



where academics and faith go hand in hand

NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS

F 3/6 - No School (Diocesan FF Day)

W 3/11 - No PM Bussing

Th 3/19 - K-8 Spring Concert @ **6:30**

F 3/20 - No AM or PM Bussing

F 3/20 - End of Quarter 3

M 3/23 - Start of Quarter 4

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

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

T 3/31 - PreS & PreK Registration
Open House 4:30-6:00

April 1-6 No School (Holy Week)

W 4/8 - No PM Bussing

MISSION

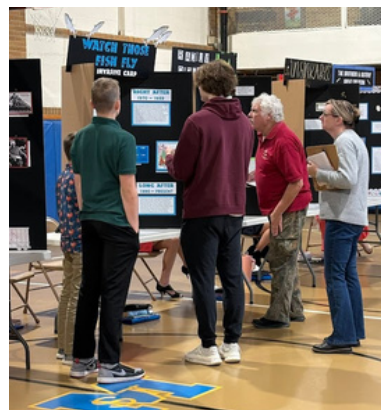
St. Mary's School in Bird Island serves the area students in preschool through eighth grade by providing a Christ-centered Catholic education where academic excellence, self-worth, and faith development go hand in hand in a nurturing environment.

HISTORY DAY

The 2026 National History Day Theme (Revolution, Reaction, Reform in History) coincides with the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. The theme explores changes, oppositions, and improvements made in history.

St. Mary's seventh and eighth grade students participated in History Day on Thursday, February 12. The projects ranged from a documentary to a website, to project boards. This year, 13 projects were invited to advance to Regional History Day.

The top placing students at Regional History Day will be invited to advance to State History Day on Sunday, April 19 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. The top two placing students in each category at State advance to National History Day.

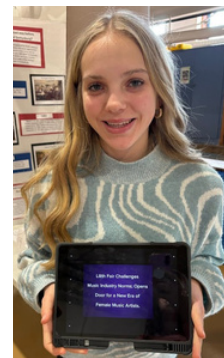
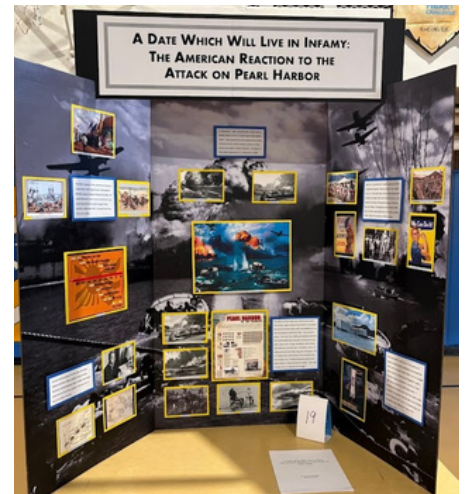
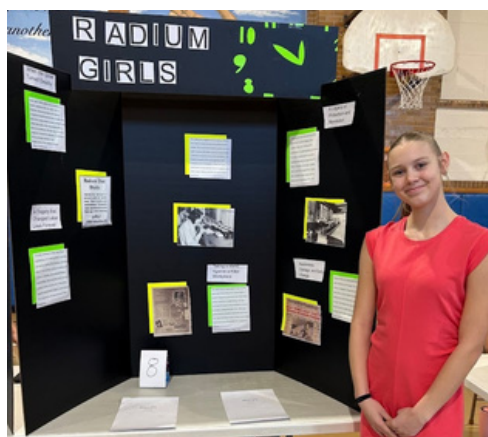
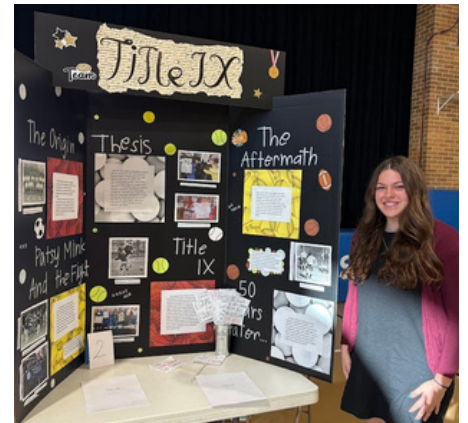
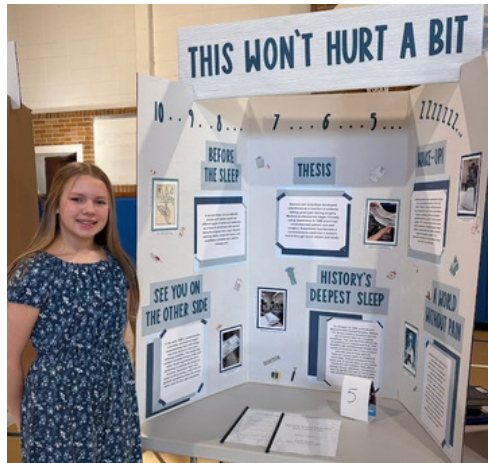


HISTORY DAY CONTINUED

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SCIENCE FAIR

The sixth grade students also participated in a Science Fair on Thursday, February 12. Five students received blue ribbons and were invited to advance to the Regional Science Fair at MNSU Mankato on Saturday, April 25.

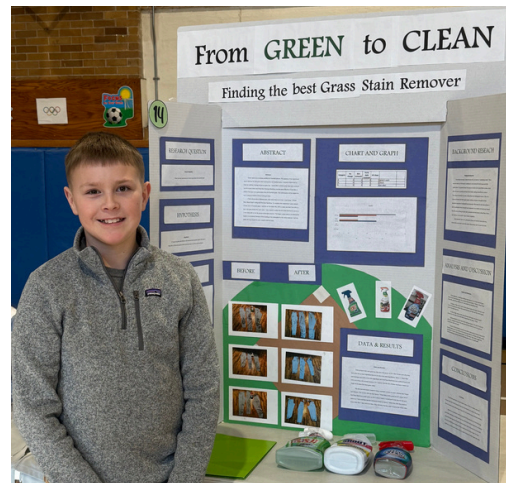
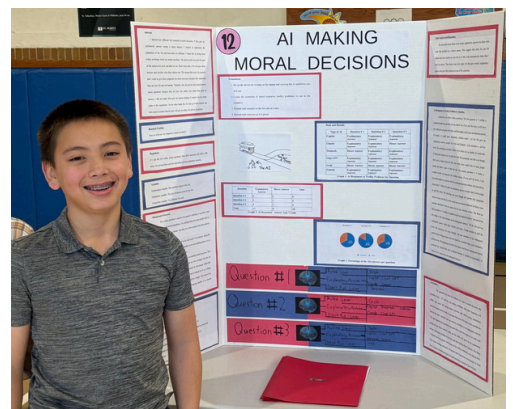
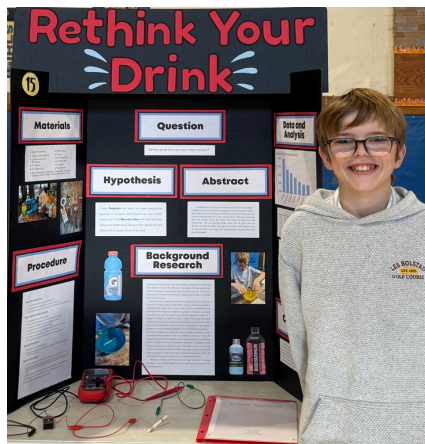
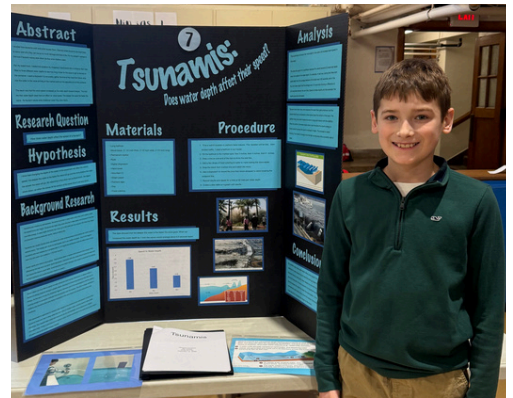
Shepard Kubesh - Tsunamis

Sam Papinaho - AI Making Moral Decisions

Deklan Peterson - Rethink Your Drink

Reid Swyter - From Green to Clean

Maura Wendt - The Battle of the Gluten-Free Flours



GRADE 1 LENTEN PRAYER SERVICE

The students performed a skit about Lenten fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.



UPCOMING SPRING CONCERTS

Save the date for the K-8 spring concert on Thursday, March 19 at **6:30 P.M.!**

The kindergarten through third grade students will be performing songs that will take the audience back to the Wild, Wild West with songs such as "Oh, Susanna" and "I've Been Working on the Railroad."

The fourth through eighth grade students will be performing the musical: *Go West! A Musical Journey through the Westward Expansion.*

Gold has been discovered in the hills of California. Land is being given away to settlers willing to make a fresh start in the newly-explored regions of the American West. Cowpokes and miners, farmers and trappers, gamblers and adventurers of all kinds are making their way west to chase the promise of the American Dream.

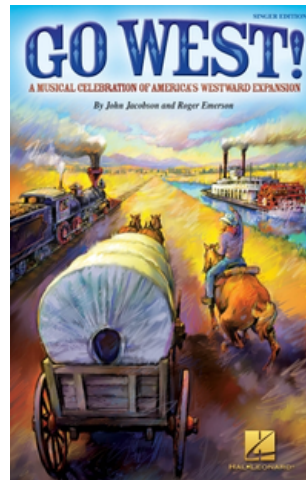
Go West! focuses on the Westward Expansion of the early United States and helps everyone discover that real gold is not always the kind that is made into ingots and baubles. Real gold is found in new lands, fresh starts, attainable dreams, abundance, and the promises of the land of the free.

Play Island Preschool's spring concert will be on Thursday, April 30.

PRESCHOOL & PRE-K REGISTRATION OPEN HOUSE

Tuesday, March 31 4:30-6:00 P.M.
Call to reserve your spot(s)!

St. Mary's grades 5-8 participated in the BOLD Band-o-Rama Concert on Thursday, February 19.



BAND-O-RAMA



KITCHEN CORNER

Down to the last three months and we can see the finish line.

We are pleased to announce some changes that are starting in the kitchen. Beginning on March 2, we introduced a “flavor station.” We have three salt-free seasonings that grades 4-8 are able to use to season their food. Our hope is that the students will be able to adjust the foods to their own tastes and be more inclined to eat what is offered. We will look to possibly expand to include other grades if it goes well.

Starting in April, we will be changing the way we serve breakfast. The way we do it now, the students say what they want, and the items are bagged for them. After Easter Break, we will be putting the foods on our salad bar table, and the students will be able to take things themselves. The kitchen staff will make sure the items qualify as a creditable breakfast. Our hope is that it will speed up the breakfast procedure and start teaching what is a proper breakfast according to the USDA.

Finally, the first two weeks in May, we will be bringing in new menu items for lunch. We will be looking at replacing some items on next year’s menu, and these are some items we hope everyone will enjoy. Make sure to check out that menu. It will be posted on the school website around mid-April.

Have a great month!

Michael Zimmerman and Cindy Woelfel



VALENTINE'S DAY RAINBOW BALLOONS BY ANGELICA

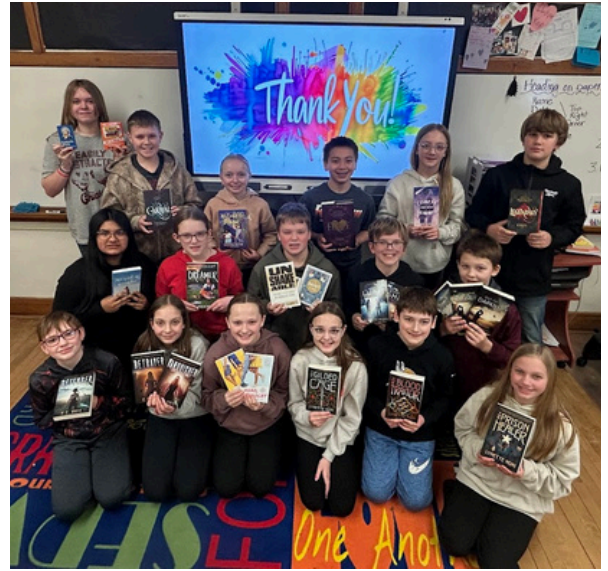


St. Mary's students and kitchen staff had fun posing with the Valentine's Day balloons.

CATHOLIC UNITED FINANCIAL RAFFLE

St. Mary's School sold 616 Catholic United Financial raffle tickets this year, raising a total of \$6,160 for the school. The live online drawing for the cash prizes will take place on Thursday, March 12 at catholicunitedfinancial.org/raffle.

Thank you to all who bought tickets!



THANK YOU TO PUMPKINS FOR A PURPOSE!



Thank you to the O'Neills for donating novels for the middle school reading classroom from the Pumpkins for a Purpose proceeds!

Through their family pumpkin patch, the O'Neills raise funds to support education, local organizations, and charitable causes while teaching the next generation the values of hard work and generosity. Thank you to all who buy pumpkins from the patch in the fall!

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

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

Th 4/23 - Mid-Quarter 4

Sun 4/26 - First Communion @ St. Al's

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,
& Last Day of School

F 5/22 - No School (Marathon Reward)

As a reward for meeting their Marathon goal, the students earned an extra day of summer vacation. The last day of school will be on Thursday, May 21. There will be no school on Friday, May 22.