

**ST. URSULA SCHOOL
2020-2021**



FAST FORWARD FRIDAY

1-15-21

“All Christendom is a great garden created by God...in this little garden, they are different in color, in savour, in fragrance. The gardener takes great care of all the seeds.”

Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys

 **FAITH FORMATION**

- **“Saint for the Week”:** **Saint Marguerite Bourgeoys.** St. Marguerite Bourgeoys was born in 1620 in France to a middle-class family. As a young lady, Marguerite joined a cloistered religious community of sisters, called the Congregation of Notre Dame. In 1653, Marguerite decided to travel to New France as a missionary and serve the poor and native peoples of the new colony. Marguerite’s work inspired a significant number of young women to help with her work and they assembled into a community. And although non-cloistered religious sisters were a rare thing in the seventeenth-century Church, Marguerite fought for an active status for her community so that they could continue to live among settlers and reach out to people of all walks of life. Marguerite's determination paid off and her Sisters of Notre Dame became known as “secular sisters.” As the colony of New France grew, so did the educational needs of its people, and Marguerite and her community responded by building schools for both settlers and native people. In fact, Marguerite is credited for beginning the first public school in Montreal. In their struggles to meet the needs of the people, the Sisters of Notre Dame encountered many obstacles. Yet though through it all, Marguerite led her community with courage and faith in God's providence. St. Marguerite died in 1700 and was canonized in 1982 as Canada’s first female saint. Her feast day is January 12 and she serves as the patron saint for orphans.

- **Prayer Partner Mass:** This week's Prayer-Partner Mass will be held for 8C and Kindergarten C on Tuesday, January 19 at 10:15am. As always, you may join us virtually at Mass by accessing the parish's **ST. URSULA PARISH FACEBOOK LIVESTREAM.**

LOOKING AHEAD

- **Trimester 2 Scantron Testing:** Next week we are scheduled to administer our Trimester 2 Scantron assessments. We will follow the schedule below:
 - Math – Wednesday, January 20
 - ELA – Thursday, January 21
 - Reading – Friday, January 22
- **Arrival and Dismissal Rotation:** As a reminder, throughout the entire month of January, we will follow the arrival and dismissal schedule listed below:
 - 7:40am and 2:40pm (SJ lot) Group 1: A-Dr
 - 7:50am and 2:50pm (SUS lot) Group 2: Du-La
 - 8:00am and 3:00pm (SJ lot) Group 3: Le-Sc
 - 8:10am and 3:10pm (SUS lot) Group 4: Se-Z

SAVE THE DATE

- **Monday, January 18 – NO SCHOOL:** As a reminder, school is closed on Monday, January 18 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King Day.
- **P.A.C.K. Day Event (Dollar Day):** Next Friday, January 22 serves as our next scheduled monthly *Put-on Alternative Clothes Kiddos* event (Dollar Day). There is a \$1 participation fee for any student to participate.
- **Trimester 2 Interim Reports:** On Friday, January 29, families with students in grades 3 to 8 will receive an Interim Report for Trimester 2. This grade report will provide you with an academic snapshot of where your child is as of that date. These grades are not part of your child's permanent record. Instead, it is meant to offer you a glimpse into where your child is at this point of the trimester. At the time of receiving the Interim Report, your child will have five weeks left to go in the trimester. This time frame offers an ample number of days for your child to either improve a less than satisfactory grade or as well, for your student to maintain achievement and success within each subject area.
- **Monday, February 8 – NO SCHOOL:** As a reminder, school will be closed on Monday, February 8 as our faculty participate in our annual spiritual retreat day.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

- **PHSA 50/50 Raffle:** Our PHSA (Parish, Home, & School Association) is introducing a new 50/50 raffle this year! The winner will be announced LIVE on the PHSA Facebook on Thursday, January 28th! Please refer to the *Pay-It* link below to purchase your tickets.

UPDATES & REMINDERS

- **Holiday Weekend Travel:** As a reminder, any family travel outside of the bordering areas of Maryland (Delaware, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia and Washington, D.C.) requires that a student take a PCR test and submit the results to our school nurse, Christine Bauer at health@stursula.org before returning to campus. If a family elects not to have a PCR test, the student must remain in quarantine for 10 days.
- **Enrollment Registration:** Yesterday families received a letter regarding the School Board approved tuition rates for the 2021-2022 school year and today you received an email through School Admin with a link for the enrollment checklist. Please note that all returning families are asked to complete the re-enrollment process by Friday, January 29. Our retainment goal for current families is 92%. Help us achieve that goal by completing your contract and required forms today! And as a reminder, a student is not enrolled unless the family has completed a FACTS account. This step must be completed each year.

Thank you for sharing the gift of a Catholic School education at St. Ursula with your child.

- **“Let gLOVE Grow” Project:** Weekend shopping visits are a great time to pick up a pair of adult sized gloves for our Catholic Schools Week donation project that will benefit those who receive services through Our Daily Bread. Our goal is to collect 626 gloves and you have until January 27 to drop them off to school. Although we are only asking families to donate one pair per student, we are happy to collect additional pairs from anyone who would like to donate more. Please help us keep the needy of Baltimore warm during the cold winter months.
- **Student Talent Sharing Showcase:** As a reminder, this year we have planned a virtual Student Talent Sharing Showcase during our Catholic Schools Week festivities. If students are interested in participating, they are asked to create a *Flipgrid* video showcasing their school-appropriate talent (one per person, please). Please click [HERE](#) for information regarding the grade-level *Flipgrid* and informational videos. Video submissions are due by Monday, January 25.
- **School Issued Devices:** This is a reminder that students in grades 2-8 that are learning at home should be using their school-issued Chromebook. They are welcome to have Google Meet and/or Zoom up on another device if they prefer to use two devices, but we ask that they are using their school-issued Chromebook to complete their school work.

There are certain programs and settings that teachers use that only work on school-issued devices, so if your child is not on it, they could run into problems completing their work. Thank you and please reach out to Mrs. Zimmerman at zimmerman@stursula.org if you have any questions.

- **8th Grade Yearbook Ad Space:** The deadline for to purchase Ad space for our 8th grade students is this Monday, January 18. Please click [HERE](#) for more information.
- **Catholic Schools Week:** Please click [HERE](#) for an overview of the week's events. More detailed information will be forthcoming.
- **Yearbook Content:** Hello, St. Ursula students and families. We are hard at work on the book that's cementing the history of this year (and we all have to agree that this year is one for the history books.) As we work on content, please respond to us if the questions below apply to you! This spread is called "Sticker Stories." We would like to show off the stickers you've chosen to mark your territory. What's on your laptop, your water bottle, your phone, or anywhere else? We'd love a photo of you with these stickers, and we'd love for you to tell us why they mean something to you. What made you choose them? Please talk to us! Please send your photo and explanation to pictures@stursula.org. Make sure to include your name and homeroom in the email. Please reference "Sticker Stories" in the subject line. Students may use their stursula.org email to email us directly, or parents can email us as well. We will accept submissions through next Friday, January 22.
- **Virtual Learning:** As a reminder, virtual learning is intended for one of two purposes. 1) For families who have elected to attend school virtually for the entire trimester; and 2) For any family who has a student in isolation or quarantine as a result of COVID. With these reasons in mind, virtual learning is not intending to be offer another option if for examples - your child has a scheduled appointment, sleeps in late or other non-COVID related reason. With this being said, as teachers prepare for the expected group of in-person students each day, any last-minute changes to the plan puts a significant strain on our teachers' planning. Therefore, all families are asked to please honor the intended purpose of our virtual policy. As well, parents are asked to please refrain from requesting that teachers virtually accommodate their child for non-COVID reasons. Thank you.



- **50/50 Raffle:** Tickets for our PHSA 50/50 raffle are as follows: one for \$5 or five for \$20. You can purchase your tickets through this [PAY-IT Link](#). Please note that all ticket orders are due by January 27.

