

The BIRD WORD

Monthly Newsletter



JANUARY EVENTS

- 9 STUDENTS & STAFF RETURN
- 9 QUARTER 3 BEGINS
- 10 PRINCIPAL MTG
- 13 REPORT CARDS GO HOME
- 16 MLK NO SCHOOL
- 23 SPX TESTING 8TH GRADERS
- 25 CLASS AND SPORTS PICTURES
- 29 CSW MASS 10:00 AM
- 30 REGISTRATION FOR CURRENT STUDENTS BEGINS



Pastor: Rev. Clement Niggel
Principal: Melanie Chavez

JANUARY 2023

BULLS EYE!

New this year is St. Mary's Archery team! Five students signed up to participate in this fun sport and represent the Roadrunners. Each week, they have a meet and their points are calculated to see who will advance to the State Competition. With high enough scores, they can become eligible for scholarships.



Congratulations to Brandon Manzanares and Allyson Marquez for participating in the District Spelling Bee at Belen High School on January 6, 2023.

Catholic Schools Week: January 29-February 3

Catholic Schools was celebrated nationwide on January 29 through February 3, 2023. We kicked off this fun event with students proclaiming the liturgy during the 10 am Mass on the 29th. Each day was designated to celebrate a different group. On Monday, we recognized firefighters in our area by providing them gift baskets with delicious treats. On Tuesday, we recognized our parents during drop off with flower seeds thanking them for helping our school "bloom." On Wednesday we showed our priests our appreciation with gifts presented to them during our school Mass. Then, on Thursday, teachers were treated with gift cards and a lunch from Check-fil-A. We ended the week celebrating our students with our annual Minute-to-Win-It games! It was a fun week to show our love for our Catholic school

Registration Time!!!

Current students began registering for the 2023-2024 school year on January 30, 2023. They have until February 16 to register their students to guarantee a spot for next year.

Beginning on February 21, we will begin our open enrollment and start calling families who are on our waiting list. If you are interested in more information about St. Mary's and the programs we offer, please call or stop by the school!



January's Virtue:
GRATITUDE

January's Saint:
St. Julie Billiart



101 N Tenth Street
Belen, NM 87002
505.864.0484
stmmarysbelen.com

Why Choose a Catholic School?

Did you know that St. Mary's offers financial aid, scholarships, and payment plans? Come see what makes our school exceptional!

Catholic education addresses the development of the whole person – spirit, mind and body – through spiritual and academic formation based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Unique to Catholic schools are these principles:

- Catholic schools operate as communities rather than bureaucracies
- Catholic schools are committed to academic excellence
- Catholic schools incorporate spirituality into every aspect of the curriculum
- Catholic schools teach that service to others is a basic tenet of the Catholic faith • Catholic schools are diverse and inclusive
- Catholic school teachers and leaders say they believe they are called to the ministry of Catholic education
- Catholic school students are more likely to pray daily, attend church more often, retain a Catholic identity as an adult and donate more to the Church.
- Students who attend Catholic high schools are approximately twice as likely as students who attend public high schools to graduate from college.
- Nearly 62 percent of Catholic high school students earn a bachelor's degree or higher by the time they are eight years out of high school. By contrast, only 31 percent of public school students go on to earn a bachelor's degree or higher in the same time frame.
- The achievement gap between students of different racial and/or socioeconomic backgrounds is significantly smaller in Catholic schools than public schools.
- A child who is African American or Latino is 42 percent more likely to graduate from high school and 2.5 times more likely to graduate from college, if he or she attends Catholic school.
- The more "at risk" a child is, the greater the relative achievement gains he or she experiences in a Catholic school.
- Catholic school graduates enjoy higher earning potential than public school graduates.
- Catholic school graduates are more civically engaged, more likely to vote, more tolerant of diverse views and more committed to service as adults, and less likely to be incarcerated than their public school peers.

Interested in having your child becoming a ROADRUNNER? Call the school today at (505) 864-0484.



Middle School Boys basketball and elementary co-ed basketball are in full swing. St. Mary's has hosted several exciting games, and many families have shown up to show their school spirit! St. Mary's is part of the APIAL League and offers sports from 1-8 grades!

GO ROADRUNNERS!!



Our Kindergarteners recently learned how to sing "Baby Shark" in Spanish. They were also taught hand movements. Tiburoncito is not only fun to sing, it has a catchy tune! Thank you Ms. Brown for making Spanish class so fun!

"A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints."

Pope Benedict 16th, Address to Teachers and Religious, 2010

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St. Mary's Catholic School prepares students to be leaders in worship, work, and the world through Roman Catholic teachings, rigorous academics, and service to others.

