

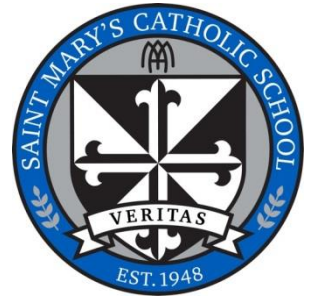


Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!

SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 13

November 15, 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)

Nov 16: Chess Club; Free Dress Day; Fundraiser Delivery (3-5pm); no HW Room

Nov 17: NO SCHOOL (School of Faith – teachers and staff)

Nov 20: NO HW Room; Jr Legion of Mary; Karate Club

Nov 21: NO HW Room; All School Mass

**NO SCHOOL
November 22-24**

Thanksgiving is next week. There will be no school on Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday. Because it is a short week, there will be no school newsletter, but will send any necessary notices to families by way of email and announcements. On behalf of our teachers and staff, we hope your Thanksgiving is blessed and peace-filled.



As we end the current Church year, we look forward with anticipation to the preparations of Advent and the celebration of Christmas. This is also a good time for us to reflect on the ways we have been blessed. The students and staff at St. Mary's School are blessed and grateful for the support you have given and continue to give us. The mission to educate our youth in Catholic traditions, with a mind and heart geared toward service, is made easier with the entire faith community working together. What a blessing we have in each other.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger, Principal

Survey Participation – Free Dress. Thanks to our parents who completed the survey to provide valuable insight to school. We did reach our participation goal so students can enjoy “free dress” on Thursday, November 16th. Free dress day guidelines: All shirts have sleeves. Shirts with lettering or graphics must be appropriate for school. Pants must be neat and clean, (no sweat pants, pajama bottoms or wind pants). Dress capris and jean skirts are permitted. Shoes must be appropriate for PE and recess. No sandals or crocs are permitted.

2017-2018 Yearbook. Get yours early to miss the rush....the price will be \$20 until Jan 31, 2018. See attached form.

Thank You – Veterans Day Assembly. *We wish to thank everyone who participated in last Friday's veteran assembly. We were thrilled to see so many veterans and family members as well as many guests to honor and thank those who served and those who continue to serve in our military. This year we remembered the entrance of the United States into WW1. Though there are no living US veterans from the Great War, we honored and remembered the Knights of Columbus who established huts near the front lines where men could attend Mass or just relax from the rigors of battle. We were blessed to have four of our local Council 6192 Knights in attendance, two of whom were veterans themselves. Dr. Ashton, our new archdiocese superintendent also attended as did other special guests including 6 World War II veterans. This year we were honored to have a Wounded Warrior, who along with the WWII veterans received a "Quilt of Valor". Not only were we blessed to have them in our presence but we are always blessed to have our students involved in the assembly itself. Even the BEHS Jr ROTC were graduates of St. Mary's! We cannot thank enough the 8th graders who led the assembly; the 7th grade escorts/greeters; the kindergarten, first and second graders who prayed their own special blessing over the veterans; the students who made cards or colored the booklet covers & all the students singing with proud and strong voices. From the bottom of our hearts, we offer praise and thanksgiving to God for the students, the volunteers & parents who helped prepare the gym, the teachers and staff who always support this assembly, & all who attended, especially the veterans, as we couldn't have done it without you.*

Blessings, Mrs. Becky Feagan and Mrs. Cheryl Shanker (Retired teachers of St. Mary's School)

*****AMENDMENT FOR PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOK***Leggings.** For socks, girls must wear solid white or navy blue socks. All socks must be ankle, crew, or knee socks and at least 2 inches in length. No Tennis socks may be worn. White or navy opaque tights may be worn from November to February. Black or navy leggings (non spandex) may also be worn from November 1st to February 28th exclusively under a skirt/jumper and must reach to socks. Tights and leggings must be a solid color with no prints or decorations.

Nurse's Note- The Flu: A Guide for Parents. We are starting to see influenza in Sarpy County. Influenza (also known as flu) is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and lungs. Flu is different from a cold, and usually comes on suddenly. Each year flu viruses cause millions of illnesses, hundreds of thousands of hospital stays and thousands or tens of thousands of deaths in the United States.

Flu can be very dangerous for children. CDC estimates that since 2010, between 7,000 and 26,000 children younger than 5 years have been hospitalized each year in the United States because of influenza. The flu vaccine is safe and helps protect children from flu. See attached flyer for complete information.

Request for Budding Botanists Fluorescent Green Shirts. For all our Budding Botanists club members who received complimentary shirts and are no longer in Budding Botanists, please return your shirts so our new members may also enjoy while they are in the club. Please drop off in the office.

Save the Date: Christmas Program is Friday, Dec 15th at 7 pm in the school gym.

HW Room. Friendly reminder, the Homework Room is not available on the last day of school before a holiday break or a long weekend break.

“Bethlehem Revisited” is Returning. Groups at St. Mary’s are bringing back a beloved tradition – a “Living Nativity” on Saturday, December 9th from 7-9pm at the church, St. Mark’s Hall and the parish center. Parishioners will re-enact the night Christ was born, with Roman soldiers, shepherds in the field, Joseph, Mary and Jesus. Watch for details; plan to bring the family!

First Communion Parent/Child workshop. Please note the change of date: First Communion Parent/Child workshop has been moved to Jan. 31, 2018. Please note this change of date. Due to no school for St. Mary’s on Feb. 8th, we have moved the required Parent/Child workshop to Jan. 31st, 5:30- 7:15 at the Parish Center. A light snack will be offered during the meeting.

Sacrament Dates Please mark your calendar for these important dates if your student will be receiving Sacraments this year. 2nd grade First Reconciliation: Jan. 20th, 10:30am

2nd grade Parents/Child workshop First Communion January 31st, 5:30-7:15pm Parish Center

8th grade Rite of Enrollment: April 21st, 5pm or April 22nd, 12:30pm

2nd Grade First Communion Practice: April 28th, 9- 12 noon

2nd grade First Communion: April 29th, 12:30pm or 2:30pm

8th grade Night of Reflection and Rehearsal: May 4 th, 5:30pm-8:00pm

8th grade Confirmation: May 6th, 5pm



Student Council News. As we begin getting ready to celebrate the holidays, it’s a great time to reflect on the many blessings we have been given. It’s also a great time to recognize that not everyone in our community is so fortunate. With that in mind, we are sponsoring a non-perishable food drive to benefit the Bellevue Food Pantry. Our goal for this year is to collect

800 items. **We welcome donations of any non-perishable items, but the food pantry is most in need of the following items: Hamburger and Tuna Helper, tuna, dry potatoes, canned fruit, canned vegetables, ketchup, mustard, salad dressings, peanut butter, jelly, rice, noodles, canned tomatoes, tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, spaghetti noodles, & cake mixes.** Thanks for helping us live the corporal work of mercy of feeding the hungry.

Paper Turkeys. Get your creative skills in gear for a family project!! We are asking each family to create a paper turkey to hang up in our gym for all to see. You can use materials to decorate. We would like to have them by November 15, so we can enjoy them for several days before we celebrate Thanksgiving.



Jr High Youth Ministry. St. Mary’s Junior High Youth Group (7th & 8th grades) will meet in the school gym today, Nov 29th from 5:30-6:30pm. *All 7th & 8th grade students are asked to attend at least 2 of our Wednesday night gatherings this semester to fulfill their Confirmation requirements. Our next Encounter Night is on Dec. 3rd. Teens (and at least 1 parent) asked to attend at least 1 of these for Confirmation requirements. Questions, contact Will Targy (will.targy@stmarysbellevue.com) or [402.659.8981](tel:402.659.8981).

Basketball News - Uniform Pick Up Day. Tuesday November 28th 6:00-8:00 in the Parish Center. This is the only time to receive basketball uniform. Questions or concerns contact Jennifer Kreps megjen992000@yahoo.co Any questions, contact Jennifer Kreps, Athletic Director at megjen992000@yahoo.com or [402-881-2576](tel:402-881-2576).



Reminder about FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS. St. Mary’s School is also collecting Family Fare (formerly No Frills) receipts. For every \$150,000 St. Mary’s collects in receipts, the school will receive \$1,000 in cash. Receipts can be dropped off at school, in the box at the SCRIP table (main entrance of church), or in the collection basket at Mass or at the rectory.

Project Hope. Project HOPE – coordinators – Rhonda Prewitt and Kati Wilwerding – smscripcoord@cox.net There is a new delicious scrip option available! Uptown Bakery is now participating in the scrip program - \$10 gift certificates are available for all your bakery needs.

Thank-Scrip-ing™ Day is on Tuesday, November 21 this year! Get ready for all your Black Friday and Holiday Shopping with 24 hours of incredible ScripNow®, Reload, and ReloadNow® bonuses from dozens of your favorite retailers.

Low denomination gift cards are available, perfect for stocking stuffers and holiday gift-giving! These cards will only be available while supplies last, so place your orders now.

- \$10 - Amazon - Applebee's - Barnes & Noble - CVS - Olive Garden/Longhorn/Cheddars - Home Depot - iHOP - Outback - Red Lobster - Target - Wal-Mart
- \$5 - Panera - Starbuck's

*****Attached is the latest and greatest order sheet.**

URGENT – Parent volunteers needed to help sell SCRIP after the 5pm Masses on Saturday and Sunday. Please consider helping with this program. If interested, please email Meinders3@cox.net

Did you know there is a mobile app for boxtops? IN ADDITION to cutting them out and sending them in, St. Mary's can earn extra points on certain products if people purchase them and save their receipt in the app. We still are collecting the regular Box Tops...this is just an additional way to earn extra money for the school. One family has handed in 6 pages of boxtops this week alone. That's over \$10 for the school. Whether cutting or using app, this is so easy and proceeds are used for so many wonderful things. See boxtop flyer and/or google "boxtop app."



the difference  can make.



Couples for Christ Olje the Trolley Fun Night.

Saturday, December 16, 5-7 PM at St. Mary's School Gym
\$20/family or \$5/person

Bring Cookies or Christmas Treat to share!

Sign up begins November 26. To sign up: Sign Up Genius, Search: SaintMarysCIC@gmail.com OR call Cristin Kelly (708) 297-5691. Email SaintMarysCIC@gmail.com for more info.

ST. MARY'S LADIES GUILD'S ANNUAL COOKIE WALK. Visit the annual Cookie Walk!!! Choose from a wide selection of sweet, decadent cookies and candies For your holiday enjoyment! Keep for yourself or give as gifts. Great for Christmas entertaining. We gratefully accept donations of cookies and candies. From all parishioners, School & Religious Ed families. See eFlyer for details.

Home and School Association and Auction Information

HSA Fall Fundraiser Update. Product pick-up date is Thursday, November 16th from 3:00p-5:00p in the school gym. Orders made online by family and friends will be delivered directly to their homes. Thank you all for your support! If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me directly (jmyale10@gmail.com)

December Food Night – Dairy Twist, Thursday December 7th from 4p-8p. Dairy Twist will donate 20% of all proceeds to St. Mary's. Come out and dine with us at this longtime supporter. No script will be accepted during the food night.

Auction 2018 – See attached document that highlights the event and explains the committees and the need for volunteers.

Fill-a-Need for 2018 Auction – We would like your feedback for the fill-a-need project for the 2018 Auction. We are going to solicit ideas from all parents, teachers, etc. on what the project should be. Please see below for the timeline and process.

- December 1st – 31st: solicit ideas for fill-a-need project for 2018 auction. (more details to come in future newsletter on the process on how to submit them)
- January 1st – 20th: H&S Executive committee will review ideas, get bids, and review with Fr. Del, Dr. Wallinger, and Collette Borland.
- January 8th: ideas collected will be read at the H&S meeting
- January 22nd: list of top 3 ideas will be communicated out to the St. Mary's School community
- February 12th: voting will take place during the H&S General meeting and top vote getter will be the fill-a-need project.

Please be watching for more information on the process. This is a great opportunity for you to get your voice heard and how to be a part of the process. Any questions please contact Janet Yale [402.250.7190](tel:402.250.7190) or jmyale10@gmail.com

Alumni News

Caroling. Plan to join St. Mary's Alumni group as we go caroling to kick off the Holidays. We will be meeting at Hillcrest Shadow Lake, located at [1507 E Gold Coast Rd, Papillion](#) on Saturday, December 2nd from 1-2pm. Old and young are welcome. We hope to see you there!