

ST. MARY'S SCHOOL

Our Mission:

*Brought together by
faith,
St. Mary's School is
a Franciscan family
welcoming and
inspiring all to love,
live, learn and serve
as Christ taught us.*

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Wednesday Word

Volume VIII, Issue 23

February 17, 2016

From the Principal

Dear Parents, Teachers and Friends:

On Saturday, February 27th, the Crusader faithful will gather for a celebration of St. Mary's. Please make plans to join us for the Heart of the Crusader TRUE BLUE Gala at the Chateau in Bloomington. Dinner reservations are due in the Advancement Office by February 22nd. Please let Mrs. Rettick know as soon as possible so she and Mrs. Eagleton can place your order and arrange your table seating.

The gala promises to be a fun filled evening with appetizers and a cash bar opening at 5:00 pm as the bidding begins on all the silent auction items. Come enjoy the social time before dinner as the festivities continue with games of heads or tails, the wine and beer walls, and gift card frenzy. Be sure to stop and see Ann Charback who will take your picture to preserve the memory of a great evening. Throughout the night we will enjoy a live auction that includes great gifts and donated products, sports memorabilia, weekend trips and exotic vacations.

All this FUNdraising will be dedicated to the advancement of our school with a special focus on improving our educational technology for the future.

We must continue improving our server infrastructure, wireless network and software applications for 21st century learning.

You can help us reach our goal to provide all our students with Chromebooks in the classroom for instructional applications that they can use right now. We also hope to raise funds to begin replacing projectors and SMARTboards in our school that have been in use for nearly 10 years. With your help, this gala will take St. Mary's educational technology into the future.

And most importantly, don't miss this opportunity to celebrate with Fr. Ric and our Franciscan family. Please help us begin the season of send offs with a colossal thank you party to let our Friars know how much they are loved and how much they will be missed. A festive and full gala will let Fr. Ric know that St. Mary's is carrying on his legacy and St. Mary's School into the future.

Go Crusaders! be True BLUE!

See you at the Gala!

Mr. C ><>

Calendar

Wed Feb 17—All School Mass, 5th Gr.
Altar Server Forms Due

Fri Feb 19—Bloomington Thunder Hockey

Mon Feb 22—Jr. High Meeting 5:45 pm
PLEASE RSVP ASAP!

Wed Feb 24—All School Mass, 4th Gr.
~~Altar Server Training~~ **Rescheduled**

Thu Feb 25—1st Communion Meeting II

Fri Feb 26—End of Trimester 2
Volleyball 8th Gr. Recognition & Pack the Gym

Sat Feb 27—Heart of the Crusader Gala

Sun Feb 28—Athletics Potluck

Wed Mar 2—All School Mass, 3rd Gr.

Thu Mar 3—Girls VB vs. Faculty/Staff Game

Fri Mar 4—Early Dismissal 11:15 for P/T Conf.

Wed Mar 9—All School Mass, 2nd Gr.

Fri Mar 11—Spalding Letter Requests Due
Fish Fry #2

Tue Mar 15—Spalding Applications due

Fri Mar 18—Mon Mar 28—Spring Break

Sun Mar 27—Easter Sunday

Wed Mar 30—NEW Altar Server Training 6:45 pm

Our Parish and School Family

The Heart of the Crusader Gala is February 27.

We Need:

Silent and Live Auction Items

Blue and Silver wrapped Candy



Please send these items to the School office as soon as possible.

We are very excited to honor Mr. Csanda and all he has done for our school.

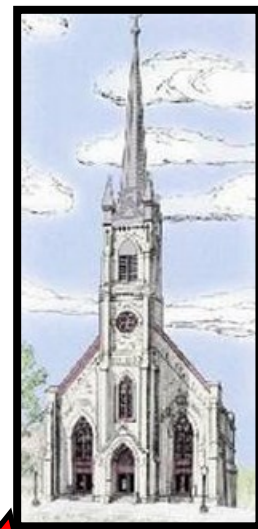
Click [here](#) for your Gala reservation form. Seats are filling up FAST!



Pope Francis has dedicated this year as a Jubilee Year of Mercy and has asked us to reach out to those in need. This week, at morning assembly, we had the opportunity to hear Jami Kaeb share information about **The Forgotten Initiative**, a ministry that supports the needs of local foster children and families. We hope to collect items that they need for their Safety and First Aid kits. If your family would like to donate any of the following items; Please send these items to school beginning Tuesday, February 16th through Friday, February 26th. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus.

ITEMS TO BE COLLECTED BEGINNING TUESDAY, 2/16 THROUGH FRIDAY 2/26

- 1) Encouraging note to foster parent/caregiver
- 2) Storage container with latching lid (15 Quart)
- 3) Smoke & carbon monoxide alarm and extra batteries
- 4) Grip 'N Twist door knob covers
- 5) Cabinet & drawer latches
- 6) LED nightlights
- 7) Foam corner bumpers
- 8) Outlet covers
- 9) 23" wooden security gate
- 10) Storage container with latching lid (6 quart)
- 11) Antibiotic generic ointment spray
- 12) Alcohol swabs
- 13) Bandages & band-aids in assorted sizes
- 14) Instant cold packs
- 15) Cotton balls & cotton-tipped swabs
- 16) Disposable latex or synthetic gloves (2 pairs)
- 17) Gauze pads & roller gauze in assorted sizes
- 18) Hand sanitizer
- 19) Regular Thermometers
- 20) Scissors (small ones for cutting bandages)
- 21) Any regular tweezers



Cen-Tech Tool Box found in parking lot on 2/4/16. Come to school office to identify and claim.

Mass Schedule
 Saturday: 4:00 pm
 Sunday: 7:00, 9:00, 11:00 am
 Sunday: 1:00 pm Spanish Mass
 Monday-Friday: 7:00 am
 Wednesday: 7:00, 8:00 am
 Confessions: Saturday 3-3:45 pm



**4th, 5th, 6th 7th and 8th Grade
Students of St. Mary's Parish**

Deepen your faith experience while livening up mass by getting involved! Active participation in mass can help to deepen your faith and liven up your experience.

Consider becoming an altar server for weekly mass. Serving mass allows you to give back to the Church and broadens your understanding of the Catholic faith.

St. Mary's altar servers chose the mass times and frequency they prefer by using an easy scheduling program located on the web. The program also sends e-mail reminders several days before the selected time.

Please consider attending altar server training on during CCD on **Wednesday March 30, 2016**.

You and your parents/guardians are invited to altar server training during CCD class on **Wednesday March 30, 2016** in the church sanctuary from **6:45 pm – 7:45 pm**.

Deacon Loren Keim has graciously agreed to provide training during your regular CCD class. Newly trained altar servers will also be able to sign up using the scheduling program that evening. A special gift will be given to everyone who signs up for a mass time.



Please return the completed form below to your teacher by March 16, 2016.

Yes, my parents/guardians and I will be attending Altar Server Training on Wednesday **March 30, 2016** from 6:30 pm – 7:45 pm.

Student Signature: _____

Parent / Guardian Signature: _____

Phone Number: _____

Family E-mail Address: _____

Please note the DATE CHANGE!

This training is for NEW altar servers who have never attended a class before.

Reminders



School Hours: Children EATING BREAKFAST may arrive at 7:20 and go to the cafeteria. Children NOT eating breakfast can be dropped off at 7:30. There is NO TEACHER in the gym for early arrivals until 7:30, and the aides in the cafeteria are too busy to serve breakfast and supervise students.

Please do not drop children off who are NOT eating breakfast before 7:30.

Spalding Applications are due March 15

- *There is no longer a full page Diocesan form*
- *Complete the NEW form at the bottom of the Checklist so your family can be added to Fr. Ric/Mr. Csanda's letter. THIS IS THE ONLY WAY WE WILL KNOW YOU ARE APPLYING FOR SPALDING. Please turn that form in by March 11 so we have time to prepare the letter.*
- *If you need assistance or know someone who does, please contact the office as soon as possible.*
- *You MUST apply for Spalding in order to receive Parish assistance.*

Pint Size Hero Blood Drive is Thursday, April 28th.

You are able to give blood every 56 days, so if you are a regular donor, please keep in mind our date and plan accordingly so you are able to give at our blood drive.

Our goal will remain at 100 units of blood. We surpassed that last year for the first time ever!

More to come later but please plan to give at our blood drive.

EVERY 56 DAYS!!!!!!!

St. Mary's Saves Lives!

GIVE BLOOD



SAVE LIFE

Turn Markers Into Energy!



Please help support our efforts by sending your kids in with any used markers, highlighters, and dry-erase markers you may have around the house – even non-Crayola brands. Drop-off boxes will be located **outside the Kindergarten room** for your child to deposit the markers.



CRUSADER CORNER



Volleyball is in full swing. There are almost no people signed up for our home games. **SIGN UP NOW!** You don't have to have a student playing volleyball to help at the games!

Girls Volleyball: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d45adaf2da7f58-girls1>

Fall/Winter Athletics Award Potluck Sunday - February 28th is our annual potluck and awards event in the school cafeteria and gym right after the 11:00 mass.

Athletes from Cross Country, Softball, Baseball, Basketball and Cheerleading will be recognized. Athletics will provide pulled pork sandwiches, beverages and all paper products, please bring a dish to share. If you will be attending 11:00 mass you are welcome to drop off your items prior to the service.

If you didn't have a student athlete this Fall you are still welcome to join us and celebrate with us. Just bring a dish to share!

If you ordered Thunder tickets for 2/19

Please stop in the office and pick up.

These tickets will NOT be sent home with children.

Any tickets NOT picked up by end of school Friday

MID-State Reading Council proudly presents

The Carnival of Reading Featuring Roxanne Owens

At Kingsley Junior High School
303 Kingsley Street, Normal, IL

Friday, March 4th, 2016

From 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm

Book Walk! Clown! Community Guest Readers! Popcorn! Balloons! Library Tables!

Thanks to Unit 5 Schools, McDonalds, and the Bloomington and Normal Libraries for their generous support.

This is a FREE family event! All children need to be accompanied by an adult.

**Please RSVP for
Junior High
Information Night on
February 22**

If you cannot attend the Gala as a guest but would like to help for an hour or two that night, please call Lynda Rettick at 309-828-5954.

We could use help watching auction items, handing out invoices near the end, and even helping people find their seats.

Be part of the fun and help a great event!

ANOTHER Fish Fry is coming—

Another fish fry is coming!

Sign up SOON for your shift at the March 11 fish fry dinner! All families need to volunteer for at least one Fish Fry. Same link—just scroll down.

These are really FUN events—especially for the volunteers!



**NEW Altar Server Training
For February 24 is RESCHEDULED FOR
March 30.**

See page 3 for details.

This is NEW training only; anyone already trained need not attend.

Can't find your Intent to Enroll form?

[Click Here!](#)

Please complete and return as soon as possible with \$150 per child deposit. Remember, the deposit is part of tuition and will be deducted from your tuition balance.

This helps with planning ordering supplies. Please turn in your Intent, even if you need to bring the deposit at a later time.

Registration packets are being prepared now!

ENROLL NOW



It's Time for Junior High

What math class will I be in?
Is there PE every day?
What is PBIS?
Do we switch classes?

There's so much I want to know!

Come get the answers to ALL of your questions about St. Mary's Junior High at the **Junior High Transition Meeting.**

What: The junior high staff invites you to join them for an hour of information, fellowship, and food.

When: Monday, February, 22, 2016 at 5:45 pm

Why: Learn all about the engaging curriculum and faith-filled environment St. Mary's has to offer 6th-8th grade students. Dinner will be provided to all who attend.

Where: SMS Library

RSVP: Please rsvp to the office at 828-5954 or lynda.rettick@stmarysschool.net



See you There!

Checklist for a Spalding Scholarship Application

- Thoroughly read the **Protocols and Procedures** for details on how to complete the application process.

- Submit the **FACTS Grant & Aid Application** online. If you need help or to use a computer at school, contact Mrs. Rettick at 309-828-5954 for an appointments. See FACTS contact information below.

- Upload, fax or mail your **2015 federal income tax return and ALL supporting tax schedules and documents** to FACTS Management Company.

- Upload, fax or mail your **2015 W-2 Wage & Tax Statements** to Facts Management Company.

- Ask your **parish pastor to submit a recommendation** to the Diocesan Office of Catholic Schools that your family is in good standing in the parish. *COMPLETE AND RETURN THE BOTTOM PORTION OF THIS PAGE TO THE OFFICE BY MARCH 11 SO YOUR NAME CAN BE PLACED ON THE PARISH LETTER.*

Apply as early as you can, but ALL DOCUMENTS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY THE DEADLINE DATE OF MARCH 15, 2016, for the application to be considered for the Spalding Scholarship.

FACTS CONTACT INFORMATION:

Online application:	online.factsmgt.com/aid
Customer Service email:	info@factstuitionaid.com
Customer Service number:	(866) 441-4637
Fax number for supporting documents:	(866) 315-9264
Supporting documents & paper applications mailed to:	FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment P. O. Box 82524 Lincoln, NE 68501-2524



Father Ric – We have applied for the John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship. Please include our family in your letter of recommendation to the Diocese:

Parents: _____ Student Name(s) _____ Grade in 2016/17 _____

Address: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Return to School Office by March 11, 2016

John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund Assistance Application & Awards
Protocols and Procedures 2016 – 2017
Deadline Date: March 15, 2016

PROTOCOLS:

- A family applying for Spalding Scholarship assistance must be an active member in good standing of a parish in the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.
- The student[s] for whom the aid is being sought must be enrolled in good standing [or seeking to be enrolled] in grades K through 12 in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All scholarship assistance will be based on a family's financial need objectively assessed: The diocese will use FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment Services to determine financial need.
- All scholarship assistance will also be dependent upon the recommendation of the pastor that the family is an active member of the parish in good standing
- If a student changes schools during a school year, tuition assistance grants will follow the student as long as the student is enrolled in and in good standing in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Peoria and the family is a member in good standing of a parish in the Diocese of Peoria.
- All awards are for one school year only. A family must apply for Spalding Scholarship assistance each school year.
- The number of grants and the amount of each grant for the school year will be dependent upon the funds available and the size and need of the applicant pool.
- Payment of Spalding Scholarship Grants will be made twice a year directly to the Catholic school a student attends. These grants will be applied to the family's tuition obligation. Tuition assistance grants will be announced by **mid-April of 2016.**

PROCEDURES:

- Families interested in applying for tuition assistance from the Spalding Scholarship Fund must complete a **FACTS Grant & Aid Application**. This form may be completed online at online.factsmgt.com/aid. Filing online is the fastest and most direct method of submitting the **FACTS Grant & Aid Application**. A family may also obtain a printed copy of the **FACTS Grant & Aid Application** from the school that their child attends or will attend, and complete it according to directions. Supporting tax documents must also be remitted to FACTS by March 15, 2016.
- The completed FACTS application, the fee (\$30), and any required supporting documents are to be filed with FACTS according to their directions.
- Families must also request the pastor submit a recommendation to the Office of Catholic Schools verifying good standing in the parish and the school respectively.
- The application process is complete only when the pastor's recommendation has been submitted to the Office of Catholic Schools and when a completed parent financial aid application, including all required supporting documents and the fee, have been submitted to FACTS. It is important to submit applications and documents as soon as possible. **Only completed applications which include supporting documents submitted on or before March 15, 2016 will be considered when Spalding assistance awards are determined.**
- A Checklist of all steps to complete when submitting an application for a Spalding Scholarship application is available at www.cdop.org, under *Catholic Education* and then under *Financial Assistance*. Scroll to the bottom of the page and select the link to the forms.