time.

This fall has been an opportunity to begin to develop the life of the Charism and Mission Office. I have appreciated meeting and presenting initial information to the Foundation Board and Board of Directors. As well it was a lovely gathering to introduce the Office to our former staff at the annual brunch that is hosted by the Advancement and Alumnae Office.

We are very excited to share with you a new initiative: *Encountering Our Story*. This is an opportunity for staff and others to journey to Longueuil Quebec, the home of our sacred story, and experience the places of Mother Marie Rose's birth, childhood, ministry and beginnings of the SNJM community through today. Six staff will participate in this experience in May and July of 2017. We are very excited to deepen our understanding and awareness of our SNJM story. I am also looking forward to seeing many of you at the 2nd annual **Torch Talks** on January 21, 2017 where I will share about how Charism and Mission is connected to all of us.

Although Christmas comes every year, we are different each year and so we experience it differently. I pray that this Christmas, you and your family may be touched and moved to share the humility, simplicity and love of the Christ Child. May our world come to know a peace that only LOVE can bring.

Merry Christmas!

# Campus Ministry

Mrs. Joanne Steeves (Weight '90)

It is hard to believe how quickly the year is going. At the beginning of Advent we gathered together to share in prayer at our Advent Taize prayer service. There, we were challenged to be a light of HOPE in the darkness, to walk in the light of peace, justice and mercy.

Our students are rising to that challenge by sharing Hope with so many around. They have given countless hours of their time all over the city. We had students helping the Knights of Columbus with their annual Parade Float "Keep Christ in Christmas". The group of J- Walkers continues to serve the community at the Welcome Home. We have gone to Villa Rosa and wrapped gifts for the women and children who live there, and joined the Misericordia Angel Squad on the bridge and cheered and waved for over an hour before school. Each Thursday morning a different small group of students continues to help serve the community at a Winnipeg Harvest satellite program. There they help to sort and hand out food and necessities to families who struggle in various ways.

The Breakfast Club is busy making Christmas decorations to give to our Prayer Pals and the JR students gathered over the lunch hour to make Christmas cards for those living at Residences Despins. Both choirs have been busy practicing and will be performing some of their greatest hits for all those who live at Despins next week.

In our prayers we have remembered the

women who have suffered from and continue to be affected by violence in our country, our Prayer Pals and all those who struggle with their mental health.

On December 7th we gathered as a school community to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception and on the 13th we will have an Advent Come-and-Go Reconciliation Service. As we continue to pray together each Wednesday morning in the Chapel please know you are always welcome to join us.

As we continue our journey as *People of Hope* this season, may we remember to be Light for all those around us. Blessings and love to your family over this Holy Season. Merry Christmas!

"If we walk in hope, we have joy in our hearts. Let us be lights of hope!" - Pope Francis

# Supporting Adolescents in Today's World

#### Mrs. Carol-Ann Swayzie (van Es '80)

Welcome back to a newer feature in our newsletter. The intent of this space is to provide information to families that you may find helpful as you journey through the adolescent years with your daughter(s).

#### Article

This is a follow-up to the TED Talk from October's column, you may want to read this worthwhile article from Julie Lythcott-Haims: https://www.quora.com/What-arethe-skills-every-18-year-old-needs

#### **TED Talk**

Bring on the Female Superheroes! http://www.ted.com/talks/christopher\_bell\_bring\_on\_the\_female\_ superheroes?utm\_source=newsletter\_ daily&utm\_campaign=daily&utm\_ medium=email&utm\_ content=button\_2016-08-30

#### Video

Rethinking learning in the 21st Century: https://www.youtube.com/ watch?v=c0xa98cy-Rw

#### December 2016

## **Mission Club**

Ms. Teresa Uruski and Ms. Dawn Bohonos Mission Club Advisors



### Gift Bags from the Heart

Every Sunday at Immaculate Conception Parish Hall for the past number of years, volunteers including students have

been serving a hot meal to over 300 people who come from the Inner City.

SMA students have become part of this honour of assisting those less fortunate by not only volunteering at the Drop-In, but by participating in the annual time of gift giving. Students and staff prepared gift bags which were distributed by adult and student volunteers on Sunday, December 11 from noon to 3:00 p.m. *Gift Bags from the Heart* has become a way for students and staff to embrace and spread the Christmas Spirit of sharing. It is truly a tangible way to be part of community by helping others in need through an offering of useful gifts. This is what Christmas is really about – giving a gift from the HEART.

#### Mission Club Monthly Organization Focus

During the months of October and November, students at SMA participated in Colour Days which helped raise funds for Rossbrook House and Villa Rosa. Grade 9 and Mission Executive students also organized major fundraising activities for programs offered by these organizations.

In January, our Colour Day will raise money which will be donated to Holy

Names House of Peace. The House of Peace is run by the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and is located in the heart of Winnipeg. It offers a unique living space that assists women in transition along with providing a space for various organizations that build peoples' strengths.

In February, the Mission Reps will have an opportunity to plan activities that will assist us in focusing our efforts to raise funds to support our sister SNJM schools and Orphanages in Lesotho, Africa.

If you would like to make a donation to any of these organizations, please contact Ms. Uruski at turuski@smamb.ca.

### **Dramatic Arts**

#### Ms. Laura Davey '05

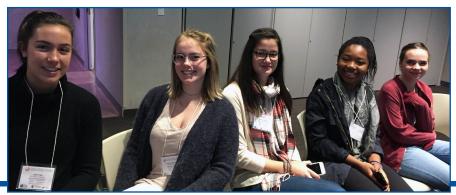
**GOOD GRIEF!** A HUGE congratulations goes out to the cast and crews of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* for a wonderfully successful drama production! Audiences were delighted at the colour, talent and production value and thanked the cast with three standing ovations to honour their hard work! Over 100 students and nine staff members were involved in this year's production, doing hair and make up, PR and ushering, building sets, creating props, running the sound and lights, painting, designing, helping with costuming, directing, and performing. It really does take a whole community to mount a drama production and we are so thankful for the countless hours (and hours!) given by all involved! We send out an extra special shout-out to Ms. Eliana Dell'Acqua '03, our guest director this year whose work was simply marvelous on stage. Until next year! Congratulations everyone!



## **Green** Team

#### Mrs. Kendra Lê

On November 7, members from the SMA Green Team attended the full-day RBC Our Canada Project Youth Leadership Forum at the Human Rights Museum. The girls spent the day sharing ideas with other students from across the province about sustainability action projects that would make a change within their community. Our girls specifically addressed many of the issues they see in our society today such as the concerns surrounding the landfill with plastic water bottles, the need to employ clean and renewable energy sources, and the importance of a more efficient transit system. They also had the opportunity to brainstorm about a specific environmental concern and share solutions as well as participate in interactive activities connected to social change. For the final session of the day, our girls took part in the "blanket game" which focused on raising awareness and empathy surrounding the history of the treatment of the First Nations people in Canada. Overall, the day was a success and inspired these young women to spark a change within their own community.



#### December 2016

# From the Career Counsellor

Take Our Kids to Work Day

Thank you to all parents, hosts, and students who contributed to the success of *Take Our Kids to Work Day* on November 2nd. Over one hundred Grade 9 students participated in the day, which provided them with an opportunity to gain exposure to the skills required in today's workplaces, and to begin career discussions with adults about the work they do. Each student will prepare and present a 'Me Box' as a final project during our last classes in January.

#### PSAT – offered again at SMA

On Wednesday, October 19, 2016, Grade 11 students who registered in Grade 10 had an opportunity to write the PSAT. The PSAT is a standardized test administered by the College Board in the United States and for a third year SMA has been granted the ability to offer this test to our students. The benefits of taking the PSAT is to get in some practice before a student writes the SAT in May/June of her Grade 11 year or October/November of her Grade 12 year, as Universities in the USA require an assessment score as a part of their application process. Students currently in Grade 10 will have an opportunity in late May, 2017 to register for the PSAT with Ms. Uruski if they have plans to apply or attend a University in the USA.

#### Grade 12 Post-Secondary Planning

Grade 12 students are reminded to check the SMA Career Information website for

## Debate

Mr. Jordan Burg

#### Want To Get Into an Argument? Better

Think Twice! Since September, senior debaters from SMACKED have either won or medaled in every local tournament we have entered. Following is a list of our amazing achievements so far:

#### Senior High Douglas Campbell Public Speaking Championships

Sapphire Moroz: Gold in Poetry & Peroration Anaka Sandhu: Silver in Poetry & Peroration Isha Khandelwal: Bronze in Persuasion

#### **Oxford Cup Qualifier**

Linnéa Cox and Anaka Sandhu: Provincial Champions, Gold Medal. Both girls represented Manitoba at Oxford Nationals regular updates on admission/scholarships/ presentations.

Note the following deadlines (only pertains to Grade 12 students): January 15: U of M Faculty of Music admission application deadline and recommended date to apply to all universities in Ontario via the 'Ontario Universities Application Centre'.

**February 1:** U of W Major Scholarship application and admission deadline.

**March 1:** U of M Early Admission Deadline for automatic Entrance Scholarship consideration based on February Gr. 12 marks.

**March 1:** U of W Early Admission Deadline for automatic Special Entrance Scholarship consideration based on final June Gr. 12 marks.

#### Applying out of Province

Students who are applying out of province are reminded to email Ms. Uruski ASAP with the information of where their official school transcript needs to be sent along with their assigned student number for that post secondary institution.

#### Grade 11 Students: Planning For Your Future Session

As a follow up to the **Scholarships and Financial Information Evening** that took place on November 29 at SMA, Gr. 11 students will be attending an information session at the end of January presented by

in Winnipeg this November: Linnéa Cox: Silver Medal, Individual

#### 2016 CSDF-FCDE National Seminar, Halifax and Middleton, NS

Ellie Thorlakson: Top Manitoban, Top English Manitoban, and Top Parliamentarian (Scholarship Prize from Acadia University) Katie Bowman: Top Bilingual Manitoban

#### Catholic Senior High Debate League

SMA: Top School Ellie Thorlakson: Gold, Individual Linnéa Cox and Adara LePage: Tied for Silver, Individual

**Rupert's Land Public Speaking and Debate Championships** SMA: 3rd Place School Linnéa Cox: Top SMA Debater, qualified Ms. Uruski, which will provide an overview of Post Secondary options. Later in February, representatives from the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg will be at SMA to meet with Grade 11 students to present program, admission, and scholarship details.

#### Grade 11 Students: Campus Tours

Grade 11 students will be attending the University of Manitoba Info Days on February 23 - attendance is mandatory as this event offers students the opportunity to not only get a tour of the U of M Campus, but also to find out more about the programs offered at many universities across the country. The students will also receive information about the advantages of becoming an affiliate of St. Paul's College at the U of M. Watch for parent/guardian permission forms and more information to come home in late January (permission forms due February 3).

Students will have the option to attend the following Open Houses: **Red River College**: February 21 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. **University of Winnipeg:** February 22 from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

#### Grade 10 Career Development Classes

All Grade 10 students will start their Career Development Classes in February. They will also have an opportunity with their parents to meet with representatives from the Universities of Manitoba and Winnipeg, and Red River College as part of SMA's annual **Post Secondary Information Evening at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 27** in Alumnae Hall. Details and an invitation will be sent home with students during their first Career Class.

for Public Speaking Nationals in Winnipeg next February

#### Confederation Cup Regional Qualifier (Manitoba & Saskatchewan)

Linnéa Cox and Anaka Sandhu: qualified for National Confederation Cup in Ottawa next April

Congratulations to these fine debaters and public speakers, and all of the students who have participated in these competitions. Good luck to those representing our school, city, and province at national events, and continued success in the upcoming tournaments and events of the new year! Finally, a special thank you to all faculty, parents, and alumnae who have come out and volunteered to judge at the tournaments!

#### December 2016

### **Volleyball** Mrs. Jen O'Leary (Heywood '85)

Eight teams, 80 athletes, 3 teachers and 10 volunteers are neatly folding and putting away volleyball uniforms, storing knee pads on the top shelf and hanging up their volleyball court shoes. As of December 5, 2016 the St. Mary's Volleyball season has come to a close. All teams experienced a wide variety of success and positive experiences on and off the court whether it be establishing new relationships or maintaining old ones, learning about volleyball and developing active healthy lifestyle practices.

### Here is a run-down of how our teams finished their season:

- Forty-three grades 7-12 students participated in Mike Burchuk's (former Canadian Women's National Team coach) SMA Volleyball Academy.

- Sixty grade 7 athletes participated in four developmental, friendly tournaments within the Pembina Trails School Division. - The grade 7 Traveling team participated in the grade 8 Diggers league and finished in the top four in the Pembina Trails Athletic Association Championship.

- The grade 8 Team finished 2nd in the Grade 8 Spikers league with the Pembina Trails Athletic Association coached by teacher Lorne Hess and alumna Sydney Loewen '14.

- the Grade 9 Team won the Pembina Trails Athletic Association Championship banner with alumnae coaches Amy Downs '10 and Ellen Enns '10 leading the way.

- The Junior Varsity Team won the Silver medal in the West Winnipeg Athletic Association Championship, playing an amazing match over Sturgeon Heights. The Team participated in the Manitoba High School Athletic Association Provincial Championships where they finished in the top 10 in the province. Thank you to coaches Leanne Leskiw and Amelia Duncan.

- The Varsity Team lost a tough match against their nemesis Westwood Collegiate in the West Winnipeg Athletic Conference Championships to win the Silver Medal.

## **Cross Country**

#### Mr. Demetro Danyluk

The Manitoba High School Provincial Championship race was held at Harbourview/Kilcona Park, which is a challenging course with hills that are steep and long. However, with the many Saturday morning practices we held at Garbage Hill, all of the SMA athletes were well prepared. SMA's Varsity top 7 runners finished in the top 14 : Casey Nelson (2nd), Sierra Sutherland (3rd), Alyssa Moon (8th), Tristan Chambers (10th), Claire Healy (12th), Ella Thomson (13th) and CoCo Koltek (14th). The remaining team members finished solidly within or very close to the top 50 of the 100 competitors at the varsity level: Sophia Partyka, Emma Haight, Madison Maurice, Adara LePage, Amanda Ludlow and Ainsley

Cameron. The team had two athletes who were unable to compete and were sorely missed: Jessica Tsai and Ashley Manaigre. We also had Emily Leskiw and Katerina Stipanovic who practiced along side their teammates run in the Junior varsity competition. And we had a graduating runner miss Provincials but was a regular at practices and was a big contributor to the positive energy of the team, Selina Audino.

With this amazing performance the Varsity Cross Country team literally ran away with Varsity Girls Provincial Championship. They also fined tuned their fitness at the West Winnipeg Athletic Association and Athletic Manitoba meets. Every team member (including the grades 7 and 8 Junior team) contributed to the win and therefore a huge congratulations goes out to SMA's Cross Country team as they are **2016 Manitoba** 

#### The Team then went on to make history - for the third time in the history of volleyball at SMA, this team won the Manitoba High School Athletic Association Provincial Championships!. The Flames beat Vincent Massey (from Brandon, MB) in three straight sets. A repeat win, and a first for SMA Volleyball. Jenna Cross and Laura Hill were named tournament All-Stars and Julia Tays was the MHSAA Tournament MVP. Jenna Cross, Julia Tays, Laura Hill and Taylor Boughton were also named to the MVA Graduating All-Star team. Laura Hill was awarded the Mike Burchuk Player of the Year Award and Taylor Bougthon was awarded the Stefan Savoie Memorial Scholarchip award. A huge congratulations to Coaches Christine Rewniak and Tom Falconer. Way to Hold High The Torch!

A HUGE thank you to all the volunteer coaches, parents, teachers, Administration, fans, and athletes who so generously supported our Volleyball program this year. The Athletic Department would like thank everyone who supported the athlete's and coaches in their quest for success. Thank you!

#### **High School Athletic Association Cross Country Provincial Champions!** Way to Hold High The Torch!

A huge thank you goes out to Rauno Ruus in coaching the team and helping SMA win our 7th Cross Country Provincial Championship. Also to Nicole Dubois '09 and Belinda Guerra '15 for running with the team at Westview and finally to 2016 Olympian Erin Teschuk '12 for a guest appearance at one practice and running with the team.

### Indoor Track & Field

Indoor track and field practices have started for all grade levels. The team is practicing mornings, lunch and after school. Please contact Mr. Danyluk regarding schedule. The track meets will be held at the Max Bell Centre at the University of Manitoba and will begin in January and will go until March.

for chairing the event. Thanks also to Mary Fustey and Eileen Eng for organizing and promoting the Cash Raffle - over \$21,000 was raised. Proceeds from both events will go towards projects and items that enrich and enhance your daughters' experience at SMA.

Due to inclement weather the December Guild meeting was cancelled. Please watch for the rescheduled meeting date in January.

# From the Parents' Guild

#### Mrs. Candace Partyka

Thank you to everyone who attended or volunteered at *International Day* on an unseasonably warm November Sunday! *International Day* celebrates the diverse cultural community of SMA. Guests sampled a wide variety of delicious ethnic dishes from ten pavilions, sipped espresso and munched on home baking while enjoying roaming minstrels and cultural entertainment. There was a lively rainbow auction and an exquisite array of art to bid on. Thanks to the 240 volunteers who worked together to make this amazing day possible! And, thank you to Ramona Thomson and Heidi Chuback

#### December 2016

# From the Alumnae Office

The Alumnae Relations office has been busy over the past month with many events! A big congratulations and thank you to the SMA Alumnae Association for a successful *Cocktails on the Crescent* on November 19th and *December Celebration and Christmas Tea* on December 4th. We had the privilege of holding our annual *Former*  **Staff Mass and Brunch** on December 7th, hosting many of our former staff members who braved the snow storm to join us! We are looking forward to hosting the Class of 2016 at their inaugural alumnae event in late December for **Drinks Under The Dome**.

#### Please save the date for the following events: *Alumnae Association's Paint Nite* March 3, 2017 at SMA

March 3, 2017 at SMA Details at: www.paintnite.com/events/\_1141203

#### Marian Awards for Excellence Celebration

May 13, 2017 at the Gates on Roblin Detials at: www.stmarysacademy.mb.ca/home/alumnae/ marian awards/

## From the Advancement Office

#### Ms. Georgine Van de Mosselaer '83

*Give the Gift of Education this Christmas* Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher believed that an entire society can be transformed if the minds and hearts of young women are properly formed and directed.

A donation to the *Mother Marie Rose Bursary Fund* at SMA will help to educate young women in spirit, mind and body. **Donations may be made by:** 

- Ongoing monthly payments
- A lump sum gift

Click on the "Canada Helps" link at stmarysacademy.mb.ca to make your donation. If your donation is in honour of someone special this holiday season, include their name and mailing address in the comment section and we will send them an acknowledgement of your generosity on their behalf.

#### An Evening at the Academy

We are sold out! If you wish to add your name to the wait list for tickets, please visit the SMA website for a link to the ticket site. We are still in need of wine donations from the community, bottles valued at \$20 to \$40, for the "You Had Me at Merlot" wine auction. You may drop off your bottle at reception, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

The team at SMA's Advancement and Alumnae Relations office thank you for the gifts you continue to bestow on our community and we wish you and yours a glorious Christmas Season!

# Accounting Office



Charitable donation receipts for the 2015-2016 school year, for inclusion with your 2016 tax return, are being prepared and will be mailed in February. Receipts for the 2016-2017 school year, for inclusion with your 2017 tax return, will be issued in February 2018.

#### **Tuition**

For those families who chose Plan B, please remember that your final payment will be withdrawn from your account January 3, 2017.

#### Accounting Office Holiday Hours

The accounting office will be closed December 26, 2016 to January 3, 2017.

### SMA Reception Holiday Hours

December 23, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. December 26, 2016 to January 2, 2017 Closed January 3, 2017 to January 6, 2017 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m



Mrs. Lidia Erickson **SMA Varsity Fleece Jacket** Should be available for pickup by December 19.

### Hours of Operation

Open 5 days a week: 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. There's still time to get last minute gifts. Fun stocking stuffers like SMA Roots toques and baseball hats!

### St. Mary's Academy Parents' Guild Presents TORCH TALKS Sheila Chipman Atrium Saturday, January 21

Leading By Love -Raising Kids With Social Conscience

- 8:30 coffee & light breakfast
- 9:00 Mitch Bourbonniere, MSW, CMHW Social Worker Community Activist, Founder of Action Therapy "Leading by Love"
- 10:00 Sr. Michelle Garlinski, SNJM Director of Charism & Mission - St. Mary's Academy "Have You Seen My Charism?"
- 11:00 Mary Wilson, PHD (div) Elder & Aboriginal Cultural Specialist "Identifying & Nutruing Our Gits"

rsvp by January 14 to torchtalk@stmarvsacademvmb.ca

#### Dates To Note

#### December 2016

- 15 Mid-Year Assessments Flex Day
- 15-19 Mid-Year Assessments
- 20 Choirs at Résidence Despins
- 20 Christmas Café 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- 22 Advent to Christmas Service in Alumnae
- Hall at 11:35 a.m. Dismissal at 12:35 p.m.
- 22 2nd Annual Prep Alumnae Hockey Game

#### January 2017

- 9 Classess Resume
- 10 2:30 p.m. Dismissal (Faculty Meeting)
- 10-13 Gr. 12 Provincial English Exam
- 12-17 Individual Grad Photos
- 13 Colour Day (Holy Names House of Peace)
- 19 Mid-Year Assessments Flex Day
- 19-24 Mid-Year Assessments
- 26-28 SMA Varsity Basketball Tournament
  - 27 No School (Administration Day)
  - 28 An Evening at the Academy
- 31 Open House at 7:00 p.m.

## Around the Academy



Holy Names Chapel during Advent Services



You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown



Rupert's Land Public Speaking and Debate Championship Participants



Oxford Cup Champions 1-r: Anaka Sandhu and Linnéa Cox



Ellie Thorlakson (2nd from right) receiving her CSDF-FCDE National Seminar Awards







Retired and Former Staff Brunch I-r: Sr. Susan Wikeem '63, Mary Stapleton, Sally Dick (Shaw), Josie Audino, Deanne McDonald (Hebert '59), Linda Dart, Andrea Cibinel (Fricke '76), Pat Johnson (Burns '67), Sr. Alice Konefall '58, Sr. Carol Peloquin, Bernadine Letkeman, Saratha Joseph, Marge Fisher, Sr. Johanna Jonker '59. Seated: Ginette Fournier, Sr. Marylyn Gibney, Rita-Mae Race (Holden '61)

### Visit www.smaphotos.ca for more photos