



FAST NEWS FROM THE ROADRUNNER

April 20, 2020

HAPPY EASTER!

I am so proud of our teachers, students, parents, families, and community during this unresolved COVID-19 situation. We have remained strong and steadfast even though we can't physically be together at church and school. I am constantly amazed at the wonderful things our teachers and students are doing during distance learning and the support we have been given by our community. As we embrace this unknowing situation, it gives us comfort to know that Christ is risen this Easter season! Alleluia!

Pope Francis stated the following about our current situation and this Easter season, "This is a different "contagion", a message transmitted from heart to heart - for every human heart awaits this Good News. It is the contagion of hope: "Christ, my hope, is risen!" This is no magic formula that makes problems vanish. No, the resurrection of Christ is not that. Instead, it is the victory of love over the root of evil, a victory that does not "by-pass" suffering and death, but passes through them, opening a path in the abyss, transforming evil into good: this is the unique hallmark of the power of God."

May we uplift each other in prayer and spirit as we endure this unprecedented situation together. Let us pray for each other, our essential workers, those who have fallen ill, and a quick recovery to this pandemic.

May God Bless You and Your Family! Happy Easter!

In Christ, *Mrs. Harville, M.S.Ed.*



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SPIRIT WEAR CONTEST WINNERS!

Thank you all who took a photo and entered the SMS Spirit Wear Contest. All of the photos were wonderful, but we could only have 3 winners. Congratulations to Leilani and Arianny Perea (1st), Olyvia Sanchez (2nd), and Riley Badger (3rd), for winning the 2020 Spirit Wear Contest. All winners will receive one of the three SMS Spirit Baskets! GO ROADRUNNERS!



A Special Thank You to SMPA and Mrs. Nims for help with our SMS Spirit Baskets!

THANK YOU TEACHERS WRITING/PHOTO CONTEST...

ATTENTION SMS FAMILIES...**Teacher Appreciation Week is May 4 -8, 2020!** We are having another contest and would like EVERY STUDENT to participate. We are asking students to write a few sentences on why a SMS teacher of their choice is the best teacher in the world and post two photos. One should be a photo of the writing. The other picture should be a photo of the student holding a "Thank You Sign". Please submit all pictures to

contest@stmarysbelen.com with your student's name.

One entry per student. Pictures will be accepted from April 20th through May 1st. The winners will be announced May 4th and all photos will be on display on the school website and possibly our social media sites. The top three winners will receive a special Summer Basket for their dedication and support of our teachers!



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Fruit of the Holy Spirit for April/May:

GENTLENESS

Saint of the Month:

ST. MARY



MAY CROWNING...

St. Mary's School would like to continue our annual tradition of Mother Mary's May Crowning with a Virtual May Crowning this year. We would like to do a slideshow/video. The slideshow/video will have two sections: 1) A flower section to honor Mary with hand drawn pictures of flowers from students, or real photos from people's gardens/flowers at home and 2) A "Mary, pray for us" section where families and teachers may submit pictures of students, their families, or perhaps pictures of random people during the Covid-19 situation. We would like to showcase this Virtual May Crowning online at our school website/social media sites and with Father before his daily Mass on Wednesday, May 6. Please submit all

photos to the following email address by Friday, May 1st to be featured:

maycrowning@stmarysbelen.com

TALENT SHOW 2020...

St. Mary's School WILL HOST the ANNUAL SMS TALENT SHOW!

Albeit, the talent show will be virtual this year! Hopefully as many students as possible can participate! Mrs. Lucero will be accepting videos of students doing their talent through May 8th in order to have it all compiled by May 13th.

School Acceptable videos of students singing, playing an instrument, karate, jokes, reading poetry, juggling and anything else are appropriate. Please note: If dressing up, please make sure outfit is appropriate.

Please send videos and questions to talentshow@stmarysbelen.com or upload them to the google classroom with class code [jnumeah](#).

Guidelines: One video per student. Please include students name, talent, if music being used name of piece and composer! Try and keep videos no longer than 5 minutes. Jokes can be in separate videos.

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St. Mary's School Distance/Online Learning Classroom Guidelines...

In the spirit of helping our students become young scholars while they are at home, we realize now is the time to solidify our online learning classroom policies so that we can continue to fine-tune our lessons during this unique time.

In order to accomplish these goals, we would like to emphasize some basic, ground rules in a spirit of mutual cooperation and respect. In these trying times, it can be easy to fall into lethargy and we want to look back as a school and say that we all rose to the challenge. With all this in mind, please go over the following contents with your children...

Routine

Having a schedule at home helps tremendously and most of our teachers are providing this to families. We're all experiencing a loss of our usual routines during this odd time. If possible, it is ideal to set a routine that fits your day.

Examples of routines include:

- 1) Children rising and getting dressed at a set time each morning.
- 2) Beginning the day with a prayer.
- 3) Planting little moments of fun or relaxation in the midst of school work throughout the day (walk outside, riding bike, music break, etc.).
- 4) Prioritizing School Work in increments (i.e. Math for 30 minutes in the afternoon, Reading/ELA for 60 minutes in the morning, etc.)

Guidelines For Online Classroom Etiquette

Attire

- We encourage all students to come to the virtual classroom dressed (i.e. not in pajamas) as appropriate attire is linked to learning, performance, and recollection.
- Please do not wear a hat or a hood during lessons.

Place, Posture, & Preparedness

- Students should be in a family room or other common place and not in a bedroom during virtual class meetings.
- Teachers wish to see their students' faces. This is a request, not a requirement.
- Leave your computer in one place, even if you are mobile. If you need to go to the restroom, please don't take your computer with you.
- **Please remember to mute yourself** while in the virtual classroom unless requested by the teacher to talk, so everyone can stay focused on the lesson.
- Come prepared to class as best you can. (*Do I have proper books? Did I read what I was supposed to read? Do I have something to write with if needed?, etc.*)

By abiding by these guidelines, St. Mary's School together with our families will continue to provide a virtual classroom learning experience that benefits all of our students. Thank you for taking the time to read and follow these guidelines.

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