



The Bird Word



Saint Mary's Catholic School

101 No. 10th Street
Belen, New Mexico 87002
505.864.0484
www.stmarysbelen.com



Principal: **Melodie Good**
Pastor: **Rev. Stephen Schultz**

Guided by Catholic traditions and values, Saint Mary's prepares students for the future and for Eternity.

Important Events

Open House	1 st
Mtgs for Principal	4 th 5 th 11 th
Early Release	7 th
Consultative Council	12 th
8 th Grade Parents mtg	12 th
Valentine Dance	13 th
Inservice-No school	14 th
Billy Jaramillo Tourney	14-16 th
Pres. Day-No school	17 th
Dining out @ TJs in LL	18 th
Early Release	28 th



Student of the Month
Mr. Caleb Baca was selected by his peers because he is polite to fellow students and always prayerful. Caleb is a 6th grader, and he is the son of Lisa and Edward Baca.

Registration for New and Returning Students Begins

Saint Mary's parents—it's time to get on Sycamore and update your personal information. Re-enrolling your child is easier than ever this year. After you have updated your information, come in to the office and sign the Parent Commitment form, financial letter, and pay the registration fee—all before the end of March and your child will be registered for next year. If you are adding another child to your information, there is a place in Sycamore that says "add student" and you will be able to add that child without filling out new paperwork. We are extending the deadline for payment of registration this year to April 1st. We will have a REGISTRATION NIGHT on Monday, March 31, to catch any returning families who have not yet updated their information. In order to apply for financial aid and avoid paying the higher registration fee, update all your information on Sycamore and drop by the office to sign your forms and pay the registration fee. DEADLINE FOR RETURNING STUDENTS IS APRIL 1st

SURVEY: The survey that was conducted in December gave St. Mary's an overall very satisfied rating by parents. The results have been tabulated by two different groups on the consultative council. Please look for a summary sheet coming home with students this month.

Saint Mary's is a community of Faith, Knowledge and Service

AWESOME PARENTS AND FACULTY MAKE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK A HUGE SUCCESS

Teachers accompanied the students to the Heart of Belen for a presentation to the Mayor and in return they received a Proclamation from Mayor Jaramillo kicking off Catholic Schools Week in Belen. On Tuesday, the faculty brought tons of pastries for the wonderful parents who attended the Morning Prayer time in the gymnasium. On Wednesday, students presented Father Steve with a plaque of appreciation for his support of St. Mary's. Families attended Mass with their students that day. Thursday, the staff was

served a fabulous lunch by the parents of Saint Mary's (SMPA) and the day ended with a Stump the Teacher game. Students were treated to an afternoon of fun and games on Friday as they played minute-it-to-win-it games all planned by the SMPA. The eighth grade versus the teachers in a competitive volley ball game rounded out the week. Saint Mary's truly demonstrated a community of Faith, Knowledge, and Service during the celebration.





FEBRUARY IS SAINT MARY'S VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION MONTH

Mrs. Janet Sanchez checks out library books and reads stories to our children as our school librarian two days a week. This is a calling that she has enjoyed for 18 years. Besides volunteering in the library, she co-sponsors student council with Ms. Chavez. We couldn't do it without her!



If you walk by the 4th-5th classroom and glance inside, you will most likely see **Mrs. August** sitting behind the table filing or organizing papers for Ms. Chavez. Mrs. August, who is Ms. Janet's mom, has been helping the teachers and students at SMS for 10 years. We love having her here!



Ever since **Mrs. Kathleen Hill** retired from Saint Mary's, she has been a familiar face at our spelling and geography bees, student council activities and many other happenings at Saint Mary's. Ms. Hill is a favorite around Saint Mary's.



Saint Mary's Parents' Association News

Thank you to all the parent volunteers who helped make this year's Catholic Schools Week a huge success! From some delicious homemade soups, salads and desserts to our Stump the Teacher Game where teachers still rule the school. The "Minute to Win It" games were a huge success and congratulations to our 6th grade class who won the spirit stick for 2014! Our 8th graders showed the teachers who are kings of the volleyball court, although Coach, Mr. Schmock and some good serving from some of our teachers made the game interesting and very entertaining! The week finished with some delicious ice cream sundaes and everyone went home happy!

We have a committee coordinating and planning our Mother & Daughter event. Date and details of the event will be sent out very soon! Our Father & Son day at Isotopes Park will take place on Sunday, April 13th.

We will not be having a February monthly meeting this Wednesday; our next meeting date will be March 5th. Questions about how you can become involved with your St. Mary's Parents Association can be emailed to smpabelen@yahoo.com.

Twice a week, you will see **Mrs. Aileen Littlejohn** working one on one on reading with some of our students. Mrs. Littlejohn is a retired reading specialist who likes to spend some of her spare time working with Saint Mary's students. Thank you Mrs. Littlejohn!



Saint Mary's Winners!

Sunport Optimist Oratorical and Essay Contests

Oratorical	Essay
1 st Tommierae McKnight	1 st Isabella Sais
2 nd Kade Benavidez	2 nd Franck Marchi
3 rd Emilio Carrejo	3 rd Kaeley Chavez

Do you know someone interested in checking out our preschool, kindergarten or elementary program for their child? Send them to pick up a registration packet. Saint Mary's is registering for 2014-15 now!

Geography Bee Winners

Jasmine Day 1st Place Patrick Castillo 2nd Place

Complete your registration by April 1st!

Billy Jaramillo Tournament February 14th at 4:00 PM is the beginning of the BJ Tournament which was postponed from January. Fourteen teams are signed up to square off against each other for bragging rights to the first place trophy.