



## ***Weekly Newsletter - 11.30.2022***

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### ***Upcoming Events & Calendar Reminders***

**Tuesday, December 6th:**

- December Birthdays Non-Uniform Day

**Wednesday, December 7th:**

- Non-Uniform Dress Day
- Noon Dismissal for K-8 Students

**Friday, December 9th:**

- All School Mass @ 9am

**Thursday, December 15th:**

- Tiger Spirit Day
- Christmas Program @ 6:30pm; Doors open at 6pm - Victoria Hall

**Friday, December 16th:**

- Noon Dismissal for All Students
- No After School Extended Care
- No Full Day Preschool (12pm-3:10pm)
- No PM Pandas

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### ***8th Grade Babysitting Nights***

**8th Grade Babysitting Nights are back!** Save the date for December 10 and January 7 from 5 -9 pm and take advantage of a parent night out while our amazing 8th graders entertain your kids with pizza, games, movies and FUN! Money earned will help fund the 8th Grade D.C. trip!

Registration for Dec. 10 is available: [HERE](#)

Date: December 10, 2022  
Time: 5pm - 9pm  
Location: St. Catherine's Victoria Hall  
Cost: \$40 for 1 child; \$30 for each sibling (ages 4-12)

Questions: Contact Debi Backstrom at 206-707-5432 or [debi.backstrom@gmail.com](mailto:debi.backstrom@gmail.com)

See you there!

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### ***Christmas Program***

After 3 years, the well loved St. C's Christmas Program is back! We are so excited to gather together on Thursday, December 15th at 6:30pm to celebrate Christmas with all our students and their families.

#### ***Get the best seats in the house and support our music program!***

14 front row seats are available for purchase at \$50/each; 20 second row seats are available for \$25/each. All funds raised go to our music program!

Please note all other seats are first come first serve. Doors open at 6:00pm. You may not enter the gym and put coats on chairs during the day. Any items left on chairs before 6pm will be removed.

If you'd like to purchase seats, please contact [Amanda](#) in the school office.

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### ***Holiday Workshop with Smart with Art***

Join us for a fun filled afternoon of holiday artful gift making on Tuesday, December 12th. Your Kindergarten-5th grade student will design one incredible art piece based on a winter holiday theme that will be gift wrapped ready for gift giving. This one-time special class is 1.5 hours in length, held on site at St. Catherine School.



**Register Here!**

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### ***Valet Used Uniform Donation***

**FRIDAY, 12/9: MORNING & AFTERNOON carline in the St. C's parking lot**

The Post-Thanksgiving Purge: Need to clear the closet of gently used uniforms? This Friday, unload jumpers, sweaters, sweatshirts, skirts/skorts, and vests (see below for items we collect) while dropping off or picking up in the St. C's parking lot!

## Donation Tips and Tricks



### ***After School Primary Academic Support***

**St. Catherine is pleased to announce an after-school academic support option for students in grades 1st-3rd!**

Beginning Monday 11/21, parents may register their students to attend academic support from 3:15-4:00 PM on Thursdays (starting 12/1). This is an opportunity for students to complete homework or class projects while receiving needed support from St. Catherine's primary team members. The sessions will be facilitated by Ms. O'Donnell, Ms. Kelly, and Ms. Elsner.

A Sign-up Genius will be sent out each month to indicate days you'd like your child to attend. Space will be limited so register early! Cost will be \$7 per session and will be billed to your SchoolAdmin account.

Please contact Ms. Elsner if you have any questions. [celsner@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:celsner@stcatherineschool.net)

### ***Tickets for Teachers***

Do you have tickets for sporting events, theater, or dinner gift certificates that are going unused? Consider donating them to our "Tickets for Teachers" raffle. This past month a staff member had the opportunity to go to a Husky game because of a generous parent donation. Contact [Tammy Matusak](#) if you would like to donate.

Thank you to our STC Parents for your continued support! #thetigerway



**Thank you to those who have joined the Auction committee!**

We need our parent volunteers to help us plan a successful event and raise funds for our students, faculty & staff, programming, and tuition assistance! Please review [this document](#) and join the fun!

Click [here](#) to view and fill out the form.

**SUPPORT THE AUCTION! WE NEED YOU!  
PLEASE SIGN-UP TO HELP LEAD OR SUPPORT THESE TEAMS**

**Sponsorship Support & Ticket Sales**  
[SIGN-UP TODAY!](#)

Thank you for your interest in joining the planning committee.  
The Auction Team | [auction@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:auction@stcatherineschool.net)

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### ***Yearbook 2022-2023***

**Attention Parents!** The Yearbook staff needs your help. Please send any pictures you take throughout the school year to [yearbook@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:yearbook@stcatherineschool.net) to be included in the yearbook. We are particularly interested in things that happen outside of school that our staff doesn't get a chance to photograph like CYO sports, back to school photos, and eventually events like Ski Bus and Speech Team. Thank you for your help!

Yearbook questions? Send an email to Ms. Elsner ([celsner@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:celsner@stcatherineschool.net)).

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### ***New St. Catherine Social Media Email!***

Have you been looking for a way to share your amazing photos from weekend sporting events? Do you have pictures of St. C's Tigers doing great things? Please share them with us at [socialmedia@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:socialmedia@stcatherineschool.net)

Make sure to include a description of the event along with the names & grades of the St. C tigers. #thetigerway

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### ***Once Upon a Mattress***

**We are so excited to be announcing our 2022-2023 musical, Once Upon a Mattress!!** This program is open to all 4rd-8th grade students. There are roles for singers, non-singers, and technical crew as well. Please see below for more info and click on the button for the registration form.



#### **Mark your Calendars!!**

Tuesday, December 6th: Auditions for grades 6, 7, & 8 – 3:15-5:15 – Music Room  
Thursday, December 8th: Auditions for grades 4 & 5 – 3:15-5:15 – Music Room  
Friday, December 9th – Callbacks – 3:15-4:30 – Music Room

The first rehearsal and only rehearsal before Christmas Break will be Tuesday, December 13th, and then rehearsals will be held every Tuesday and Thursday starting on Tuesday, January 3rd.

If your child cannot attend either audition date, please contact Ms. Clara ([ccimino@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:ccimino@stcatherineschool.net)) or Ms. Jones ([ajones@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:ajones@stcatherineschool.net))

Cost: \$160/child (½ price for 2nd/3rd child in a family) for Cast T-Shirt and show expenses! There will be a Musical Behavior Contract for you and your child to sign, sent home after auditions. The contract and payment will be due no later than Tuesday, January 10th.

*Interested in Tech Crew?* We want to build a stronger behind-the-scenes crew in our theater department this year! If your child is interested in working in stage management, lighting, sound, props, costumes, or anything else backstage, please select "crew" on the registration form so we can build our team!

*Needed!!! Drama Volunteers* – Whether it’s monitoring during rehearsal, helping with costumes, or trying your hand at stage makeup come March, we have lots of opportunities and needs, both big and small, so please send a note to Clara or Ava if you are interested in helping out! We can’t do it without our volunteers!

## Registration Form

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### *Coding with Kids*

#### **SCRATCH: ARCADE GAMES I Grades 3 - 6**

Mon, 3:15pm-4:15pm

Jan 23 - Mar 20 (no class on Feb 20)

\$199 / 8-week session

What’s even better than dodging obstacles, collecting tokens, and playing games on coin-operated machines? Creating your own arcade games! This course teaches students to code arcade games by applying programming concepts like Events, Functions, and Game Physics. Students can recreate popular arcade games by the end of the course, such as the Brick Breaker and Space Invaders.

Registrations at [www.CodingWithKids.com/session/47274](http://www.CodingWithKids.com/session/47274)

#### **LITTLE CODERS: ANIMATIONS Grades K - 2**

Tue, 3:15pm-4:15pm

Jan 24 - Mar 21 (no class on Feb 21)

\$199 / 8-week session

Learn how to make your own animations in Scratch using basic coding skills! In this course, students will focus on the arts and animations side of game development. Students will learn how to create their own characters, animate them, and tell their story through art, creativity, and basic coding skills! Projects include animating a walk cycle, a running unicorn, and a funny handshake. Our curriculum focuses on reinforcing concepts in different ways to help students retain new ideas and build a strong foundation for future learning.

Registrations at [www.CodingWithKids.com/session/47275](http://www.CodingWithKids.com/session/47275)

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# Chess Scholars

Winter 2023

St Catherine of Siena School

No Experience Needed



Grades 3-8

Develop your child's intellect through the royal game of chess! Current research has shown a strong link between chess and academic performance in a variety of areas, including mathematics and language arts. Chess has been proven to enhance children's motivation, concentration, focus, social skills, and creativity. Each class will consist of a fun, interactive teaching period and guided practice time. Both beginner and experienced players are welcome and will learn under the guidance of an experienced Chess Scholars coach.

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**Schedule:** 9 Thursdays, January 26th - March 30th, 3:15 PM - 4:15 PM

No class: 3/2

To sign up, please visit <https://www.learningmeansfun.com/signup>.

You will need to enter the course code **CSW1.26.23** to register. Please register by 10pm PST on 1/4 for the early bird price of \$162.00.

If you have difficulty registering, please contact Afterschool Enrichment Solutions at 847-482-9999 or [registration@learningmeansfun.com](mailto:registration@learningmeansfun.com)

All participants must conduct themselves in a manner that allows all students to fully participate during the class without impeding their experience. We have a no refund policy, unless there is insufficient enrollment. No make-ups will be scheduled for inclement weather or circumstances beyond our control. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds. It's the parents' responsibility to remind the children about the classes.

If schools are closed during the program session, classes will pivot to all-virtual sessions. Please be aware of this as there will be no refunds made. Program provider has experience in virtual delivery.

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### ***Enrollment is Now Open!***

We are excited to have our Sacramental Preparation classes for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist start this year. It is for children 7 years of age and in the second grade, or for those in third - fifth grade who have not received these sacraments. Classes begin in December.

Please enroll on the parish site at: <https://www.stcatherineparish.net/firstsacraments>

Any questions please contact Tita Ruiz: [Faithformation@stbens.net](mailto:Faithformation@stbens.net)

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### ***SVDP Holiday Program***

St. Catherine SVDP is launching the 2022 Holiday Program providing meals for approximately 46 neighbor families totaling 120 members. Eighteen of the families are headed by deaf women who have suffered abuse; and the majority of the families have been disadvantaged as a result of social and economic policies. Our budget for Thanksgiving meals is \$3,600. That breaks down to \$30 per individual. We will provide the family a voucher to a local grocery store to select and shop for a meal they prepare.

Will you help us by donating what you can to the SVDP Holiday Program? You can:

- 1) click the [SVDP Holiday Program button on the website](#) to donate online;
- 2) write a check to SVDP Holiday Program using the collection basket at Mass;
- 3) mailing your check to the parish office, 814 NE 85th Ave, Seattle, 98115.

With your help we can provide our neighbors with a nice meal as they celebrate Thanksgiving.

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### ***Tuition Assistance 2023-2024***

The tuition assistance process for the 2023-2024 school year begins now and the application is officially open. If you think that your family may be in need of financial aid next year, please complete an application. Tuition assistance is available for Kindergarten-8th Grade only.

The entire process is completed online through FACTS. All applications are first reviewed by the Fulcrum Foundation, a fundraising arm of the Archdiocese. Once Fulcrum determines their assistance awards, then the St. Catherine Tuition Assistance Committee will review the applications and distribute financial aid for the 2023-24 school year. Some families may qualify for assistance from both the Fulcrum Foundation and the St. Catherine program, but only one application is submitted.

The application deadline is January 6, 2023. This is a firm deadline - all completed applications AND required tax documentation must be submitted by this date for

consideration.

You can access the application [here](#). And FACTS charges a \$35 application fee.

If you have any questions about the process or application, feel free to email [Kathy Cox](#) or you can access the FAQ page on the Fulcrum Foundation website [here](#).

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## ***Non-Uniform & Spirit Day Calendar***

"When is Spirit Day? When is the first non-uniform day? I bought free dress passes at last year's auction - when can my student use them?" All these answers and more can be found on the [Non-Uniform & Spirit Day Calendar](#).

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## ***2022-2023 School Calendar***

Here are the key calendar dates for the 2022-2023 school year:

- 1st day of school: Tuesday, September 6th (noon dismissal)
- Fall Conferences: November 3rd-4th (November 2nd is a noon dismissal)
- Thanksgiving break: November 24th-25th (November 23rd is a noon dismissal)
- Christmas break: December 19th-30th
- New Year's Day Observed: January 2nd
- President's weekend/break: February 20th-21st
- Easter break: April 10th-14th
- Last day of school: Friday, June 16th (10:30am dismissal after the Moving Up Mass)

Printable PDF copies of the calendars, with lots more events and dates, are available here: [K-8 Calendar](#)  
[Preschool Calendar](#)

Please note that dates on these calendars are subject to change and any changes will be communicated to families via the school newsletter as soon as possible.

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## ***Immunizations Update***

The Department of Health has updated the requirements for the 2022-2023 school year. Students in preschool or kindergarten who are four years old or older on September 1st are required to have the additional dose of DTaP, IPV, MMR and varicella vaccines before the first day of school.

Students with summer birthdays will have less time to get vaccinated before the start of school, so parents should plan ahead and schedule their child's vaccination appointment before the school year starts.

Please send updated records to Charlotte at [cvanhollebeke@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:cvanhollebeke@stcatherineschool.net).

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## ***Attendance Procedures***

If your child/ren will be absent from school, please notify the school office at [attendance@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:attendance@stcatherineschool.net), as well as your child's homeroom teacher, no later than 8:30am on the day of the absence. Advanced notification of the absence (2-3 days before) is also greatly appreciated.

The safety of our students is our number one priority and the office will call home to verify the student's absence if a parent/guardian has not called or emailed.

If you know your child will be tardy due to a medical/dental/personal appointment, the office must be notified for the tardy to be excused. A parent/guardian must accompany a tardy student in to the school office to sign them in for the day.



If your child/ren will be absent from school for 2 or more days of school, please complete a [pre-planned absence form](#) and send it to [attendance@stcatherineschool.net](mailto:attendance@stcatherineschool.net) at least 2 weeks prior to the absences.

Regular attendance is important to the success of our students. Normally, illness, medical appointments and family emergencies are the only acceptable form of excused absence.

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### ***Help our school get \$ back every time you shop at Amazon!***

As a participant in the Amazon Affiliate and AmazonSmile programs, a percentage of your Amazon purchases come back to us if you designate "St Catherine" as your charity of choice. Simply [CLICK HERE](#) (this link is also on our website under the "Parents" tab on the far right) to sign in to your Amazon account and place your order as usual (if you haven't signed up for AmazonSmile yet, it's quick and easy). The school will automatically receive a portion of all sales on orders placed through this [unique link](#) which is a combination of the Affiliate and Smile programs.

Thank you!



You shop. Amazon gives.

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### ***Fred Meyer/QFC Community Rewards***

Fred Meyer/QFC are part of a program called Community Rewards to give back to the community! Each year, Fred Meyer intends to donate \$2.5 million (up to \$625,000 per quarter) to local schools, non-profits, and charitable organizations. Customers can designate where these dollars get spent.

If you are a Fred Meyer customer head to Community Rewards and link your rewards card <https://www.fredmeyer.com/i/community/community-rewards>. When you shop with your rewards card, you'll help earn donation dollars to the charity of your choice. St. Catherine School organization code is AF109. You may select only one non-profit at a time. Also, note that this does NOT impact your quarterly Rewards or Fuel points. You'll still receive all those benefits on top of this program. Today we have 26 families linked to this program and we still receive rewards. Imagine our rewards if every school family took the time to register!

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# MASS SCHEDULE

ST. CATHERINE

SATURDAY	5PM
SUNDAY	*9:30AM
WEDNESDAY	9AM
FRIDAY	9AM

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CONFESSION	SATURDAY 3:30 - 4:30PM
ADORATION AT ST. BENEDICT	1ST FRIDAY 6 - 7PM
ANOINTING OF THE SICK	1ST FRIDAY 9AM
	*Livestream Available



## R O S A R I E S

WEDNESDAY	9:30AM
FRIDAY	9:30AM



## OPEN FOR PRAYER

FRIDAY	10AM - 12PM
SATURDAY	3:30 - 4:30PM

### ***Mission & Philosophy***

St. Catherine of Siena Parish School is a welcoming, Christ-centered community, rooted in the Catholic faith and inspired by Gospel values. As an extension of the parish and with Jesus as our model, we are dedicated to lifelong growth in faith, love, and learning.

We recognize that the care and education of the child begins with the family and that parents are the primary educators of their children. In partnership with parents, we work to promote our students' achievement and spiritual growth. Together we are committed to developing responsible, ethical leaders who think critically, act justly, communicate effectively, and serve willingly.

### ***Vision***

We are committed to providing a faith-filled, inclusive, and welcoming learning environment for all our students. Through our rigorous academic programs, our students will gain the cognitive, technological, and social skills necessary to become ethical, innovative leaders who successfully navigate the complex challenges of today's world.



St. Catherine of Siena School | 8524 8th Avenue Northeast, Seattle, WA 98115

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