



NEWSLETTER

REMINDERS

W 10/14 - Marathon Service Day

W 10/14 - No PM Bussing

TH 10/15 - No School (MEA Break)

F 10/16 - No School (MEA Break)

M 10/19 - No School (DNU FF Day)

T 10/27 - School Picture Retakes
(8:15 in School Office)

W 11/11 - Veterans Day Program

W 11/11 - No PM Bussing

TH 11/12 - End of Quarter 1

F 11/13 - No School (Staff Inservice)

M 11/2 - No Shorts (Until April 1)

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.

MARATHON



St. Mary's students and staff gathered in the school gym on Friday, September 25 to kick off this year's Marathon. The eighth graders performed a skit to model for the rest of the students how to safely and respectfully collect donations. Fr. George Schmit announced the Marathon goal of \$55,000, and the students learned about this year's fun incentives.

Daily DQ Gift Card Drawing

For every \$10 a student brings to school, his/her name will be entered in the daily drawing (max of 10 entries per day).

\$5,000 - Munch to the Music

\$15,000 - Extra 15 Minutes of Recess

\$25,000 - School-Wide Floor Is Lava Game

\$35,000 - Extra 35 Minutes of Recess

\$45,000 - Principal Punishment

\$55,000 - Extra Day of No School (April 19)

MARATHON CONTINUED

If students bring in Marathon donations on the TUESDAY of each week, they are welcome to participate in THAT DAY's dress-up day.

September 29: Hat Day

October 6: Silly Socks and Sunglasses Day

October 13: Wear What Makes You Happy Day (Disney Princess, Comfy Clothes, Jersey, etc.)

St. Mary's students and staff will be participating in the annual Marathon of service around the community on Wednesday, October 14. Acts of service will include: picking up sticks and trash, raking leaves, pulling weeds, etc.

Please contact the school if you or someone you know has a suggested service site for fall lawn care. Thank you!



St. Mary's School Marathon 2026
Donation QR Code and Link



<https://giving.myparishsoft.io/App/Form/5324e4dd-00bd-4fd6-a3ad-cbf5094effd0>

Grade 8 Marathon Skit

Mosyle is the program St. Mary's School uses to manage students' iPads at school, but Mosyle@Home provides a way for parents to monitor, screen, and lock school iPads while they are at home. Parents can set time limits, restrict usage, and monitor the devices while they are at home, reducing the risks of cyberbullying, inappropriate content, and excessive screen time.

1. Go to the following URL to get started.

<https://myschool.mosyle.com/mosyleathome/connect>

2. Enter your email to create your account.
3. Fill out your account info and click **Sign Up**.
4. Click **Create new family** to continue.
5. Enter your family name and click **Create**.
6. Click **New Member** and add your child to the account.
7. On your child's device, open the camera app and scan the QR code.
8. You will be redirected to the Mosyle school app. Enter using your credentials.



THANK YOU TO LOCAL AUTHOR DON ORTH

Thank you to local author Don Orth for donating a complete set of his books to the school library for the students and staff to read! Proceeds from Don's books support the Tim Orth Memorial Foundation and local families with children facing illnesses or injuries.

THANK YOU TO THE BIRD ISLAND LIONS & PARK VIEW VILLAGE

Thank you to the Bird Island Lions and to Park View Village for the generous donations of extra school supplies for our school. Thank you for setting up our students and staff for success!

THANK YOU TO THE CARTER BREMSETH MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

St. Mary's School would like to acknowledge and thank the Carter Bremseth Memorial Foundation for the generous donation of a full year's tuition for one of our students for the fifth year in a row.

This scholarship is given in memory of Carter and his love of his teachers, classmates, and years at St. Mary's School. Carter is a member of the St. Mary's School Class of 2020.

KITCHEN CORNER

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Welcome to the 2026-2027 school year! We, here in the kitchen, are looking forward to everything this year has to offer.

Building on what we've learned and observed the last two years, our menu does look a little different. We went from a six-week menu down to a five-week menu. After looking at our numbers and survey results from the students we surveyed in May, the most popular dishes were kept. Two new items on the menu are the popcorn chicken bowl (think KFC Famous Bowl) and roasted chicken legs. Also, we've moved to homemade burger patties, which allows them to be 50% bigger.

If you have any questions, concerns, or comments, feel free to reach out to me at mzimmerman@stmarysbi.com, and I'll respond back as quickly as possible.

Have a great month!

Michael Zimmerman and Cindy Woelfel



PARKING LOT SAFETY REMINDERS

Our school parking lot is busy at drop off in the mornings and at pick up in the afternoons. Please remember the following safety protocols:

1. Please use 10th Street as a one-way entrance in the mornings and in the afternoons.
2. Please exit visit the south end of the parking lot near the church rectory.
3. The drop-off line is parallel to the school building.
4. If you are going to park and bring your child(ren) into the building, please pull into the parking spots facing the softball fields next to the gaga pit and basketball hoops.
5. Please do not park next to the playground or the school, creating multiple lanes of vehicles, as it makes it dangerous for crossing and seeing children.
6. Please drive slowly in the parking lot at all times and watch for people crossing.

Thank you for watching out for the safety of everyone in the parking lot!

"I LOVE U GUYS" FOUNDATION SAFETY FRAMEWORK

This school year, we are in the process of adopting the safety protocols developed by the "I Love U Guys" Foundation. Created by parents following a school crisis, this program provides a clear, standardized response framework used by schools across North America to keep students and staff safe.

The core of the program is the Standard Response Protocol (SRP), which uses clear, common language so that students, educators, and first responders are all on the same page during an emergency. The protocol centers on five specific actions:

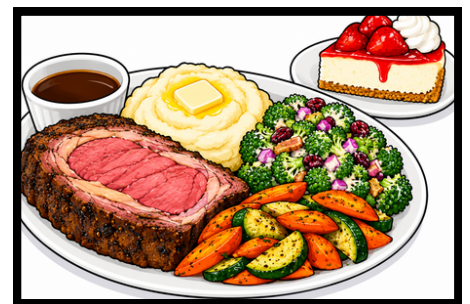
- **HOLD! In your room or area.**
Clear the halls.
Used for an issue inside the building (medical emergency)
- **SECURE! Get inside.**
Lock outside doors.
Used when there is a potential threat outside the building
- **LOCKDOWN! Locks, lights, out of sight.**
Used when there is an active or potential threat inside the building
- **EVACUATE! To a location.**
Used to move students and staff from one location to another (fire)
- **SHELTER! State the hazard and safety strategy.**
Used during severe weather or hazardous conditions

By replacing complex codes with transparent, action-based language, everyone in our school community can act quickly and confidently if an emergency arises. We will be reviewing and practicing these protocols with students throughout the school year.

To learn more about the foundation and its protocols, visit iloveuguy.org.



**STANDARD
RESPONSE PROTOCOL™**



PRIME RIB DINNER

Save the date! St. Mary's Annual Prime Rib Dinner will be on Saturday, April 10 starting at 5:30 P.M. in the St. Aloysius Jubilee Center in Olivia.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ATTENTION ALL SMS ALUMNI!

We would love your email address so we can begin emailing you our monthly school newsletter. Please share your contact information via the Google form at the following link.

<https://forms.gle/ksYPpov5iWboJ5kb8>

Each month, we would like to take the opportunity to spotlight our amazing alumni. Do you have a milestone or an accomplishment you would like to celebrate? Have you had a reunion or get together with your former SMS classmates? If you have news and pictures to share, please send them to Erin Wendt in the school office at ewendt@stmarysbi.com.

Thank you to all of our alumni who continue to support St. Mary's School with your thoughts, prayers, time, and financial gifts. We are blessed you are part of our St. Mary's School family!

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.

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UPDATED SCHOOL CALENDAR ON WEBSITE

Please note that our school calendar was updated on September 9 due to some calendar changes at BOLD. The changes involve no bussing on certain dates. Please make sure that you have the most recent school calendar (updated on the school website).

PICTURE RETAKES

Strawbridge Studios will be at school to take picture retakes on Tuesday, October 27 right after the morning announcements in the school office.

St. Mary's School
Picture Code:
PX505477



LOOKING AHEAD

T 11/17 - Fall Parent/Teacher
Conferences (3:30-7:00)

Th 11/19 - Fall Parent/Teacher
Conferences (3:30-7:00)

T 11/24 - First Reconciliation
(6:30 in St. Mary's Church)

No School (Thanksgiving Break)
November 25-27



October 10 Trunk-or-Treat & Movie Night



5:00pm Food Trucks

5:30pm Trunk-or-Treat

7:00pm Movie

Halloweentown

DIRKS PARK - COSTUMES ENCOURAGED