



# 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

Booster Club Mtg	2 <sup>nd</sup>
Early Release	4 <sup>th</sup>
ITBS Tests 3rd,5th,7th	7 <sup>th</sup>
SMPA mtg.	9 <sup>th</sup>
Living Stations	11 <sup>th</sup>
Tome Hill (MS)	14 <sup>th</sup>
Turn in Rice Bowls	16 <sup>th</sup>
Early Release(Thurs)	17 <sup>th</sup>
Good Friday (no school)	18 <sup>th</sup>
No school Monday	21 <sup>st</sup>
Consultative Council	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Faith Challenge Bowl	25 <sup>th</sup>
First Communion	26 <sup>th</sup>

### What I like about Saint Mary's...

**When asked by their Language Arts teachers what they liked about Saint Mary's, middle school students submitted their answers.**

**Garrett Moore** 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Saint Mary's gets us ready for high school and life. One of the things I've been taught is respect. I'm getting a good education in a friendly environment with good teachers.

**Lyndsey Orris** 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Saint Mary's has dedicated teachers. When a student asks for help, the teacher will help them and work with them until they get it right.

**Caitlyn Cordova** 7<sup>th</sup> grade: At Saint Mary's we can go to Mass every week. Going to mass is like an escape from any stress or drama and you are just there with God.

**Jasmine Day** 8<sup>th</sup> grade: Our new gym allows us to have home games and sell snacks from our concessions stand. Our new kitchen has all new appliances. Now we can hold many events the school and parish in a very nice facility.

**Frank Marchi** 8<sup>th</sup> grade: I love the work that we have to do because it is challenging. I would rather have that than something that is too easy. I like starting school later at 8:00 AM and having a small class.

**Dominique Gallegos** 7<sup>th</sup> grade: My favorite classes are religion, literature and science. I feel these are strengths at St. Mary's. I wouldn't normally get religion at another school and this class will help me reach my goal which is to get to heaven!



### New Brand for St. Mary's

Since last fall, the consultative council has been working with a consultant on developing a vibrant new look for the purpose of branding Saint Mary's in the area. We will be using this logo on car decals, marketing materials, and some of our sports activities. While our Blessed Mother will continue to reside on our school uniforms, this new brand will be a sharp, new look for our school.

### Lenten Prayer

Father, help me to see this holy season of Lent as a time of spiritual renewal, rather than a time of deprivation. Motivate me to reach a new level of experiencing your grace.

# Happy Easter

# Archdiocese Distinguished Disciple Awards

## Adult--Ms. Sohaila Lucero

Mrs. Lucero is a kinder parent at Saint Mary's. During the past two years, she has given above and beyond her time and treasure in support of our school, while at the same time, distinguishing herself in all the qualities of good character. She stepped in as a volunteer one day a week last year to supervise one of our computer based Spanish classes. She became so interested in the technology aspect of our school that she, with the help of her husband, updated the entire infrastructure of our computer lab over the summer. This year she voluntarily created and manned our website. Always offering to help us in a caring and loving way, Ms. Sohaila Lucero is our Distinguished Disciple.

## Student—Garrett Moore

Garrett was chosen as our Distinguished Disciple by the faculty at Saint Mary's in Belen. After attending St. Mary's from Pre-K through 8<sup>th</sup> grade, Garrett has grown into a quietly humble and very respectful citizen, garnering the respect and friendship of all St. Mary's students. Students in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade class always want Garrett in their corner for any issue. Through his persistence and hard work, he has overcome some personal academic challenges. His good attitude and pleasant personality have never once failed him. He has been an altar server for several years, is very active in sports, and can always be counted on to follow through in any situation.

Please support our recent Dining Out sponsors:



**TJs Restaurant in Los Lunas**  
**Long John Silvers Belen**



## **SMPA News**

St. Mary's Parents Association is hosting our final event of the year, Father & Son Day on April 13th. It's a "Boys Day Out" at the ball game. St. Mary's Dads, Sons, Grandpas, Uncles and Friends are all invited to spend an afternoon watching the Albuquerque Isotopes take on the Tacoma Rainiers. Box level seats are \$11.50/person. Deadline to reserve tickets is Thursday, April 3rd. Join us for this great event! As we wrap up another school year, we are looking for people to get involved with your St. Mary's Parents Association. We would love to hear some different ideas and see new faces to plan for next year. Join us for our next meeting on Wednesday, April 9th at 6:00 in the Parish Center.

## **SMS CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL AT WORK**

**Saint Mary's is guided not only by Father Steve and our principal, but by a consultative council. This is a working council made up of eight parents and members of the community. Each member has a 3-year term and is chairman or co-chairman of an area-of-need committee. The areas of need were determined at a strategic planning meeting in November where a plan of strategies was developed to achieve the yearly goals. The four areas of need are Facilities and Technology, Family Faith Formation, Marketing, Enrollment and Communication, and Development and Fund Raising.**

## **Saint Mary's Salutes the Catholic Daughters on their 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas is one of the oldest and largest organizations of Catholic women in the Americas. They donate to charities, administer scholarship programs and strive "to be helping hands where there is pain, poverty, sorrow or sickness." Catholic Daughters sponsor an essay contest every year for students around the country. Saint Mary's always has many competitors and local winners in this contest. Catholic Daughter women enjoy each other's company at meetings and work hard for Our Lady of Belen and our community. Deeply spiritual, together they share faith, love of God and a distinctly feminine spirituality alluded to by Pope John Paul II when he spoke of the necessity of "feminine genius" in today's world. Girls and young women ages 6-18 can join the Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas.

## **Eighth Graders Help Out at Saint Vincent DePaul**

The 8<sup>th</sup> graders have made two visits to the St. Vincent de Paul Pantry/Store to organize their library. The library has thousand of books; however, they were not at all organized into any categories. Romance, cookbooks, mysteries, religion, self-help etc. were mixed together. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders worked hard to sort them and reshelved them into their own categorized areas. It was a much bigger job than expected. They have managed to get about 75% of the books sorted so far.