

St. Mary School
A Place of Spirited Learning

December 1, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians:

One holiday is now over, but another one is on the horizon. In the blink of an eye, this Advent season will culminate in the wonderful celebration of Christmas. While we are waiting...

CALENDAR CHANGE - I received word from the diocese this week that our Christmas break will be extended by one more day. Instead of the children returning to school on January 2nd, they will return on January 3rd. Please note that change to your calendars.

ST. NICHOLAS DAY - The students will be receiving an extra special treat from St. Nick this year. First of all, December 6th will be a dress down for everyone. In addition, students in grades kindergarten through 2 will enjoy a day of fun, educational activities at school while students in grades 3 through 8 will be attending a special showing of the Pittsburgh Penguins hockey practice at the Consol Energy Center. We were limited to taking 200 people to this event, and we thought the older children would enjoy it more than the little ones. It will be a brown bag lunch day for everyone. Hopefully, everyone will enjoy their day whether in school or out of school.

Because we are limited to the number of adult chaperones that we can take, the only way that those of you who responded and were not selected to be the chaperones will be able to attend is if some students are absent that morning. If the need arises and you are able to come up to school at the last minute to assist, then keep your Penguin shirt on and wait for our call that morning. We will need to leave no later than 9:15 AM.

RECESS NEED - If you have any DVDs at home that are child appropriate and you no longer want them, please send them our way. When the children stay inside during recess because of the cold or snow, we pop a DVD in and some children enjoy watching it while sitting on stage. Thank you so much for your donation.

WINTER ATTIRE - You are encouraged to send your child(ren) to school with coats, hats, and gloves when the weather requires it. Children will not be able to go outside with just a fleece jacket. Some days that is suitable, but not during the winter season when the temperatures are really low. We appreciate your consideration to this matter.

Sincerely,

Ms. Antoinette Pilarski
Principal

St. Mary School
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December 2, 2011

Monday, December 5, 2011

Tuesday, December 6, 2011

St. Nicholas Day – Dress Down Day
3rd -8th Grade Trip to the Pittsburgh Penguin Practice

Wednesday, December 7, 2011

St. Mary's Apparel Orders Due

Thursday, December 8, 2011

Liturgy – 10:00 AM – Dress Uniform

Friday, December 9, 2011

Liturgy – 10:00 AM – Dress Uniform
11:45 AM Dismissal - Faculty Meeting

Early Dismissal: On Friday, December 9th, we there is an 11:45 AM early dismissal. **Pine Richland and North Hills will not provide bussing home from school.** All other districts will provide bussing home.

Opening December 9th: Included in this newsletter is a flyer for the movie “The Greatest Miracle” which will be shown at the Waterworks and Pittsburgh Mills theaters. Perhaps you might consider taking the kids to see it since December 9th will be a half day for the children.

Special Prayer Request: Please keep the prayers and cards coming to Mario Noro. Cards can be sent to Mario Noro, 5020 Sunnyslope Drive, Gibsonia, PA 15044 or email him at jlnoero@consolidated.net.

Santa's Workshop is Coming to Town: December 13th & 14th / 8:30am - 2:30pm. Santa can't do it all himself so he is calling all helping hands to help the kids shop & wrap! If you can lend a hand for a few hours during either of the days above please contact: Monica Hoehler 412-492-0242 or kmhoehler@verizon.net. Thank you for your help!

St. Mary's Apparel: Need any extra Christmas gifts? Get your St. Mary's Apparel delivered before Christmas. But be quick....time is short! **All orders must be placed by Wednesday, December 7th.** Please see attached order form. Best sellers are sweatshirt, sleep pants, and fleece jacket...*all are great choices and would make great gifts for St. Mary's students, teachers, AND parents!* Place your order today!!

Save the Date: The 9th annual “Me & My Favorite Fella” dance will be held on Saturday, December 17th, 7:15-9:15 in Marian Hall. All girls in grades K-8 are invited to bring their favorite adult "fella" for an evening of fun. Invitations will be coming home soon! Moms: You're invited to share in the fun by joining our committee!

Volunteers are needed to decorate, organize, and staff the event. To offer your time so that the PTG's Jingle Ball will be a great success, please contact Mary-Theresa Watson at 412-492-1796 or mtwatson@verizon.net or Kelly Zeh at 412-486-4338 or kzeh@aol.com.

No Mint for Mario: Donations of children's flavored tooth paste will be donated to Children's Hospital in the name of Mario Noro. Please send your donation to Room 7 c/o Mrs. Chips by December 13th. Thank you for your support.

Picture Retake Day: Picture retakes will take place on Thursday, January 19th. Group pictures for the yearbook will also take place on this day.

Entertainment Books: Last call to get your 2011-2012 Entertainment Books! Sell them to family and friends or get your Christmas shopping done early...*they make great gifts!* Entertainment Books are on sale at the Scrip Office daily from 8-10 am and at weekend masses. If you can't make it to us, we'll send them home! Fill out the order form included in this newsletter and send it in to the Scrip Office along with payment. We will send your book(s) home with your child that same day. Entertainment Books are \$30 and you receive \$7.50 for every book you buy/sell!!! What a deal!

Save the Date: January 21, 2012 Science Enrichment Opportunities for Bright Kids K-9! Carnegie Mellon's C-Mites workshops, summer camps, and Stepping Stones classes are a great way to challenge your child in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM). Details coming home to sign up for the gifted assessment test offered at St. Mary's School on Saturday morning, January 21. Email Mrs. Mroz if you have any questions: mrozl@stmaryglenshaw.org.

Box Tops: Would you throw away a dime? Did you know that every time you throw away a Box Top, it's just like throwing away money? Did you also know that for every Box Top we submit, our school gets ten cents!? PLEASE consider saving your Box Tops and send them into school. It's that easy! As a little incentive, your child can fill in the Box Top form that's attached to this newsletter. Thanks to all in advance!

Scrip News

Christmas Scrip Sale

We will have a Christmas Scrip Sale this weekend, December 3 and 4th, in Marian Hall after all masses!!

Get a head start on your Christmas shopping!! We have the perfect gifts for everyone on your list!

Amazon, Starbucks, Panera, Eat 'n Park, American Eagle, iTunes, Macy's and many more!

We accept cash, check, and credit cards!

NEW SCRIP for December

New for December, the following scrip cards are available for purchase:

- iTunes in **both** \$15/\$25 denominations with 4% credit
- Amazon at \$25/\$100 with 4% credit
- GetGo at \$25 with 4% credit - ***Just for the holidays!!*** GetGo and Giant Eagle cards **can always be used interchangeably at the pump or in the store**, but many people like to give gas gift cards as Christmas gifts. So, just for the holidays, we are featuring a GetGo card! If purchasing Giant Eagle through Blue Envelope and you want GetGo cards, just specify that on your form and that's what you'll get!
- MonteCello's at \$25 with 10% credit

St. Mary School Apparel

Sponsored by the PTG
Show your St. Mary School Spirit
and place your order today!



*All Items Embroidered with
St. Mary School Logo*
*Sleep Pants will have "St. Mary's" in vinyl lettering down pant leg

<u>Available Items</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Price</u>
Crewneck Sweatshirt	Navy	\$16.00
Short-sleeve Polo Shirt	Navy or White	\$23.00
Long-sleeve Polo Shirt	Navy or White	\$26.00
Sweatpants	Navy	\$17.00
Plaid Sleep Pants	Plaid	\$23.00
Fleece Jacket	Navy	\$31.00
Fleece Throw	Navy	\$22.00

AVAILABLE SIZES

Youth: S(6-8), M(10-12), L(14-16)

Adult: S-M-L-XL-2X (Add \$3.00 for all 2X sizes)

If size is not marked youth,
adult size will be assumed!

***All apparel items will be delivered in time
for Christmas!***

<u>Item</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Total</u>
1.					
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					
GRAND TOTAL:					

Name: _____

Student Name/Room #: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

St. Mary PTG

Send Payments/Order Forms to:

Jennifer Maltese

c/o Caroline Maltese, Room 7-3

Orders Due by Wednesday, December 7th, 2011



Santa's Workshop Will Soon Be Open For Business!

Come and shop for everyone on your Christmas list. Including your favorite furry friends! There are items of varied prices, from \$.25 to \$10.00, that are sure to please all friends and family. A budget envelope will be sent home to assist in your financial planning. Labels to fill out before coming to the workshop will also be sent home. We will have extra labels to hand out for those who need them. You can place the allotted amount of cash in the envelope, or you can write a check to: St. Mary School – PTG.

**Visit all of us Elves at the Workshop on:
Tuesday, December 13th, 2011 OR
Wednesday, December 14th, 2011
8:30am – 2:30pm**

See the Classroom Schedules in the Newsletter.

If you have anytime to help out or any questions please call Monica Hoehler 412-492-0242.

We are HO-HO-HO- ping to see you at Santa's Workshop!!

SANTA'S WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13TH:

8:30 - 9:10 AM Preschool 3 year-olds

9:10 - 9:50 AM Kindergarten

9:50 - 10:30 AM Grade 1

10:30 - 11:10 AM Grade 2

11:10 - 11:50 AM LUNCH

11:50 - 12:30 PM Grade 4 - Room 7

12:30 - 1:10 PM Grade 3

BAND CONCERT - 1:20 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14TH:

8:30 - 9:10 AM Preschool 4 year-olds

9:10 - 9:50 AM Grade 5

9:50 - 10:30 AM Grade 4-6

10:30 - 11:10 AM Grade 6

11:10 - 11:50 AM Grade 7 - Room 3

11:50 - 12:30 PM Grade 7 - Room 4

12:30 - 1:10 PM LUNCH

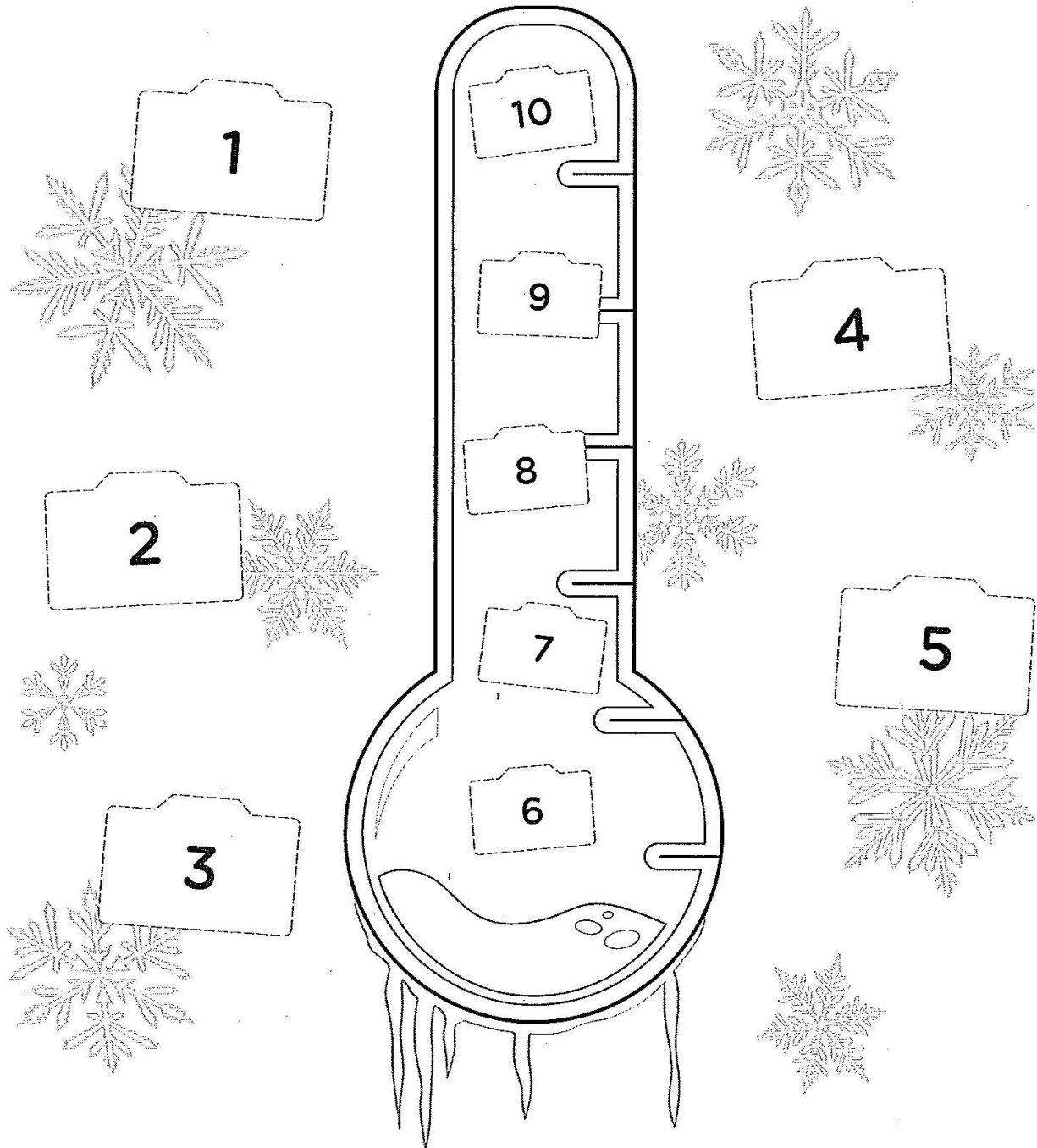
1:10 - 1:50 PM Grade 8 - Room 1

1:50 - 2:30 PM Grade 8 - Room 2



heat up your school spirit!

The more Box Tops you add, the hotter your school's earnings will be



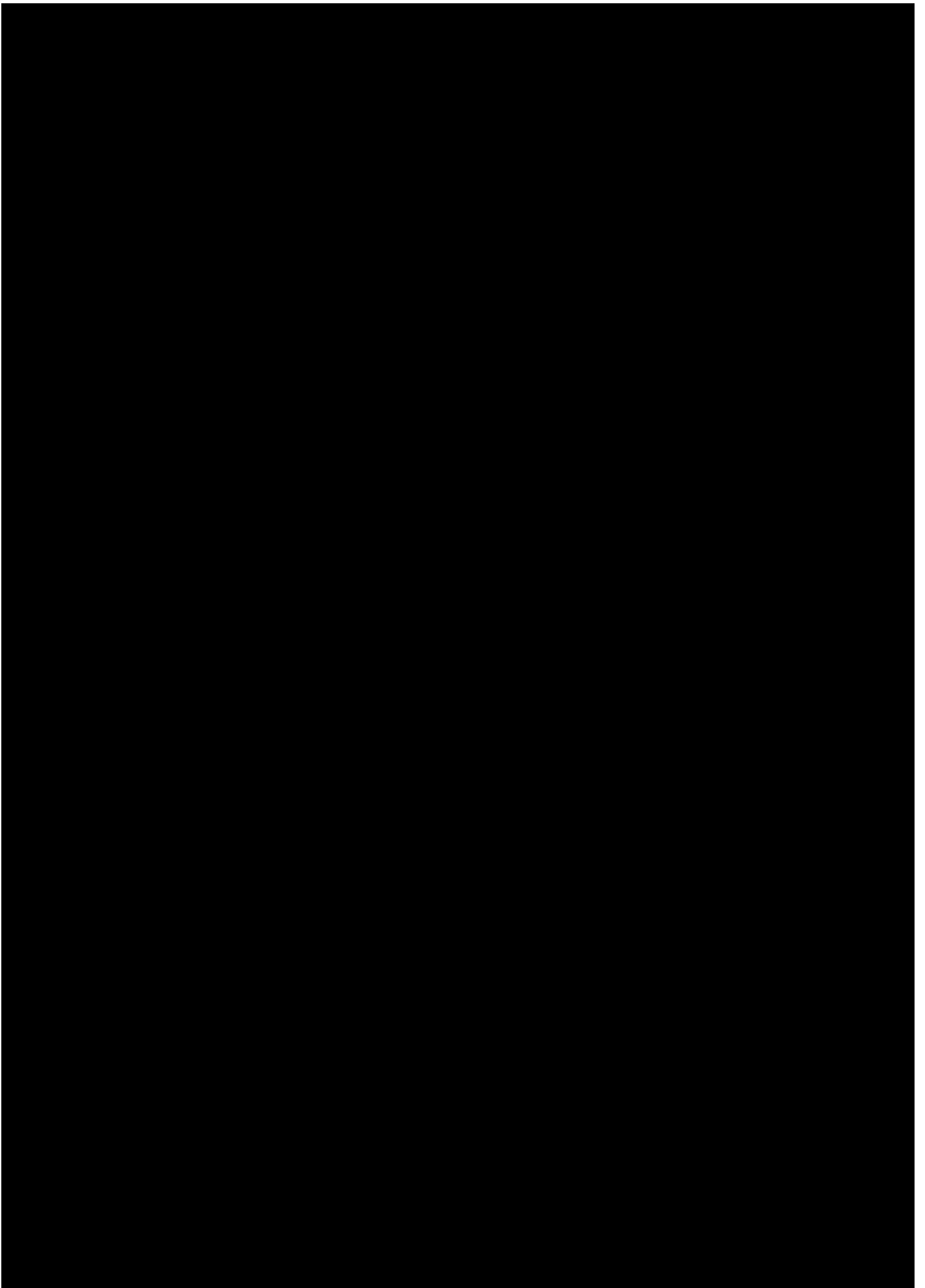
Name _____

Grade _____

Teacher's Name _____

Thank you for helping! Every Box Top you collect is worth 10¢ for your school.

To see more ways to earn cash for your school, go to www.btfe.com/earn



“THE GREATEST MIRACLE”

What’s Happening:

Please join us the weekend of December 9th for the opening of the “The Greatest Miracle”, a new 3D, animated movie from the Visual Writer of Pocahontas and the Orchestrator of Spiderman and Ice Age. “The Greatest Miracle” will be shown at Pittsburgh Mills, 425 Pittsburgh Mills Circle, Tarentum and The Waterworks, 930 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh.

The movie brings to life the miracle of the Catholic Mass through a simple story of three ordinary people facing difficult challenges in their life. Mixed with powerful music and creative effects, it’s a unique piece of cinema that allows Catholics to enrich their relationship with God and realize the enduring gifts of the new translation of the Mass.

Who would enjoy this movie:

“The Greatest Miracle” is for all Catholics who want to enhance their liturgical and spiritual experiences. It is also a wonderful teaching visual for Catholic students and particularly religious educators.

When and Where to see it:

Opening weekend Dec. 9-11 @ Pittsburgh Mills (425 Pittsburgh Mills Circle, Tarentum) and The Waterworks (930 Freeport Road, Pittsburgh) and in ten cities nationwide. Times to be announced.

Why we should go:

- Each person who sees “The Greatest Miracle” will take away at least one small idea to enhance their Mass experience.
- As a powerful Pittsburgh Catholic community, we want to support Producers who create inspirational and educational entertainment that can be enjoyed with the whole family.
- This November 27th marks the beginning of the new translation for the words of the Mass. This movie will re-enforce the power of the Mass and a deeper living of the liturgy.
- It’s a wonderful Catholic family movie to enjoy during this Thanksgiving and Christmas season.