



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

Volume 19
January 18, 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:

Jan 18: Report cards home 7th and 8th F/T

Jan 19: Chess Club to 4pm; Swine Dining Food Night (5-8pm)

Jan 20: Graduation Pics; Awards Assembly 2:30 PM in Gym (grades 4-8); talent show auditions

Jan 21: First Reconciliation @1030am

Jan 24: Jr. Legion of Mary

Jan 26: School of Choice Rally (Middle School F/T); Chess Club



There was a flurry of activity as students returned to school today after their long weekend. The consensus among schools throughout the areas was to er on the side of conservative. I'm pleased there were no weather complications for our families. As you know, we have completed our second semester of 2016-2017. I look forward to a productive second half of this school year. I invite you all to join our 4th-8th grade students and teachers this Friday, January 20th, at 2:30pm for our Awards Assembly. From what I've seen, there is much to celebrate. Our students work so hard and it is so wonderful to recognize them and for the entire school community to celebrate each other's accomplishments.

One of my favorites is the Spirit of Mary awards that celebrate the students who most exemplify Mary our Mother. What a beautiful recognition. After prayerful consideration, our 4th-8th grade teachers each selected a student to be recognized. We hope all our parents can attend.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger, Principal

NO HOMEWORK ROOM THIS FRIDAY, JAN 20TH DUE TO TALENT SHOW AUDITIONS.

School Choice. With this week's newsletter is a letter from our superintendent on School Choice. Forty-five states have adopted legislation that affords parents more choice in finding the proper educational fit for their children. Nebraska is not one of those states. Please see letter for complete details.

First Reconciliation-Jan. 21st at 10:30am (Church). Please keep our students in prayer as they prepare to receive Christ's blessings through Reconciliation for the first time. Families are welcome to attend the Reconciliation service and receive Reconciliation also. A reception will be held afterward in the Parish Center

sponsored by the Ladies Guild and our 1st grade families. If you have questions regarding First Reconciliation contact the RE office.

Awards Assembly on Jan 20th at 2:30pm in the gym for grades 4-8. At this assembly honor roll certificates will be awarded along with other middle school awards. We will also recognize our 1st semester Spirit of Mary recipients in grades 4-8. *For Spirit of Mary recipients, families will be notified in advance for purposes of coordinating time off from work.

8th Grade Graduation Photos. Photos will be taken on January 20th. A letter went home to families with guidelines on appropriate attire.

Basketball registration fees. Please pay your basketball registration fees (\$70/player) ASAP. This money helps sports with purchasing equipment, uniforms, league fees & tournaments. If this is a hardship please let me know. Send to school in an envelope marked "Sports". Thank you. Jennifer
Kreps megjen992000@yahoo.com or [402-881-2576](tel:402-881-2576).



Please contact your team's coach, if you have any questions regarding practices or games.

2016-2017 Yearbook. That's right...we are now taking orders for our upcoming yearbook. The current price is \$18 with orders from Nov 1-Jan 27, 2017. After Jan 31st the price will be \$20.

Attention St. Mary's School Alumni - Establishing Alumni Board - We want YOU!

As announced in the Fall 2016 Alumni Newsletter we are establishing a St. Mary's School Alumni Board—President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer—and encourage YOU to be a part of it! The board would create their by-laws and work with the Alumni Community, St. Mary's Parish, St. Mary's School, and the broader community. Alumni are asked to submit their [online application](#) (link available on school website - <http://www.stmarysschoolbellevue.com/alumni/home-again>) ASAP. The new board will be announced on the school website by 1/31/2017. Remote board members are possible, so don't let your proximity to the school prevent you from applying! Contact Christina Legner with questions ([402-598-1262](tel:402-598-1262)/alumni@stmarysbellevue.com).

Junior High Youth Ministry (7th & 8th Grade). Please mark your calendars for tonight, Wednesday, January 18th from 5:30-6:30pm in the school gym. *Please note this is a change from previous meeting location.



Spirit Catholic Radio is sponsoring its 5th Superstar Catholic School contest which coincides with Catholic Schools Week. Three Catholic elementary schools and 3 Catholic high schools will be chosen as winners.

Get ready to vote Jan. 29- Feb 4th. Simply go to spiritcatholicradio.com and click on the Superstar Catholic School banner and follow the instructions on the page. Get your family, friends, co-workers and anyone else you know to vote. You don't have to be 18, but you need your own valid email address. You may not vote with more than one email address or your vote will be thrown out. One vote per person! Winning schools will receive a live interview on Spirit Catholic Radio's Spirit Mornings show, free prayer cards for every student, a trophy to display at school, Mystic Monk coffee for our teacher's lounge and \$1,000 worth of on air spots to promote St. Mary's School. We've won the Sarpy County People's Choice award 3 out of 3 times. Help us be a winner, a "Superstar" among the Catholic Schools. We need your VOTE!

Scholastic Books is running a 1 Box = 1 Book offer with Kellogg's and WalMart from now through April 30, 2017. It is a very easy way to get free Scholastic books for our school library and for individual classroom libraries in the school. To support this program all you need to do is purchase participating Kellogg's products at WalMart and send in your receipts to the school. We will take care of uploading the receipts and redeeming the credits for free books! You can also participate in this offer as individuals to get free books for your home libraries. Let's keep our kids reading!

If you do not use Kellogg's products in your home, consider purchasing a few items and then donating the products to the Bellevue Food Pantry and the receipts to the school -- then you are able to help our school and those in need in our community at the same time.

Home and School Association

Swine Dining Food Night. Join us for an awesome BBQ experience on **Thursday, January 19 from 5-8 p.m. at [Swine Dining](#) in Bellevue.** Be sure to mention St. Mary's School; we make 10% of sales during that time.



Catholic Schools Week Talent Show 2017! The 4th Annual H&S-sponsored **Catholic Schools Week (CSW) Talent Show will be Friday, February 3rd at 7pm** in the school gym. **Auditions are this Friday, January 20th from 4pm-8pm.** If you haven't already done so, please sign up for your audition time ([Audition Sign-Up](#)). We look forward to seeing St. Mary's talent!! **Please Note:** Please see Sign-Up Genius ([link](#)) for volunteer needs. Some of these opportunities are good for students (middle school). Also, it is not required, but extremely helpful if those who sign up to chaperone/serve as stage parents or stage crew be available for dress rehearsal as well as the event (for continuity). Contact Talent Show Coordinator Christina Legner (402-598-1262/christina_legner@yahoo.com) or Talent Show Director Miss Kallman (peg.kallman@stmarysbelleuve.com) with questions.



Volunteers Needed For CSW Pancake Breakfast. We will need several parent and student volunteers to make this kickoff to Catholic Schools Week a success! Please check Sign Up Genius ([link](#)) for volunteer opportunities on **Sunday, January 29th before, during, and after the 0730, 0930, and 1100 masses.** We need help with breakfast set-up, food prep, serving, and clean-up.

Contact Chair Janet Yale ([402-250-7190](tel:402-250-7190)/jmyale10@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

Special Friends Reception. H&S will be hosting a reception after the Special Friends Mass on **Wednesday, February 1st.** We are in need of 4 volunteers to help with serving donuts and juice at the reception. **Volunteers need to be at the School Gym by 8:15 am.** If you would like to help, please see Sign-Up Genius ([link](#)). Please contact Brenda Achterhoff ([402-657-0619](tel:402-657-0619)/brenda_achterhoff@yahoo.com) if you have any questions.

Sponsors. Every year at our auction, local businesses generously support our fundraising efforts as sponsors. They donate at varying levels and the proceeds are used to benefit our school. This week, we wanted to highlight those sponsors displayed in the school gym. As you visit these businesses, please thank them for their generous support.

Bellevue Memorial Chapel

Bellevue University

Custom Lawns of Omaha – Parent of 1st and 4th graders

Miller Lawn Care – Parent of PK student, 2nd and 7th graders

Crocker Huck Law – Grandparent of Student

Leighow

Anesthesia – Parents of Kindergartener, 5th and 7th graders

Manahan Eye Associates – Parent of 2nd grader

Hillcrest Health and Rehabilitation

Stoltenberg Nursery

Summit Dental

Honda of Bellevue

Reface It – Parent of 6th and 8th graders

Knights of Columbus Insurance – Doug Kelly

Terry's Auto and Truck Repair

Executive Consulting

Moylan Kropp Retirement Planning

Ed Lee Agency – Parent of 3rd, 5th, and 7th graders

Heritage Ridge

Richmont Village

Northwest Financial Corp

Moonstruck Meadery

Blaha Services

Hike Real Estate

Knights of Columbus, #6192

Let it Grow Contest...St. Mary's is in 1st place by 400 votes. We would love your help to take this to the finish line. There's a 5 question multiple choice quiz, but getting wrong answers isn't a show stopper...they will educate you on correct answers and still let you submit.

Click on this

link http://www.thescienceofsoil.com/contest?utm_source=DiscoveryEducation&utm_campaign=NFL&utm_medium=ProgramOptIn_Jan5&utm_content=LetItGrow

Bellevue Public Library is seeking Middle School Student volunteers. If you are in Middle School and have 1-2 hours to volunteer a week, our public library would love to hear from you. Opportunities range from organizing books, to assisting with kids activities. For more information, please call: 402) 293-3157.

Bowling Fun. Join Couples in Christ for a fun afternoon of bowling on February 4th from 3-5pm at ICC Bowlatorium (2701 S 25th St, Omaha). Snacks provided by Couples in Christ and beverages available for purchase. The per family donation of \$15-20 appreciated (a flyer will go home mid-January). RSVP by SignUp Genius (search saintmarysCIC@gmail.com) or contact Hannah Clark (402-718-6114). *Flyer attached.*

Catholic Daughters Education Contest (Grades 4-8). Each year, our local Catholic Daughters court sponsors an Arts Contest. The categories include: ART /ESSAY/ POETRY/ COMPUTER ART/ MUSIC /PHOTOGRAPHY. This year's theme is: **"WHATEVER YOU DO FOR THE LEAST OF MY BRETHREN, YOU DO FOR ME."** **MATT. 25:40** and **HELPING THE NEEDY WHERE I LIVE.**

The themes selected for the contest encourage lively imagination and freedom of thought when student talent and application go hand in hand. The contest enables students of our communities, schools and CCD classes to compete and strive for awards while following certain fixed rules. Last year, St. Mary's had 17 students in grades 4-8 receive certificates and cash prizes. We also had one student win at the district level. Information will be handed out in homeroom.

Computer Classes Offered at St. Mary's. Classes will be in St. Mary's School Computer Lab from 7:00- 9:00 p.m. Enter through the gym doors. Contact John @ jbezy@cox.net to register. If Bellevue Public Schools cancel classes or activities for the evening, class will not be held. Classes are free and for adults only. Maximum of 20 per class; first come, first served. You might want to bring a notebook or paper, pen or pencil to take notes.

January 19 - Windows 10

February 16 - All About Wireless; How to Set up and Secure

March 16 - Basic Computers and Security

April 20 - Social Media and Facebook



THAT MAN IS YOU! Is a special Men's Ministry Program will continue on Friday, January 27th here at St. Mary's Parish! Please consider joining us for the 2nd semester of That Man Is You! Our focus will be on the Bible and the Sacraments of the Church. Come share, pray and grow with other men from our parish! For more information, please contact Ted Menzel @ 402-292- 2076 or email tcmenzel5@gmail.com .



Schedule went home previously. Please call office if you need another copy.