



OUR HELP IS MUCH NEEDED

By Ian Skaggs

A morning in late December accompanied by the smell of coffee brewing, company of those who are dear, and gifts lying beneath the Christmas tree; Christmas morning, for most, is full of joyous memories.

The Marist Advent Angel Project is an opportunity to help create Christmas joy for families who need our assistance. Students in theology classes are collecting gifts for these families up until Tuesday, Dec. 13, when Catholic Community Services will pick them up to distribute to the families. All are encouraged to give a gift of kindness; and together, the Marist community hopes to provide a Christmas with food and gifts for all to these families in our community. If you would like to help, Catholic Community Services is always in need of household items.



Berries hang frozen in ice on Thursday. Due to hazardous and icy conditions, Marist did not have school on Thursday, along with the rest of the 4J District. Photo by Bridgette McAllister '16

Winter Formal Dance

Saturday Night
8 - 10:30 p.m.
Marist Gym
\$10 for admission
at the door

Speech and Debate Team Competes

By Nick Nepute

Last Saturday, eight Marist students traveled to Clackamas High School for the Clackamas Holiday Edge Speech and Debate Tournament; one of the largest tournaments Marist will participate in this year. Sophomore Danielle Shojai finished in the "After Dinner Speaking" category, a humorous speech about a serious topic. Shojai's speech was about failure.

JOURNEY WITH CHRIST



Sophomores Chloe Lee and Daniella Giansante and junior Caitlin Kirk light candles while telling their journey stories during the Sophomore Girls Journey Retreat on Saturday. Photo by Toni Cooper

Sophomore girls gather to grow as people and friends in faith

By Livia Kokkino

Life is full of journeys, some of which are more impactful than others.

This past weekend proved to be one of those journeys for 29 sophomore girls as they gathered on the Marist campus for the first Sophomore Girls Journey Retreat of the year to grow in their faith, friendships, and self.

"I thought that the retreat was good because we had a lot of small

group time and it was good to get to know a lot of the girls that I didn't know well before," sophomore Sydney Frey said.

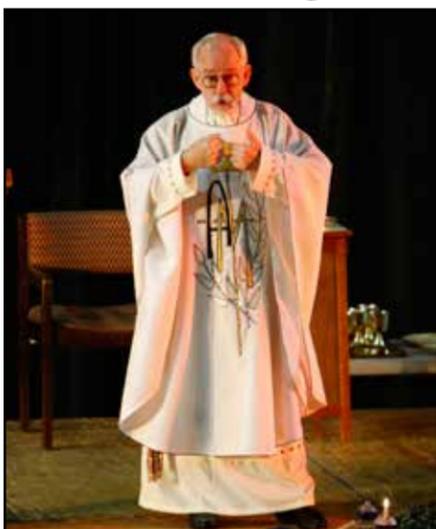
11 junior and senior leaders, who are apart of the Marist Retreat Team, led the retreat for the girls with the help of senior rector Brittan Silver.

The theme of the retreat was journey, and was embodied through various talks and games to bring the girls closer together.

Ordinarily, the first half of the retreat would take place at St. Peter's church. This was the first time that the entire retreat took place on the Marist campus due to other activities happening at the church that weekend.

"Overall, I thought that it was an amazing experience at Marist and that we should continue to do it there," senior Marielle Gumban said.

Celebrating Mary and Fr. Ken's Birthday



Fr. Ken Olsen gives the homily during the Mass of the Immaculate Conception on Friday. Photo by Toni Cooper

By Cole Vendetti

Today, Marist celebrated the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. As per tradition, the Mass focused on the Blessed Mary.

The Mass was scheduled for yesterday, but inclement weather led to school being cancelled and the Mass postponed to today. Even though yesterday was the feast day of the Immaculate Conception for the Roman Catholic Church, Father Ken was happy to celebrate the mass today, his 70th birthday, and also the day that the Eastern Orthodox Church celebrates the feast day.

In his homily, Father Ken explained that the feast of the Immaculate Conception is about Mary's birth free from sin, but he chose to focus more on the courage she showed in her life. He stressed that the coming of the Messiah is not to "correct a flawed creation", because creation is inherently good, but it comes with strife and challenges. It is our responsibility to face the challenges presented in order to hope for self-improvement. Mary exemplified the resilience that we must find in taking on the responsibility to bestow Jesus to the world.

Strings Play Carols for Retirement Communities



Strings teacher Alisa Kincade directs the Marist strings class as they perform in a local retirement center. Photo by Rick Gardener

By Maya Dotson

The Marist Strings Ensemble made their annual tour through four local senior living and retirement centers in the Eugene area, the tradition that begun with Alisa Kincade's strings classes. The ensemble performed several Christmas Carols such as "Silent Night" and "Frosty the Snowman."

"It was really fun when we were playing the residents would start singing along," senior violinist Grace Rosier said. In addition to their performances, the string students talked with many of the residents after the songs.

Sports Updates

BOYS BASKETBALL

The varsity boys lost their season opener at Crescent Valley 63-70 last Friday and also lost their first home game of the season to Parkrose 60-75 on Tuesday. The JV and JV2 also lost to Crescent Valley but both bounced back winning their games against Parkrose.

GIRLS BASKETBALL

Last week varsity won their first game 61-38 at home against Dallas, JV also won but JV2 lost a close one, losing by two. But this past Wednesday was a rough day for the girls basketball program. Varsity lost at Salle 29-64, and JV and JV2 also lost.

SWIMMING

Boys and girls swimming started the season with a bang with both teams winning their meet on Tuesday; the boys scored 103 points and the girls scored 113 points against Cottage Grove and Junction City. Their first competition was a fun relay event at North Eugene last Friday.

Learning About the World of Film



Marist graduate Patrick Donnelly, video producer Steve Barth, and Marist counselor Jerry Ragan speak to students interested about film production. Photo by Gloria Wang

By Claire Hoffman

This weeks Brown Bag Lunch gave students an inside look at video and film production. '05 Marist grad Patrick Donnelly, a visual effects compositor for the Portland-based TV series Grimm, discussed what his job entails which includes creating special effects. He explained how to go about pursuing a career in this field. Marist also welcomed Steve Barth, a marketer for CBT Nuggets and owner of his own media production company. Barth shared with the students the different possibilities than one can take when exploring the world of film.