

How good and pleasant
it is when God's people
live together in UNITY.
Psalm 133:1

St Mary Catholic School March 2020 Newsletter



The Greatest Two Minutes in Sports!...the **Kentucky Derby!** Join SMCS as we have our own great minutes at the Kentucky Derby themed-annual school auction! If interested in buying dinner seats, please do that NOW by calling Erick Erwin at **316-305-8494**.

Remember also to fulfill your 6+ hours of volunteer service before, during, or after the auction. We all matter!



Parent/Teacher **conferences** will take place the week before Spring Break. These are NOT mandatory. They are by the request of the parent or the teacher. A note will come home IF the teacher is requesting it.

Beginning a week after Spring Break, SMCS will be giving **State Assessments**. These vary by subject and grade level. We want to encourage parents to make certain students get adequate sleep and a nutritious protein breakfast.



A HUGE Thank You goes to the **6th grade buddies** for helping the **Pre-4 class** attend their **first Mass** as a class on Ash Wednesday! They did amazing! Thanks!
~Mrs. Rohr



Do you want next year's enrollment fee reduced for this year's kindergarten through 7th graders? Then submit your "**Family Service Hours Log**" to Mrs. Kim (a log is attached to this newsletter). The \$200 fee can be reduced by up to \$60 with the submission of a log! Call Mrs. Kim if you have questions (316-282-1974, ext.10).

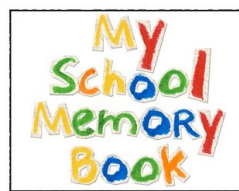


Dress is an important factor in the educational environment. At St. Mary, it is believed that personal appearance affects feeling, attitudes, and actions of the students. Parents are expected to use good judgment in sending their children to school dressed appropriately. Clothing should be neat, clean and of proper length and size. Modest and proper grooming affects the attitude and self-image of the students. Having said all of that, beginning March 1st, school uniform **SHORTS** are again allowed!



proper grooming affects the attitude and self-image of the students. Having said all of that, beginning March 1st, school uniform **SHORTS** are again allowed!

Yearbook orders needed!



Sadly, I only have 19 orders for 2019-2020 yearbooks. My goal is at least 50 orders (which is still only 25% of our students). If you want to order one for only **\$15**, please use the attached form returning it to Mrs. Kim. Make **checks** payable to "**St. Mary Catholic School.**"

Parents: please submit pictures of classroom activities that are worthy of publishing. Mrs. McNulty needs them! Send them to: kmcanulty@smcsnewton.org.

Letter from the Principal

"Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love". Ephesians 4:2

Dear St. Mary Catholic School Families and Friends,

Happy Lent! It is hard to believe that we are ending the third quarter and moving into the final quarter of the school year. It has been a busy year and yet we still have much to accomplish.

With our Virtue-based Restorative Discipline model, we continue with our yearly theme of Unity and will now move forward to focus on the 4th Quarter theme of forbearance, which means to be patient and show self-control.

During this Season of Lent and fourth and final quarter of the school year, staff and students will reflect on the virtues of Our Blessed Mother. Beginning March 5th, we will begin each morning with a reflection from *33 Days to Morning Glory* by Michael Gaitly. We will also kick off this devotion with Adoration on Thursday- led by Wichita Adore Ministries. Please feel free to join us in adoring our Lord following morning Mass.

Our school will complete the Walk in Sister's Shoes Campaign on March 6th. This is to bring awareness to the incredible life of St. Katherine Drexel as well as to raise funds for Catholic Schools in the Wichita Diocese that are in need of financial support-we are one of the schools that benefits from this campaign. Please prayerfully consider sending in one final donation by the end of this week.

Spring Break begins Saturday, March 14th and ends Sunday, March 22nd. I pray you have a wonderful, joy-filled break. Students will begin State Assessments when we return on March 23rd. During this time, please ensure that your child(ren) has plenty of sleep, has a great breakfast, and knows that they can do this!!!

It is that time of year again! It is Auction Time!! The Auction is vital to providing the needs of St. Mary Catholic School. Without the success of this fundraiser, we would struggle to keep our doors open. We need all hands on deck! Please make sure to sign up for your 6 hours of volunteer time required. Give Kim a call in the office and she will point you in the right direction.

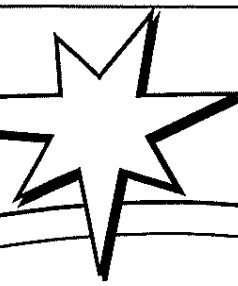
Finally, I want to welcome Joshua Bargdill to St. Mary Catholic School family. He will begin his tenure here starting July 1st. I am excited that Josh prayerfully discerned and accepted the principal position for the 2020-2021 school year. He comes to us highly qualified for the position, resides in the Newton community, and has served on our school council this year. He will be able to continue the vision and mission of this great school and move forward with the strategic agenda the school council has worked hard on this school year.

I want to thank you all for all you do for our community and for sharing your most precious gifts-your children-with us. Together we can light the world and make a difference!

May God Bless You!

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

Natalie Steiner-Principal



St. Mary Catholic School
Ms. Natalie Steiner



Thoughtful Moments

St. Toribio of Mogrovejo

Born in Mayorga, Spain, Toribio was a Professor of Law at Salamanca University when the king, noting his integrity, named him the next Archbishop of Lima, even though Toribio wasn't a priest! He was ordained, consecrated, and sent to Peru. He visited every parish in his diocese and learned the native languages so he could preach without an interpreter and they could more easily learn their faith. He also founded schools, churches, hospitals, and a seminary.



Servanthood

According to Jesus, the greatest are those who give themselves to God and others. Teach children to serve by assigning age-appropriate chores, asking them for help, or encouraging thoughtful acts. Children learn from doing.

"So, no matter how much time you spend fasting, no matter how much you sleep on a hard floor and eat ashes and sigh continually, if you do no good to others, you do nothing great" (St. John Chrysostom).



Plant the seeds of faith

Helping children to grow in faith is like tending a garden. To become healthy, plants need regular attention, the right ingredients and help from an expert gardener. To be strong, children's faith needs regular attention, the right ingredients, and God's continual help.

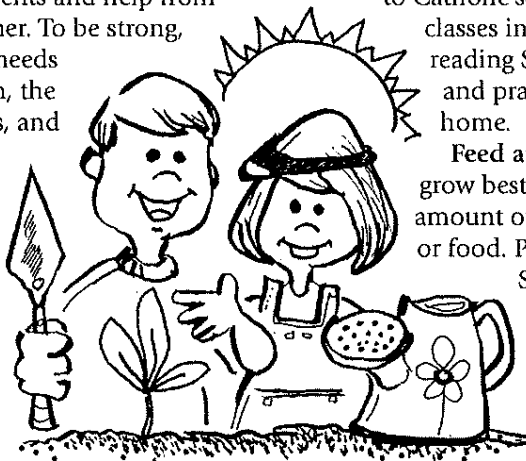
Cultivate the soil. Before planting, the soil must be prepared. It has to be made moist, perhaps have fertilizer mixed in, be positioned to get lots of sunlight, and any weeds must be cleared. Baptism cultivates our children's souls in a similar way. The weeds of original sin are removed, hearts are turned toward God, and the conditions are made right for God's

planting.

Plant the seed. Some ways to plant seeds of faith include sending children to Catholic school or religion classes in your parish, reading Scripture together, and practicing faith at home.

Feed and water. Plants grow best with the right amount of water and fertilizer or food. Prayer, weekly Mass, Sacraments, and religious study give our children's souls the food they need to grow a healthy faith.

Constant tending. Weeds can steal the food and resources plants need to grow. Sin can also choke our faith so that it becomes thin or weak. Taking our children to the Sacrament of Reconciliation regularly is a great way to keep weeds of sin out of their gardens.

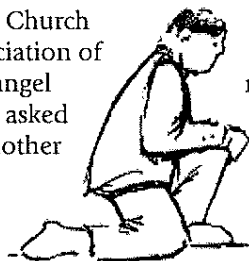


Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics genuflect during the Creed on March 25?

On March 25th, the Church celebrates the Annunciation of the Lord – when the angel appeared to Mary. He asked if she would be the Mother of God and she said, "Yes."

Usually at Mass, we bow when we



proclaim our belief that God's Son was "born of the virgin Mary and became man."

However, for the Annunciation and Christmas, we genuflect in deep reverence and gratitude for the mystery that made our salvation possible (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #461).

Consecrating daily life to God

Blessing objects and items that we use each day turns ordinary items into holy objects dedicated to God. Such blessings can help children see that pets, homes, cars, and bedrooms can become holy things and holy places that remind us God's love is all around.

Why bless? Dedicating everyday things to God's use is one way to teach children that they themselves have the power to bless. Then they can make their own little corners of the world holy.



What to bless? Bless people, events, places, and objects – and especially that which is important to you and your family. For example, a new car, a favorite toy, a family pet, or even special rooms in your home can be blessed and dedicated to God's use.

Prayers to use. A blessing does not have to involve books or formula prayers. In fact, families can design their own blessings using intentions or prayers that are special to them. For ideas and guidance, refer to *Catholic*

Household Blessings and Prayers (store.usccb.org, 800-235-8722).

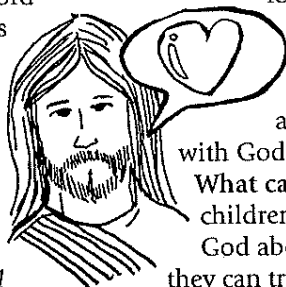
Scripture LESSON

John 11:1-45, Great faith, marvelous answers

God always answers prayer, sometimes in unexpected ways. Martha and Mary had sent word to Jesus that their brother was dying, believing he could help. They may have been disappointed when he took his time coming to them and Lazarus died. Still, Martha demonstrated great faith: "Even now I know that whatever you ask of God he will give you."

Jesus intentionally delayed so that rather than just heal Lazarus, he gave him new life. Martha didn't know what would happen, but she knew

Jesus and she trusted his wisdom. His response was a marvelous one: for her faith, he worked his greatest miracle yet. Martha was right: Jesus cared, he could help, and all things are possible with God.



What can a parent do? Tell children that they can talk to God about anything and that they can trust him completely. He always hears our prayers. Sometimes God doesn't give us what we want but he always gives us what we need, right when we need it. We can trust that his answer to us will be marvelous, too.

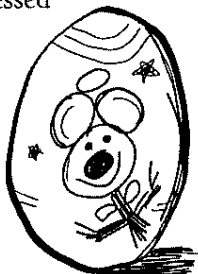
Feasts & Celebrations

March 7 – Sts. Perpetua and Felicity (203). Perpetua was a young mother and Carthaginian noblewoman who refused to renounce her faith. Felicity was a slave and expectant mother who also refused to deny her Christianity. Both were martyred.

March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (c. 461). Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped by pirates and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped several years later and became a priest. Ordained the bishop of Ireland, he is credited for having established the Church there.

March 20 – St. Cuthbert (687). St. Cuthbert joined the Benedictines at the Melrose Abbey. For his holiness, fervor and charity, he was made abbot of the Lindisfarne Abbey. He retired to be a hermit.

March 25 – The Annunciation of the Lord (1st century). The angel Gabriel visited the Blessed Virgin Mary with the extraordinary news of her role as the Mother of God. Even at her young age, she had complete confidence in God's grace and trusted in his wisdom.



Parent TALK

Our children were often so disruptive during Mass that my husband and I attended separate Masses to avoid bringing them. After a while, I missed attending Mass as a family. So I asked our pastor for suggestions.

The first thing Fr. Stan said was to sit up front. He said children pay closer attention when they can see what is happening.

Then he suggested arriving 15 minutes early to pray a decade of the Rosary as a family. When children pray in a quiet church, they understand that church is for prayer and not for play.

And lastly, Father suggested we go out for a treat, like ice cream or donuts, after Mass. Not only was it a reward for good behavior, it helped to make Sunday feel special.

His advice worked better than I could have hoped. I still have to issue the occasional "shush," but now we get to attend Mass together as a family. And that's the most important benefit of all.



Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children
Success Publishing & Media, LLC
Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*
(540)662-7844 (540) 662-7847 fax
www.partnersinfaith.com
(Unless noted, Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and New American Bible (Rev.).)

Schedule for Altar Servers, Cantors, Mass Assignments

Wednesday	3/4	NO MASS; Readings & Rosary instead, led by 7th Grade
Thursday	3/5	Koelton E, Ryan A, & Freddy A Altar Serve
Friday	3/6	Tyson W, Andrea C, & Austin M Altar Serve for Mass & Stations; Teachers Lead Mass; Ryan A & Evan A Cantor; Leah L & Adam C lead Stations
Wednesday	3/11	Gady E, Elias A, & Lily B Altar Serve for 6th Grade-led Mass
Thursday	3/12	Matt H, Sophia C, & Elena B Altar Serve
Friday	3/13	Leah L, Gavin S, & Tavin M Altar Serve for Mass & Stations; 5th Grade leads Mass; Charli W & Marisa M Cantor; Jade R & Emma M lead Stations
Wednesday	3/18	SPRING BREAK
Thursday	3/19	SPRING BREAK
Friday	3/20	SPRING BREAK
Wednesday	3/25	Luke L, JD E, & Andrew G Altar Service for 4th Grade-led Mass
Thursday	3/26	Joselyn L, Roman E, & Wyatt F Altar Serve
Friday	3/27	Adam C, Jade R, & Nesbeth R Altar Serve for Mass & Stations; 3rd Grade leads Mass; Matt H & Lily M Cantor; Tyson W & Tavin M lead Stations



Parents Always Welcome!

**We'll be having Stations of the Cross immediately following Mass on Fridays during Lent.
Mass starts at 8AM. Please consider joining us!**

Schedule for Events/Activities, Staff/Student Birthdays



- 3/3 Adrian, 2nd
- 3/3 Ethan, 7th
- 3/4 Mrs. Mathews, Parish Office Asst.
- 3/8 Carson, 4th
- 3/10 Maddyx, 3rd
- 3/10 Kayden, 5th
- 3/13 Lily, 7th
- 3/13 Lola, Kdgn
- 3/16 Ava, 4th
- 3/18 Elias, 6th
- 3/23 Jacob, 8th
- 3/26 Vanessa, 4th
- 3/26 Mr. Middlemist, 6th Gd Teacher
- 3/28 Mr. Bergman, Band Teacher
- 3/30 June, 1st
- 3/30 Nora, 8th
- 3/31 Aliana, 8th



What's On the Agenda for March?...

3/2 CSAL (Catholic Schools Activities League) Spring Sports Practices can begin. For more information about CSAL Track & Field, contact Mr. Middlemist, SMCS Athletic Director.

3/2 Dr. Seuss's Birthday. He would be 106 today!

3/5 SMCS School Council meets at 7PM in the conference room.

3/5 Wichita Adore Ministries will lead the school in Adoration following the 8AM Mass. Parents are welcome to join us!

3/6 Walk In Sisters Shoes ends. Last chance to bring in cash donations. Our First Friday Collection will be taken up at Mass.

3/6 Today is the last day of the 3rd Quarter. NO Grade Cards will be printed. Log in to your PowerSchool account to see your child's grades.

3/8 Daylight Savings Time Begins. Clocks SPRING ahead an hour. *If you forget, you'll get to Sunday Mass an hour late!*

3/12 Lifetouch here to take Class Group Pictures in School Uniforms. Order Forms will be sent home with students.

3/13 Lifetouch here to take Individual Portraits of Students in Casual Spring Clothes.

3/14–3/22 is Spring Break! Enjoy your time away from studies, and come back refreshed ready to work hard for the remaining 40 days of the 2019-2020 school year!



3/26 Spirit wear Day! Students get to wear blue jeans and SMCS spirit wear shirts instead of school uniforms! Let's show our support of SMCS by flaunting our school spirit wear!

3/26 Eagle Assembly. Hear the pep band! Join our cheerleaders in showing school spirit! Wish students happy birthdays! Celebrate students demonstrating virtues. Get fired up about helping support our school through the April 25 auction! Parents welcome (2:45).

Challenge yourself to support our school by supporting our Auction! Collect donations for raffle tickets over Spring Break!

March 2020

Breakfast Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 French toast sticks Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	3 Cinnamon roll Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	4 Sausage/Cheese Biscuit Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	5 Pancake on a stick Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	6 Pancakes Cheese omelet Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	7
8	9 French toast sticks Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	10 Cinnamon roll Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	11 Sausage/Cheese Biscuit Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	12 Pancake on a stick Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	13 Pancakes Cheese omelet Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	14
15	 <div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <p style="margin: 0;">SPRING BREAK</p> <p style="margin: 0;">No School ~ No Breakfast!</p> </div> 					21
22	23 French toast sticks Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	24 Cinnamon roll Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	25 Sausage/Cheese Biscuit Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	26 Pancake on a stick Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	27 Pancakes Cheese omelet Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	28
29	30 French toast sticks Cereal Fruit Juice Milk	31 Cinnamon roll Cereal Fruit Juice Milk				

March 2020

Lunch Menu

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Ava's Day Turkey/Cheese Sandwich lettuce, pickles Chips Applesauce Sherbet Milk	3 Sloppy Joe/Bun Tator Tots Baked Beans Cucumbers Mandarin Oranges Milk	4 Beef/Bean Burrito Corn Tortilla Chips Pineapple Milk	5 Chicken Nuggets Mashed potatoes w/gravy Broccoli Banana Milk	6 Fish Sticks Mac & Cheese Salad Mixed fruit Milk	7
8	9 Rib Sandwich Tri Tator Green Beans Peaches Bug Bite Crackers Milk	10 Goulash Caesar Salad Peas/Carrots Orange Dinner Roll Milk	11 Cheeseburger, pickle Oven Fries Mixed Veggies Applesauce Milk	12 Popcorn Chicken Oven Fries Steamed Carrots Pears Dinner Roll Milk	13 Fish Sandwich Chips Mixed Veggies Applesauce Milk	14
15 	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>SPRING BREAK</p> <p>No School ~ No Lunch!</p> </div>					21 
22	23 Corn Dog Tri Tator Baked Beans Mandarin oranges Milk	24 Crispito/Chili Corn/Red Bell Peppers Mexican Rice Applesauce Milk	25 Spaghetti/Meat sauce Spinach Salad Grapes Breadstick Milk	26 Chicken Nuggets Mashed potatoes w/gravy Peas Pineapple Milk	27 Pancakes Cheese omelet Tri tator Mandarin oranges Dragon juice Milk	28
29	30 Chicken Sandwich lettuce/tomato/pickle Tator Tots Mixed veggies Pears Milk	31 BBQ Meatballs Mac & Cheese Peas Baby carrots Fruit cocktail Milk	<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>Ava Claassen is the Lunch Room Hero for March! She picked the 2nd as her special menu & special day!</p> </div>		<div style="border: 2px solid blue; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <p>This institution is an equal opportunity provider. Menu subject to change at Food Service Director's discretion.</p> </div>	

WWJD (What Would Jesus Do?)

The following students are being recognized for living out virtue daily and going above and beyond:



Gavin S. (2nd) demonstrated the virtue of forgiveness by accepting an apology from a classmate and moving on.

Itzel L. (7th) demonstrated the virtue of kindness by always being kind and caring to her classmates.

Elena B. (7th) demonstrated the virtues of compassion and forgiveness by showing maturity in her decisions.

Xitlali L. (7th) demonstrated the virtue of honesty by being honest even when it meant more work.

Joshua E. (4th) demonstrated the virtue of peace by always being calm and peaceful. He often has a calming presence with his classmates.

Logan B. (4th) demonstrated the virtue of kindness by always being friendly, considerate, and helpful.

Ashley A. (4th) demonstrated the virtue of prudence by remaining positive even if the day is full of set-backs.

Noah B. (1st) demonstrated the virtue of forbearance by being patient with his group and their work together.

Jaxon M. (3rd) demonstrated the virtues of forbearance and peace by being a good role model for the substitute teacher.

Marya B. (3rd) demonstrated the virtue of peace by waiting quietly for directions.

Gianna V. (1st) demonstrated the virtue of unity by working with another classmate on unfinished work they were struggling with.

Madeline O. (1st) demonstrated the virtue of prudence when she found she could work through the pages she was struggling with.

Parker S. (1st) demonstrated the virtue of gentleness by being considerate to his group and classmates.

Jacelynn L. (3rd) demonstrated the virtue of forbearance by stopping her class in the hall so that kindergarten could go first.

Gus K. (2nd) demonstrated the virtue of kindness by helping take care of the teacher's reading chair without being asked.

Catherine E. (2nd) demonstrated the virtue of perseverance by working hard to make up many days of make-up work when she was sick.

Hiatt M. (5th) demonstrated the virtue of kindness by being friendly and helpful to his classmates.

Gady E. (5th) demonstrated the virtue of unity by being a leader and helping others.

Cameron M. (5th) demonstrated the virtue of thankfulness by showing his gratitude towards his peers helping him and thanking them.

Ximena S. (5th) demonstrated the virtue of prudence by setting a great example for her peers on how to focus in class and how to treat her peers.

Jase S. (K) demonstrated the virtue of unity by working well with another student.

Isaiah R. (K) demonstrated the virtue of unity by working well with another student.

Lucy M. (K) demonstrated the virtue of gentleness by always being kind and considerate of her classmates.

Lilianna H. (K) demonstrated the virtue of peace by being calm and quiet when others around her are not.

Braden B. (K) demonstrated the virtue of thankfulness by showing good manners and saying "thank you".

Lola B. (K) demonstrated the virtue of compassion by comforting a friend.

Felix W. (K) demonstrated the virtue of forgiveness by quickly forgiving others who hurt his feelings.

PTO News & Teachers News

Sports & Extracurricular Activities News

Tri-Parish News