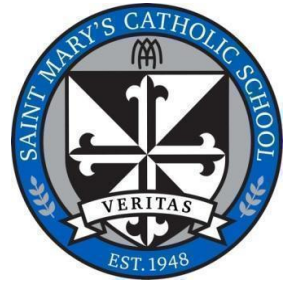




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!  
**ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER**

**Volume 36**  
**May 17, 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 17: Washington Park F/T; Kinder Music Program @230pm**  
**May 18: Field Day and Crazy hair day for (4-7<sup>th</sup>); 8th Grade Awards at 2pm; LAST DAY OF HW ROOM**  
**May 19: Banquet (7/8<sup>th</sup>)**  
**May 21: Graduation @5pm Mass**  
**May 22: Bellevue Walking Tour F/T (4<sup>th</sup>)**  
**May 23: Pioneer Day (4th); PK Program @230pm**  
**May 24: Top Secret Fun Activity @9am; Awards Assembly @2pm; Last day of School for PK**  
**May 25: Ascension Mass; Last day of school; dismissal at 10am**

Students in our Class of 2017 are very excited to complete their last week of school, culminating with the graduation this upcoming Sunday. It is with a tremendous amount of pride and pleasure that I wish each member of the Class of 2017 congratulations. As members of our school community for the past 10 years in most cases, this week is an opportunity to reflect on their accomplishments and to prepare for future opportunities that lie ahead.

It is noteworthy that 80% of our graduating class is continuing on to a Catholic High School. \$16,000 in Catholic High School scholarships has or will be awarded. Please keep all our graduates in your prayers this last week.

*Patricia Wallinger*

Dr. Trish Wallinger

**Registration packets for Extended Day** will be available online and went home with family registration packets. If you need another paper copy please contact the school office at 402-291-1694. To ensure a space for your child, the completed registration form is due by June 1st. All registration forms turned in after June 1st will be assessed a fee of \$75.

**Field Day Reminder.** Field Day 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 (PK-3rd), you will need a cold lunch (no hot lunch served on either field day).

**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.



**Needs for Omaha Gives...maybe you can't attend, but donations below would be very appreciated.** (ref: sign up genius notice)

- 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)

**Fun Run/Walk.** Well, as most of our parents will recall it was crazy hot on Monday (over 95 degrees). Being flexible, we brought the fun indoors to the gym, doing fitness dancing. Many thanks to Mrs. Mansidor who was instrumental in this fun

event. The smoothies were cool, refreshing, delicious and healthy.

**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 7th and 8th graders there.

**Spanish Accomplishment – Ben Goetz, Alum.** Each year, Mount Michael Benedictine students take the National Spanish Exam, along with thousands of others from around the USA. This year, our very own Ben Goetz (Class of '16) was one of the school's 12 Gold Medalists. For a little perspective, the entire state of Nebraska only had 16 gold medalists. What an accomplishment and testament to our outstanding Spanish program.

**Last newsletter.** Our last official newsletter is today. Any updates from now to the end of our school year will be 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.

**Pre-Kindergarten Program.** The Pre-Kindergarten students present their Spring Program in the gym on Tuesday, May 23rd 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 24<sup>th</sup> 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).

**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.

PS—we are very thankful to a parishioner who handed in two bundles of \$150,000 in receipts (that's \$2,000 to St. Mary's).

**Alumni with Students at St. Mary's.** This is a list of all the "Legacy" students/ families we have at St. Mary's. If you are an alum, and have a child currently attending St. Mary's, and ARE NOT listed, please contact Hannah (Menzel) Clark at [hannahcaitlinclark@gmail.com](mailto:hannahcaitlinclark@gmail.com).

### Legacy

Dane' (Huck) Ames '86: 3

John "Quint" Dacey '05: 1

Sean Giles '04: 1

Suzy (Peters) Godwin '99: 1

Patrick Kettleon '95: 1\* (Debbie (Cook) Kettleon '69)

Breanna Koch '04: 1

Patrick Kouba '77: 2

Joanna (Jungers) Lee '89: 3\* (Dean Jungers '56)

Christina (Hascall) Legner '91: 3\* (Dean Hascall '68)

Jackie Hascall-Lizarraga '97: 1\* (Dean Hascall '68)

Sarah (Roth) Mlnarik '92: 1

Patti (Ferrante) Nastase '61: 1\*

Janet (Jungers) Solberg '91: 1\* (Dean Jungers '56)

Alan Swiecicki '89: 2

Jerome Tyner '92: 1\* (Mary (Hascall) Tyner '66)

Angelo '95 & Kim (Schreiber) Zieno '97: 1

Willie Wessling '87: 3\* (Ken Wessling '53)

**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.

**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](mailto:becky.billings@stmarysbellevue.com) for more details.

**A Spiritual Bouquet for a Special Pen Pal.** The first graders have truly enjoyed corresponding with Sr. Mary, our Dominican Sister pen pal. At various times during the year we wrote letters, made cards and prayed for our new friend. She recently surprised us with her special homemade cookies! What a treat. Our final act of friendship was to send her a spiritual bouquet. We made her a paper garden and said a decade of the rosary for her. The first graders thought that since it was the month of May and her name is Sr. Mary that the rosary would be something that she would like. Blessings on our new friend!

**Sarpy County Fair – Art Display.** 91 students have had their artwork selected to go to the 2017 Sarpy County Fair. The fair is August 2 through August 6th. The fairgrounds are located in Springfield, Nebraska at Mainstreet and Highway 50.

If your child's art work was selected they will be receiving a golden colored notice of congratulations and their names will be read at our end of the year awards ceremonies. Good work, St. Mary's artists!

**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.

**VBS Needs Youth Volunteer - Grades 6th, 7th and 8th.** If you student will be entering 7th grade next year or older, we would love to have them come and spend the week with us as a VBS volunteer. Forms were sent home with students and are also available at the front entrance of the church and are on line. This time may be used for Confirmation preparation, volunteer time for High School and College or just because it is fun. Contact the school office for applications and information.

## Home and School Association

**Volunteer Opportunities.** For those still in need of volunteer hours, there will be upcoming opportunities for the following events: Field Day (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.



**Chick-Fil-A Food Night.** Thanks to all who volunteered and purchased food in support of our May food night. Home & School Assn. made \$236. We couldn't have done it without you!

**St. Mary's School Spring Plant Sale Fundraiser.** Don't forget that 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.

**Please Log Your Service Hours.** Your 2016-2017 volunteer hours need to be logged by Friday, June 30th. A final report will be run at that time. This information will be referenced when determining which families successfully completed their 2016-2017 Service Hours obligation. If you have any questions, please contact Brenda Achterhoff at [brenda\\_achterhoff@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda_achterhoff@yahoo.com). THANK YOU !