

# The Bird Word

## Saint Mary's Catholic School



101 No. 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
Belen, New Mexico 87002  
505.864.0484  
[www.stmarysbelen.com](http://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

Geography Bee and oratorical contest	10 <sup>th</sup>
Early release	10 <sup>th</sup>
Awards Assembly	16 <sup>th</sup>
B. Jaramillo Tourney	17 <sup>th</sup>
Class pictures	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Fat Sat's Dining out	22 <sup>nd</sup>
CSW Mass 10 AM	26 <sup>th</sup>
Mass at Cathedral	29 <sup>th</sup>
Culinary Arts Café	29 <sup>th</sup>

### Catholic Schools Week Emphasizes School Choice

The 10 AM Mass on January 26<sup>th</sup> will usher in National Catholic Schools' Week. Catholic schools all around the country will be celebrating the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Catholic Schools Week. Students, parents, and supporters will be advocating the power of school choice. Catholic Schools Week celebrates education that goes beyond preparation for a secular life – it is education that prepares students for a Christian life. Catholic Schools Week (CSW) also celebrates the high standards of excellence and the quality of the education available to all students in Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the U.S. The purpose of Catholic Schools Week is to build community awareness of, and involvement in, Catholic schools throughout the country. During this week, many dioceses and schools encourage parents to take full advantage of the benefits of local Catholic schools by enrolling their children in those schools. During CSW there are opportunities for schools to interest citizens in volunteering their time and talents to a local Catholic school. Saint Mary's has been a choice for parents in Belen since 1927. Almost every family has someone who attended Saint Mary's. We continue to provide the best high school preparatory education; a safe, secure, nurturing environment; and an emphasis on faith, ethics and moral development. It's time for us to start posting, pinning, tweeting and sharing the benefits of a Catholic education.

Kade Benavidez, Aaron Torres and Sarah Foster with Father



Students of the month at lunch

**DO YOU WANT THE BEST SCHOOL FOR YOUR CHILD? SEE WHAT'S GOING ON AT SAINT MARY'S.  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK JANUARY 26<sup>th</sup>—FEBRUARY 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2014**

### Registration for New Students Begins in February

This year, all currently enrolled students will automatically be re-enrolled for next year beginning in February. Only new students will need to register. More information will be sent out to returning families in late January. New families will be encouraged to register beginning February 3<sup>rd</sup>. In order to secure a space in a class (cut off is at 18) you must enroll early. Registration is \$250. For more information, see our website.

### Reminders:

Go eat at Fat Sat's on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and say you are there for Saint Mary's.

Have coffee and donuts with us at the school on the 26<sup>th</sup> after the 10 AM Mass.

Save your box tops for Saint Mary's.

Second collection for Saint Mary's at Masses during the last week of January. Use your envelope!

Come to the Billy Jaramillo tournament!

**20<sup>TH</sup> YEAR FOR BILLY JARAMILLO TOURNAMENT**

Girls and boys Basketball teams from all over the area will meet at the new OLB Parish Center gymnasium over the MLK weekend to compete for the top basketball honors. Besides being the 20th year for the event, the new gymnasium will be providing an outstanding venue for the young teams. All club and school teams are welcome. The entrance fee of \$100 entitles teams to a minimum of two games, a t-shirt and awards at the end. All information regarding the tournament can be downloaded from our website.

**Saint Mary's Parents' Association News**

Thank you to all who supported the SMPA with our Christmas Shop! It was a pleasure helping the little ones and watching all the children shop for that perfect gift. We had an abundance of wonderful donations and that helped make this year's Christmas Shop one of the best ever! Thank you parents!

We have a few more family events coming up this semester and would love to continue seeing our faithful supporters as well as some new faces at these wonderful events! Catholic Schools week will kick-off on Sunday, January 26th and we will have a week full of activities for our school and community.

We are also in the midst of planning our Mother & Daughter Event which is scheduled for Saturday, February 8th as well as our Father and Son event on Sunday, April 13th.

We will continue hosting Dining Out Nights in the community. Join your fellow school families for dinner at Fat Sat's on Wednesday, January 22nd.

Our next SMPA meeting will be held in the Parish Center on Wednesday, February 5th at 6:00 pm. Come by and see how you can become more involved with your school!

**Schedule of Events for Catholic Schools Week**

- 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday**--10 AM Mass celebration and donuts and coffee after Mass
- 27<sup>th</sup> Monday**-Kick off day! Celebrate our community service project
- 28<sup>th</sup> Tuesday**-Parent Appreciation/ Pastries for Parents and Parents invited to flagpole in gym
- 29<sup>th</sup> Wednesday**-Faith Appreciation/Culinary Cafe
- 30<sup>th</sup> Thursday**-Teacher/Staff Appreciation-stump the teacher games
- 31<sup>st</sup> Friday**-Student Appreciation/souper bowl
- Feb. 1 Saturday**-Open House Noon to 3 PM

**Eight Ways to Let the Holy spirit Evangelize for you.**

1. Know the desired outcome: that our kids will come to know the God who created them, loves them and calls them.
2. Deepen you own prayer life. From the heart, the mouth speaks.
3. Open spaces for the Holy Spirit. "I will come to you in the silence." Trust that will happen.
4. Speak the names of God, Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit with warmth, tenderness and joy.
5. Take stock of your own priorities. Be attentive to the ideals you exude.
6. Build memories of faith and explicitly unpack where God has been present in those experiences.
7. Share your own faith in little nuggets. Hearing how you struggle and how God helped you exposes the source of your goodness.
8. Pray always. It begins with God and ends with God

Taken from Momentum, Dec. 2013

**Interested in checking out our preschool, kindergarten and elementary program for your child? Join us at our OPEN HOUSE on Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup> from noon to 3 PM**

**Catholic Schools Week**



The new logo features a swirl of colors interacting around a cross, which is at the center of all Catholic education. The vibrancy of the colors and the movement and shadows in the logo portray the inner-connectivity and community life that are present in our Catholic schools.