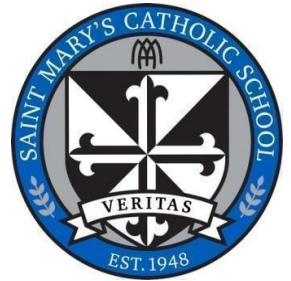




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 26
March 8, 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 8: Chess Club to 4pm

Mar 11

-12: Ministry Fair after Masses

Mar 13: Lenten Prayer Service @830am; No HW Room

Mar 14: Jr Legion of Mary to 430pm

Mar 15: END OF 3RD QTR

One of the traditional ways to prepare for Easter is the practice of giving alms. We teach the students that this means "alms are food or money given away to the poor". When we give with love in our hearts we are freed from things that hold us back from full communion with our heavenly Father.

Sin and greed sometimes seem to be taking over the world. As Catholic Christians we can make a difference in our school and community by turning away from sin, reconciling with God, and treating one another with love and kindness. One way to do this is to participate in the Rice Bowl project. The students were given Rice Bowl containers to assemble and fill with coins. Please consider having a small meal, saving the money from what a more elaborate meal might cost and using those funds to put in the container. The experience may be a very visible reminder that we can do small things with love to make a big difference in the lives of the poor. Have a blessed week.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

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

Ministry Fair. St. Mary's Parish will host a Ministry Fair this weekend after all Masses (March 11-12). If you would like to serve as a parent ambassador and visit with prospective parents and answer questions about the school, please call the office. We need volunteers to sit at the school table for approximately 20 minutes after each Mass.

Lenten Observances. The first Stations of the Cross will be held at the church on Friday, March 10th (8th grade presents). The All School Lenten Prayer Service will be held at 8:30 AM in the school gym on Monday, March 13th. More dates are available on Sycamore.

Catholic Schools: Communities of Respect. With the eNewsletter is a link to the National Catholic Education Association parent newsletter. To receive this insert hardcopy, please contact the office. Summary: Catholic Schools across the country have always been recognized and known for their academic excellence, character development, safety and faith formation when compared to other schools. This month we take a look at the aspects of character development and school safety. In other words, Catholic schools as communities of respect....

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. Parents are invited to complete the questionnaire that was sent home this past Monday. If you are eligible to apply we will assist you. Scholarship money awarded is applied directly to your tuition account.

Paul Tomaso Benefit. Spaghetti Dinner (\$10 per person; \$25 per family) March 11th, 12-6pm at the Knights Hall (205 Industrial Road, Bellevue NE 68005). Proceeds will be used to help cover medical costs from cancer. Deacon Tomaso, the spouse of Elizabeth Tomaso, our St. Mary's Director of Religious Education passed away this past Sunday. Our prayers are with the family. The Tomaso family has done amazing things at St. Mary's from Sacramental preparation to Bible School.

Basketball News



Congratulations to our 7th grade Boys for being 2017 CYO Tournament Champs!!



March Madness tournament starts this weekend (March 9-19). Please contact coaches on game times. All games are being held at St. Bernadette & Gross. Good luck!!!

Please pay registration fees ASAP. Send to school in envelope marked "Sports". Any questions please contact Jennifer Kreps megjen992000@yahoo.com or 402-881-2576. Thank you

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@stmarysbelleveue.com for more details.



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MINISTRY (7th & 8th Grades) CANCELLATION: of Wednesday, March 8th Youth Ministry Meeting. Our next meeting will be March 29th – Meetings are 5:30-6:30 p.m. in the School Gym. *7th and 8th grade youth are asked to attend at least two Wednesday nights this semester.

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.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP. The rescheduled date is **March 16th, 9-10:30am.** Any family with a child projected to be in our 2017-2018 Pre-Kindergarten class is asked to attend. It is important for Mrs. Harms to get to know your child in an educational environment.

SCRIP Update. See attached flyer: *Spring Break, Spring Cleaning, Spring Fashion...SCRIP has you covered!*

Sarpy County Earth Day is April 30th. Come and enjoy the celebration on April 30th from 12-4pm at the BPS Lied Activity Center. Enjoy activities and participate in the Trashion Fashion Show. *Flyer available with eNewsletter.*

The Bellevue Recreation Department announces their 2017 Spring & Summer Activities. Join us!! We have something for everyone!!! **Registration Opens:** March 20th at the Bellevue Recreation Department (Reed Center) 1200 Lord Blvd., Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturdays, April 1st & April 8th from 10:00 a.m. to Noon. Call the Recreation Department for more information at 402-293-3142.

Home and School Association

March Home and School Meeting. Please join us this **Monday, March 13th at 6:30 pm** in the school library for our monthly Home and School Meeting. This is a perfect opportunity to voice your concerns, share new ideas, and/or keep up with the latest school events and activities. Time spent at the meeting counts toward your annual volunteer hours requirement.

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 "Spring for the Children" Benefit Auction is March 25, 2017

Have you bought your event tickets, raffle tickets...hope to see you there.

(408 raffle tickets sold by school families ... 217 to go)

51 school families participating

Leighow in the lead - 40

Kelly - 23

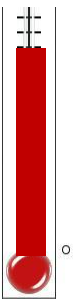
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625 Tickets

408 Tickets



We only need to sell 217 more tickets if you'd like to see Dr. Wallinger's hair turn St. Mary's blue!

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Have you started thinking about all the wonderful items that you'll be able to bid on at our biggest fundraiser of the year? Below are just a few....

- A gift certificate to reserve Front Row Seats at Talent Show
- Vacation Bible School Certificate to pay for registration
- A gift certificate for one Basketball Registration, basketball and Long Sleeve T-shirt (Large)
- Ever running late to Mass? How about a reserved parking spot at your favorite Mass for the entire year
- Have an appointment? Need to pick up your child early? Mrs. Braxton is supplying a punch card for an escort and sign out while you wait in your car. Good for up to 10 escorts to your car

There will also be so many amazing art projects....see this example from 5th grade....

