

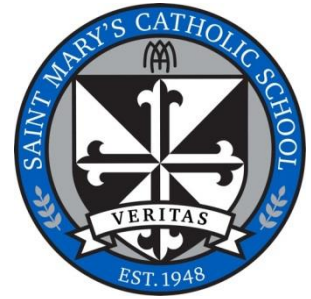


Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!

# SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 7

October 3, 2017



*MISSION To provide a Catholic education that nurtures students' hearts and minds to become servant leaders in an ever changing world.*

### Front Office Corner

**Office hours 7:30am-3:30pm and by appointment.**

**School Mass every Wednesday at 8:30am (or Fridays for the First Friday of each month)**

**Oct 5: Chess Club to 4pm**

**Oct 6: All School Mass; Karate Club**

**Oct 7: Saturday School**

**Oct 9: Boystown F/T (gr. 7-8); Jr Legion of Mary; Home and School Mtg @6:30pm (library)**

**Oct 10: Development mtg @430pm (parish center)**

**It appears only ~25% of families have signed up for Parent/Teacher conferences...please try to do so soon...thanks.**

This week I'd like to comment on the Peace Week activities. Students had the opportunity to spend quality "Buddy Time" working on Peace Poems, signing the Peace Pledge, praying together and marching for peace. It is our hope that the lessons we learned will leave a lasting impression on students this year. One of the most profound peaceful protests is the 40 Days for Life program.

If you drive past the abortion clinic across the street, you'll see some of our parents and staff praying, singing, and peacefully gathering to pray for the respect of life at all stages. Other parishes and groups are also present. All are welcome to participate.

Our students and teachers will be praying the rosary on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. This will be in conjunction with the Nationwide Rosary Rally for Peace on the Jubilee of Our Lady of Fatima. Please pray for peace and the end to conflict in our country and in our world.

*Patricia Wallinger*

-Dr. Trish Wallinger, Principal



Students with class buddies took their "peace" pinwheels and enjoyed some fresh Autumn air and a parade around campus.

**Dr. Ashton/Superintendent Visit.** Last week, St. Mary's was visited by the Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese. He was very impressed and he had really nice things to say about the time he spent in classrooms and observing students. I appreciate the hard work of teachers and staff and how well the students behaved. Nice job!

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**Hurricane Relief.** Student council is sponsoring a hurricane relief drive. For each 10.00 raised, a strip of duct tape will be earned. Then, one lucky teacher will be duct taped to the wall if we have enough duct tape (thanks Mr. Patterson). And thanks to the students who's desire to help resulted in this fun project.

**GoNoodle.** Teachers in our primary grades have been using *GoNoodle* to enhance learning. What is it? goNoodle helps teachers and parents get kids moving with short interactive activities. The Desk-side movement helps kids achieve more by keeping them engaged and motivated throughout the day. Brain Breaks are a quick and effective way of changing or focusing the physical and mental state of the learners in your group. They are also a useful tool for students to use to help activate, energize and stimulate their brains.

**Parent and Teacher Conferences.** Parent - Teacher Conferences will be held Thursday, October 26th, from 11am-8pm. Parents are asked to sign up for conferences by using Sycamore or by calling the office. For Sycamore, login and click on "My School", then "P/T Conference." This method is the best way to easily compare teacher availability with your personal schedule. We look forward to getting to meet with you.

**School Pictures.** We expect picture proofs this week or early next week. Picture retake day will be **October 16th**. If a student was absent on picture day or had a request for retake due to picture quality, the student may have their photo taken on October 16th. They may dress up for their photo and then change after their photos are taken. Please call the office if you have any questions.

**Health Screenings.** The school nurse, Mrs. Laney, will be conducting hearing and vision screenings on Monday, October 23 for grades 1-6 and 8, from ~8-10:30am/11am. We are seeking 5 more parent volunteers to assist with height, weight, vision and hearing screening. No formal medical training required. Please call the office to help.

**Veterans Assembly.** St. Mary's School will hold its annual veterans' assembly, November 10th, at 1:45pm in the school gym (special guests asked to arrive at 1:30pm). All veterans, retired and active duty are invited to attend. An eForm was sent to all our families inviting them to share info on veterans that we can honor during assembly. If you don't have a computer to complete eForm, please call the office to provide info (402-291-1694).

### Highlights

This year we will commemorate the 100th anniversary of WW1. We know that there are no living veterans from that war but we have done some research and have found that the Knights of Columbus played a role in that "Great War". Not only did many KC members become fighting soldiers but they also created "huts" near the front lines where soldiers could find some respite from the rigors of combat. One of the many "treats" in the huts were donuts.

We also found out about "Nuns of the Battlefield". There is actually a monument in Washington, DC with that name. Twelve different orders of nuns are mentioned on its plaque and the Dominican Sisters (who started St. Mary's) are included.

The Bellevue East High School Jr. ROTC will be back again this year with some Alumni!

We will have 5+ WW2 veterans coming this year.

Due to our focus on WW1 we will have some red poppies on display. Red poppies are the "flowers of remembrance."

## Hope to see you there.

**Project Hope.** Project HOPE – coordinators – Rhonda Prewitt and Kati Wilwerding – [smscripcoord@cox.net](mailto:smscripcoord@cox.net) . You can order on-line too! Thanks to all who are purchasing Project HOPE Scrip gift cards!! We have had 4 great weeks and want this to continue to increase! More participation means we can truly “Help Our Parish Economically”! Please consider purchasing gift cards to use for your everyday grocery, gas, dining out or other retail needs.”

Volunteer needed to sell Project HOPE once per month at the Saturday at 5:00 p.m. mass. This DOES count toward your volunteer obligation! For additional information please contact Angela Bennett at [402-926-8965](tel:402-926-8965) or [angbennett@gmail.com](mailto:angbennett@gmail.com)

**IMPORTANT SCRIP PROGRAM NOTICE.** Due to other ministries wanting access to SCRIP, the school will have the SCRIP box in the office from Monday morning until Thursday at 1pm. We will no longer have SCRIP on Fridays.

**Confirmation Retreat Help.** We are in need of adult small group guides for the 7th grade retreat, Nov. 4th. We will need at least 6 adults for each retreat. You must be Safe Environment Trained. If you are a school parent this will count towards your volunteer hours. Please contact the RE office to help. We can't have a retreat without adults to help guide our youth.



**Jr High Youth Ministry.** St. Mary's Junior High Youth Group (7th & 8th grades) will meet in the school gym on Oct 11th from 5:30-6:30pm. Next Youth Group-School Gym, Oct. 11th.

The first **Encounter Night** (new this year) will be Oct. 15th at the 5pm Mass with dinner to follow. The Encounter event is from 7-8:30pm. We ask that a parent attend the Encounter Night with your student. Questions, contact Will Targy at 402-292-7688. **\*Open to all school and parish families.**

\*All 7th & 8th grade students are asked to attend at least 2 of our Wednesday night gatherings this semester to fulfill their Confirmation requirements. We also have 2 Encounter Nights on Oct. 15th & Dec. 3rd. Teens (and at least 1 parent) asked to attend at least 1 of these as well for Confirmation requirements. Questions, contact Will Targy ([will.targy@stmarysbelleveue.com](mailto:will.targy@stmarysbelleveue.com)) or [402.659.8981](tel:402.659.8981).



**Basketball News.** We are now accepting Basketball registrations. Registration forms can be found on school website. Please return all forms ASAP so teams can be formed. Practices will start around the first week of November depending on teams. This basketball season we will have teams for 1st - 8th grades (boys & girls). The first graders will play with the second graders in their league. Games start the first weekend of December and continues thru middle of March. Any questions or concerns please contact Jennifer Kreps, Athletic Director at [megjen992000@yahoo.com](mailto:megjen992000@yahoo.com) or [402-881-2576](tel:402-881-2576).



**Couples for Christ Fun.** We had 20+ school and parish families from St. Mary's at last week's hayrack ride and cookout. If you didn't make it, we would love to have you attend our next event please see below:

**November 10 – Potluck Dinner and Games**

**December 16 – Ollie the Trolley and Christmas Fun**

Questions? Email SaintMarysCIC@gmail.com or check us out or check us out on Facebook at Couples in Christ St. Mary's Bellevue, NE.

**HyVee Cash for Students.** Calling all families, from September – December 31, 2017, if you hand in your receipts to the school office, the school earns \$. Every \$200 in receipts earns \$1 that the school will use to fund an assembly this year on anti-bullying. The assembly is called "Love Changes It All" featuring youth speaker and social skills educator Jeff Veley. Jeff's Social and Emotional Learning program teaches students how to face adversity, grow in resilience, and solve their own social problems. It's the perfect solution for schools who want to stop bullying/social aggression through skill-based education and student empowerment. We are also accepting cash donations to fund this special assembly.



## Home and School Association

**Fall Fundraiser** – All forms and money should be turned in today!! The deadline for all packets is today 10/4/2017. If you have not turned in your forms and money, it must be in by 12pm on Friday 10/6/2017. Pig Races will be held on Monday 10/16/17 at 2:45p in the gym. We acknowledge our top sellers and have some fun too!

We will need a couple of volunteers to help in the disbursement of the products, more information will be coming in the newsletter when we have the delivery date firmed up.

**Home and School Meeting.** Our next HSA meeting of the year is scheduled for Monday, October 9th at 6:30 P.M. in the school library. Meet this year's executive officers, tell us what you like – or areas for improvement – and get involved in your children's education. Remember, your attendance at the Home and School Meetings counts toward your volunteer hours!

**October Food Night** – Don & Millie's Thursday October 19th 4-8pm.

**St. Mary's 5th Annual Trivia Night** will be Friday, October 20th at St. Mary's Gym. Doors open at 6pm and trivia begins at 7pm. Gather a group of 6-8 people per team at just \$12 per person. Call Willie and Liz Wessling to register at 402-291-0785 or email [williewessling@hotmail.com](mailto:williewessling@hotmail.com)<mailto:williewessling@hotmail.com>. Beer, wine and pop provided. Bring in your own food. Prizes awarded for the best score and best decorated table! Buy a change to win the 50/50 Raffle and bid on Nebraska football tickets for the Iowa game!



**Halloween Fun Night.** Mark your calendars for our annual event planned for Friday, October 27th, from 6-8:30 p.m. in the school gym. We are going to have a Trick-or-Treat Village thru the school (candy/goodies will be handed out). We are also having a Pumpkin Decorating Contest. Please bring your carved, painted, or decorated pumpkins to the school for display/judging (For safety reasons, no real candles in them, please). The Cake Walk is back again, so plan on bringing your quarters! The Monster Mash Dance is also back. Dinner will be offered for

families; pre-order will be available before the event. Order forms will be coming out soon.

The schedule of events is as follows:

6:00pm – 7:15pm Dinner served

6:00pm – 7:15pm Games, Cake Walk, Photo Booth, etc.

6:00pm – 7:15pm Trick-or-Treat Village

7:15pm – 7:45pm Costume Parade, Costume Contest, Best Door, and Best Pumpkin

7:45pm – 8:30pm Monster Mash (Dance)

