



SUMMER PROGRAMS



St. Mary's School announces the implementation of summer school activities.

Math Camp: A variety of math activities to challenge students at their levels to enhance math skills.

Language Arts Camp: A variety of language arts activities including reading adventures to challenge students at individual levels to enhance language art skills.

STREAM Academy: Hands on activities to explore on a variety of activities grades K-6. The academy will be held in the afternoon.

Kids Club: Students will explore ways to communicate and socialize in different settings.

Band Camp: Due to COVID restrictions, Band was not offered this year. A band camp will be offered to 5th & 6th graders in preparation for next fall when classes will resume.

Art Camp: This will be offered for grades 1-6. A variety of art projects using a variety of media is being planned.

These camps will be held based on interest level. See inquiry sign up sheet sent home in Red Folders.

School Council Summary

St. Mary's School Council met March 22, 2021.

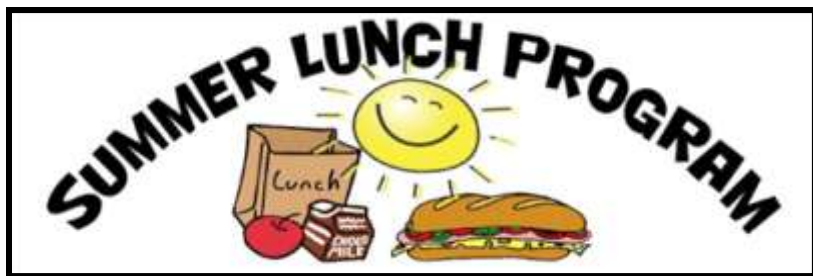
The council discussed bathroom renovation. The hope was a bid would be less than \$100,000. The spring rains, however, have highlighted the more immediate need of a new roof. This estimate is expected to be in the range of \$150,000.

The discussion pursued on the two projects and how to fund both of them. After some discussion, it was the consensus that the roof would be the main priority by using reserve funds from the school. The bathroom renovation would be set aside for the time being.

St. Mary's School is studying the idea of a summer program in June. There are available government funds for an extended school year, to make up for loss of learning due to COVID. These "enrichment" opportunities would be for 2-3 weeks in June and would focus on various academic studies.

Accreditation: Mrs. Straub administered a student inventory survey to students and teachers, all of which are connected to the standards for the accreditation process. Parent surveys were also given out during PT conferences, likewise tied to the accreditation standards. These results, in combination with classroom observations will be compiled to yield results that allow SMGS to assess what the strengths and weaknesses are of the school and therefore what needs to be the focus moving forward. The state is encouraging an individual plan of study / career path goal.

Enrollment: Pre-enrollment forms have gone out and the tally now would be 345 if all existing students returned (for the current year, enrollment is 318). Once commitments are received, classroom sizes will be evaluated. The 2021-2022 calendar was approved by the council. Tuition will be increased by 2%.



St. Mary's Grade School will offer FREE LUNCH to children ages 1 to 18 starting on Monday, May 24th through Wednesday, June 30th (Monday-Friday). Lunch will be distributed at the West All Purpose Room doors from 11:30am-12:30pm. Lunch will be a grab n' go, curbside/drive-thru service. No reservations required. No lunch served on Monday, May 31-Memorial Day.

Thank You!!!



Thank you so much to all of the families that helped make the fundraiser for the Moore Family a great success!! Jeanette and the girls are humbled and overwhelmed with the kindness and **generosity that the St. Mary's family has shown them!!** The winners of the drawings were: Marissa Martinez, Ellen Wohlgemuth, Courtney Hanke, Rachel Pyle and Jennifer Hutfles

LOVE 'N LEARN

Love 'N Learn is now pre-enrolling for the Summer program (3yr old through Kindergarten age 6). If you intend to enroll, the deadline is May 1st. Please call 827-4822. Love 'N Learn accepts SRS clients.

Around the School



- ◆ Top Pictures are from our Holy Thursday Prayer Service.
- ◆ Spring Tulips are coming up in the school garden!!
- ◆ 2nd Grade students made bread in preparation for First Communion.
- ◆ Bottom pictures are from 5th grade visiting Starbase!

Congratulations to our 2nd grade students. They have been preparing all year for 1st Communion. On Sunday, April 18th, students will receive this Holy Sacrament. A special brunch is planned for Thursday, April 22nd at 9:30am for the students only.



Commitment Forms

Commitment Forms were mailed out the end of March. Please return these forms with the commitment fee by Friday, April 16th to guarantee your spot.

Healthy Tip: Mix it up

For older school-age kids, mix dried fruit, unsalted nuts, and popcorn in a snack sized bag for a quick trail mix. Blend plain fat-free or low fat yogurt with 100% fruit juice and frozen peaches for a tasty smoothie.

Greater Salina Community Foundation Match Madness was held on Thursday, March 25th at the Salina Fieldhouse. Thank you for the generous support **St. Mary's Grade School received!! St. Mary's ended the day in the Top 10** organizations with over \$10,000 in donations!!

Addie Lee, a sixth grader at St. Mary's represented the school in the annual Bill Grevas Memorial Free Throw Contest. Addie made 10 out of 10 free throws in one minute to earn the school an extra \$100!! Thank you Addie for **representing St. Mary's Grade School!!**



Pictured below is Addie with her parents Nate & Sara Lee. Way to go Addie!!



Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

April 2021

St. Marys School



Thoughtful Moments

Start small

Concepts such as the Holy Trinity are difficult for anyone to understand, let alone children. That's why they are called, "mysteries." That doesn't mean you shouldn't introduce them, even when your children are young. As their cognitive abilities grow, they will understand more, but you can plant seeds even as they are young.



God trusts you

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the responsibility of parenting? Sometimes it can feel as if we aren't up to the task of doing the job right and if we had to do it alone, we might not be. Fortunately, God never intended to leave us on our own. When he gives us a child, he stays with us and guides us. If he didn't trust us, he wouldn't have chosen us in the first place.

Experience counts

"The glory of the young is their strength, and the dignity of the old is gray hair" (Proverbs 20:29).



Easter returns each Sunday

Easter morning comes after six weeks of darkness and sacrifice. In fact, the joy of Easter is meant to last throughout the year. "Sunday recalls the day of Christ's Resurrection. It is Easter which returns week by week, celebrating Christ's victory over sin and death" (*Dies Domini*, Pope John Paul II). Try these ideas to celebrate Easter each week:

Make ready for Sunday. Acknowledging sin isn't

comfortable, but it is essential in order to experience the joy of Easter. Turn Fridays into penitential days in your home during which you work to eliminate whatever keeps you from being best friends with God. Share meatless meals, fast from

television or video games, spend quiet time together.

Rejoice in reconciliation. Jesus knew that while our intentions may be good, our resolve isn't always perfect. That's why he created the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Take your family to Confession regularly. Your children will learn that God is always ready to forgive.

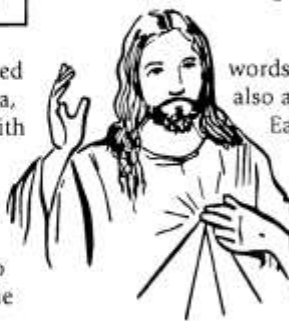
Rejoice in the Resurrection. Before you participate in Sunday Mass, read the gospel selection out loud so that that everyone is familiar with it. Talk about what the priest will do, the hymns you like to sing, or ask which prayers your children like best. This helps all of you to experience Mass, not just witness it. Easter returns every Sunday. Don't miss it.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday?

In 1931, Jesus appeared to St. Faustina Kowalska, a simple Polish nun, with his hand raised in blessing and two rays of light radiating from his heart – a red and a pale one. He told her to paint the vision with the



words, "Jesus, I trust in you." He also asked that the Sunday after Easter become the "Feast of Mercy," and promised that anyone who approaches him as the King of Mercy would receive special graces and great mercy.

Beautiful symbols of Easter

Easter is the most important feast day in the Catholic liturgical calendar, celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. We use popular symbols to represent truths about this holiday.

Lily: Lilies grow in spring – the season of new life. They begin as a bulb or seed buried in the ground that bursts forth with new life. Jesus was buried and then came forth with new, glorious life on Easter morning.

Eggs: The egg is a symbol of the rock tomb out of which Christ emerged when he rose



again. The chick, hatching out of the egg, symbolizes new life.

Lamb: The lamb was a sacrifice made during the Jewish Passover, celebrating when the "angel of death" passed over the homes of those who had lamb's blood smeared on their doorposts, sparing the firstborn sons. Jesus was crucified during Passover week and was the ultimate sacrificial lamb. He is referred to in the Bible as the "Lamb of God" and "our Passover lamb." During Easter, we celebrate Jesus' passover from death to life.

Scripture LESSON

John 10:1-10, The Good Shepherd

This Gospel tells of our relationship with God. Jesus is the Good Shepherd, we are his flock. A shepherd guards and guides his flock. A flock of sheep knows its shepherd by voice. When he calls, the sheep follow that voice but not any other.

Society tells us today to follow our own voice. In fact, we get the message that it's okay for us to each pursue our own desires and look after ourselves. As a result, when trouble strikes, we would have no one to turn to for guidance and comforting.



Jesus is now the Good Shepherd for everyone. As the Good Shepherd, he gives his life for his sheep. But he also looked beyond the sheepfold of Israel. His hope is to have one flock and one shepherd for the whole world, the Church which he founded.

What can a parent do?
The picture of Jesus as the Good Shepherd and us as the sheep he takes care of is appealing to children. We can reinforce that picture by stressing that our children can trust in Jesus.

Feasts & Celebrations

April 23 – St. Adalbert of Prague (997). As Bishop of Prague, Adalbert spent his life spreading the Good News. His efforts to reform the clergy of Prague were met with opposition that forced him to leave for Rome. While Adalbert was on a mission in Prussia, he was martyred by the pagan priests.

April 28 – St. Peter Chanel (1841). Born to a peasant family in France, Peter Chanel was ordained and entered the Society of Mary. He was sent to evangelize the Marshall Islands. Despite adversities, he

baptized natives, including the chieftain's son. He was martyred by hostile warriors. The island converted two years after his death.

April 30 – Pope St. Pius V (1572). Born to a poor family in Italy, Antonio Ghislieri became a Dominican. After serving as an inquisitor during the Catholic Reformation, he became Pope Pius V. He established seminaries and hospitals, and published the Roman Catechism, Roman Breviary, and the Missal. He is known for efforts to implement the Council of Trent.



Parent TALK

The local paper carried an article about COVID patients in the hospital who were sad because they wouldn't be home for Easter. Their families



were also upset because COVID patients can't have visitors. The story in the paper touched my girls and we talked about how we could help. After a

discussion, we decided to make Easter baskets to bring to the hospital. I reminded the girls that Jesus said when we show compassion to the sick, lonely, or the forgotten, we serve him.

After a trip to the store, we assembled brightly colored baskets with a prayer card, Mass card, a stuffed animal, and some candy. Each basket was tied with a pretty ribbon, and we brought them to the hospital across the street from the church. We couldn't deliver the gifts to the patients directly but the nurses assured the girls that everyone will truly appreciate them.

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
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>
(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

© Copyright 2021 Success Publishing & Media, LLC

April 2021



HE IS RISEN, ALLELUIA!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Holy Thursday Service @ 2:15	2 No School Good Friday	3
4 Easter	5 Easter Monday No School	6	7	8 Kindergarten Screening - No Kindergarten	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16 Race for Education	17
18 1st Communion For 2nd grade	19	20	21	22	23	24
	State Assessment Testing					
25	26 School Council Meeting 5:30	27	28	29	30	



Important Dates

May 10th - Kindergarten Graduation 7pm in the SMGS gym

May 14th - Play Day (more info to come)

May 17th - 6th Grade Graduation 7pm in the SMGS gym

May 19th - Last day of school - Dismiss at noon

Heavenly Father,

Bless St. Mary's Grade School and the many people who
advance our mission.

May our building be a home for those who seek to grow in
faith, knowledge, and service of others.

May our community always support one another and exhibit
hospitality to newcomers.

Fill our minds with knowledge and wisdom.

May our understanding of the world help us to grow in
appreciation for it.

Fill our hearts with gladness.

May we always turn to you in times of need.

Fill our hands with the tools we need to serve others.

May we show them your unceasing love through our actions.

St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, pray for us.

Sacred Heart of Jesus, pray for us.

St. Mary Queen of the Universe, pray for us.

Through our Master Teacher, Jesus our Lord.



Non-Profit Org.

U.S. Postage

PAID

Salina, KS

Permit No. 189

Love of Learning



Learning of Love

United In Christ - Body, Mind and Spirit

St. Mary's Messenger

St. Mary's School
304 E. Cloud
Salina, KS 67401

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

