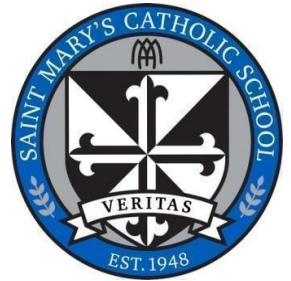




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 33
April 26, 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)

Upcoming:

- Apr 26: Progress Reports; Science Fair**
 - Apr 27: Chess Club; Panera Bread Food Night**
 - Apr 28: Last day for Flower Donations – May Crowning (Thanks for your Generosity)**
 - Apr 29: First Holy Communion Practice**
 - Apr 30: First Holy Communion 12:30pm or 2:30pm**
 - May 1: May Crowning @9:15am**
- For May Events, hard copy calendar will go home to all families**



As we reflect on Easter and look forward to First Communion this weekend, I want to share something left in Extended Care yesterday. It was a note that read:

Dear God and Jesus and all the sants (saints) and angels, I hope you get this mesge (message) and anether wone problowey (another one probably).

I hope we all get the message God has for us during this Easter season. His love was so great that he gave His only son so we might have eternal life. I hope you'll send God your message of praise and thanksgiving, and probably more than one. God bless our St. Mary's community and a blessed Easter season.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

P.S. Many thanks to Mrs. Thompson for her outstanding contributions to St. Mary's School. On behalf of the entire school, we wish her and her family good luck in their future endeavors.

From Mrs. Thompson: I have made the difficult decision to not return to St. Mary's next school year for family reasons. My family and I have enjoyed our time at St Mary's and have always felt welcome here. We will miss St Mary's next year, but looking forward to future opportunities.

Upcoming Sacrament Dates:

- 2nd Grade First Communion Practice: April 29th, 9-12noon
- 2nd grade First Communion: April 30th, 12:30pm or 2:30pm
- 8th grade Night of Reflection and Rehearsal: May 5th, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- 8th grade Confirmation: May 7th, 2:30pm

Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant / "Fun Run/Walk." St. Mary's received 2 Vita Mix Blenders as part of a grant request to enhance healthy choices/wellness.

Fun Run/Walk. We are thankful to Mrs. Mansidor who is facilitating a Fun Walk/Run for students and teachers on Monday, May 15th at 2 PM. All the grades will join in the Fun Run and end up in the gym to have a smoothie. We will start with the younger grades walking around the church and back up to school. Then the

older grades will do their longer walk around the school, the church, and back to the gym for smoothies. It is always beneficial to get kids moving and choosing healthy eating options.

Children's Scholarship Fund of Omaha (CSF) provides partial scholarships so families have access to the education of their choice. Families are encouraged to check out this program at <http://www.csfomaha.org> to see if you are eligible. Scholarship money awarded is applied directly to your tuition account. **Due Date for Applications is April 28th.** Please note that to be considered for local St. Mary's financial assistance, families must first apply for CSF, if they meet income eligibility.

The St. Mary's School Board of Education is currently taking applications for any individuals interested in becoming a School Board of Education member. The Board consists of seven (7) voting members elected by the parishioners of St. Mary's parish. The elected members of the Board must be 18 years of age or over when elected and be registered members of the Parish. Each elected member serves a three-year term except for those elected or appointed to fill unexpired terms. The Board meets on the Second Tuesday of the month (with the exception of July and August) at a publicly designated room.

For individuals interested in a St. Mary's Board of Education position, please visit the St. Mary's School Website. Click on the Administration tab to find the Board of Education link. There is a description of the Board and a link for the "Board of Education Candidate Form". Please return candidate forms to the School Office or Church Rectory by the end of April.

May Crowning is Monday, May 1st at 9:15am. There is not an All School Mass that day. Our all school Mass that week will follow our First Friday tradition: it is on Friday, May 5th. All are welcome to attend.

Flowers for Mary. St. Mary's has a long standing tradition of presenting flowers to Mary, Our Mother, at the May Crowning. The presentation is done by our students receiving their sacraments this year (2nd and 8th). The flowers are a gift from the entire school. As is our Catholic tradition, May is the month set aside to honor Mary. If you would like to make a voluntary gift towards our flowers for Mary, please send the donation in an envelope marked "flowers" by Friday, April 28th (extended). Thank you.

2nd/8th GRADE SACRAMENT RECEPTION The second grade and eighth grade will celebrate receiving their sacraments this year on May 1st after the May Crowning. The reception will be held at the parish center. Parents of these students are invited to attend the reception. This gathering is sponsored by Home and School. Many thanks.

Confirmation reflection and rehearsal date. The Night of Reflection and Rehearsal for Confirmation students will be May 5th from 5:30-8pm with the rehearsal beginning at 7pm. A parent or sponsor is asked to attend the rehearsal at the Parish Center at 7pm. Students should have dinner prior to the reflection/rehearsal.

Kindergarten Music Program. The Kindergarten students present their music program in the gym n Wednesday, May 17th at 2:30pm.

Extended Day's last full day is on May 24th. We will only be open in the morning on the 25th. Please make other arrangements for your child(ren) for after school. School is released at 10am on May 25th.

Extended Day Water Day. Extended Day will be hosting our annual Water Day on May 24th for students that attend Extended Day. Please dress for water fun, bring a towel, dry clothes, and a bag for the wet clothes. If the weather is bad we will have a game day! Have no fear, summer is near!

Couples in Christ at the Storm Chasers. Come and join us, on Friday, May 19th for a Storm Chasers game. Meet up in Werner Park parking lot at 5:30pm for tailgating. Fried chicken will be provided; bring your own drinks and a side to share. Contact Cristin Kelly 708-297-5691 or Sarah Mlnarik 402-630-2474 before May 9th for group ticket rate (Berm ticket rate \$7) or email SaintMarysCIC@gmail.com for more details. *See attached flyer for details.*

Chess News. Last chess meeting for this school year is Thursday, April 27th.



My Coke Rewards has “revamped” its program...we’re ready for your caps/codes. If you have them, please send them in. If you have access to them (ex. work at a restaurant, we would love them. Thanks to all.

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day is April 29th from 10am-2pm. Call office for locations or see attachment with eNewsletter.

We Are Looking for Adult Leaders for Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School This Summer! — June 26th-30th Be a part of the fun at St. Mary’s Maker Fun Factory Totally Catholic VBS, where we are conquering challenges with God’s mighty power! Adult volunteers (age 19 and over) are needed right now. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Keeley Kozisek VBS Coordinator at keeley.tomaso@stmarysbelleuve.com or the RE office. If you were a Station Leader last year and would like to participate as a Station Leader this year, please contact the office to let us know. ***Please note that volunteering for this can count towards St. Mary’s School Parent Volunteer Hours.**

Mark Your Calendars Vacation Bible School Maker Fun Factory! June 26-30 St. Mary’s has a wonderful history of providing one of the best Vacation Bible School programs for our parishioners and community. Registrations forms are coming out soon!

Project Hope Reminder. As a reminder, rebate period for this year ends on June 30th. Gift cards can be purchased from a variety of stores that parents already use (Starbucks, Family Fare, etc.). A part of the proceeds is returned to the school and once \$1,000 in purchases occurs, families can start earning tuition credit (75% of rebate earned by purchases; the other 25% is used to administer program).

Home and School Association



3rd Annual St. Mary’s School Spring Plant Sale. Yah! We made it through Winter, and it’s time to get our gardens ready for the growing season. **Mark your calendars for our plant sale on Saturday and Sunday, May 6-7th.** Stoltenberg Nurseries will be again providing garden vegetables and flowering plants for purchase. More details coming soon.

Volunteer Opportunities. For those still in need of volunteer hours, there will be upcoming opportunities for the following events: **May Crowning** (Monday, May 1st), **Spring Plant Sale** (Saturday & Sunday May 6-7th), **Field Day** (Tuesday, May 16th & Thursday, May 18th) and **8th Grade Graduation** (Sunday, May 21st). Please check your email for more details or go directly to the [Sign Up Genius](#) link to volunteer.



Panera Food Night. Get ready for our next St. Mary’s School Food Night at **Panera** in Bellevue on **Thursday, April 27th from 4-8 pm.** We will make a percentage of all sales, 10% and up, depending on the number of **paper or electronic flyers** received at the time of purchase. A direct link to the flyer is available on the Home and School website

at http://stmarysschoolbelleuve.com/images/stories/project/Panera_Food_Night_Flyer_2017.pdf

Thank you in advance for your support.

