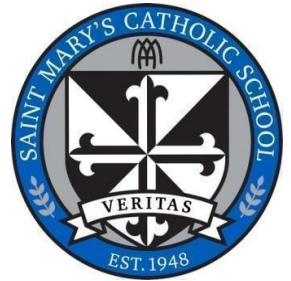




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!  
**ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 31**  
**April 5, 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 5: Arise Youth Ministry @530pm (7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>)**

**Apr 6: Student (gr 2-8) Reconciliation; Chess Club; Alumni Board Mtg @7pm (library)**

**Apr 7: First Friday Mass; Lincoln F/T (4th)**

**Apr 8: Witsclash Tourne  
Apr 8-9: Easter Prayer Cards Distributed at Masses (vol op)**

**Apr 10: Wax Museum (4th)  
No HW room;  
Banquet Mtg for 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Families @6pm; Home and School Mtg @6:30pm**



Next time you are in the office, please stop to see our new school brochures created by *Lifetouch*. We are looking for opportunities to share these resources within the community. Our St. Mary's *Children's Liturgy* program will be handing them out during an upcoming Sunday. Does your child participate in a sports program or dance program outside of St. Mary's? Maybe this location would distribute or display some of our brochures. If you coordinate this, it does count towards your family service hours. Maybe you just need one brochure for a neighbor...let us know.

I know this is a repeat topic, but I again would like to highlight that our parents are the best ambassadors for our school. Help us welcome new families by extending an invitation to your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. It doesn't take long for new families to feel at home. You are the school's best ambassadors because you and your children know it and live it. Plus, if you recruit a new family, you will save \$250 on your next year's tuition; credited after new family completes initial payment.

To share some ambassador stories, last month, we had a new family come for a tour. Their children shadowed in the classrooms. They heard about the school by playing sports with a St. Mary's family. We have a child scheduled to attend our Kindergarten Round-Up. They have never been to our school, but wanted to check it out after visiting with a current school family.

As far as 2017-2018 registration, we'll be following up with families this week if the on-line registration or registration deposit of \$50 is still outstanding. If you are having any trouble with completing the registration, please let us know. It is very helpful to have an accurate student count for the upcoming year.

In closing, on behalf of all of our teachers and staff, we wanted to extend a heart felt thank you to Mrs. Tina Tweedy for her dedication as a Para Professional. Mrs. Tweedy has accepted a great opportunity as the Pastry Chef of Della Costa in Midtown Crossing (opening late May). Many of our families have enjoyed her delicious desserts, most recently at the auction. She will be missed, but we are very happy for her and her family.

*Patricia Wallinger*

Dr. Trish Wallinger

**Families can track their SCRIP rebate.** St. Mary's School is happy to announce that families now have the ability to track their SCRIP rebate throughout the year. As a reminder, no rebates are earned if the family doesn't purchase at least \$1,000 in SCRIP during the fiscal year (July 1st-June 30th). SCRIP rebates are calculated in July for the previous year and applied to the upcoming year's tuition.

To check your current rebate Instructions:

-Go to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/>

-Click "sign in" [box in upper right corner]

-Click "forgot my password"

-When prompted enter your personal email and the validation code listed.

-You will receive a system generated email with a temp password

-Return to <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/> and complete login(personal email)/password (temp provided in email)

At this point you will have to go through some security prompts using cell phones and answering security questions

Once you login, click on dashboard (link at top right)

then click "order history" bottom of webpage

**This will show your gross rebate earned to date. To calculate actual rebate multiply gross rebate by .75. (Families earn 75% of rebate; remaining 25% is applied to costs to run the SCRIP program).**

**Extended Day Volunteer Opportunity on May 4th.** Any parent wishing to complete service hours helping in extended day, please call 402-291-1694, ext 339 or email: [nicole.koster@stmarysbellevue.com](mailto:nicole.koster@stmarysbellevue.com). Volunteers must be adults and have completed the *Safe Environment* requirements.

**Witsclash.** On Saturday, April 8, 2017, we are having the 3rd Annual St. Mary's Wits Clash. Wits Clash is a Jeopardy-style competition and we are needing 10 adults to read questions to the students and 10 volunteers to take score and run time from 8:30 am to 3 pm.

Please see Sign-Up Genius ([link](#)) to volunteer! If you have any questions, you can contact Carol Sheridan ([carol.sheridan@stmarysbellevue.com](mailto:carol.sheridan@stmarysbellevue.com)).

**Bake Sale Volunteer Op.** For Saturday's Witsclash tournament we are seeking baked goods. If you would like to help, please bring baked goods Friday afternoon at pick-up. Team will plate the items. As a reminder, this does count for service hours.

**Dissection Fun.** Yesterday we dissected the earthworms. They have to do some work before such as drawing a diagram of the exterior and interior anatomy and describe what each part does. Mrs. Thompson used the Apple Tv and iPad to project demonstration and students followed along. We will be building up to grasshoppers, starfish, fish, eyes and fetal pigs. These hands on experiences greatly enhance our learning.

**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. If you are eligible to apply, the St. Mary's School office is happy to assist you in applying or CSF offers help sessions. Scholarship money awarded is applied directly to your tuition account. **Due Date for Applications is April 28<sup>th</sup>.**

**7th Grade Parent Meeting – Banquet.** Please join us in the library at 6pm on April 10th to discuss final planning for our big graduation banquet and dance. Many hands make light work.

**Living Stations of the Cross - Walking the Path of Jesus.** The Living Stations is an annual tradition our 6th graders offer the parish during Holy Week. **Please join us: Tuesday April 11th at 2:15pm.**

**Duchesne Academy Art Show. The following students have art work on display at the Duchesne Academy Art Show:**

5th Grade:	Allison Parson	Christian Swiecicki		
6th Grade:	Maria Connealy	Megan Schneider		
7th Grade:	Preston Ames	Zach Prewitt	Lauren Leighow	Anisa Lucia
	Taryn Wharton	Vincent Morales	Jada Williams	Lindsey Wessling
	Kristin Kreps			
8th Grade:	Gabe Tweedy	Akojang Mamer	Ashley Bishop	Anou Akot
	Rachel Schaffart	Grace Kolesik	Baylin Davis	Lauren Schmitz
	Theo Mba	Isabella Medrano		

The following students won awards and will be recognized at an **Awards Ceremony at Duchesne on April 11th at 5 p.m.**

Winner of a Judges Choice Award: Allison Parson

Winners of Tres Bien Awards:	Lauren Leighow	Anisa Lucia	Theo Mba
	Isabella Medrano	Rachel Schaffart	Lauren Schmitz
	Christian Swiecicki	Lindsey Wessling	Taryn Wharton

**JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY (7th & 8th).** Come and join us in School Gym: Wed, April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 19<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-6:30pm. For questions, please contact Will Targy at (402)292-7688.



**KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP.** The rescheduled date is **Wednesday, April 12th from 10-11:30am.** The purpose of the Round-Up visit is to help familiarize children with the school setting, as well as give them a glimpse of a day in the life of a Kindergartner. Preregistration is required—if you previously RVSP'd, you are asked to again call to RSVP to verify new date fits your schedule. If you have any questions or to register, call office @402-291-1694.

**PRE-KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP.** We will offer a second Pre-K Round-Up session because we really would like to provide this opportunity for our upcoming Pre-Kindergarten class. If you have a Pre-K student starting next fall, please plan to attend on **Wednesday, April 12th from 8:30-10am.** The purpose of the Round-Up visit is to help familiarize children with the school setting, as well as give them a glimpse of a day in the life of a Pre-Kindergartner. Preregistration is required. If you have any questions or to register, call office @402-291-1694.

**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 shall serve 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.

**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

**Thank you Home and School for funding our Spring Musical, The Nifty Fifties.** Home and School purchased the 25 scripts, piano and vocal scores and other support materials (\$404). This is possible due to the generous support parents provide all year for our various fundraisers.

Due to some recent cases of the measles in our local community, Nurse Laney provides the below information:

**What causes measles?** Measles is caused by a virus.

**How does measles spread?** Measles is spread from person to person through the air by infectious droplets; it is highly contagious.

**How long does it take to show signs of measles after being exposed?** It takes an average of 10–12 days from exposure to the first symptom, which is usually fever. The measles rash doesn't usually appear until approximately 14 days after exposure, 2–3 days after the fever begins. What are the symptoms of measles? Symptoms include fever, runny nose, cough, loss of appetite, "pink eye," and a rash. The rash usually lasts 5–6 days and begins at the hairline, moves to the face and upper neck, and proceeds down the body.

**How serious is measles?** Measles can be a serious disease, with 30% of reported cases experiencing one or more complications. Death from measles occurs in 2 to 3 per 1,000 reported cases in the United States. Complications from measles are more common among very young children (younger than five years) and adults (older than 20 years). For full 4 page information sheet, please call the office. Link is included with eNewsletter.

**Chess News.** Chess club members: Included is information for upcoming chess tournaments in our area. I encourage students to discuss with parents and participate! If any more information is needed, see Mrs. Sjostedt.

April 22nd: Fremont ChessFest. Another great traditional NE scholastic tournament! And who doesn't like a Festival?!

May 6th: NE Individual Scholastic State Championships (NAM, Lincoln)

Just announced! Check omahachess.org and nebraskachess.com for forthcoming details. Questions / comments are always welcome at info@omahachess.org!

## Summer Camps

**Mercy High School Camps.** Mercy High School invites 3<sup>rd</sup>-8th grade girls to our annual Summer Camps for volleyball, soccer, basketball and track. For more information go to: <http://bit.ly/2017mercy3-8camps>.

**Pro Sanctity Camps.** Why should families consider Camp Fun & Faith? As a Catholic-based summer camp, the goal is to create an environment that encourages the girls to grow in their faith and identity as a daughter of God. They are invited to experience Jesus more in their daily life and spend time with other girls their age in a life-giving way. Flyer attached. <http://campfunfaith.webs.com/>

**Oxbow Vet Camp.** Learn about animal behaviors and nutrition. Interact with live animals each day. Explore a day in the life of a veterinarian. Perform a simulated exploratory surgery. For more information and to register, visit: [www.oxbowvetcamp.com](http://www.oxbowvetcamp.com). Flyer available with eNewsletter and available upon request.

**Start planning your summer now with Marian's 2017 Summer Camps.** There is something for every age and interest! Camps include: art, basketball, golf, leadership, music, show choir, soccer, softball, speech, technology and volleyball. For more information, visit [www.marianhighschool.net/athletics-2/camps/](http://www.marianhighschool.net/athletics-2/camps/)



**Creighton Athletics** periodically provides vouchers to our school to enjoy sports events. The office has vouchers good for up to six individuals to attend the below events and the voucher can be redeemed for tickets in advance by stopping into the Creighton Ticket Office located inside the Ryan Athletic Center on 19th and Burt (open weekdays from 9 a.m., to 4:30 p.m.), CenturyLink Center Omaha Box Office located at 10th and Cass (open 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.) or the TD Ameritrade Park Omaha Box Office located at 12th and Mike Fahey (open game days only starting at 10 a.m.). If you would like a voucher, please call the school at 291-1694. Thanks and Go Bluejays!

- Saturday April 8th @6:30pm v. St. John's (baseball) - TD Ameritrade Park Omaha
- Saturday, April 14th @12pm v. Seton Hall (softball) - CU Sports Complex
- Saturday, April 29th @6:30pm v. Xavier (baseball) - TD Ameritrade Park Omaha

### Home and School Association

**April H&S General Meeting.** Please join us this **Monday, April 10th @ 6:30 pm** in the school library for our next Home and School meeting. H&S Officer elections will be held (see below). We will also be discussing planned activities and events for the remaining school year.

**H&S Officer Positions Open for the 2017-2018 School Year.** Candidates are still needed for next year's **H&S** positions. Nominate someone or submit your own form today! The form is on the St. Mary's School website at [http://stmarysschoolbellevue.com/images/stories/project/HS\\_Officer\\_Nomination\\_Form\\_17-18.pdf](http://stmarysschoolbellevue.com/images/stories/project/HS_Officer_Nomination_Form_17-18.pdf) . Send completed forms into school marked "H&S Officer Nomination Form - Attn: H&S President-Janet Yale ". Forms are due before or at the April H&S General Meeting. This is a great opportunity to serve the school, students, and other St. Mary's family! Please prayerfully consider serving on next year's board!

**Announcing St. Mary's School Alumni Scholarship 2017 Opportunity.** For the fourth consecutive year, the St. Mary's Home & School Association will offer scholarships to alumni: (1) Alumni Attending Catholic High School (freshman year) - \$1,000; (2) Alumni Attending Catholic College/University (freshman year) - \$1,000 and (3) Alumni Working for the Service/Non-Profit Organization/Catholic School (any age) - \$1000. Submission deadline is Thursday, April 20, 2017. The High School scholarship winner will be announced at the 8th Grade Banquet. Letters will be sent for the other two by May 15, 2017. Direct questions/comments/feedback to Scholarship Coordinator Janet Yale (jmyale10@gmail.com /402.250.7190) Scholarship Application can be found at the following link: [St. Mary's School - Bellevue, NE - Alumni Scholarship Application](#)



**Mark Your Calendar.** 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 10% of all sales between that time. A flyer will be needed at the time of purchase (flyer will be available online and with the newsletter next week).

### Community Events

**Catholic Night – Omaha Storm Chasers – Friday, May 19th.** Check out [omahastormchasers.com/groups](http://omahastormchasers.com/groups). Reno Aces v. Omaha Storm Chasers @ 7:05pm. \$9/box seat and \$15/club seat – deadline for discounted tickets is May 16th.

**Faith and Family Night at the Omaha Storm Chasers, featuring Colton Dixon – August 12th at 6:05pm.** Check out [omahastormchasers.com/groups](http://omahastormchasers.com/groups). Iowa Cubs v. Omaha Storm Chasers @ 6:05pm. \$13 tickets for groups of 10 or more.