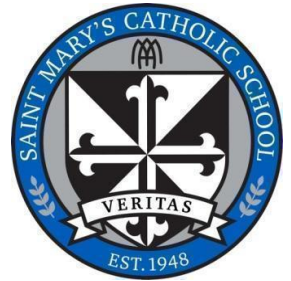




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER



Volume 35
May 10, 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:
May 10: Arise Youth Ministry (7/8)
May 11: Chick-Fil-A Food Night (6-8pm)
May 12: Library books due; Spring Musical
May 15: Band concert; Fun Run & Smoothies
May 16: Field Day (PK-3)
May 17: Washington Park F/T; Kinder Music Program @230pm
May 18: Field Day (4-7th) 8th Grade Awards at 2pm

There is a lot of activity at St. Mary's during the school year, but we are really kicking it up a notch these last few weeks. Families are invited to Chick-fil-A Night on Thursday, May 11th, then I hope you'll join us for all the musical on Friday, May 12th. Our thanks to the middle school students, teachers, and especially Miss Kallman for their hard work and dedication to making this another successful show. Plan to get here early enough to get a good seat. I know you'll enjoy every minute of the evening's entertainment.

Next week we have two field days and the 8th grade Awards Ceremony, as well as the 8th grade banquet. I want to thank Mrs. Hug and all her volunteers in advance for helping make the Field Day activities such fun for our students and teachers. Thanks also to the 7th grade parents and students for the time they've devoted to planning the banquet. Please take a look at the school calendar these last few weeks and if you can, take time to attend some of the great events we have planned.

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

Join the Archdiocese in Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of Apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima. Please join us Saturday, May 13, 2017, 10am St. Cecilia Cathedral, 701 N. 40th St., Omaha. Hosted by Omaha Legion of Mary. Lauren 402-553-7163.

The 8th grade Spanish class walked to El restaurant. El Rio La Sierpe. The students were able to end their year with an authentic Salvadorian meal. Speaking in Spanish and ordering from the menu was challenging and fun. Thank you to Home and School for covering the cost of this field trip. Muchas gracias!!!

Field Day Reminder. Field Day for PK – 3rd will be on May 16 and for 4th-7th on May 18. Lunch will be provided by H & S for student participants/helpers on their field day. If it is not your field day, you will need a cold lunch (no hot lunch served on either field day).

Friends of St. Mary's "Save the Date." St. Mary's will be hosting a Welcome Back to School Mass for families and school donors on Sunday August 27th at the 9:30am Mass. There will be a reception following in the Parish Center (save the date). New Education Endowment donors who have contributed over \$1,000 will be honored after the Mass and their names will be added to the plaque at church. We are very blessed to have the support of so many parishioners, alumni and friends.

Adopt A Student Donations Update – As of April 30th, a total of \$16,985 has been raised for the Adopt-a-Student Annual Fund and \$62,620.14 for the Adopt-a-Student Endowment Fund. Because of these generous donations, St. Mary's is able to offer financial assistance to families that want to send their children to St. Mary's, but may not have the financial resources to do so...many thanks to all of our donors, past and present.

13 Reasons Why. This week a letter from Dr. Wallinger was emailed (or sent home hardcopy if family doesn't have an email) to middle school parents about a popular Netflix series that teens and pre-teens are discussing: "13 Reasons Why." Please contact the office for more details or a copy of the letter if you would like.

2017-2018 Registration. In previous newsletters, I have spoken about our enrollment and how our parents are the best ambassadors for the school. I believe that wholeheartedly and statistically it holds true (the most viable schools have active parents who are talking about the school within the larger community. Along those lines, I view all our parents as stakeholders in St. Mary's. Because of this, I wanted to share an enrollment chart that was recently discussed at our Development meeting (please see below). Thanks for all you do to make St. Mary's a great place to learn!

–Dr Wallinger

2017-2018 Totals	PK	K	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Total
Registered		7	17	17	14	15	10	17	15	14	126
Not registered but likely back	0	2	3	2	3	3	3	5	4	7	32
New Students	17	5	1	0			1			1	25
Totals	19	14	21	19	17	18	14	22	19	22	183
adding potential pool that hasn't closed loop, but either toured or called (could go either way)	1	6			4	4	1		3		19
Potential Total (best case scenario)	20	20	21	19	21	22	15	22	22	22	202
2016-2017	20	20	20	19	18	14	24	20	21	16	191
One change mid-year	19										
Assumptions:											
if on-line link given; counted as registered											

Fun Run/Walk. We are thankful to Mrs. Mansidor who is facilitating a Fun Walk/Run for students and teachers on Monday, May 15th at 2 PM. All the grades will join in the Fun Run and end up in the gym to have a smoothie. We will start with the younger grades walking around the church and back up to school. Then the older grades will do their longer walk around the school, the church, and back to the gym for smoothies. It is always beneficial to get kids moving and choosing healthy eating options.



St. Mary's Junior High Youth Group ARISE. 7th and 8th Grades will meet Wed May 10th 7-8:30pm for the *End of Year Celebration* (Parish Center). Come join us! For questions: Will Targy at (402)292-7688.

Adventureland. Friendly reminder that May 22nd is the last day to hand in Adventureland forms for the May 30th Youth Group trip. Hope to see our 7ths and 8th graders there.



Omaha Gives! St. Mary's will be participating in Omaha Gives for our third year on May 24th. This is a one-day fundraising event for all non-profits in Omaha. We are looking for 3-4 families to greet, help set-up refreshments and help with on-line giving stations (on computers that will be set-up). If you are able to help, please call the office. Future newsletters will have details for school families to share with families with friends inviting them to attend.

Needs for Omaha Gives...maybe you can't attend, but donations below would be very appreciated.

10-15 desserts – un-plated, kid friendly (ex. bars, brownies, cookies, rice crispie treats) and no nuts, please
5-8 large bags of chips (any kind)

Please see handout on Omaha Gives. There's a lot of excitement throughout the community for this event among a variety of nonprofit organizations.

Cheer Pages. One way you can help in Omaha Gives! is to encourage individuals to create [personal Cheer Pages](#). **Cheer Pages** provide a way to raise money on behalf of your school, parish or ministry that is already a participant in Omaha Gives!. This feature allows supporters to create a custom web page with pictures, video and a personal appeal. Once the page is set up, it can be shared through social media or sending emails with a link to your **Cheer Page**, and asking friends and family to help your school, parish or ministry by making a donation.

Last newsletter. Our last official newsletter will be next week. Any updates after this date, will be sent via email or hardcopy to the few families that don't have an email listed. Thanks.

Summer office hours. The office will be open Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays this summer from 8:30am-2pm or by appointment.



Kindergarten Music Program. The Kindergarten students present their music program in the gym on Wednesday, May 17th at 2:30pm.

Extended Day's last full day is on May 24th. We will only be open in the morning on the 25th. Please make other arrangements for your child(ren) for after school. School is released at 10am on May 25th.

Extended Day Water Day. Extended Day will be hosting our annual Water Day on May 24th for students that attend Extended Day. Please dress for water fun, bring a towel, dry clothes, and a bag for the wet clothes. If the weather is bad we will have a game day! Have no fear, summer is near!



Couples in Christ at the Storm Chasers. Come and join us, on Friday, May 19th for a Storm Chasers game. Meet up in Werner Park parking lot at 5:30pm for tailgating. Fried chicken will be provided; bring your own drinks and a side to share. Contact Cristin Kelly 708-297-5691 or Sarah Mlnarik 402-630-2474 for more details. Group tickets have already been purchased, but you can still get tickets online or at the park (berm seating).

Mark Your Calendars Vacation Bible School Maker Fun Factory! June 26-30 St. Mary's has a wonderful history of providing one of the best Vacation Bible School programs for our parishioners and community. Registrations forms are now available.

Scholastic Book Warehouse Sale. Refresh your school, home, and classroom libraries and get gifts for everyone! Save up to 80% on thousands of books. Take an additional 25% off clearance items! 8619 S 117th St, La Vista, NE

Weekdays, May 8 -19: 10 a.m.-7 p.m.

Saturdays, May 13 & 20: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays

We wanted to take this opportunity to share our heartfelt appreciation for your help and support of the St. Mary's School Benefit Auction. With over 300 in attendance your support contributed to the \$86,000 raised, with \$18,900 going towards this year's fil-a-need of new school bell system. The bell system notifies our students when class starts and when class ends. The current bell system is outdated and not fully functional. Replacing the bell system is one of the many ways the success of this event improves the quality of education for our students.

The success of this event reflects the close relationship among our School and Parish families. Without that, we could not have achieved this success. Once again, thank you and God Bless! -St. Mary's Spring for the Children Benefit Auction Chairs & Home & School Association

Summer Library Program (SLP) – Bellevue Public Library. A full message was sent to all 5-8th grade students and parents, but as a follow-up, the library is seeking help with its Summer Library Program. The following training is mandatory for any Junior Friend wishing to work the SLP registration table. Please choose one:
Monday, May 15 @6:30-7:30 pm Tuesday, May 16 @4-5 pm Wednesday, May 17 @4-5 pm; 6:30-7:30 pm

Please call or email questions to: Michelle Bullock, Children's Librarian, Bellevue Public Library, 1003 Lincoln Road Bellevue, NE 68005 (402) 293-3158 <http://www.bellevuelibrary.org/>

Reminder about FAMILY FARE RECEIPTS. St. Mary's School is still collecting Family Fare (formerly No Frills) receipts. For every \$150,000 St. Mary's collects in receipts, the school will receive \$1,000 in cash. Receipts can be dropped off at school, in the box at the SCRIP table (main entrance of church), or in the collection basket at Mass or at the rectory.

Alumni Family Potluck. Please save the date: We are organizing a Alumni Family Potluck gathering after the Arrows to Aerospace Parade on August 19th. Please plan on attending and connecting with old friends.

Youth Football Camp – Creighton Prep. Mon., June 19th - Thurs., June 22nd; 1p - 3:30p each day! Cost \$80 (Includes a camp t-shirt) Location: Creighton Prep - Carmen & Don Leahy Stadium (enter via the WEST parking lot). For flyer, please contact the St. Mary's School office.

Gross High School Camps. Join us in the summer of 2017 as Gross Catholic High School presents its summer camp programs. They are amazing and fun! Don't just choose one, choose them all! There are so many! We have art, baseball, basketball, cooking, dance, day camp, drama, football, golf, leadership, robotics, soccer, softball, STEM, strength and conditioning, tennis, theatre, dance, volleyball, and wrestling camps. Whatever your interests, we have a camp! Registration is OPEN! <http://grosscatholic.org/2017/04/07/summer-camps/>

Home and School Association

3rd Annual St. Mary's School Spring Plant Sale. "Thank you" to all who came out and volunteered and supported our Spring plant sale this weekend. If you couldn't make it, don't fret. Stoltenberg Nurseries will honor the 15% donation to the Home & School Assn. through the end of May if you purchase at Stoltenberg Nurseries (Let them know that you are with St. Mary's School). They are located at 15303 S. 36th St (36th & Platteview Road) in Bellevue. If you decide to stop by, Jo Sempek (Owner) suggests a quick call to ensure that there will be staff available onsite to assist you. She can be reached at 402-630-7333.



Chick-Fil-A Food Night. Dine in or drive thru Chick-Fil-A (on Cornhusker) tomorrow **Thursday, May 11th from 6pm-8pm (not 4pm-8pm as previously advertised)** St. Mary's School will get back 10% of all orders during that time slot. You must mention that you are part of St. Mary's School. Spread the word to your family and friends! We



are looking for adult and student volunteers to help with "hospitality" (greet patrons, mention food night, encourage receipt designation, etc.) and also clean off tables. You may sign up on SignUp Genius ([link](#)) or by contacting Brenda Achterhoff (Brenda_achterhoff@yahoo.com). Volunteer time goes toward your annual service hour commitment! Thanks in advance for your support!

Volunteer Opportunities. For those still in need of volunteer hours, there will be upcoming opportunities for the following events: **Field Day** (Tuesday, May 16th & Thursday, May 18th) and **8th Grade Graduation** (Sunday, May 21st). Please check your email for more details or go directly to the Sign Up Genius ([link](#)) to volunteer.

Science Technology and Math (STEM) Camps hosted by BPS. STEM camps are running from June 26 – July 14th. To register visit: <http://tinyurl.com/bps-STM-camps> . All registration questions should be directed to stmccamps@bpsne.net.