



Hello St. Mary's Families,

Another busy week at St. Mary's. This afternoon is the Geography Bee for 4th – 8th grade students – we have two students from each grade competing. Yesterday, nine of our 8th grade students took the initial tests for Academic Pentathlon – last year, our students took 2nd in the state and the previous year, we took 1st place. Good luck to our students pursuing these academic endeavors!

I apologize for the confusion with our report cards last week – we finally got everything working correctly – I am repeating information from last week. PLEASE opt in to the directory if you haven't already!

Plus Portals System

We are going to try something new since we have our new Plus Portals system up and running.
 – Report cards for 2nd quarter will be posted in our Plus Portals Gradebook in your child's portfolio. **We will not be printing a copy and sending it home.** Please log in to your account to view 2nd quarter report cards – here are the steps to follow:

- Log in to Plus Portals Gradebook
- Click on e-locker – this can be found in the menu bar above your child's picture
- Click on e-portfolio to view the report card

Just a quick note, 6th – 8th grade report card will look a little different. There will be three grades: 1st quarter, 2nd quarter and a mid-year grade. The mid-year is an average of 1st and 2nd quarter and is the equivalent of a semester grade.

We need to increase the number of St. Mary's families in our School Directory. Please **OPT IN within the system to be listed in our school directory.** The school directory will be available through our Plus Portals system. Please let Roni or I know if you are having difficulty.

Tuition for Next Year

We had a school advisory board meeting on Wednesday evening and set tuition for next year. I changed the format up to align with some of our other Catholic Schools. This information is also posted on our website. Re-enrollment for current students for next year will open the week of February 5th and will run until March 23rd. We are going to offer a referral incentive program for our current families – if you refer a new family to our school and they enroll their child/children for the 2018-2019 school year, you will receive \$125 off enrollment fees for the 2018-2019 school year (this reduction in fees is per family not per child). This referral incentive program goes into effect February 1, 2018 and runs through the first day of school, August 20, 2018. You, our current families, are the best form of marketing we have – spread the word about our wonderful school! Please let me know if you have any questions.

St. Mary's Catholic School Tuition 2018-2019

	Actual Cost to Educate	Reduced tuition rate for St. Mary's students	Reduced rate for St. Mary's students whose families are registered & participating parishioners in any Catholic Church in the Diocese	Reduced tuition rate for St. Mary's students currently registered & participating St. Mary's parishioners
First Child	\$5,975	\$5,300	\$4,500	\$3,900
Second Child	\$5,975	\$4,800	\$4,000	\$3,400
Third Child	\$5,975	\$4,300	\$3,500	\$2,900
Fourth Child +	\$5,975	\$3,800	\$3,000	\$2,400
International/ Foreign Exchange Students	\$6,200			

**Tuition rates apply to the 2018-2019 school year. They are subject to change from year to year*

**** In addition to annual tuition, enrollment fees are additional and are due at time of enrollment/registration (approx. \$350)*

In order to receive the parishioner rate, families must be registered members of a local Catholic parish and contribute time, talent, and financial resources to support the parish. Active membership is determined by the pastor of the parish of which the family is a member.

Tax/Tuition news

With the new year, came the implementation of the new Tax Reform Bill. This is particularly beneficial to our Catholic School families with the change in 529 accounts. I am just learning about this opportunity but this is what has been shared with me thus far -

529 accounts have been expanded to include K-12 education expenses (these accounts were previously only for college expenses). 529 accounts take post-tax dollars, but participants are not taxed on the interest income. This may be an incentive for some parents; they would need to talk to a financial adviser about this.

Here is a link to a document that explains 529 accounts more: <https://www.sec.gov/reportspubs/investor-publications/investorpubsintro529htm.html>

We are truly blessed to have the caring community we have here at St. Mary's! Thank you for being a part of it!

Yours for Excellence in Catholic Education,

Tammy Emerich

Principal

Weekly Calendar

- **Jan 19** **Geo Bee Competition** (Gym) 2:15–3:15
TVCS Dance (St. Joe's) 7–9 pm
- **Jan 24** **Mass** (Corpus Christi) 5th Grade
Christian Leaders Reception after Mass
- **Jan 25** **8th Grade Shadow Day @ BK**
*****Jan 28–Feb 4 Catholic Schools Week*****
- **Jan 29** **BK New Student Information Knight** (BK) 6:30
- **Feb 2** **Catholic Schools Mass** @ St. Mark's 10 am

Up Coming Dates

- February 4** **Student Led Parish Mass** 10:45 am Church
School Open House following Mass
State of the School Address in Gym
- February 6** **Class Picture Day**
- February 7** **Mass** (Talent) 3rd Grade
- February 14** **Ash Wednesday Mass** (Corpus Christi) 4th Grade
- February 21** **Mass** (Treasure) 2nd Grade
Christian Leaders Reception after Mass

Lunch Orders for February

The forms for December are ready!
 Start by reading the [Ordering Guidelines](#)
 Then read the [How to Order Lunch](#)
 And, depending on which lunches you are interested in ordering, check out the [Blimpie Order](#) and [Lunch Order Form](#)
 Orders are due back to the Office **by 3 pm, January 24th.**

January/February ASAP Schedule is Out!

Looks like fun classes....check out the [flyer/registration form](#) for yourself.

Corpus Christi House Collection

The Mass collection for January 24th is Corpus Christi House. This day shelter for the Boise homeless is always in need of: toiletry items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste/brushes, combs, disposable razors, hats and gloves, socks, underwear and individual premade foods. Anything helps.
 Thank You.



The Knights of Columbus
 with
Chef Fr. Bruno Segatta
 and **Chef Lou Aaron**
 invite you to

Festa Italiana!

Sunday, January 28, 2018
 4:00 - 7:00 p.m.

Saint Mary's Parish Hall

Cost: \$10/single & \$30/family (Parents and children under 18 years)

Tickets will be available at the Saturday and Sunday Masses on the weekends before the event. They will also be available at the school or the parish office during the week and at the door.

SPACE IS LIMITED! GET YOUR TICKETS SOON!

Nurses Note: Dear Parents of Students Grades 7-9,



Saint Alphonus is offering a 5 week course, **Our Whole Lives**, for students and parents. In a caring, compassionate environment, **Our Whole Lives** helps adolescents address their attitudes, values and feelings about themselves, their sexuality, and the world around them. By providing accurate, comprehensive, age-appropriate information in the context of values and personal responsibility, youth develop the skills needed to make health choices for life.

Parent Night is **February 15 6:00pm.**

Please follow the link to the adolescent-sexuality-grades-7-9-our-whole-lives-sr-

<https://www.saintalphonus.org/event/adolescent-sexuality-grades-7-9-our-whole-lives-sr->

For more information, please contact the Family Center at 208-367-3454 or

BO-FamilyCenter@samrc.org

St. Alphonus School Health Program

Lisa Schiffer, RN, Kim O'Sullivan, RN, Linda Miller, RN, Sherry Placido, CNA, & MaryLou Cunningham, RN.