



*In the Tradition of  
the Franciscan Fathers and  
Sisters of the Precious Blood*

# Saint Mary's High School

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*"Home of the Knights"*

December 2009

Dear Families and Friends,

Recently at a meeting I attended we prayed the prayer I share with you below. Since this is the month when we reflect on the Birth of Jesus, our Savior, I thought you might like to reflect on the wondrous moment when *you* were born – when you took *your* first breath – for at that moment a great celebration was also held in the heaven and twelve magnificent gifts were granted to YOU!

**The first gift is Strength.** May you remember to call upon it whenever you need it.

**The second gift is Beauty.** May your deeds reflect its depth.

**The third gift is Courage.** May you speak and act with confidence and use courage to follow your own path.

**The fourth gift is Compassion.** May you be gentle with yourself and others, and forgive those who hurt you.

**The fifth gift is Hope.** Through each passage and season, may you trust the goodness of life.

**The sixth gift is Joy.** May it keep your heart open and filled with light.

**The seventh gift is Talent.** May you discover your own special abilities and contribute them toward a better world.

**The eighth gift is Imagination.** May it nourish your visions and dreams.

**The ninth gift is Reverence.** May you appreciate the wonder that you are and the miracle of all creation.

**The tenth gift is Wisdom.** Guiding your way, wisdom will lead you to understanding. May you hear its soft voice.

**The eleventh gift is Love.** It will grow each time you give it away.

**The twelfth gift is Faith.** May you believe.

Now you know about your twelve gifts of birth. In this season of gift-giving, let us each pray that we will learn to use our gifts well, sharing and giving them away often. We could even help to make the world a better place by seeing these noble gifts in the other people we meet and work with every day.

May the Joy and Peace of the Word Incarnate, Jesus be with each of you this Christmas Season. Merry Christmas!

Mrs. Suzanne M. Fessler  
Principal