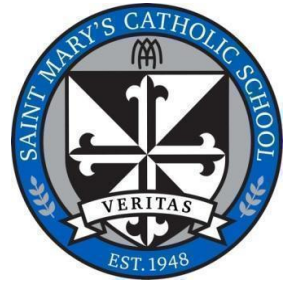




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 28
March 22, 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 23: Jersey Mike's Food Night**
- Mar 24: Stations of the Cross @2:30pm**
- Mar 25: "Spring for the Children: Benefit Auction**
- Mar 27: Lenten Prayer Service @ 8:30am; No HW room; Holocaust Speaker (7th and 8th gr); Middle Schools Awards Assembly @2:30pm**
- Mar 28: Legion of Mary @3:30pm**

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

This weekend is the 23rd annual "Spring for the Children" Benefit Auction hosted by the St. Mary's Home and School. It is the largest fundraiser for the school and provides funding for field trips, improvements to the buildings, instructional program improvements and a number of other projects that ultimately benefit the children.

This event is also a great opportunity to log volunteer hours. As I noted in a previous newsletter, volunteers are crucial to many of the programs here at school. I have been taking a look at the progress we've made and will be sending a thank you to our families for their service to the school. Many families have already met and even exceeded the requirement. For that, we are truly grateful. If you need hours to fulfill your commitment, please let someone know. Besides the auction there are many way to give service. There is something for everyone's availability. We look forward to hearing from you.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

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. It is a spiritual event that prepares us for the final meditation before the Easter Triduum begins. The meditations, the costuming, and sound effects all aid in reminding the congregation, which includes the entire school and parishioners, of this most somber event of Holy Week. We hope you can join us, Tuesday April 11th at 2:30pm.

2017-2018 St Mary's Registration. Thanks to all the families who have completed the on-line registration process (55 current families; 6 new families). To ensure we are able to project the needed classroom materials, please complete this as soon as possible. Estimated time is 10 minutes.

"I Love My School" Royal Blue Tee Shirts – Optional Wear for Spirit Day. A few months back, the school did an order for "I Love My School" shirts for families that were interested in purchasing. We have some inventory left. If you would like to purchase any of the below, they are \$6 each. To request one, please send \$6 cash in an envelope with your family name and the size requested. While supplies last.

Sizes: Youth Medium (2 available); Youth Small (1 avail); XL Adult (1); 2XL Adult (1).



Rice Bowl Update. Thank you to students and families for their support of our Lenten Rice Bowl Project. To date, Rice Bowl has raised \$89.60.

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

St. Mary's Lenten Mission

“Evangelization and Making Disciples” – Will Targy

March 23: 6:30 p.m. – Potluck** in the parish center followed by Reflection in the Church @ 7:20 p.m.

The evening will be an opportunity to hear testimonies as well as a time for prayer, rest and renewal with Jesus in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

**For dinner, the parish will provide chicken. Families with last names A-L, please bring a side dish or dessert. Families with last names M-Z, please bring fruit, a salad or bread.

If you are unable to attend dinner, please join us at ~7:20pm (to 8:30pm) in the church.

There will also be a morning session in the parish center following the 8:30am mass. It will be a little different than the evening session, focusing more on content and group discussion.

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 28th.**

Board of Education Minutes. February 2017 minutes have been posted on the school webpage. Please see school webpage for full minutes, but some highlights:

- New Alumni Board (President: Cindy Donahue '80, V.P.: Kevin Duffy '63, Treasurer: Sarah Mlnark '92, Secretary: '02, and Scholarship Coordinator: Janet Yale).
- Adopt A Student: Donations \$9,380.
- Grants: Archdiocese technology upgrade should be finished by end of February.
- Welcome Tuition Grants – 1 slot available per grade 1-7.
- Friends of St. Mary's (Donor Relations): Newsletters sent out in December 2016

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, April 5th and April 19th from 5:30-6:30pm

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 RSVP'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 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.

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

Give Back to Schools. Office Depot and Office Max are making it easy for their customers to Give Back to Schools. Schools like St. Mary's can be credited with 5% of qualifying purchases (school and office supplies) for free supplies. All you have to do at checkout in any U.S. store is give St. Mary's School ID number 70063611. Ask friends and family to help support St. Mary's School each time they shop too. The impact can be immeasurable.

A Wine and Cheese Afternoon

Couples in Christ invites all young couples to attend a wine and cheese afternoon with a panel discussion on finances.

Saturday, April 1st, 2017 at 3:00-4:30 PM @ Saint Mark's Hall

Free babysitting will be available in the parish center

Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 29th to Mary Sasek: mary.sasek@gmail.com or 402-990-4228

*If using babysitting, please include the number of children, ages of children, and any food allergies



Topics

Savings, Investments, & Retirement

Stewardship – Time, Talent, & Treasure

Budgeting & Watching Credit Card Debt

Legal Advice – Early Will Planning & Guardianship of your Children

Presenters

Patrick Moylan

Ryan & Christina Legner

Alan & Melissa Swiecicki

Jennifer Thompson

Social Media and Facebook Class will be in St. Mary's School Computer Lab on April 20th 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.

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.

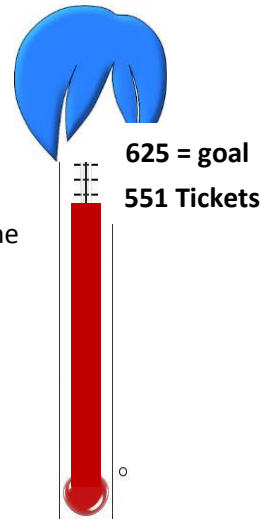
Raffle Update

543 from school families; 53 school families participating
Many thanks to all of the families who have sold tickets!

Only need to sell 74 more tickets if you'd like to see Dr. Wallinger color her hair St. Mary's blue!

Don't forget that there will also be a prize of \$100 worth of SCRIP awarded to the person who sells the most tickets by March 24th (open to all sellers). To date our top sellers: Leighow @42 tickets, Three way tie for Kelly, Goodall and Steineke families, all with @23 tickets sold, and Clipp @21 tickets sold.

Selling raffle tickets at event. We are seeking 1-2 people to mingle, visit, and sell raffle tickets. If interested, please call Cathy at 291-1694.



Volunteer Opportunities

We are in need of parents to assist with the transportation, set-up and tear down for the 2017 St. Mary's Benefit Auction held on March 25th at the Omaha Stockyards.

Transportation - Moving all auction baskets, decorations, and supplies from the prep area to the Stockyards. (We will have a moving truck to load a bulk of the items, but we may request to use your vehicle as well)...and I will be bringing doughnuts and coffee to start the day off right!! **Time: March 24th 8AM - 10AM** # of Volunteers Needed: 1 more

Set-Up - Decorating and organizing all the auction items into the appropriate sections. Lunch will be provided.

Time: March 24th 9AM - 3:30PM # of Volunteers Needed: 13 more

Tear-Down - Taking down and repacking all of the decorations and supplies and loading back into the moving truck.

Time: March 25th 9:30PM - 11PM # of Volunteers Needed: 8 more

Please see [Signup Genius](#) to register for any (or all!!!) of these opportunities. This is a great opportunity to get most of your volunteer hours completed for the year if you are still looking for ways to do so.

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) tomorrow, 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!