

NEWSNOTE

ISSUE 10 NOVEMBER 15, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...

Dear SME Families,

Since this is my last message before our Thanksgiving Break, I wanted to share with everyone some of what I am thankful for this year:

I am thankful for all families that attended SME last year and returned to our school this year. I appreciate your commitment to our school, your support, and the trust you have placed in all of us, to provide the best education and school experience possible.

I am thankful for all K-8 families that are new to St. Mary's. I appreciate the infusion of new ideas and energy that you have added to our community, and hope that our partnership has gotten off to a successful beginning, that your children are happy here.

I am thankful for all of our Pre-K families. The excitement and pure joy that your children bring to our building each and every day remind all of us that school and learning began as fun ... and that they should never cease to be. Thanks for brightening our days!

I am thankful for our parent volunteers. Simply stated, without your time, volunteerism, and care, our school would not exist as it does. This year, we have seen increased attendance to all of our community events, an enthusiastic buzz in the halls of SME, and a friendly atmosphere of cooperation. Thank you for helping to create this.

I am thankful for our outstanding teachers, who always put the person ahead of the student. We are truly blessed to have such a phenomenal group of qualified, caring, responsive teachers. Without their sacrifice and service, our school would not be able to offer the high-quality education we do. Thank you, teachers.

I am thankful for all staff members who comprise a support team that is truly second to none. Every day, our staff members perform countless thankless acts of charity, as they perform innumerable duties to help our school operate at the highest level. Thank you!

When I think back to our recent past and consider our present, I can genuinely say that I believe that our school continues to grow into a nurturing, supportive community. Rather than simply attend the same school or work in the same building, I feel that we now can proudly say that we are all members of the St. Mary's community.

And for that, I am thankful.

Mr. Olejniczak



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- **Fri. 11/17** - Grandparents & Christian Witness (Oct. recipient) Mass, 8:30
- **Sat. 11/18** - 8th Grade Catholic HS Entrance Exam Day
- **Wed. - Fri. 11/22-24** **NO SCHOOL** - Thanksgiving Recess
- **Mon. 11/27- 1:00** **Early Dismissal:** Staff Development Day, **NO AFTERSCHOOL CARE AVAILABLE**
- **Thurs. 11/30** - Merry Moose Holiday Shop
- **Fri. 12/1** - Christian Witness Mass, 8:30, Merry Moose Holiday Shop
- **Mon. 12/4** - Spirit Wear Dress Down Day
- **Fri. 12/8** - Immaculate Conception Mass, 8:30
- **Sat. 12/9** - Breakfast with Santa, 9-11 am
- **Wed. 12/13** - MP1 Report Card Upload Gr. K-8
- **Fri. 12/15** - Living Nativity, 7:00pm
- **Wed. 12/20 - Fri. 12/29 - No School: Christmas Recess**

BY THE NUMBERS

We offer a wide variety of opportunities to support SME and will be changing things up this year with our offerings.

We understand that every fundraiser will not be for everyone, but we do appreciate any & all support you can give!

Year round ways to help:

- ◇ Boxtops 4 Education
Sept. Donation \$7.70
- ◇ RaiseRight Program
- ◇ Tops in Education Program

Sept '22-Sept '23 Donation \$477.31



GRANDPARENTS MASS

On Friday, November 17th we invite our Grandparents to join us for a special Mass.

We ask that you please complete this quick interest form with the number of Grandparents attending as well as the students name(s) so that we can begin our planning:

[Grandparents Mass](#)

HOME SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Tomorrow (Nov. 16th) is the **last day** for the St. Mary's **Spirit Wear Webstore**. You can shop [here](#).

If you've previously ordered a size small t-shirt that has been on back order, no need to order again. Back ordered size small shirts will be available around December 13th. Any new orders should be made through the link. Thank you for your patience and understanding for the short sleeve shirts.



Merry Moose is looking for donations of small treat sacks/gift bags, tissue paper, peel and stick name tags and tape. Please send any donations to school labeled "Merry Moose." Thank you for your support.

Sign up to be a merry helper here: [here!](#)

Did you hear that Santa is coming to St. Mary's? If you would like to have breakfast with Santa, please sign up [here](#). When you go to the sign up form, you will have the option to pay with credit card or send a cash/check to school. If you send the payment into school please label the envelope "Breakfast with Santa." Breakfast with Santa sign ups are due by Dec. 1st. Please see the attached flier for all the fun details.

Thank you to those who participated in our Hometown Catalog Fundraiser! Delivery is expected the week of 11/27. If you **do not** want your order being sent home with your child, please contact Mrs. O'Grady or Mrs. Kuhn to coordinate a time to pick it up. We will have orders ready to grab for those families who pick up their children regularly at dismissal &/or attend Afterschool Care. If your child rides a bus and you know your order is sizable, please reach out to us.

Wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving!

November Events:

30th: Merry Moose Christmas Shop

December Events:

1st: Merry Moose Christmas Shop
9th: Breakfast with Santa 9am-1pm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

PRINCIPAL'S DESK	1
BY THE NUMBERS	1
HSA	1
Grandparents Mass	1
RaiseRight	2
Mega Raffle	2
Cheerleading	2
Snack Safely	2
Food Drive	2
Square 1 Art	2
Jesse Tree	2
8th Grade Info	2
Stay in the Know	2



ST. MARY'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2 St. Mary's Hill
Lancaster, NY 14086

Phone: 716-683-2112
Fax: 716-683-2134
www.smeschool.com



UPON THIS HILL,
WE DO GOD'S WILL



RAISERIGHT



Walk-in office hours:
Tuesday 9:00-12:00
Wednesday 12:30-3:30
Friday: 9:30-12:00

For a complete list of participating re-tailers visit the shop with scrip web-site: <https://www.raiseright.com/brands>

Here is a quick link to the order form:
[RR Order Form](#)

Reminder: Families earn 100% of rebates up to \$250 and an 80/20 split thereafter.

Creating an online account:
[RaiseRight.com](https://www.raiseright.com)

SME Enrollment Code: 6876E5DA3L66

If you have any questions, please email raiseright@smeschool.com. Our team is here for you!

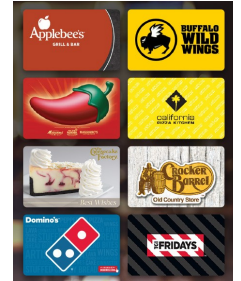
The last day to order to guarantee Christmas delivery is December 13th!

Have you begun making your list and checking it twice?

There are just over **3 weeks left** to place your RaiseRight orders to ensure delivery for Christmas!

You are going to buy that gift anyway, why not give yourself the gift of a rebate on your tuition while you're at it?! Using RaiseRight cards to do your shopping is like the gift that keeps on giving!

With RaiseRights extensive list of vendors the possibilities are endless, and if that should somehow fail, they also offer visa gift cards!



MEGA RAFFLE

Plans for this year's Mega Raffle are under way! We are still looking for a few more people to join our committee. If you have any interest in basket raffles, decorating, advertising, organizing food, setting up the night of the event, being a banker the night of, volunteering for the event please email megaraffle@smeschool.com.

There are many ways to be involved and all are appreciated!

CHEERLEADING

Do you have SME Spirit! Let's show it! We are looking to start a cheerleading team to cheer on our basketball teams! If your daughter (grades 5-8) is interested please use the sign up form here: [Cheerleading](#) We will use this information to gauge interest and more information will be shared if/as a team is established.



Many girls signed up on our old fashioned wall sign up so be sure to ask your daughter & complete this electronic sign up too!

SNACK SAFELY

Our HSA team has created a survey of sorts for your feedback and recommendations of safe snacks to add to our approved snack list. If you would like to contribute to that list please complete the survey here:

[Safe Snack List Ideas Google Form](#)

SQUARE 1 ART

Coming home to you soon will be your child's custom catalog for the Square 1 Art fundraiser and the sheet of FREE stickers. **Get a head start and start ordering keepsakes and gifts featuring your child's art online NOW, if you like!**

Simply search for your child's art using [Art Search](#), and enter state, school name, and your student's name. Your student's art and code will appear, and you may order!

Order by: 12/5/2023

Upload additional art if you like, using [Art Upload!](#) If you have questions, or need anything at all, [contact customer care online](#).

Thank you for supporting St. Mary's Elementary!

JESSE TREE

Advent is upon us! St. Mary's has a long-standing tradition of having children process at the beginning of each Mass during Advent with a Jesse Tree Ornament. The children/teens will hang the ornaments on the Jesse tree. We are looking for children/teens to sign up to participate in our Advent tradition beginning the weekend of December 2-3. Please sign up below. Your children can participate more than once. If they do not arrive at least 10 minute prior to mass and let an usher know they are in attendance, new children will be selected and they will not be able to participate that day.

[Jesse Tree Sign Up](#)

FOOD DRIVE

As the holiday season approaches, we are hoping everyone is getting excited for the wonderful and precious gift this time brings to us. As a part of our holiday season at St. Mary's, we would like to take an opportunity to practice the Christian tradition of alms-giving as a school community. To give to our local community members in need, we are planning a school-wide food drive to benefit local community charities. The specifics of dates and product suggestions are laid out below. Please do know that no participation in any part of this school project is considered mandatory, and all donations are welcome, even if they do not fit the specific suggestions laid out below. Any item may be donated on any day by any person. Any donation is helpful, and we appreciate your generosity as we help to live out our Christian faith and serve those in need.

Collection Dates: Mon. 11/13 - Thurs. 11/16 - Your item(s) may be brought in on any day for collection.

Collection Items/Suggested Classes:

-Pre-K - Condiments/Spices: mustard, ketchup, mayo, Miracle Whip, salad dressings, chili sauce, bbq sauce, salt, pepper, parsley flakes, oregano, etc.

-Grades K-5 - Canned/Pre-Packaged Fruits: applesauce, peaches, pears, pineapples, cranberry sauce, oranges, mandarins, single serve fruit packs/cups

-Grades 6-8 - Canned Proteins: tuna, chicken, canned meals like stew, chili, any kind of Chef-Boyardee typed meal, beans (black, kidney, baked, etc.)

-ALL Grade Levels - Peanut Butter, Jelly/Jam/Preserves, Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta Noodles

8TH GRADE INFO

If your child plans on attending a catholic high school next year you will need to complete the online application:

https://catholicshwny.smaply.io/prog/application_for_admission_grade_9/

Please be sure to print and sign the confirmation email you receive upon completion and submit to the main office. Without this signed document, we are unable to submit a copy of your child's 1st report card to their 1st & 2nd choice catholic high schools.



Good luck to our 8th graders who are taking the entrance exam this weekend. You've got this!

STAY IN THE KNOW

Make Note: No School 12/20-29

Make Note: 1/1 No School: New Years Day

Save the Date: 1/5 Christian Witness Mass, 8:30

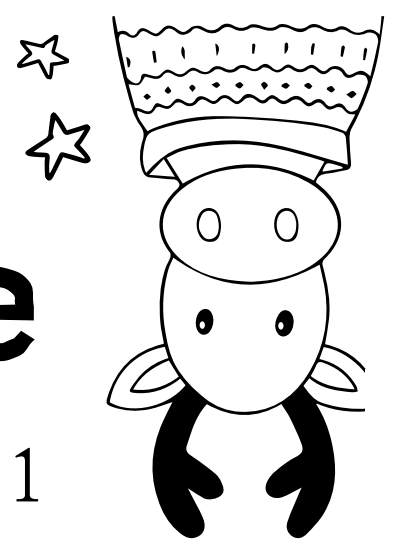
Make Note: 1/12 10:45 Early Dismissal, Staff PD, No Afterschool Care

Make Note: 1/15 No School: MLK Jr. Day

Save the Date: 1/18 Pre-K Open House for potential new families

Merry Moose

November 30 & December 1



Q: What's a moose's favorite subject in school?

A: "Moose-ic" class!

is coming!

**sign-Up to help our students
experience the Joy of Giving Gifts
at the Merry Moose in-house
holiday shop!**

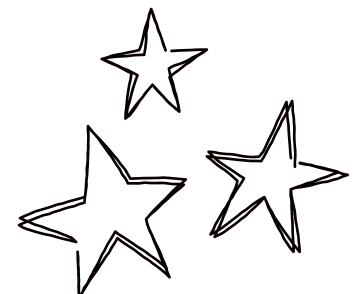
DONATIONS Gladly Accepted

Tissue Paper

Curling Ribbon

GIFT BAGS

- Set Up,
- help Students Shop,
- Wrap Gifts,
- Cashiers,
- Tear Down



<https://bit.ly/MerryChristMOOSE-23-SME>

Merry Moose Class Schedule

Thursday	Period	Start Time	End Time	Class
11/20/23	1HR	7:40	8:16	-----
	2	8:18	8:57	Grade 7 & 8
	3	8:59	9:36	Mrs. Lamb
	4	9:38	10:15	Miss Matter
	5	10:17	10:54	Zaidel
K,1,2 LUNCH	6	10:56	11:33	Mrs. Maloney/Mrs. Cooper
3,4,5 LUNCH	7	11:35	12:12	Grade 6
6,7,8 LUNCH	8	12:14	12:51	Marrano
	9	12:53	1:30	Mrs. Kieffer
	10	1:32	2:09	Mrs. Michalek
	11	2:11	2:20	-----
Friday	Period	Start Time	End Time	Class
12/1/23	1HR	7:40	8:16	-----
	2	8:18	9:37	-----
	3	9:39	10:12	Mrs. Guenther & Ms. B
	4	10:14	10:47	Mrs. Guenther & Ms. B
	5	10:49	11:22	Mrs. O'Grady & Ms. I
K,1,2 LUNCH	6	11:24	11:57	Mrs. O'Grady & Ms. I
3,4,5 LUNCH	7	11:59	12:32	
6,7,8 LUNCH	8	12:34	1:07	
EXCEL	9	1:09		Ms. K & Ms. S
EXCEL	10		2:09	
	11	2:11	2:20	-----

BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

1ST TIME HOSTED BY MRS. CLAUS



Enjoy breakfast and visit with
Santa






**Saturday
December 9th
9 am - 11am
in the Parish
Center**

Use the QR Code
to sign up



Ticket: \$12 per person (pre-sale only)

Each Ticket Includes:

-  Breakfast includes. 3 pancakes, 3 sausages, and fruit. Juice, coffee, and water will be available
-  Write your Christmas List and Deliver it right to Santa
-  Christmas Cookie Decorating

Call Cindy at 716-602-8932 with any questions

"WE ARE FAMILY"

SILENT DISCO

Night



Join us for the first social event of our BDCL Family. The disco is an all-ages event, so bring the whole family! The kids will enjoy their very own dance party separate from the adults and will be supervised by certified adults and Faith Formation students.

What is a Silent Disco? A silent disco is an event where you are provided wireless headphones and can choose from three playlists with different genres of music to create a personalized disco experience!

The entrance fee includes pizza, soft drinks, beer or seltzers. Advance ticket purchases are recommended by scanning the code below, and tickets will also be sold at the door.

FRIDAY, NOV 17, 2023
AT 7 PM - 10PM

ST MARTHA'S CHURCH
10 FRENCH RD, DEPEW, NY
14043

ENTRY
\$10/ADULTS
KIDS FREE



BUY TICKETS

Beloved Disciples
of Christ the Lord
Roman Catholic Family of Parishes

LANDS'
END 
SCHOOL

Black Friday &
Cyber Week
Savings!

**40% off
Bottoms**

**+20% off
Everything Else**

VALID: November 23-29, 2023
CODE: PENCIL PIN: 5228



landsend.com/get-started



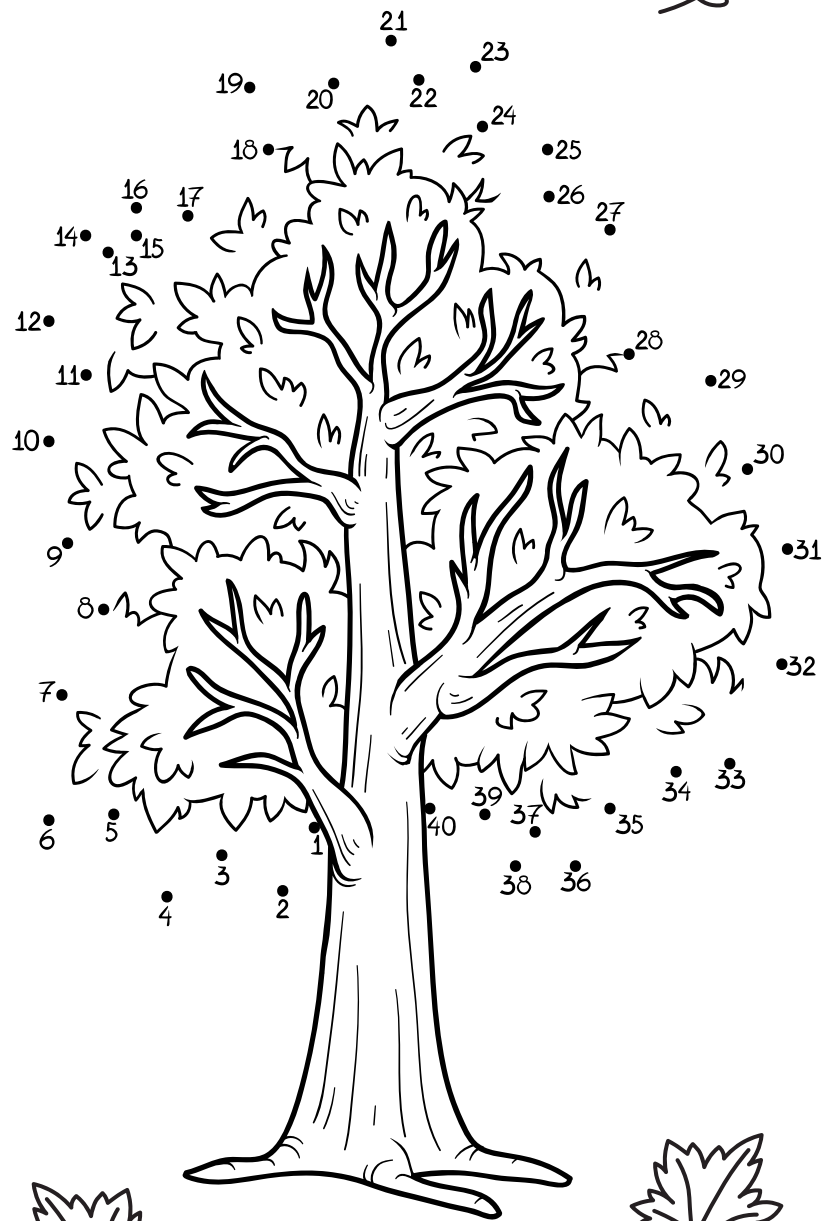
landsend.com/myschool

landsend.com/myschool | 1-800-469-2222

Receive 40% off school uniform bottoms; 20% off everything else online or by phone (excludes buy more and save pricing, embroidery and monogramming, gift boxing, gift cards, shipping, taxes, duties, Lands' End Business Outfitters purchases, and excluded items as marked). Discount will be applied at checkout. Free Shipping is based on order total after promotional discount has been applied. This offer has no cash value. Promotional savings may be deducted from returns. 5-7 business day delivery to most addresses. Free standard shipping is valid on orders of \$99 or more (after promotions and discounts are applied) shipped to US and Canada addresses only. Offer valid through 11:59 p.m. Central, November 29, 2023. Not valid on previous purchases or when combined with any other promotional offers.

CONNECT THE DOTS

Connect the dots to finish the picture.
Color in the drawing.



WHAT ARE YOU THANKFUL FOR?

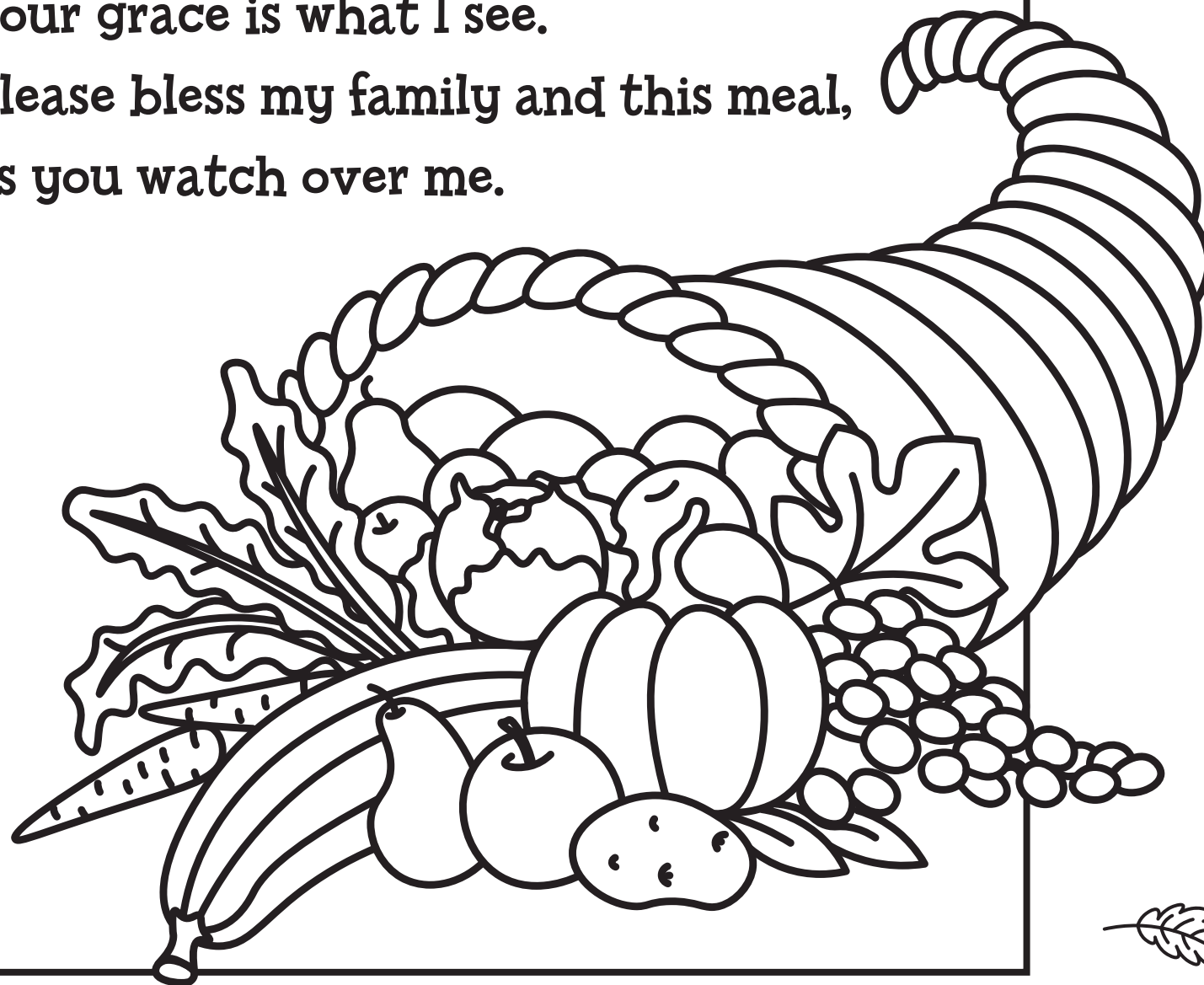
Fill in the lines below with the names of people and things you are thankful for. Ask your family and friends what they are thankful for.

A Thanksgiving Prayer

As I look around the table
and think about my day,
there's so much that makes me thankful.
For this, dear Lord, I pray.

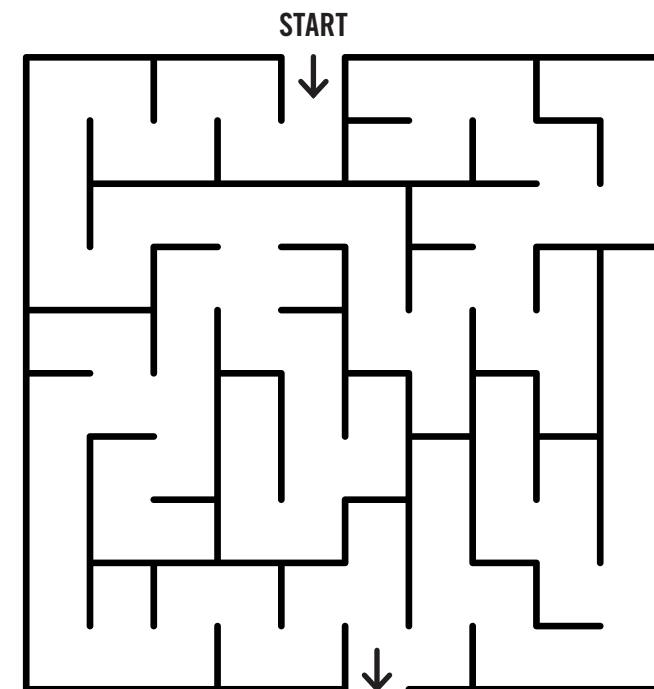
With open arms, I feel your love.
Your grace is what I see.

Please bless my family and this meal,
as you watch over me.



MAZE

Find your way to the yummy dessert. Follow your nose!



FINISH

WORD SCRAMBLE

Unscramble the letters below to form Thanksgiving words.

M L A Y F I

— — — — —

Y R P A

— — — — —

L M A E

— — — — —

S L S B E

— — — — —

