



where academics and faith go hand in hand

NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS

T 2/10 - P/T Conferences (3:30-7:00)
W 2/11 - No PM Bussing
Th 2/12 - History Day & Science Fair
Th 2/12 - P/T Conferences (3:30-7:00)
F 2/13 & M 2/16 - No School (Pr's Day)
W 2/18 - Mid-Quarter 3 & Ash Wed.
Th 2/19 - Bandorama @ BOLD
F 3/6 - No School (Diocesan FF Day)
W 3/11 - No PM Bussing
Th 3/19 - Spring Concert (K-8)
F 3/20 - No AM or PM Bussing
F 3/20 - End of Quarter 3

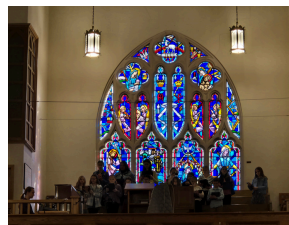
MISSION

St. Mary's School in Bird Island serves the area students in preschool through eighth grade by providing a Christ-centered Catholic education where academic excellence, self-worth, and faith development go hand in hand in a nurturing environment.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

Catholic Schools Week was January 25-31. This year's theme was "Our Torch Burns for Jesus" in honor of the upcoming Olympics.

The students and staff began the week by celebrating an Opening Ceremony Mass at St. Mary's Church on Sunday morning. Students processed in with colorful flags and served as ushers, altar servers, lectors, gift bearers, and song leaders.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CONTINUED

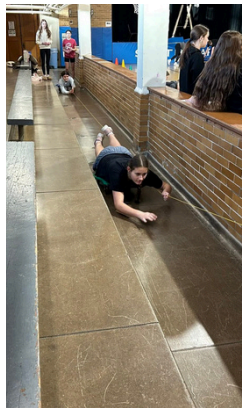
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Spirit of a Champion

On Monday, the students and staff dressed as their favorite Olympians or Olympic sports, and the students participated in Olympic races in PE. The races continued throughout the week.



Go for the Gold!

On Tuesday, everyone wore gold, silver, or bronze and enjoyed Donuts with Grownups in the cafeteria before school. The donuts were edible Olympic rings!



Winter Olympics

On Wednesday, because winter is cold, the students and staff dressed as snowmen. That evening, families participated in the fourth annual STREAM Night. They enjoyed a spaghetti dinner with a soda bar and participated in a variety of science, technology, religion, engineering, art, and math activities in classrooms throughout the school.



CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK CONTINUED

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St. Mary's Dream Team

On Thursday, St. Mary's School wore blue and gold spirit wear with church attire. 34 former students came to celebrate the Alumni Mass and to stay for lunch.



Team USA

On Friday, in honor of the USA, everyone dressed in red, white, and blue. The Catholic Schools Week Committee hosted an appreciation lunch for the school and AFC staff.

St. Mary's School celebrated a Closing Ceremony Mass at St. Aloysius Church on Saturday evening to end the week. Fr. Joe Steinbeisser officiated, and a team of students led those gathered together in song.

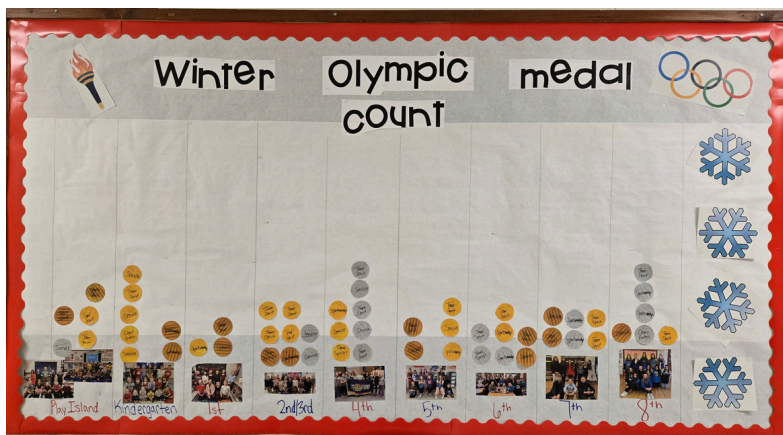


OLYMPIC MEDAL COUNT

Every day during Catholic Schools Week, classes competed to win gold, silver, and bronze medals for Team Spirit, Service, Sportsmanship, Trivia, and for being Clean Eaters.

The classes with the most students participating in the day's dress-up day won team spirit medals. The classes that brought in the most food items for the Back the Pack Service Project won service medals. The classes with the best sportsmanship in PE won sportsmanship medals. The classes that kept their tables and the floors beneath their tables the cleanest at lunch won medals for being clean eaters. All week long, the students also answered trivia questions about Catholic schools, and the top classes won trivia medals.

The official Winter Olympic Medal Count is displayed on a bulletin board in the hallway for all to see and celebrate. Congratulations to all of the classes for their achievements!



GRADES 2 & 3 POTATO OLYMPICS



Grades 2 & 3 created Potato Olympians and had them compete in a variety of events.

KITCHEN CORNER

We're over halfway through the year and things are going great here in the kitchen. We would like to thank everyone for the kind words about our food and how happy they are for their kids. Also, the turnout for STREAM Night was amazing, and we're looking forward to more opportunities in the future.

We were able to make the changes to our recipes and menus to start the transition to lower the sodium to the 2027-2028 maximums. The students do not seem to notice the changes, so we must be doing it well.

With the alumni meal just taking place on January 29, we were so happy to see the turnout with over 30 former students coming over to take part in Mass and lunch. It was great seeing all of those kids again.

We will have a few changes to announce in next month's newsletter for after Easter break as a test run for the 2026-2027 school year.

Michael Zimmerman and Cindy Woelfel



STREAM NIGHT SPAGHETTI DINNER & SODA BAR



CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL RAFFLE

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St. Mary's School is selling Catholic Financial Raffle tickets again this year. Tickets are \$10 each, and because CUF covers everything, the school receives 100% of the ticket sales. This year, all of the prizes are cash prizes, totaling up to \$30,000.

Grand Prize: \$20,000

1st Place Prize: \$5,000

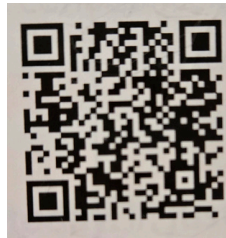
2nd Place Prizes: \$1,000 Each

3rd Place Prizes: \$500 Each

4th Place Prizes: \$100 Each



Please contact the school office if you would like to purchase a raffle ticket. They will be sold until February 22 or until they are gone. Thank you for your continued support of St. Mary's School!



It is the policy of St. Mary's School to comply with federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination and all requirements imposed by/or pursuant to regulations issued thereto, to the end that no person at St. Mary's shall on the ground of race, color, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to assistance, age, or disability and handicapping condition (if, with reasonable accommodations on the part of the school, the handicapped person could be accommodated) be excluded for participation in, be denied of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program, or in employment, recruitment, consideration, or selection, whether part or full time, under any educational program, employment, or activity by St. Mary's School.

LOOKING AHEAD

M 3/23 - Start of Quarter 4

W 3/25 - Grade 5 Living History @ 8:30

F 3/27 - Tim Orth Event @ 1:00 in Hector

April 1-6

No School (Holy Week & Easter)

W 4/8 - No PM Bussing

Sat 4/11 - Prime Rib Dinner @ St. Al's

Th 4/23 - Mid-Quarter 4

Sun 4/26 - First Communion @ 8:30

Th 4/30 - PreS & PreK Spring Concert

W 5/6 - Gr. 6 Field Trip to Birch Coulee

F 5/8 - BOLD Band Concert @ 1:00

W 5/13 - No PM Bussing

W 5/20 - 8th Grade Graduation @ 7:00

Th 5/21 - Field Day & End of Quarter 4

F 5/22 - No School (Marathon Reward)