

MARIANEWS

Marian High School – Tamaqua, PA 18252

February 2019

Celebrating Catholic Schools

KAIROS RETREAT 2019

By Christian Smith

It is safe to say that a new tradition was started last year at Marian Catholic High School with a Kairos Retreat. This year twelve seniors, accompanied by Retreat Director, and the school's Chaplain, Father Brian Miller, and Theology and Social Studies teacher, Mr. Patrick Smith, attended a Kairos, or "God's Time," retreat for the second straight year. The retreat, like last year, was at the Jesuit Spiritual Center located in Wernersville, Pennsylvania.

The retreat is primarily for high school seniors only. The whole point of a "Kairos Retreat" is to get closer to God, through much prayer and adoration, peace, silence, and to get closer to the other seniors on retreat. Nacin Rojas, one of the Marian Catholic seniors who attended the retreat, described the retreat this way: "Oh, God!" He then went on to say, "It was very eye-opening, and gave me time to self-reflect. And, did I mention that the food was absolutely amazing!" Some of the other students agreed that the retreat was very quiet, peaceful, the food was great, and it gave them all many chances to pray and talk to God in silence. Marian senior Lidia Sokarda stated, "Kairos was one of the best experiences of my life. I'll never forget it."

It is quite obvious that the students really enjoyed the retreat. The school hopes to keep the tradition going for seniors, but hopes for a better turnout next winter.



All students and adults on retreat: From left: Mr. Patrick Smith, Adam Keselicka, Jacob Artz, Joseph McGinley, Christian Smith, Robert Kurznicki, Zachary Mauro, Lidia Sokarda, Ariel Stanalonis, Grace Lorenz, Courtney Kovatch, Rhiannon Malarkey, Nacin Rojas, and Father Brian Miller



Chapel at Jesuit Spiritual Center (Wernersville, PA)

Upcoming events -

March 6 – Ash Wednesday
March 7 - Blue Activity
March 8 – Blood Drive
March 14 - Penance Service
March 19 – Gold Activity

March 29 – End of Third Quarter

Newspapers should proofread!

Marijuana issue sent to a joint committee

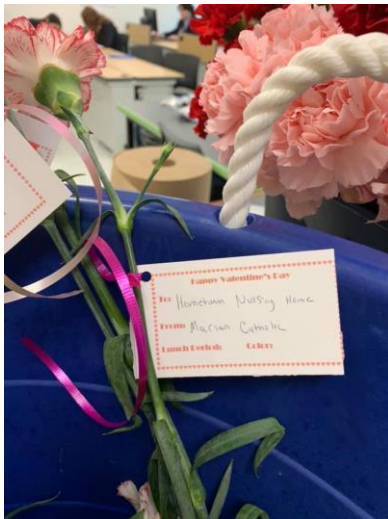


Valentines Day

By: Meghan Moyer

On February 14, 2019 Marian Catholic High School celebrated Valentine's Day by handing out carnations in three different colors. The colors that were handed out came in peppermint, red and white. Students prepared to give their friend or special someone a carnation by writing their name on a card. The carnations were distributed during lunch periods.

Valentine's Day, or another name used is Saint Valentine, is celebrated on February 14th. The holiday is recognized as a significant cultural event, or romantic love in many cultures. For Valentine's Day many people get their loved ones a gift such as candy, flowers such as carnations and roses, and many other different things.



Students gave carnations to patients at the Hometown Nursing Home for Valentines Day. Photo by Mrs. Dzuranin

Susan B. Anthony Day

By Eddie Gimeno

Susan B Anthony is one of the most visible and most looked upon leaders of the women's suffrage. She was born on February 15th, 1820, which is the day we celebrate Susan B Anthony Day. She travelled around the country and gave inspiring speeches about women empowerment. For her outspoken voice, and all of the fights she fought for women, we can all understand why this woman has her own day, and why she is celebrated. She did more than just campaign for women, she also campaigned against slavery. She made an argument stating that it has nothing to do with the Bible or the Constitution, but was truly a battle within the conscience. Susan campaigned for women's labor organizations from the 1840's until her death in March of 1906. Unfortunately, she died before she saw her fight won and women got the right to vote and full citizenship with the ratification of the 19th Amendment in 1920.



Portrait Of Susan B Anthony

Marian a Gold Standard School

Next Gen Personal Finance, a non-profit on a mission to bring financial education to every high schooler in America, has named Marian Catholic High School a Gold Standard School. This is the highest standard given to schools to rank them for their access to personal finance courses for the students.

"With some of life's biggest financial decisions looming - first jobs and cars, college selection, financial aid applications - high school is when students need a comprehensive personal finance education," says NGPF co-founder Tim Ranzetta. "Requiring at least a semester course is the only airtight way to guarantee access for all. We're thrilled to recognize these 887 Gold Standard schools for doing just that."

Marian is one of those 887 schools from across the country. This is thanks to Mrs. Patricia Patton, teacher of Personal Finance and Management. This class helps students prepare for the real world where their personal finance is concerned. Congratulations!

St Blaise

By Louis Winkler

The feast day of St Blaise is February 3 and the Catholic Church celebrates his life by a blessing of the throats. This is done by laying two blessed candles crossed on the sides of a person's throat followed by a prayer. To understand why this is done you need to know a little about St. Blaise.

St Blaise was born in the ancient Palestinian village Sebastia just north of Jerusalem around 300 A.D. He started off as a healer and many of the stories told of St Blaise come from the writing of Aetius Amindenus, who was a Greek physician and medical writer. Besides a healer, St Blaise is also called "the physician of souls" and people often turned to him for healing miracles. He retired to a cave to pray while still helping those who came to him.

In 316 A.D the governor of Cappadocia and Lesser Armenia, Agricola, arrested then bishop Blaise for being Christian, as the Roman Empire had been persecuting anyone who would not denounce their Christian faith. While in prison a woman brought her only son to St Blaise in order to heal him. The child was choking on a fish bone; somehow St Blaise was able to rip the fish bone out of the child without harming him. Another woman brought him candles to keep away the dark. These two stories show how the blessing of the throats came about. While in prison he was beaten and whipped and finally beheaded.



St. Blaise holding the candles given to him in the dark but will be used to bless throats today as in the picture below.



Super Bowl Commercials

By: Joey Wargo

The 2019 Super Bowl Commercials cost at minimum \$5.2 million. The average price went up to 96% over the past decade. But sometimes they are worth it. Amazon ran a 90 second commercial being one of the longer commercials of the night. It advertised its Alexa device using some superstars like Harrison Ford.

The NFL's commercial, celebrating 100 years of NFL football, featured many of today's athletes and past hall of famers like Peyton Manning all the way to rookie Saquon Barkley. The cake topper shaped like a football fell off, someone yelled fumble and the game was on.

As in most Super Bowl ads, beer was a favorite. Bud Light mixed it's commercial with the TV show *Game of Thrones* to create a fun ad. The Bud Knight was killed off in a joust with the Knight representing the *Game of Thrones* winning.

A few serious ads were on as well. One was narrated by Tom Hanks and highlighted the freedom of the press, our first amendment to the constitution. Airbnb and 84 Lumber ran spots that were viewed as responses to President Trump's stance on immigration.

Lastly, who can ever get over a mother in the front seat of the car yelling at the unruly kids in the back threatening to eat them. Of course they were the M&M guys. That was fun to watch.



(Super Bowl Logo of 2019)

CUPCAKE WAR BAKERS:

- Requirements:**
- \$10 to enter (Register by March 4th)
 - Must bake 3 dozen cupcakes
 - 1 flavor only
 - 4 foot section for display



Sign Up at Ashland Public Library, Orwigsborg Area Free Public Library, Pottsville Free Public Library, Ringtown Area Library, Tamaqua Public Library or Tremont Area Free Public Library

- Judged on:**
- Display
 - Individual cupcake
 - Taste
- Categories:**
- Under 18
 - 18 and over

SET-UP AT 12:00PM
CUPCAKE WAR STARTS AT 1:00PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH AT THE FAIRLANE VILLAGE MALL

Cupcakes to be sold to benefit participating Pottsville District Libraries
\$5 for 6 cupcakes

Souper Bowl of Caring

By: Maggie O'Rourke

On February 2- 3, 2019 the Mahanoy City ACTION Youth Group held their annual Souper Bowl of Caring collection at Saint Teresa of Calcutta church in Mahanoy City and Saint Richards church in Barnesville. Souper bowl of caring is a national project that has 4,067 groups throughout the country and is partners with some NFL teams. Houston Texans being the first to join, others include Dallas Cowboys, Los Angeles Rams, and New York Giants.

The ACTION youth group in Mahanoy city joined the Souper Bowl of Caring in 2003. In the years they have been a part of the organization they have raised \$15,874. This year alone they raised \$1,144 their 4th highest amount. The highest amount raised in 2017 with \$1,501. This year nationwide \$8,779,499 was collected and donated.

Members collect money in their churches after mass the weekend of the super bowl. Each group gets to decide what charity they want to donate to. The money raised this year by the Mahanoy City ACTION youth group went to the Saint Vincent De Paul society a food bank in

Mahanoy City. The charities the money is donated to help people with food, heat, and clothing. Both Mahanoy Area and Marian students participated in the collect this year and are members of the ACTION youth group.



Pictured above are three ACTION youth group members collecting money at Saint Teresa of Calcutta in Mahanoy City on February 3rd. This includes Marian student Maggie Joseph on the left. Photo by M. Costello

Chuc Mung Nam Moi 2019

By: Jun Lynn Pham

The year 2019 may seem old to us already, but people of Asian heritage are just welcoming The New Year. Those in the Asian Countries cherish the Lunar New Year for this is another year of luck and joy. The day is Tuesday February 5, 2019 the most important holiday for the Chinese. This year is known as the year of the pig.

The Lunar New Year typically begins with the new moon that occurs between the end of January and the end of February until the full moon ends with the festival of lanterns. During the festival of lanterns the Chinese celebrated on the 15th of February with many featured ancient spiritual traditions. Family and friends exchange red envelopes which contain lucky money. The money is hope for others to start the year with good luck and fortune. Inside there will be different amounts of money ranging from \$5 to 100.

In an interview with Natalie Pham, my cousin who lives in New York, she commented on the lucky money, "Receiving the red envelopes is the best part because I get so much money that I am able to save to buy what I need." Food is the main part of the celebration. The Vietnamese eat meat with xio (sticky rice) and banh chung. Banh tet is a type of rice cake, cu kieu tom kho is pickled scallion heads. In Vietnam Tet (Chinese New Year) the streets are loud with firecrackers, people banging gongs, and music playing. All the girls and boys wear long traditional dresses called ao dai which is made of silk.



Examples of Ao Dai

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=i&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=&url=https%3A%2F>



The year of the Pig

<https://thumbs.dreamstime.com/z/print-131043179.jpg>



Decorations and flowers

<https://tse3.mm.bing.net/th?id=OIP.giwoWpqSCy4jb8U5BD4>

Presidents Day

Gabe Bauer

Presidents Day is an important holiday in the United States. It happens on the 3rd Monday in February and Presidents Day 2019 happens on Monday, February 18th. It was established in 1885 for George Washington's birthday and then became known as Presidents Day after it was moved because of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act to create more three day weekends for the nation's workers.

Reformers wanted to change the name to President's Day in honor of Lincoln, whose birthday is Feb. 12, and Washington whose birthday is Feb. 22, but that was rejected by Congress and the holiday still is officially known as Washington's Birthday.



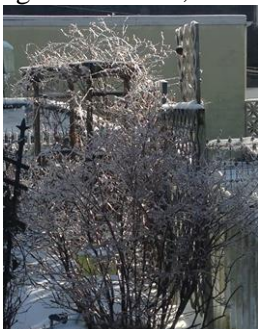
Depicted in this are the two main Presidents (George Washington and Abraham Lincoln) that the holiday was based around.

<http://cdn4.dogomedia.com/images/2a27de49-e560-4755-9ab1-e0554247ca2c/presidents-day1.jpg>

Hoodie Hoo Day

By: Brandon Cann

Hoodie Hoo day is a day that is celebrated every year on February 20th. It is a day to help people overcome the depressing winter time and prepare themselves for the coming of spring. This takes place at twelve o'clock when people step outside, wave their hands over their heads and yell "Hoodie Hoo". This holiday traces back to the late 1980s when Thomas Roy created it in the central Pennsylvania area. This may seem like a joke, but it's an actual holiday. Thomas Roy, created over 80 other holidays. The next time February 20th comes around take a step outside at noon and wave your hands yelling "Hoodie Hoo" to scare winter off and welcome a long spring and summer, who knows it might work.



Snow and ice on the blueberry bush after a long snowy day.
Photo by Mrs. Costello

Groundhog Day

By Adam Gilbert

No, not the movie but the actual holiday. Groundhog day is a holiday celebration that brings people from all over the world to see Punxsutawney Phil, a groundhog, predict the remaining days of winter.

The origin of Groundhog Day comes from Christian roots. Christians used to go to church on February 2nd with candles to have them blessed, believing that it would bring blessings for the rest of the winter. For the Germans this wasn't enough. They decided on a hedgehog to predict the weather then brought the idea to America but chose a groundhog.

The first official Groundhog Day happened in 1886 in Punxsutawney, PA. The official date that is used every year since 1886, has been February 2nd, keeping the tradition strong. In 2005, Punxsutawney reached its highest attendance with over 12,000 people there, according to the official Pennsylvania Tourism Office. This year, Punxsutawney Phil did not see his shadow, making it only the 19th time out of 123 (ten years were not recorded.) With Phil seeing his shadow, legend says that we will be experiencing an early spring. Even though people around the world watch to see Phil's prediction, the Groundhog has not been known to be accurate. Meteorologists seem to usually prove Phil wrong many times.



Punxsutawney official holding Phil after his prediction
<http://www.groundhog.org/Files/Admin/images/johnphil3-2.jpg>

Catholic Schools Week Held at Marian Catholic High School.

By Annika Hahn

Catholic Schools Week is a week where there are fun activities for the students but due to the snow during that week Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday were called off. We held those days the next week. The first day of Catholic Schools Week was Monday January 28. During the week before, the student council conducted a survey asking the students at the school their favorite school lunches. Every day the lunch ladies made the most voted lunch.

The first day of Catholic Schools Week, Marian was presented with an award, Global High School Platinum Status, in honor of all the money and awareness we raised for the Catholic Relief Services to help conquer world hunger. We are the 24th school to get this award. That is an organization to raise money and awareness for children in other countries who don't have money and the food they need to survive.

The second celebration of Catholic Schools Week was Friday. During this day the teachers were presented with awards called "The Golden Apple Award." Fellow teachers nominated who the award should be presented to and the students did the final vote. All the teachers got some type of award whether it was the Golden Apple or a candy apple for being nominated.

The third day of Catholic Schools Week was Tuesday February 5. The student council got together a Colts Olympics. Students from all 9-12 grades were given the opportunity to form teams to participate in different games and contests. The overall winner of the game and contests was a senior team including: Seth Paluck, Jacob McLaughlin, Keith McCall, Matthew Doherty, Jace Whitaker, Zachary Boyer, and Andrew Osilka.

The fourth day of the celebration was Wednesday, it was Faculty mass. When on a normal mass day students participate in carrying the cross, and bringing up the gifts, this mass was conducted by the priest but the teachers did everything else. They sang, carried the cross, and participated in playing music.

The fifth and final day of Catholic Schools Week was a health day, where students participate in healthy activities and exercise learning the correct way to eat healthy and stay fit.



Global High School Platinum Status Award



The Golden Apple Award

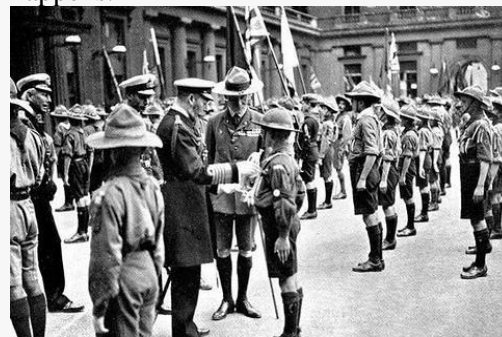
More pictures on page 7 & 8

Boy Scouts of America

By Brian Bauer

On February 8, 1910 a man named Robert Baden-Powell created the Boy Scouts which soon became popular in America starting the Boy Scouts of America. He wanted boys to have the opportunity to get into nature and improved their outdoor skills. This program is open to boys from ages 11 to 18. The first Boy Scout camp was at Camp Owasippe near Whitehall, Michigan. President, Gerald Ford and other very highly proclaimed people, like Neil Armstrong, Jeff Sessions, and Admiral Jay Johnson, have done boy scouts and reached its highest honor, Eagle Scout.

Over the century Boy Scouts has changed, but the overall meaning of it has stayed the same. The Boy Scouts of America will be changing into Scouts BSA on February 2, 2019. Many people disagree with this because they feel that it should only be for boys. Others say that girls should get the same learning chances as the boys. Overall this has yet to change the true meaning of boy scouts which is to have people learn outdoor skills and leadership. All this may be happening, but Boy Scouts of America is expected to stay around for possibly another few centuries no matter what happens.



Lord Robert Baden-Powell inspecting scouts, showing off the military roots and discipline at the First National Scout Rally at Crystal Palace. (1909)

<https://www.biographyonline.net/humanitarian/baden-powell.html>

Colts Olympics



Untie that knot



The Winners!



Health Day

Impaired Driving

Healthy Cooking

Red Cross

Just dance

Meditation

Weight lifting

Yoga

Rosa Parks Day

By Nacin Rojas

Every year in the United States we celebrate the life and legacy of Rosa Park. No matter who you ask they know Rosa Parks for the civil rights icon that she is. She was the one who started it all. Rosa refused to give up her seat on the bus to a white man who then caused a big scene because she was sitting in the front of the bus, which was the black section but the white section was full. She was then promptly arrested by local authorities and was bailed out by her family the same day. This event sparked the Montgomery bus boycott. It was a complete boycott of public transportation by all African Americans in Montgomery. Since more blacks than whites rode the bus this was a big financial burden on the bus company. The protest got some much coverage even Martin Luther King Jr. came down to talk to her personally and learn more about the woman who started it all.

We celebrate her day on February 4 every year. We began to celebrate this the year after her death on October 21 2004. It is a day when we remember the life and the legacy of all the things she accomplished in her life. She was even given the Medal of Freedom by President Clinton in 2004.



Portrait of Rosa Parks later in life

<http://www.achievement.org/achiever/rosa-parks/>

Marian Semi-Formal



