

# The BIRD WORD

Monthly Newsletter



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Re-enrollment begins	4
Valentines Day	14
Valentine dance	14
Inservice (no school)	15
Regi. Fee deducted	15
No school Pres. Day	18
Begin new student reg.	19



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Pastor: Rev. Clement Niggel  
Principal: Melodie Good



FEBRUARY 2019

## ENROLL FOR NEXT YEAR!

February begins the month for registration and re-enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year. In order to plan for staffing and budget, we need to know the number in each of our classes. Our classes are capped at 22, and right now our next year's 7th grade is full. We will begin a waiting list for that grade. We are in need of kinders and preK students for next year. If you are paying child care for your 4 year old, consider St. Mary's PreK for a full day at approximately \$450 a month for a certified teacher, a hot lunch program and a real school experience. Our PreK students get to interact with our 5th graders in a reading hour. They also get PE, computer lab and a science lab lesson once a week. We will take PreK students when they turn 3 1/2. Come visit our classrooms and see the St. Mary's difference.

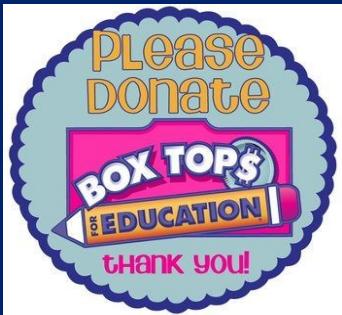
## ARCHBISHOP GRANTS DAY OUT OF SCHOOL

In a moment of extreme benevolence, Archbishop John Wester gave permission for all Catholic schools to take a day off of their choosing. He made this gesture in his Catholic Schools Week address at St. Josephs on the Rio Grande. St. Mary's will take Monday, March 18th as their day — added on to spring break.

## ST. MARY'S AWARDED STEM AWARD

The Air Force Research Laboratory NM Tech Engagement Office announced last week that St. Mary's will be awarded their School of the Year for Excellence in STEM Education. Los Alamos High School was the winning secondary school. On February 22, St. Mary's will receive their award at the Convention Center in Albuquerque. In the last few years, St. Mary's has made a concerted effort to include critical thinking, design-build, and more projects in the classroom instruction. A new class was added to our schedule called Makerspace which gives students a chance to learn about circuitry, designing and then building your design. In the middle school technology class, students designed objects on their computers and then printed them on the school's new 3D printer. In the fall of 2018, St. Mary's hosted a STEM Saturday Adventure in our gym and OLB Parish Center. Approximately 30 vendors participated in the two hour display of hands-on science, engineering, technology and math demonstrations. The community of Belen was invited and many families came to see the possibilities available in science and math fields. These and many other educational opportunities are available at St. Mary's for all kids.

HAPPY ST. VALENTINES DAY



We collect box tops at the beginning of each month.

Thank you OLB parishioners for your support of our school in the Sunday collection last week! We are blessed!



**Did you know?..**  
**100% of our 2nd graders are at or above grade level in reading.**  
**100% of our 4th graders are at or above grade level in math.**



The St. Therese of Calcutta group at OLB serves soup to the indigent in our community on Fridays at the KC Hall.

# The BIRD WORD

## Catholic Schools Week Highlights



Myles Minite to Win it Games



Thank you parents for all the help in making Catholic Schools Week 2019 a wonderful celebration of all the good things about Catholic education. Our parents rock!

### What's New in 2nd grade

Our second graders just did the readings at Mass for the 2nd time this year. Its amazing how well they proclaim the liturgy. Second grade also participates in the Friday Food drive taking food to St. Vincent DePaul once a month. They are now covering the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and comparing videos, newspaper articles, speeches and protest songs. They will write compare and contrast essays this week using evidence from their sources. In math they have been identifying polygons and 3-D shapes while discussing their similarities and differences.



### What's New in 5th grade

Fifth graders are getting ready for the Mission to Mars link up this spring. That's always a fun hands on project creating a habitat to live in and a food system to eat on Mars. In math they are learning how to create a model to demonstrate the division of whole numbers showing the answers in fractions. In language arts they are working on homographs and homophones and reading The Phantom Toll Booth. In March they will see the play at Popejoy. They will be writing essays using evidence from their reading and studying period art to see how artists use color, space and lines to tell a story.

## New student registration opens Feb. 19th

*At Saint Mary's School, we are committed to the growth of our Catholic identity,*

