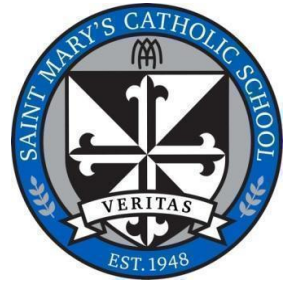




Rooted in the Dominican Tradition since 1948!
ST. MARY'S SPARTAN NEWSLETTER

Volume 34
May 3, 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 5: Mass; Rose F/T (PK-2); Night of Reflection/ Confirmation Practice

May 6-

May 7: Home and School Plant Sale; Confirmation

May 8: SPIRIT DAY; Home & School Mtg; NO HW RM

May 9: Holland Center F/T (K-2); Bud Botanists; Jr Legion of Mary



Every day, we offer up prayers at St. Mary's. This Thursday, we will take part in the *National Day of Prayer*, although one of our teachers smiled and pointed out that every day is National Day of Prayer at St. Mary's.

The National Day of Prayer is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. I know many parents will share with me that they are pleased that their children are "allowed" to pray in school. What a great way to come together, when we pray together.

Last weekend, I very much enjoyed being a part of the First Holy Communion celebration. I look forward to attending Sunday's Confirmation for our eighth graders and religious education students of St Mary's. They will be full members of our Church, fortified with the Holy Spirit!

Thanks to all our families who helped with our May Crowning this past Monday. All our students receiving sacraments looked so prayerful as they presented flowers to Mary along with our class representatives.

In closing, for our last *Gathering with the Principal*, I invite you all to visit with me as I bus tables from 4-6pm at our Chick-Fil-A Night on May 11th which is from 4-8pm. Should be fun!

Patricia Wallinger

Dr. Trish Wallinger

St. Mary's Parish is seeking a full-time Financial Administrative Assistant to work with the Business Manager on administrative and accounting responsibilities. A minimum of three to five years working in a customer service office setting and one or more years of experience with QuickBooks is preferred. For consideration, please send your cover letter and resume to collette.borland@stmarysbelleveue.com by May 17, 2017.

Fuel Up to Play 60 Grant / "Fun Run/Walk." St. Mary's received 2 Vita Mix Blenders as part of a grant request to enhance healthy choices/wellness.

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.



the difference **i** can make.

Boxtops program. Many thanks to families who send in those little boxtops. By themselves they are only worth 10 cents, but as a team we collected \$473.50 over a six month period (that's 4,735 box tops!). If you hand in 3 sheets of collected boxtop, student picks a prize. Collection sheet is attached..

Ritonya~Bushcer~Poehling Teacher Grant. We are very thankful to this foundation for our \$686 grant to purchase two science tables for use in PK-2nd Grade. Look to see them next fall. The tables will be enjoyed for science exploration in the younger grades and for sand play during recess and other activities. Thanks to our teachers for spearheading this concept.



Upcoming Sacrament Dates:

- 8th grade Night of Reflection and Rehearsal: May 5th, 5:30pm-8:00pm
- 8th grade Confirmation: May 7th, 2:30pm

Confirmation reflection and rehearsal date. The Night of Reflection and Rehearsal for Confirmation students will be May 5th from 5:30-8pm with the rehearsal beginning at 7pm. A parent or sponsor is asked to attend the rehearsal at the Parish Center at 7pm. Students should have dinner prior to the reflection/rehearsal.

7th Grade Families Cookie Request. We'd appreciate it if each 7th Grade family could contribute 2-3 dozen homemade or store bought cookies for our Confirmation Reception. There will be a marked bin in the main entrance of the church or you may drop them off at the School or RE office. Confirmation takes place on Sunday, May 7th at 2:30pm so please deliver the week of Monday, May 1st to Friday, May 5th.



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.

Prayer Field Trip. The 8th grade students and their teachers along with our youth director, Mr. Targy and Mrs. Mansidor prayed the rosary for life in front of the abortion facility on Thursday, April 27th. Through out their years at St. Mary's school they have learned the need and responsibility we all have to cherish life from the moment of conception until natural death. Students were able to join together with their classmates and pray for an end to abortion.

Help make our St. Mary's family grow. As a follow-up to recent Principal's Corner articles, our parents are the greatest ambassadors of our school. Recruit a new family and save \$250 on your next year's tuition; credited after new family

completes initial payment. Help us welcome new families by extending an invitation to your friends, family, neighbors and co-workers. It doesn't take long for new families to feel at home. You are the school's best ambassadors because you and your children know it and live it. Pass it on!

School Physicals—Reminder from Nurse. All incoming kindergarten and seventh grade students must have a physical before school begins in August. All incoming students from another state are also required to have a physical before school begins in August. Please schedule those appointments early so you can get in. Please submit updated immunizations to the school office as they are completed.

Last newsletter. Our last official newsletter will be May 17th. 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 before May 9th for group ticket rate (Berm ticket rate \$7) or email SaintMarysCIC@gmail.com for more details. *Flyer attached with eNewsletter and included with previous hardcopy newsletter.*

Thanks to Dr. Elizabeth Wessling for Math Help. For the past month, Dr Wessling, a parent and a Math professor at UNO has generously been in school to assist Middle School students with extra math support as needed during study halls.

*We wanted to take this opportunity to share our heartfelt appreciation for your help and support of the St. Mary's School Benefit Auction. It is your support that contributed to the **\$86,000** raised for improving the overall educational development of our children, making this a successful event.*

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 and the Home & School Association

Liturgy Changes. At a recent meeting with altar servers, it was announced that St. Mary's will be incorporating changes with candles and bells. Father Del wanted to pass along to students that changes will not occur until next year.

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 coming out soon! (See attached registration form).

Sarpy County Museum Camp. Come explore the history and heritage of the birthplace of Nebraska, Sarpy County. This five-day camp organized by certified local teachers is hands-on, educational and, most of all, fun! Help build an amazing 3-D map showing highlights of a pioneer family, Native American and Fort Crook personnel. Cost: Museum Members: \$65 per explorer; General Public: \$75 per explorer, discount available for siblings. Time: half-day program 9am-noon For more info, contact museum@sarpycountymuseum.org or call 402-292-1880 (flyer attached with eNewsletter).

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/>

Home and School Association

3rd Annual St. Mary's School Spring Plant Sale. Yah! We made it through Winter, and it's time to get our gardens ready for the growing season. St. Mary's Home & School Association is sponsoring a flower and nursery stock fundraiser on **Saturday and Sunday, May 6 & 7 in the school parking lot.** The hours are as follows: **Saturday, May 6th from 10:00 a.m.-6:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 7th from 8:00 a.m.-1:30 p.m.** All stock is supplied by Stoltenberg Nurseries. Annuals, perennials, vegetables, evergreen, fruit and shade trees will be available. St. Mary's School will receive 15% of all sales, and Stoltenberg's will also honor the 15% donation to the Home & School Assn. through the end of May at the nursery. See attached [flyer](#) for details. We will also be looking for volunteers to assist with the sales. See Sign Up Genius ([link](#)) for details.



May Home and School General Meeting. Please join us on **Monday, May 8th at 6:30pm** for our final HSA meeting in the school library. We will be discussing upcoming summer HSA activities/events and volunteer opportunities. Don't forget that you can log 1 hour of volunteer time just for attending.



Chick-Fil-A Food Night. Dine in or drive thru Chick-Fil-A (on Cornhusker) **Thursday, May 11th from 4pm-8pm.** 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 2 adult volunteers and 4 students from 4:00pm to 5:30pm and 5:30pm to 7pm and 7pm to 8pm to help with "hospitality" (greet patrons, mention food night, encourage receipt designation, etc.) and also clean off tables. You may sign up on Sign Up Genius ([link](#)) or by contacting Brenda Achterhoff (Brenda_achterhoff@yahoo.com). You can log this as a service hour! Thanks in advance for your support of this Food Night!

Volunteer Opportunites. For those still in need of volunteer hours, there will be upcoming opportunities for the following events: **Spring Plant Sale** (Saturday & Sunday May 6-7th), **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.