

# The BIRD WORD

Monthly Newsletter



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Retreat 6th  
 Parent Conferences 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>  
 Early Release 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>  
 Spring Break 11<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>  
 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Field trip 20<sup>th</sup>  
 8<sup>th</sup> Grade field trip 28<sup>th</sup>  
 Early Release 29<sup>th</sup>  
 Stations of the Cross  
 8<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, April 5<sup>th</sup>  
 Living Stations April 12<sup>th</sup>

Pastor: Rev. Clement Niggel  
 Principal: Melodie Good



**MARCH 2019**

## KINDERGARTEN OPENINGS FOR NEXT YEAR

When you are looking for schools for your kindergartner, ask the principal of that school if their kinders go to science lab for a hands on lab experience at least once a week. Find out if there is art and music available all year at least once a week taught by certified specialists in those areas. Ask how much interaction the 5 year olds have with the older students at the school. Will they learn D'Nealian handwriting to make it easier to learn cursive in first grade? Will kindergartners learn to write a topic sentence with details and a conclusion by the end of the year? Is there a social studies lesson each day? If the principal can't answer yes to all of the above, then you'd better check out St. Mary's. St. Mary's offers all this in addition to weekly PE and computer lab, and daily reading, math and religion. Your child deserves a strong start that will be their foundation for the future.



**STEMYS**  
 Excellence in STEM Awards  
 presented by AFRL New Mexico Tech Engagement Office



## ST. MARY'S RECEIVES A STEM!

On February 22nd, Ms. Sohaila Lucero, St. Mary's Technology Coordinator and other St. Mary's teachers attended the 2019 Stemy Awards at the Convention Center in Albuquerque to receive the 2019 Excellence in STEM Education School of the Year. This award was presented to SMB because of the recent strides in science, technology and engineering. Students are being exposed to coding, computer programming, design-build activities and many other technology based learning strategies. With the start of our Makerspace classes last year and the purchase of our 3D printer, St. Mary's has been able to offer students opportunities to learn about the world of STEM and the areas of opportunity for employment in their future. St. Mary's also hosted a STEM Saturday Adventure last September for all county residents —young and old—to engage in the latest technology experiences from hydrogen cars to producing music from arcs of Tesla Coils. Another Adventure is being planned for the fall with even more vendors. St. Mary's was featured on KOB TV after an interview with KOB's weatherman, Eddie Garcia.

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**SPRING BREAK MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH MONDAY MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>**



8th graders enjoying their last Valentines dance at St. Mary's.



Time to register for 2019



5th Grade and PreK students get together to read and spend quality time.



Pray, Fast, Give Alms



## SPOTLIGHT ON ART AND 3RD GRADE



### ART

Elementary students have been honing their drawing and painting skill, learning how to care for their art supplies, and use creativity in all their work. Students studied Georgia O'Keefe's art work and replicated "The Shanty" with chalk pastels. They also made many beautiful design as they learned the basics of print making. Middle School students learned how to give their art work " form" when they drew and shaded a snowman using chalk pastels. They have also learned about the historic New Mexico art form called "Tin Work Art". They made a metal frame for their favorite saint by cutting frames from aluminum sheets, punching a design into them and then "scoring" a sunburst to finish the frame.

### 3rd GRADE

Third graders are currently reading two books by Caldecott award winning author, Allen Say. His books describe his family's experiences immigrating to both the United States and Japan. They are using these two stories, online interviews, and audio recordings to compare and contrast immigrant experiences. In math, they have been learning to identify fractions of a whole and fractions on a number line. Additionally, they are now covering the structure of our government by identifying the three levels and the three branches of government. Third grade is wrapping up their science unit on the solar system with a trip to the planetarium at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History.



Third graders enjoying the museum.

OLB LENTEN MISSION BEGINS MARCH 11TH-14TH AT 7PM WITH MSGR. RAUN

### LENTEN RETREAT

The whole school will have a Lenten retreat on Ash Wednesday. The regular schedule will be canceled. Instead, students will have only Lenten workshops and prayer time.

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents can sign up on Sign Up Genius to schedule a conference with teachers. All parents will receive an invitation to get on and select a spot on March 6th or 7th .

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At Saint Mary's School, we are committed to the growth of our Catholic identity, academic potential, and community involvement.

