



ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY

MARCH 25, 2017

Frequently Asked Questions

Who does the fundraiser benefit?

This is St. Mary's largest fundraiser and the proceeds benefit the education of St. Mary's students. Funds are raised through ticket sales, a silent auction, raffles, sponsorships and donations. The school budget relies on successful fundraising, and St. Pat's is a big part of that success. Any amount over and above the budgeted amount is used to accelerate investments in strategic initiatives (such as last year's renovation of the preschool and purchasing Chromebooks for use in classrooms) and helps to keep tuition increases low.

Where and when?

The fundraiser is Saturday, March 25, 2017 from 6pm – 12am in the Parish Center (the gym.) Many busy hands transform the Parish Center into a festive Irish-themed landscape and Irish pub. Tickets go on sale January 29, 2017. Stay tuned for more information at www.stmaryriverside.org/stpats.

Is it fun?

St. Pat's is a great time! Live music, professionally catered food, open bar with top-shelf options, and an amazing set of auction items, raffle baskets and "buy now" items. You'll forget you're even at a school event – this is truly a social occasion!

Can I bring the kids?

This is an adult only event. Date night, Girls Night Out, Guys Night Out – your choice!

What should I wear? Is it fancy?

Attire is what you'd wear to a nice dinner out – we'd call it dressy casual or smart casual. Some people are comfortable with jeans and a nice top/shirt/sweater. Others prefer a dress or skirt. This is not a formal dress kind of event, though.

What does my ticket include?

Your ticket includes food, drink, entertainment and a great evening with other St. Mary parents, parishioners and supporters.



How does the auction work? Do I need to bring cash?

Auction bidding is done from your cellular phone. You can choose to have your auction total settle to the credit card you put on file or you may write a check at the end of the evening. Other items, such as raffle tickets, are purchased with cash or check.

Will I know anybody?

Yes, you will! Attendees include school families, teachers, staff, alumni and parishioners. You are welcome and encouraged to bring family, friends, neighbors, etc. who want to have a great evening out with friends and neighbors and support our school.

Other than attending, are there ways I can support the event?

Absolutely! There are so many ways to support the St. Patrick's day fundraiser with your time, talent and treasure. Here are a few of the ways to show your support:

- Volunteer on the planning committee: there's plenty to do and room for all who are interested in helping. Contact Jane or Nancy (info below) for more information.
- Become a family or business sponsor: make a donation on behalf of your family or business (form included in this packet).
- Donate an item for the auction: Tickets to concerts, sporting events, special items, gift certificates, etc. make the auction a success. And don't forget to ask your favorite business to donate, too! (form included in this packet).
- Participate in the auction remotely: if you're not able to attend that evening, you can still participate in the auction using your cell phone.
- Sponsor a teacher: purchase a ticket for a St. Mary teacher or staff person to attend the party.
- Contribute to your classroom basket: donations are collected from each classroom and items purchased to assemble some amazing raffle baskets. More information on this will be coming soon!
- Support the Special Persons appeal: share your enthusiasm for St. Mary with your family and ask them to play a part in St. Mary's continued success and your child's education. More information on this will be sent home later in January.

I still have some questions...where can I get more info?

We want to hear from you! Contact Nancy DeFauw (708.203.9782, nancydefauw@comcast.net) or Jane Birmingham (708.442.1020, jbirmingham@stmaryriverside.org.) We'll be adding more information in the coming weeks at www.stmaryriverside.org/stpats.

