



**Week of 12-1-2011**

**Weekly Envelope content will appear in the following order:**

**Principal's Letter**

**December Calendar**

**New Dismissal Procedure**

**St. Mary Graduates Named to High School Honor Roll**

**Holiday Poinsettia Sale**

**Mingle, Jingle, Shop | Holiday Boutique**

**Holiday Stroll**

**Sunday Evening 5pm Mass**

**Breakfast with Santa**

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December 1, 2011

**One good wish changes nothing ....  
One good decision changes everything!  
~ Anonymous**

Hello St. Mary Families!

I trust everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving, and enjoyed the days off from school, as I know I did! Now we

are back for three weeks and have so much to do to finish off 2011. This week the 8<sup>th</sup> graders took the EXPLORE test, our 4<sup>th</sup> graders are learning about graphs and charts, and our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders are practicing for the Christmas Concert with some rockin' tunes! As I say every week, what a great place to learn!

I mentioned in my last letter that there is going to be a change in the Christmas Concert, as a reminder, it is now going to be **Tuesday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM**. I know I had initially said 6:00, but some parents were concerned about getting here in time, so we are altering the start time just a little. Looking forward to seeing you here!

#### Student News:

Wow! Our students have been making the rounds to different high schools applying their skills in science and math! A big shout out to the teachers who sponsor them, as without them, none of this would be possible!

- 20 eighth graders participated in the “36<sup>th</sup> Annual Fenwick High School Science Contest.” We placed 8<sup>th</sup> out of 25 schools!! Congratulations to the following students: Ben C, Charles C, Nerija C, Anthony D, Clare D, Dylan G, Ryan J, Theresa M, Kate S, Alexa Z, Arriana A, Mark B, Kim B, John H, Natalia J, Brendan J, Lukas K, Chloe M, Riley M, and Amanda M. Great job ladies and gentlemen!
- 10 students, from sixth, seventh, and eighth grades participated in the Fenwick High School Math

contest .... They said it was hard, but they learned a lot! Congratulations to: Arriana A, Charles C, Dylan G, Alexa Z, Amy K, Daniel M, Michael S, Cesar E, Mario S, and Jack V. Keep up the hard work!

- 6 eighth grade students participated in the Nazareth Academy Math Contest ... again, lots of hard work, but time well spent. Congratulations to: Arriana A, Charles C, Theresa M, Riley M, Connor O, and Anna S. So proud of you, as these contests are tough!

#### Information:

- Progress Reports will be posted to Edline today after school.
- Another Spirit Day is upon us! On December 9<sup>th</sup> at the girls' basketball game, pizza and soda will be sold as well as passes to wear jerseys to school! Any sporting jersey you have is great way to show your team spirit, maybe it's the Bears? Or the Cubs? Maybe the Sox? And maybe you'll wear the best jersey of all representing the best team in the whole world .... The St. Mary Spartan jersey!!!! We'd love to see your spirit, so come to the game and wear your jersey! From what I've seen St. Mary students have a lot of spirit, so come on out and support the young ladies while they play! We will let you know what day the jerseys can be worn, more to come on that!

- We are in desperate need of envelope stuffers! If you can volunteer every Thursday morning to help us get the envelopes stuffed, we'd really appreciate it! We'll greet you with a smile, and you'll be the first to know what's going on for the week! Please let the school office know if you can volunteer your time. Thank you in advance for your generosity in helping us with this!
  
- Two new items on the school website: Both items are listed on the front page of our website under latest news.
  - Advent Reflection on the front page- click on wreath and it will bring you to Advent Reflection page.
  - The Fall edition of e-News, the students electronic newspaper, is up and running on the website. "Activities" e-news. The school newspaper is one of the things the computer club does 3 x's a year.

#### Reminders:

- Remember, on Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>, we are changing the dismissal procedures. We are posting a diagram of the procedure on our website to better assist you in understanding what it will look like. This is something we are going to try for the children's safety, if it doesn't work, we'll try something different. Thanks for your cooperation.
  
- When you are submitting a check to our office, it is

imperative that you put the check **in an envelope** of some kind and clearly mark that envelope telling the office what the money is for: for Manna, for tuition, for a fund raiser, for ...?

- Yearbooks! If you have not already done so, please order your yearbook the deadline is fast approaching. Order forms can be found on the St. Mary website ... please, please submit your photos to IMAGESHARE on the website the more photos the better!
- Don't forget our Holiday Boutique is tomorrow from 5:00 to 9:00 PM in the Parish Center! It's going to be lots of fun, hope to see you here!

**Manna News from Mrs. K:**

- Is everyone in full swing with all the Christmas shopping? Don't forget only **2** order weeks left for manna.

A bit of housekeeping as far as manna goes-

1. orders are due on Mondays by 9am of that order week otherwise they are held over till the next week.

2. every family did receive a username and password for the scrip website- this is the BEST way to order your certificates. Even though there is a printable order form on the school website, those orders must be manually put in and if I don't get them by Monday morning when I pick up the stuff from school they may get missed and not put in that week.

3. PLEASE, PLEASE- when sending your payment in through school I *beg* you to attach it to a printed receipt and place the order # on your check and then put it in an envelope that is clearly marked MANNA attn: Cathy Kaz or place it in your manna pouch. I have been getting random checks with no receipt or order number on them and although I do appreciate that you are using the program- the orders are up over \$10,000 it's a lot of paper work to handle. So for my on sanity and the safety of your payment please write an order # on it

and label it so the office knows where it goes.

OK here goes... **Weekly tip #6:** very important for your next couple of weeks orders- the company is offering "special promotions" and the kick back is a larger percentage so check that out on the website. And remember- you must eat and you must buy gas for your car (and soon our snow blowers) order those cards- the holidays will be here before you know it.

Questions? call Cathy Kaz (708) 485-5746 or [campkaz@ameritech.net](mailto:campkaz@ameritech.net)

I hope everyone is doing well, and adjusting to the cold weather. Advent has begun and with it a time of expectant waiting and preparation for the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas! Advent is a spiritual season of preparation before Christmas so let's remember to take the time to prepare in more than just shopping, gift giving, and party celebrations, but in the true meaning of Christmas by listening to the gospel and watching for the coming of Jesus with attentive and expectant hearts. We are role models for our children, and the behaviors and priorities we set, become theirs as well, so remember, the children are watching and mimicking all that we do and say. Show them what the true meaning of Christmas is as you prepare for the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Bundle up and stay warm!

Peace,

Ms. Diane M. Simonaitis

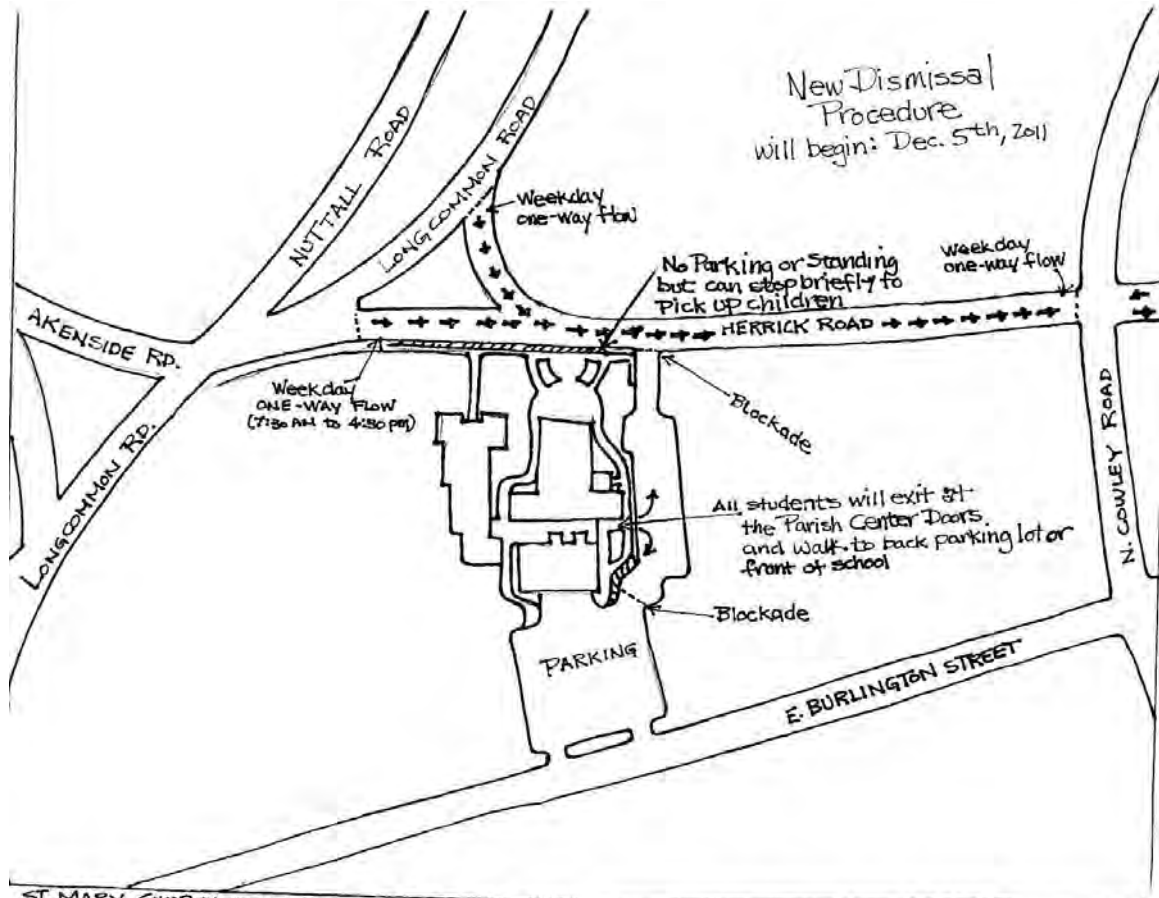
Principal

St. Mary School

# December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2 Progress reports on edline Holiday Boutique 5—9	3
4	5 School Advisory mtg. 7:00 PM	6	7 POLO 9:30 AM	8 9:30 AM all school mass in PC	9	10
11	12	13 Confession 9:30 AM Christmas Concert 6:30 PM in PC	14 POLO 9:30 AM confessions 9:30 AM Pizza Day	15	16	17
18	19	20 Classroom Christmas parties! Christmas Vacation begins 2:40	21 No school	22 No school	23 No school	24
25	26 No school	27 No school	28 No school	29 No school	30 No school	31



ST. MARY CHURCH AND SCHOOL TRAFFIC CIRCULATION

The following graduates of St. Mary School were named to the honor roll at their respective high schools:

**Immaculate Conception**

Karla Otiz – High Honors

**Trinity**

**First Honors**

Nikole Crane  
Selena Gonzalez  
Grace Lattner  
Colleen Lee  
Danielle Lovero  
Emma Mosbrook  
Jacqueline Mota  
Magdalena O'Connor  
Tiffany Ortega  
Amelija Siliunas  
Sarra Spohnholtz

**Second Honors**

Paula Marquez  
Kelli McElligott  
Hannah Spohnholtz  
Natalia Valdes

**Nazareth**

**A Honor Roll**

Adam Abbasi  
Tony Calles  
Andrew Golniewicz  
Hillary Ray  
Lindsey Torphy  
Gerardo Valdivieso  
Clement Wink  
Sarah Wozniak

**B Honor Roll**

Haley Croney  
Joe Hubert  
Justin Krysinski  
Nicole Tomasello  
Tyler Tomasello

You asked for them....and they are back!

# Holiday Poinsettia Sale



Sponsored by the St. Mary "Class of 2012"

Plants are locally grown, & PRE-ORDER only  
 Orders and payments due by **November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
 Please make checks payable to "St. Mary School"  
 Return order form and payment  
 to the **school office** marked "Poinsettia Sale"

**PICK UP** at St. Mary Parish Center Lobby on any of the following dates:

Friday	December 2	2:30 – 3:30p.m.
Saturday	December 3	after 5:00p.m. Mass
Sunday	December 4	after Sunday Masses

For more information or questions call : Liz Durkin 708-447-1458  
 Poinsettias make great *hostess gifts* and really brighten up *any room* for the holidays!  
 They come wrapped in holiday foil!

\*\*\*\*\*Order Form\*\*\*\*\*

Detach and return with payment.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Poinsettias</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Total</u>
4" 1 plant	Red only _____	@\$5.50	_____
6.5" 2 plants	Red _____	@\$13.50	_____
	White _____	@\$13.50	_____
	Pink _____	@\$13.50	_____
7" 2 plants	Red _____	@\$18.00	_____
	White _____	@\$18.00	_____
	Pink _____	@\$18.00	_____
8" 3 plants	Red _____	@\$24.00	_____
	White _____	@\$24.00	_____
	Pink _____	@\$24.00	_____

**\*\*New this year!** Purchase a poinsettia for a classroom! Your poinsettia will be delivered as a gift and **labeled from you!** First ordered, first served! If your chosen classroom is already taken, we will arrange to send your gift to brighten another classroom! We will let you know where your gift was placed! Please indicate below:

plant size \_\_\_\_\_ color \_\_\_\_\_ classroom teacher name \_\_\_\_\_ ( \_\_\_\_\_ check here if no class is specified.)

save the date



# mingle, jingle, shop!



12.02.11

2011

**5:00pm – 9:00pm: Holiday Boutique in the Parish Center  
During the Holiday Stroll!**

***We need a variety of help for Mingle, Jingle, Shop! – see below for where you might be able to get involved.***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I would like to donate a prize for the raffle: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ I can volunteer the day before the event to help decorate!

\_\_\_ I have items that can be used for decoration (fake pre-lit trees, outdoor lights etc)!

\_\_\_ I can volunteer the day of the event to help set up (3pm-5pm)!

\_\_\_ I can volunteer the night of the event to work (5-6pm/6-7pm/7-8pm/8-9pm/clean-up)!

\_\_\_ I can bake something for the Bake Sale (two dozen individually wrapped items)

\_\_\_ I can donate food/beverage for Mingle, Jingle, Shop (wine, beer, food to have for our guests)

*Please return this form to the School Office Attn: Holiday Boutique or via email to Lori Adlesick at [ladlesick@gmail.com](mailto:ladlesick@gmail.com).*

Contact Mary Margaret Collins at (708) 447-5524, Kelly Navarro at (708) 431-6079 or Lori Adlesick at (708) 447-4040 for more information.

Riverside's  
37<sup>th</sup>  
Annual  
**Holiday Stroll**

**Friday  
December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011  
5:30pm to 9pm**



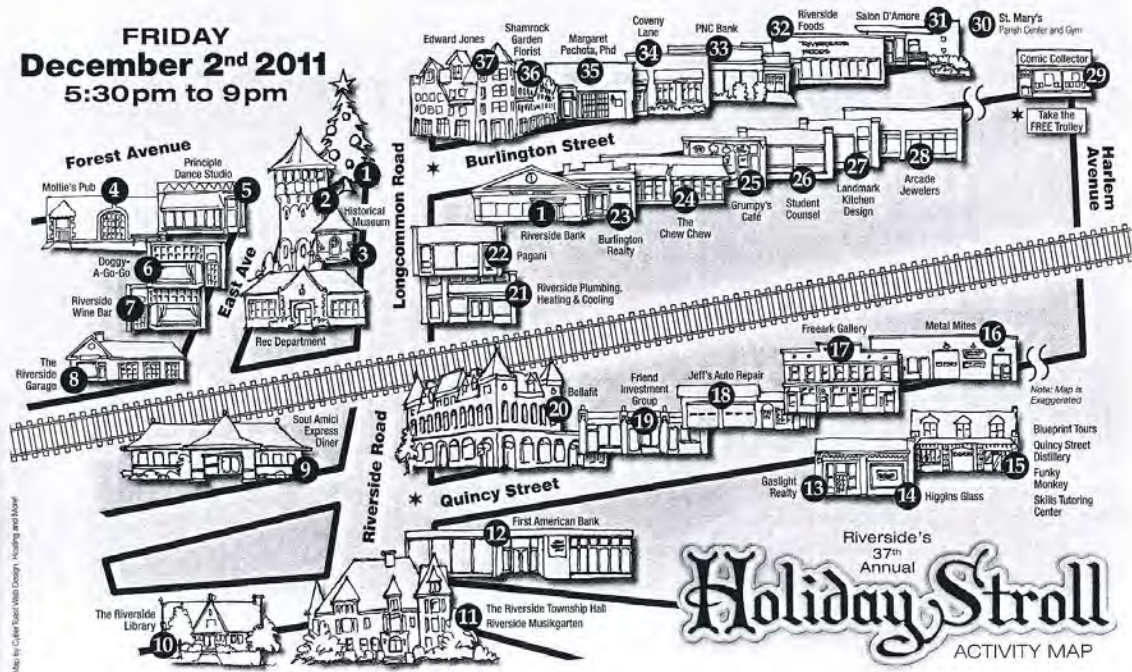
- 1** **Santa Claus Arrives at Centennial Park** between 5:45pm - 6pm for the **Tree Lighting Ceremony**. He will then travel to *Riverside Bank*, 17 Burlington, where all are invited to have **Pictures Taken with Santa**, enjoy **Holiday Music** by the West Suburban Symphony Players, and you can get your **Riverside Holiday Stroll Ornament** - only \$10 each (comes with a \$5 Chamber Buck) by the *Riverside Chamber of Commerce*.
  - 2** **Riverside-Brookfield Madrigal Singers** will perform Holiday Carols by the tree in Centennial Plaza from 5:15pm - 6pm.
  - 3** **The Riverside Historical Museum** in Centennial Park will be open from 5:30pm - 8:30pm.
  - 4** Enjoy **Irish Holiday Music** by **Dan Darrach and Sing-A-Longs** at *Mollie's Public House*, 31 Forest.
  - 5** *Principle Dance Studio* Students will perform excerpts from **"The Nutcracker"** starting at 7pm, 42 East Avenue.
  - 6** Come and **Meet the Elves and Get Your Holiday Reindeer Treat** at *Doggy-A-Go-Go Pet Day Spa*, 36 East Avenue, and the Animal Care League of Oak Park will help you adopt a cat or dog... A perfect gift!
  - 7** Stop in at the *Riverside Wine Bar*, 34 East Avenue, for **Holiday Music and Holiday Specials**.
  - 8** A **Petting Zoo and Pony Rides** will be featured at the *Riverside Garage*, 18 East Avenue. And, you can have Your **Picture taken as Frosty the Snowman** and his Girlfriend Mosty, or as the Holiday Penguins! Sponsored by *The Riverside Garage* and *Wright Services*.
  - 9** **Chicago Bear, Jim Morrissey**, will sign autographs, chat and have his picture taken with you, 6pm - 8:30pm at *Soul Amici Express Dining* in the Train Station, and there will also be a **Silent Auction of Chicago Bear's Memorabilia**. Plus, the **District 96 Elementary Choir** will perform from 6pm - 6:30pm and the **Vocal Group "Joe & Jay"** will perform from 6:30pm to 8:30pm. Sponsored by *Ivins/Moravecsek Funeral Home, Landmark Kitchen & Bath Design, Soul Amici Express Dining, Strohecker Insurance, and Wright Services*.
  - 10** *The Riverside Public Library*, 1 Burling Road, is the place for **Young Adults ONLY** with **Snacks & Drinks, Games & Fun, and Quizzes and Drawings** (6th to 12th graders ONLY).
  - 11** Stop by *The Riverside Township Hall* where the **Riverside/Brookfield High School Repertory Dance Company** will strut their stuff at 6pm. Be sure to check out **Mr. D's Magic Shows** at 6:30pm and 8pm, and a performance by the **Young Musicians Program of Riverside** from 7:15pm to 8pm. *Riverside Musikgarten* will be **Exploring Musical Instruments** and have a **Raffle for Tuition Discounts**. **Holiday Items** will also be on Sale by Vendors and Organizations.
  - 12** **Family Photos & Face Painting** in the lobby of *First American Bank* by Girl Scout Troop 4590 with **Holiday Music** by Loretta Meistininkiene, 15 Riverside Road. **The Hand Bell Choir** from the Riverside Presbyterian Church will play from 6:30 - 7:30pm.
  - 13** **The Present Pocket Lady** will be at *Gaslight Realty*, 33 E. Quincy.
  - 14** *Higgins Glass Studio* will be **Introducing their Newest Creations** at their Open House, 33 E. Quincy.
  - 15** *Blueprint Tours* and *Quincy Street Distillery* present the Second Annual **Fair Trade Holiday Market**. Stop by *Funky Monkey for Hot Cider & Cookies, Letters to Santa & Santa's Mailbox, Arts & Crafts, and a Holiday Basket Raffle!* Get your **Holiday Gift Tags** at *Skills Tutoring & Professional Development Center*. And, the *Riverside Presbyterian Church Preschool* will have **Special Treat Bags** for the first 100 Kids... All at 39 E. Quincy.
  - 16** Visit *Metal Mites*, 36 E. Quincy, for **Popcorn, Santa Balloons** and a **Glimpse inside Santa's Workshop**.
  - 17** The *Riverside Arts Center/Freeark Gallery* presents the Annual Student/Member **Art Exhibit & Art Boutique**, at 32 E. Quincy.
  - 18** **Wood-Carving** by Northern Exposure will be demonstrated at *Jeff's Auto*, 20 E. Quincy.
  - 19** *Friend Investment Group* will feature **Holiday Music** at their Open House, 12 E. Quincy.
  - 20** Visit *BellaFit*, 1 Riverside Rd., for **Jingle Bell Workouts and Fitness Demonstrations**.
  - 21** **Balloon Twisting** will be at *Riverside Plumbing, Heating & Cooling*, 3 N. Longcommon, from 5:30pm - 8:30pm.
  - 22** *Pagani Hair Color and Design*, 5 N. Longcommon, will feature **Face Painting**.
  - 23** **Tommy Twister Juggling & Magic Acts** at *Burlington Realty*, 21 E. Burlington, from 6pm - 8:30pm.
  - 24** Attend the **Holiday Stroll After-Hours Party** at *The Chew Chew* featuring live music 9pm - Midnight, 33 E. Burlington.
  - 25** *Grumpy's Café*, 35 E. Burlington, will have a **Holiday Jewelry Sale and Raffle**.
  - 26** *Student Counsel*, 37 E. Burlington, will have a **Holiday Open House** and *St. Mary's 8th Grade Fund Raiser*.
  - 27** Stop by *Landmark Kitchen & Bath Design* to see their new Kitchen and Tile Showroom at 39 E. Burlington. They will be having **Holiday Wine Tasting** sponsored by *Riverside Wine & Spirits*. While you're there, get some tips from a Certified Kitchen Designer.
  - 28** Come meet and greet **The Chicago Mustangs Semi-Pro Football Team Players and Dancers** for Autographs and Pictures at 49 E. Burlington. And, **Jewelry Cleaning Demonstrations** are right next door at *Arcade Jewelers*, 51 E. Burlington.
  - 29** **Sventa Claus (a.k.a. Svengoolie)** will be at the *Comic Collector*, 3246 S. Harlem (Take the Free Trolley!), from 6pm - 8pm.
  - 30** *St. Mary's* features **Mingle, Jingle & Shot - Vintage Treasures and Kids Corner** at the Parish Center and Gym.
  - 31** Partake in some **Christmas Karaoke** at *Salon D'Amore*, 52 E. Burlington.
  - 32** **Horse Drawn Rides** will start at Riverside Foods, sponsored by *Riverside Foods, The Chew Chew and Landmark Kitchen & Bath Design*.
  - 33** Participate and enjoy performances presented by the **Riverside Children's Theatre Guild** at *PNC Bank*, 40 E. Burlington.
  - 34** *Coveny Lane* will feature a **Drawing for Polish Pottery and Photography** by *Riverside Artist Chris Neumer* at 30 E. Burlington.
  - 35** *Margaret Pechota, Phd* will be having a **Holiday Arts & Crafts for Children and Parents**, 28 E. Burlington.
  - 36** *Shamrock Garden Florist* will be having a **Holiday Open House and Holiday Music** to brighten the season, 18 E. Burlington.
  - 37** **Christmas Decorations for Children** at *Bill Ellbracht's Edward Jones*, 6 Burlington.
- ★ **Chuck Soumar of Soumar Upholstery and The Riverside Rockin' Brass Choir** will stroll throughout the town **Playing Holiday Tunes**.
  - ★ Look for *Hauser Junior High's Holiday Can Drive* on the corner of Longcommon and Burlington.
  - ★ Head over to Harlem for **Refreshments** at *Pink Carnation Florist*, 3228 South Harlem.
  - ★ Place your order for **Holiday Treats** at *Aunt Diana's Candy Maker* and grab some **Cookies and Hot Chocolate** at *Vacha Florist*.
  - ★ A **Courtesy Trolley** will run from downtown Riverside to Harlem Avenue from 5:30pm - 9pm. The trolley will pick-up at various locations. Sponsored by *D. Georgopoulos State Farm Insurance* with special thanks to *H & W Ingredients*.



For additional information, please contact Brian Brennan at 708-447-2946

Sponsored By  
**THE RIVERSIDE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**  
A National Historic Landmark Community  
[www.RiversideChamberOfCommerce.com](http://www.RiversideChamberOfCommerce.com)

**FRIDAY**  
**December 2nd 2011**  
 5:30pm to 9pm



Map by Carter Rose, Web Design, Mapping and More

**Can't Get to Mass On Sunday Morning?**



**We Have The Solution!**



**Sunday Evening 5pm Mass!**

Youth and family oriented Mass

**Come and visit us at St. Mary Catholic Church**

If you've been away from the Church for any reason,

We welcome you home.

708-447-1020 [stmaryriverside.org](http://stmaryriverside.org)



# Breakfast WITH Santa

DEC 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
RIVERSIDE VILLAGE HALL

*Enjoy a festive morning with a light breakfast, crafts,  
and a chance to sit down and visit with Santa.  
(Includes one photo per child with Santa.)*

**TWO SESSIONS:** 8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M. or 10:00 A.M. - 12:00 A.M.  
**COST:** \$5 per child (must be accompanied by an adult)

Purchase your ticket at [www.riversidejuniors.org](http://www.riversidejuniors.org) or by mailing in the attached registration form. Tickets purchased by mail must be received by Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>. The RJWC reserves the right to limit the number of tickets available (Santa's time is limited!).

**QUESTIONS?** Contact [breakfastwithsanta@riversidejuniors.org](mailto:breakfastwithsanta@riversidejuniors.org)

*This community event is for children under 12 years of age.*

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**BREAKFAST WITH SANTA (TICKET RESERVATION FORM)**

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's/Children's First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose one of the following sessions you would prefer to attend:

Session 1: 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Session 2: 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM

Ticket @ \$5 per child x \_\_\_\_\_ children = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**

Riverside Junior Woman's Charity. Please do not send cash.

Mail completed ticket reservation form and payment to be received by Monday, December 5, 2011, to:  
Riverside Junior Woman's Charity  
27 Riverside Road, Riverside, IL 60546

