



HOPE FOR THE FUTURE



The last month has been full of hope as we come closer to the end of this pandemic. As a school, we have been successful in maintaining in-person learning throughout the school year. There have been hurdles and challenges in mitigating the virus, but there has been excellent spirit from St. Mary's School community in working together.

As we get closer to "normalcy" and in the spirit of the upcoming Easter, let's reflect on great moments as parents. Below are some great quotes.

- ***"Parents are the ultimate role models for children. Every word, every movement, and action affects. No other person or outside force has a greater influence on a child than a parent." – Bob Keeshan***
- ***"One of the greatest titles in the world is a parent, and one of the biggest blessings in the world is to have parents to call mom and dad." – Jim DeMint***
- ***"Parenting is the biggest sacrifice one can make. It's putting your life on hold to fulfill the promise of your children's tomorrow. "There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is roots, the other, wings." -Hodding Carter***
- ***"Parents need to fill a child's bucket of self-esteem so high that the rest of the world can't poke enough holes to drain it dry."- Alvin Price***
- ***"To be a good father and mother requires that the parents defer many of their own needs and desires in favor of the needs of their children. As a consequence of this sacrifice, conscientious parents develop a nobility of character and learn to put into practice the selfless truths taught by the Savior Himself."- James E. Faust***
- ***"There's nothing called a perfect parent, so just be a real one."- Sue Atkins***
- ***"The children are our future. Teach them well and let them lead the way. Show them all the beauty they possess inside." – Whitney Houston***
- ***"A father's goodness is higher than the mountain, a mother's goodness deeper than the sea."- Japanese proverb***

"These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." Deuteronomy 6:6-7

School Council

Communication to & from Council: Bob D'Andrea was honored at the Chancery for the KAIRS Distinguished Educator Award—originally presentation was planned for Jan. 25 Council meeting.

The goal is to renovate the bathrooms this summer.. Bids are currently being taken.

Fr. Kevin reported that this being the year of St. Joseph, the parish is having Holy Hours, and praying for Vocations will be added. Progress on the church renovation is moving slowly, but forward. There will be no mission this year in Lent.

Committee Reports: Endowment challenge has been met with five people donating \$5,000 each, challenged by a match.

Four hundred packets will be going out for recruitment purposes.

Virtual Extravaganza was successful with a gross of \$47,000.

Accreditation: The visit is scheduled for Spring 2022. Surveys are being conducted in order to look at the data and prepare the final report.

A rough draft of next year's calendar was looked at and will be sent to Sacred Heart Jr. Sr. High for their approval as well.

Council went into Executive Session.

Knights of Columbus Council #8196 Vocation Poster Contest

Students in grades 1-6 competed in the Knights of Columbus Vocation Poster Contest.

1st Place winners' posters will represent Council #8196 at the district level. (Pictured are the winners in each age division).

Grades 1-2

Lucinda Roland

Grade 3-4

Brynn Bechard

Grade 5-6

Karrigan Thompson





5th & 6th Grade students were rewarded with a fun afternoon of games, technology, and snow cones!!



5th & 6th Grade Reward Day

Preschool & Kindergarten Parent Meetings

Due to the COVID Restrictions still in place with the County and also the schools, we will not have in-person parent meetings for preschool and kindergarten. There will be an informational video posted on the website towards the end of March. If you have any questions, you can call the school office at 785-827-4200.

Kindergarten screening will be on April 8th & April 9th. If your child is currently in the preschool program at

St. Mary's or at LNL, teachers will screen students during the day. If you are new to the school, you will be contacted to schedule an afternoon time. You must have completed the commitment forms to be able to sign up for screening times.



Mrs. Sager's 1st Grade
class celebrated Dr.
Seuss Day!!



Ms. Channell's 1st
Grade class enjoyed
the sunny
weather!!



More Information Plus

Race for Education

On Friday, April 16th, 2021, St. Mary's Grade School will be having its annual Race for

Education. The purpose is to raise funds in order to continue to provide a quality education and affordable tuition. All classes will be walking or jogging around a designated area for a one-hour period. Everyone is welcome to come and cheer on their child. Look for information in the Red Folders for times on when your child will be participating.

Chocolate Sales

Thanks to everyone who participated in our chocolate sales. We raised over \$12,000.00 profit for our school. The top selling family was the Herwig family. Second top selling family was Journi Hill family and the third top selling family was the Jasso family. This year families were awarded with "tickets" for chances to win a variety of prizes. For each \$60 sold, families names were placed in a prize hopper. A bonus ticket was given to each family that sold the entire \$80 package. Winning families were: Harper Johnson, Holcom family, Haselhorst family, Gordan family, Glenda Pham, Lauck family, Cheever/Lawson family, Golladay-Bauer family, Mya Fulkerson, Luke Ochs.

Reminder: Pre-enrollment forms were due March 8th. These forms are very important as they help generate the commitment forms that will be mailed out at the end of March. If you need another form or would like more information please call the school office.

Healthy Tip: Go for Great Whole Grains

Offer whole-wheat breads, popcorn and whole-oat cereals that are high in fiber and low in added sugars, saturated fat, and sodium. Limit refined-grain products such as snack bars, cakes and sweetened cereals.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ID66Szd4vjolt>

Please visit above youtube video for a Spring Update!!

Be a Fit Kid: Plant a Garden

Plant and grow flower, fruits and vegetables with your family. Creating a garden is tough work and a good way to stay fit

Commitment Forms

Commitment Forms will be mailed out to families towards the end of March. Please make sure you are current with tuition, Extended Care and Love N Learn. These forms will be due back to the school office on Friday, April 16. Forms will be date stamped. A \$100 commitment fee is also due back with these forms.

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

March 2021

St. Marys School



Thoughtful Moments

Penance vs. punishment

Penance isn't punishment. Real penance helps us undergo a change of heart that helps us become better people who positively affect others. Our sin affects others, and our penance and reparation can, too.



Foster loving kindness

In a time that seems to be full of bad news, selfless acts can result in an emotional uplift for the giver and the recipient. Practice acts of kindness each day. Use a gentle voice in every circumstance. Smile at someone who looks like they need it. Allow others to go get ahead of you in line. Sit with someone who looks as if they need a friend. Pray for those who are unkind to you.

As God loves

"Charity, love, is sharing with the one we love in all things. Love makes us similar, it creates equality, it breaks down walls and eliminates distances. God did this with us." Pope Francis



Raising good decision makers

At the root of every sin is a bad decision. Children's inexperience and lack of perspective often leads to bad choices that get them into trouble. A well-formed Catholic conscience, accountability, and experience are powerful ways to raise happy, healthy and holy decision makers.

Faith as foundation.

Solid ways to form a Catholic conscience include taking families to weekly Mass, regular Confession to a priest, making religious education classes a priority, and expecting and modeling Gospel-centered behavior at home.

Modeling good choices. Parents have the biggest impact on forming children's consciences. The process begins when children start developing attachments. Children start to imitate

the mannerisms, speech, and habits of trusted adults. It is important that they see our faith in our actions.

Experience is a powerful teacher. If parents are attentive, respectful, and nurturing to a child, she learns to internalize these characteristics as the way to relate to others. For example, attending to a child's emotion pain will teach remorse when she causes others pain. Invest active time in children, foster a sense of belonging, and communicate love.

Accountability is loving parents holding children responsible for their own decisions. When confronted by their bad behavior, youngsters may try to shift blame, refuse to acknowledge or follow rules, or attempt to avoid consequences. Set standards, give consequences, and follow through.



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Fasting is a traditional form of penance to show sorrow for our sins. By creating hunger and a desire for that which is denied, we are reminded of the reason why we are fasting. During Lent, we fast

Why do we fast?

because Jesus fasted during his time in the desert before he began his public ministry.

We also fast to sympathize with those who are hungry or poor and don't have the blessings we enjoy. Fasting helps us to be more loving and compassionate.



St. Mary's Grade School



**All Match Madness
donations will be
matched up to 50%.**



GIVE ON MARCH 25!

St. Mary's Grade School and Match Madness!!!

Be sure to stop by the Salina Field house on Thursday, March 25 between 7am-7pm and make your donation, Or you can go online and make a donation:

<https://www.matchmadnessgscf.org/stmarysgradeschool>

Or bring your donation by the school before March 25!!

March 2021



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 | 9 H&S Meeting | 10 | 11 | 12 No School— Staff Development | 13 |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| _____Spring Break_____ | | | St. Patrick's Day | _____ | | |
| 21 | 22 School Council Meeting | 23 | 24 | 25 Match Madness 7am-7pm | 26 | 27 SHHS Online Auction |
| 28 Palm Sunday | 29 | 30 | 31 | | | |
| | | | | | | |

St. Mary's K of C Council #8196

will have a DRIVE-THRU FISH FRY on

Friday, March 19th. The cost of the meal will be \$10/adults and \$5/under 12. The meal will consist of fried fish, coleslaw, mac & cheese, & dinner roll. They will be cooking from the kitchen at SHJSHS and serving from the far south parking lot near the cafeteria entrance of the school. Serving time will be from 5:00-7:00 pm.

Proceeds go to help Council #8196 and to the church renovation project.

KSDE RECOGNIZES SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

The Kansas State Department of Education recognized St. Mary's Grade School for its participation in the Summer Lunch Program during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

St. Mary's School served over 14,000 lunches between March and June.

Thanks to the staff for their dedication. St. Mary's is planning to participate again this summer.

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.



Love of Learning



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St. Mary's Messenger

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