



January Edition
2015

Pastor: Rev. Stephen Schultz
Principal: Melodie Good

Saint Mary's Catholic School Belen, NM

Guided by Catholic traditions and values, the mission of Saint Mary's Catholic school is to prepare our students for the future and for eternity.

Saint Mary's plans a week of FUN events for Catholic Schools Week 2015

IMPORTANT EVENTS

School starts	6th
Consultative Cncl	7th
Home B-Ball game	13th
Home B-ball game	15th
Early Dismissal 1 PM	16th
Awards in gym	16th
No School	19th

**Catholic Schools Week
25th-31st**
Watch for schedule of activities

5K Fun Run/Walk	25th
ATV Drawing	25th
Home B-ball game	27th
Breakfast @Fat Sats from 7-9AM	31st

January 25th is the kick off for 2015 National Catholic Schools Week. Saint Mary's Staff and SMPA are planning themes for each day of the week that bring together the school and the community. The week will kick off with the noon Mass on the 25th of January, followed by a 5K fun Run/Walk and the drawing for the ATV in the parking lot of the church. Weather permitting, we also hope to launch a hot air balloon with math teacher, Mrs. Padilla, taking her first balloon ride. Other highlights of the week feature an appreciation day for community first responders at the Heart of Belen, a celebration of faith, a thank you to parents and a student/staff appreciation day. Each day will have a schedule of activities .

This week always coincides with National School Choice Week. National School Choice Week provides an unprecedented opportunity, every January, to shine a positive spotlight on the need for effective education options for all children. Participants believe that parents should be empowered to choose the best educational environments for their children and bringing attention to School Choice provides a platform for people to celebrate school choice where it exists and demand it where it does not. Saint Mary's has offered a choice for Valencia county residents for the past 87 years and it is stronger than ever in 2015.

The Bird Word

5K FUN RUN/WALK

Anyone wishing to sign up for the 5K can register in the school office. The cost is \$20 per person which includes a T-shirt and other goodies.



Breakfast at Fat Sats

Support the Roadrunner Booster Club and bring CSW to a close with a **Pancake Breakfast** from 7 to 9 AM at Fat Sats on January 31st. The proceeds will help buy uniforms for our athletes.

BE PART OF "OUR FAMILY, OUR FAITH 2015"

Saint Mary's families will be asked to contribute a scrapbook page to "Our Family Our Faith" book that is being put together to commemorate CSW this year. The pages will be displayed in the halls of the school beginning the 23rd before being compiled into a large scrap book. Students will be given the dimensions and the guidelines. Pages must be completed and turned in by Thursday, the 22nd.

SAINT MARY'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

St. Mary's Parents Association is busy preparing for a new semester of wonderful events! Catholic Schools Week starts Sunday, January 25th with a 5K Fun Run and that will also be the day of the raffle drawing for the ATV! Each day during Catholic Schools Week we will have a theme with lots of great events planned. We will utilize signupgenius.com again for volunteers. SMPA committees will also be planning our Mother/Son and Father/Daughter events. Please plan on joining us for our SMPA meeting on Wednesday, January 14th after the children's mass at 10:00 am at the school. We have lots of items on the agenda to plan, discuss and start coordinating! If you can't make it to the meeting and would like to get involved, email smpa-belen@yahoo.com.

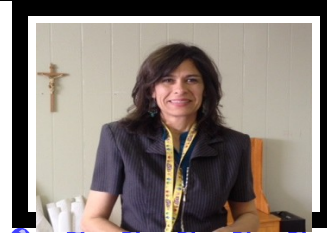
Oratorical Contest

Six students participated in this year's Optimist oratorical contest. Seventh grader, Patrick Castillo, took away top honors as he told the audience how being an optimist will affect his future. Kamryn Duenas received second place and Dominic Sais took third. Other participants were Dominique Gallegos, Emilio Carrejo, and Krystal Cuaron.



Varsity Girls Win APIAL Basketball Championship

Once again Saint Mary's athletes bring home the gold! After a rocky start to their season, the 7th and 8th grade girls battled Annunciation girls for the right to bring home the gold basketball.



Ms. Lora Chavez was selected Winter Featured Teacher at Saint Mary's. You will find Ms. Chavez in the Pre-K classroom in the mornings. In the afternoon she is working with all grade levels teaching Spanish and choir. She is truly multitalented and brings those talents to the students. She received her degree in classical languages from UNM while her love for music and Pre-K comes from her own family roots. She is the mother of 6 children and has been singing liturgical music since she was a little girl herself. She recently took our school choir to entertain the residents at Belen Meadows with Christmas carols. She joins Ms. Heather Sanchez and Ms. Angela Padilla, former featured teachers this year.

On the same day, the JV girls battled for the championship in their bracket and lost by a basket in the final moments bringing home the silver basketball. This team, made up of mostly 5th graders, had never played competitive basketball before yet their season was made up of wins all the way through. Saint Mary's will be cheering on these girls for the next few years! The proud coach of both teams was Mr. Mario Baldonado. He was assisted by former St. Mary's student, David Baca.

Faith. Academics. Service.
Catholic Schools

For more information about Saint Mary's Catholic School go to www.stmarysbelen.com or see our Facebook page