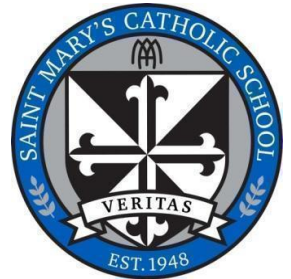




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 27
March 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)

Upcoming:

Mar 15: END OF 3RD QTR

**Mar 16: NO SCHOOL
 PK Round-Up @9am (RSVP required)**

Mar 17: NO SCHOOL

Mar 20: Report Cards; No HW Room

Mar 21: Pump It Up F/T (4th and 5th); Jr Legion of Mary

***Due to BPS closure, there is no Hot Lunch on March 21st and March 23rd**

As a family of God, we are reminded of our responsibility to care for one another. We want to offer our sympathy to the Lewis family, the Tomaso family, and to those who have recently lost a loved one. Our thoughts and prayers are with each of them.

The PK program is projected to be full. These new students will be visiting Mrs. Harms' classroom this week. Registration is underway and we hope you have already started the process. So far, we have approximately 30 families registered in Sycamore for the 2017-2018 school year. If you would like help or have questions, please don't hesitate to call the office.

Our families are our best advocates for the school. Let's show our school pride and share information on our school with family and friends. A friendly reminder: there is a \$250 referral credit if you send a family our way and they register. Your tuition account will be credited.

Thanks for all you do to make St. Mary's an exceptional place to learn. I look forward to visiting with our parents, teachers, staff, parishioners and community supporters at our upcoming auction. Always a good time!

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

Upcoming Sacrament Dates:

- 8th grade Rite of Enrollment: April 1st, 5pm or April 2nd, 12:30pm
- 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

Vacation Bible School *Maker Fun Factory!* is June 26-30th. St. Mary's has a wonderful history of providing one of the best Vacation Bible School programs for our parishioners and community. If you would like to take part in planning this fun event, help with some of the many projects or volunteer during Vacation Bible School, please contact the RE office 402-291-7222. We cannot wait to hear from you!

Reminder about Sending Money to School. When sending money to school (cash or check), please ensure it is labeled with student/family name and what it is for (ex. lunch, extended day, and registration).

Middle School Awards Assembly has been scheduled for Monday, March 27th at 2:30pm. Families can enter through the gym.

St. Mary's "Spring for the Children" Benefit Auction is March 25, 2017

Jacquie and Peg Kallman- 2017 Heart Of Mary Award Winners

We're proud to announce both Jacquie and Peg Kallman as recipients of the 2017 Heart of Mary Award which is presented annually to an outstanding individual or individuals who have made significant contributions to St. Mary's School. The award will be presented at the annual benefit auction next Saturday, March 25. Most know Jacquie as the longtime organist at St. Mary's, having served in that capacity for over 40 years, but she has also been a significant supporter of St. Mary's School during her time in the parish. One of Jacquie's 12 children, Peg is also active in both the parish and school. As a member of St. Mary's faculty, she teaches both Music and Math. She is responsible for the creation of the school's Drama program and volunteers her time in hosting an after-school homework room. Please join us in congratulating both Jacquie and Peg Kallman, our 2017 Heart of Mary Award recipients.

Raffle Update

489 from school families

50 school families participating

Many thanks to all of the families who have sold tickets!

Only need to sell 136 more tickets if you'd like to see Dr. Wallinger color her hair St. Mary's blue!

Below is the Schedule of Events for our upcoming benefit auction...a good time will be had by all!

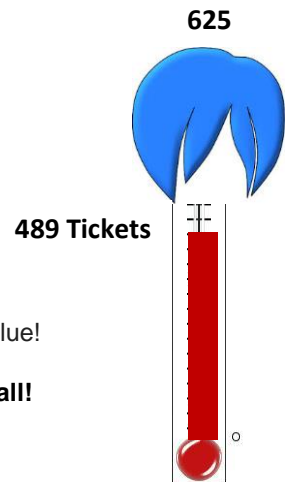
5:00pm Doors open; Social Reception with snacks (South Ballroom)
6:15pm Just For You Section closes (South Ballroom)
6:30pm Sports & Leisure Section closes (South Ballroom)
6:45pm Food & Entertainment Section closes (South Ballroom)
7:00pm Home & Office Section closes (South Ballroom)
7:15pm Kids Corner Section closes (South Ballroom)
7:30pm Dinner program, Raffle, and Live Auction (North Ballroom)
7:30pm Super Silent Section closes (Ballroom Hallway)
8:00pm Cashier opens; 10:00pm Cashier closes

Influenza (flu) is a contagious disease that can be serious. Influenza cases are still prevalent in our community so protecting ourselves is important. Some tips to avoid the flu: Get vaccinated, wash your hands, avoid close contact with sick people, take antiviral drugs if your doctor prescribes them. The eNewsletter contains an infographic on Influenza.

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.

8th Grade Rite of Enrollment. One of the final rites for those preparing for Confirmation is the Rite of Enrollment. Participating in this rite tells the Church that the candidates are ready and requesting Confirmation. It is a statement of commitment from the candidate to the Church. St. Mary's Rite of Enrollment will be held on Saturday, April 1st at the 5:00pm Mass and Sunday, April 2nd at the 12:30pm Mass.

2016-2017 Yearbook. That's right...we are still taking orders for our upcoming yearbook. The current price is \$20. 8th grade families are invited to buy an ad that will appear in the yearbook. This is a special way to create a memory for your child. Please contact becky.billings@stmarysbellevue.com for more details.



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY (7th & 8th Grades). Come and join us in School Gym:

Wednesday, March 29th 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday, April 5th 5:30-6:30pm

Wednesday, April 19th 5:30-6:30pm



Winter/Spring 2017 Confirmation Requirements 7th & 8th grade youth are asked to attend at least two Wednesday nights (large groups) this semester. If you have questions, please contact Will Targy at (402)292-7688.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP. The rescheduled date is **Wednesday, April 12th from 10-11:30 am.** 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.

First Communion Banners Quilt. Reminder for 2nd grade families: For the second year, the parish will be making a quilt out of the First Communion Banners that families make for their child's First Holy Communion. At the recent Holy Communion Parents meeting, parents received their banner kits. These banners will be hung on the pews for the 1st Holy Communion and are **due no later than 3/31/2017.** Before that day, the banners will be photographed and 4 will be printed on each ~8.5" x 11" fabric sheet. Those sheets will then be quilted together.

Home and School Association

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](#)

Jersey Mike's Food Day. Enjoy a freshly made sub and help St. Mary's School earn some extra money. Come on out to Jersey Mike's in Bellevue (10110 South 15th Street) on **Thursday, March 23rd from 10 am-9 pm.** 15% of all sales goes to St. Mary's; no flyer needed.



St. Mary's School Fish Fry Night. The Knights of Columbus are great supporters of our school. From sponsoring the Free Throw Contest to donating money as an auction sponsor, as well as giving \$4,000 in scholarships annually for students going to Catholic high school. Come and join St. Mary's School on **Friday, March 31st from 5:00-7:30 pm** at the Knights of Columbus, Council 6192, Fish Fry (205 Industrial Dr, Bellevue). It's a great way to show our thanks for all of their support while enjoying some fellowship and great food with other school families. Hope to see you there!