



## *Auction Overview*

The *Wine Tasting Gala & Auction* is the primary fundraiser for St. Michael School. This year's event, to be held Saturday, February 9, 2019, will be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our local winemakers (and now breweries, too) pairing with the school to make this event a success. Games, dancing, dinner, and silent/live auction are all part of the night's festivities. Recommended dress for the event is cocktail attire. Tickets can be purchased on the SMS website. We would love all our school and parish families to come and enjoy a fun-filled evening.

## *What is there to do at the event?*

This year's event features a variety of games both before and during the auction. Attendees can start with the Wine Pull, or take a chance at winning a special high-end prize with our 52-playing card drawing. With wine glass in hand, attendees peruse the vast array of silent auction items while tasting amazing wines and brews from the Livermore Valley. Silent auction items typically feature party tastings at premier wineries, tickets to events and attractions, as well as the creative and ever-popular class baskets and Teacher Treats. The live auction gets under way after the silent auction closes and dinner is winding down. Previous live auction items have included vacation home getaways, delicious gourmet group dinners, and other special items. Dancing starts when the auction ends!

## *What does the revenue go toward?*

The revenue generated from the event (except for that raised as part of the Fund-A-Need) will be used to support the school's operating costs and keep tuition affordable. Last year, 100% of the donations raised during the Fund-A-Need portion of the live auction went toward creating a STREAM (science, technology, religion, engineering, art, and math) room for all students. This year, Fund-A-Need revenue will go towards safety and security upgrades, such as a new PA system, video surveillance cameras, and extensions to raise the height of external walls.

## *How can I help?*

For the event to be a success, we need the support of all our school families. The best way to help is through donations, volunteering, participating in the raffle, and of course, attendance. This year, it is mandatory that all families contribute a \$50.00 donation (either item or cash), or in lieu of the \$50.00, families may contribute 3 volunteer hours toward the event. Here are a few ideas on how to participate:

- *Donate...*
  - ✓ Physical items (new and in perfect condition) for both the live and silent auction. Do you have a vacation rental available; season tickets to the Giants, Warriors, symphony, or theater? Do you have unwanted gift cards? Think of those who provide a "service" for you—your hair stylist, gym, novelty shop, or other business person. Tell them about the auction and that donations are tax-deductible.

- ✓ Cash donations can help us cover the cost of the event or purchase items to be included in the auction. Discuss the event with people and businesses you feel comfortable approaching and ask if they might be willing to help through a cash donation or a higher level sponsorship. Some employers even offer to match employee contributions.
- ✓ Bottles of wine for the Wine Pull—one of the most popular games of the night, wherein people pay a flat price to pick a “mystery” bottle of wine. We need approximately 80 to 100 bottles to make this game interesting for attendees. The value of each bottle needs to be at least \$25.00. Each family can receive credit for 1 hour of volunteer time for each bottle they donate (5 bottle limit).

**Please complete a donation form and deliver the item and the form to the school office to get credit for your student(s)' class. All donations must be in by Friday, January 25, 2019.** Additional donation forms are in the SMS front office. The class with the most items donated wins a pizza party!

- ***Volunteer...***

- ✓ Before the event to help with planning and preparation. We have a volunteer sheet on Sign-Up Genius with plenty of roles that still need to be filled.
- ✓ During the event and for cleanup afterward. A number of jobs must be done throughout the night, but the more people who pitch in, the more everyone will have a chance to enjoy the evening. For those much-needed individuals who volunteer for cleanup after the event, you will receive double time for service hours worked. Volunteers do not need to purchase event tickets unless they want to receive a wine glass for tasting and sit at dining tables when not executing shifts.

- ***Participate in the Raffle...***

- ✓ Buy/sell tickets for the online raffle during January 8<sup>th</sup> to February 6<sup>th</sup>. Winners will receive cash prizes. Remember, you don't have to purchase the tickets yourself! Enlist the help of your kids, your family, and your friends and spread the word. The online raffle link can be sent out to far away family and friends. Prizes and incentives will be given to children and families during the weeks the raffle is running. Sales will be tracked online and a special prize awarded to the top-selling family! The winners of the raffle will be announced at the auction.

*Thank you for your generosity and support. We look forward to seeing everyone there!*