

# The BIRD WORD

Monthly Newsletter



## AUG/SEPT EVENTS



Pastor: Rev. John Kimani  
Principal: Melanie S. Chavez

AUG. / SEPT. 2023

14 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL

15 THE ASSUMPTION

17 FIRST DAY KINDERGARTEN

18-20 OLB FIESTAS

21-25 STAR TESTING

29 CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL MTG

### SEPTEMBER

4 LABOR DAY/NO SCHOOL

5 PRINCIPAL MTG

15 1:00 DISMISSAL

17 RUN FOR OUR FUTURE 5K

19 SCHOOL PICTURES

20 ATV INCENTIVE \$ DUE

23 CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL TRAINING

29 CIRCLE OF GRACE DUE

## LET THE LEARNING BEGIN!

The first day of school went off without a hitch! It is an exciting time with enthusiastic students, some new teachers, a new priest, some new students and families, and a fresh environment with new floors, walls, and paint. Starting the school year with a positive atmosphere and a revitalized space has set a great tone for the rest of the academic year. We are all excited to be in the same building this year as renovation on our school building is nearly complete.

### You Got a Friend in Me!

Our eighth graders got paired with their Kindergarten buddies this week. Our buddy system is designed to create a sense of community within the school, foster positive relationships between older and younger students, and help kindergartners adjust to their new school environment. Each eighth grader has a specific responsibility to support and mentor their assigned kindergartner. The relationship between our eighth graders and Kindergartners has been known to last well past St. Mary's School.

**"In the company of friends, we will find strength to attain our sublime ideal."**  
-St. Maximilian Kolbe



## VIVA LA FIESTA!

The fiesta burger booth is an important fundraiser for our school. It relies on parent volunteers who generously donate their time and effort. Without their support, it would not be possible to run such a successful fundraiser. While the burger booth is technically a fundraiser, it brings parents, students, and school staff together. It creates a sense of belonging and camaraderie within the school community as people work side by side toward a common goal. This year we were able to make almost \$2000.00 more than last year! Thank you to all our parents and volunteers! It is GREAT to be a Roadrunner!!



August Saint of the Month:  
Louis & Zelig Martin

August Virtue:  
HOPE

September Saint of the Month:  
Edith Stein

September Virtue:  
STUDIOUS



## MONDAY MEALS

Once a month, on a Monday, our first and second grade classes gather nonperishable food and deliver it to St. Vincent de Paul. To help them better understand the importance of their donation, guest speakers from SVdP came to talk with them. They explained how donating each month teaches valuable life lessons about compassion, empathy, and giving back to the community. Each student was also given a St. Vincent de Paul medal. The students look forward to collecting and delivering the donations each month and are working hard to fulfill our school's mission statement.

## Serving Others

Deacon Manny has begun altar server training with our students. Each week, he meets with four of our students and goes over the duties of an altar server. Our students love to serve. They volunteer to serve at funeral Masses that are during the week, as well as our school Masses.



## DID YOU KNOW?

**NAEP (National Center for Educational Statistics) scores show that if Catholic Schools were a state it would rank number one in the nation.**

St. Mary's Fall Fest  
October 28 at Tierra del Sol Country Club

**St. Mary's 39th Annual Fall Fest is on October 28, 2023. The fun begins at 5:30 pm with a dinner and board auctions begin at 6:15 pm. The evening will end with a dance featuring Daniel Solis. Tickets can be purchased from any of our students/families or at the school. Don't miss out on a chance to win **\$10,000**. Buy a ticket today!**

## Many Thanks to The Catholic Foundation

Each year, The Catholic Foundation brings together community leaders from across New Mexico to award grants for charitable programs that are helping improve the health and well-being of our children and families. The Catholic Foundation's Grant Awards Luncheon is a celebration of all of the people involved in creating and supporting these charitable programs throughout the Archdiocese of Santa Fe. This year, Ms. Charlene Baca wrote two grants and received over \$27,000 from The Catholic Foundation to help purchase new furniture for our school and to build a music wall on our playground. Ms. Merita Wilson was awarded The Catholic Foundation Teacher of the Year and received a \$1,000 award.



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*St. Mary's Catholic School prepares students to be leaders in worship, work, and the world through Roman Catholic teachings, rigorous academics and service to others.*

