



October Edition

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.

Fall Fest October 25th!

IMPORTANT EVENTS

Pet Blessing	3rd
Booster Club 6:30	7th
Living Rosary	8th
Early Dismissal	10th
No School	13th
Parent/teacher conferences	23rd
Early Dismissal	24th
Fall Fest	25th
Priesthood Sunday/ school Mass 10AM	26th
Halloween Party/ Awards assembly	31st



Saint Mary's Annual October Fund Raiser has gone digital! This year all the fun stuff will happen before midnight! No more long evenings waiting for the last ticket to be drawn. All 600 numbers should be drawn by 10 PM. The boards will now be projected on the wall for all to see and winning names will flash a color when their number is drawn. Instead of names being drawn, 600 ping pong balls will be circulated in the hopper and when the ticket number cues up, the name will be highlighted on the board. That means more time for the fun of visiting with friends over our slow cooked roast beef dinner; more time to bid on those fabulous themed baskets; more time to put in your bid on your favorite silent auction item; and more time to bid on the boards and the last ten names. Max Cordova will be there with his DJ service to make sure everyone hears what's happening all evening.

Event chairs, Chris Smith and Julie Sanchez, have made sure that this will be a top notch, major FUN evening. The committee has been working on it since last November. Some live auction items will be airline and entrance tickets to Disneyland, a beautiful recliner from Home Furniture, and, of course, some exciting class themed gift baskets.

The decorations, the camaraderie, the food, and the fun with friends are four good reasons to attend the annual Fall Fest at the Parish Center. YOU might win \$10,000.

The Bird Word Monthly Newsletter



Happy Halloween!



Ms. Heather Sanchez is Saint Mary's 2014-15 Teacher of the Year!

Ms. Sanchez has been our third grade teacher for the past eleven years. Ms. Sanchez also instructs our third grade through their first reconciliation and first communion.

Ms. Sanchez has taken on the responsibility of training all new parents and teachers in the use

of our student management system, Sycamore. She also assists Ms. Chavez each year in taking pictures and submitting our yearbook for publication. Every summer Heather is in her classroom weekly, painting or preparing for the next year. She is a year-round teacher!

Sign up for Parent/Teacher conferences on Sycamore

After you have read this newsletter, get on Sycamore and sign up for your child's conference. You will find the sign up on the student's home page. Most conferences will take place after school on the 23rd. The large classes will have more days and choices for conferences. Every parent needs to come see the teacher. Mid school conferences will be with the home room teacher.

SAINT MARY'S PARENTS' ASSOCIATION

The St. Mary's Parents' Association hosted it's 2014 Family Night on September 18th. We had an amazing turnout of families for a wonderful night of volleyball, hamburgers, a bonfire, s'mores and great company! Thank you to all who came out to support the 8th grade volleyball team and visit with our St. Mary's families, new and old! The SMPA is just getting started and we have lots of fun events planned throughout the year. We have a great core group of families who have helped in the years past and we are looking forward to having more people involved with the planning and execution of our events this year. Our next event is the Student Awards Assembly on October 31st, then our annual Christmas Shop will be held in December with some of our big events coming in 2015 including Catholic Schools Week, Mother & Son and Father & Daughter. Ongoing committees like Teacher Appreciation and Uniform Shop are working under the radar all year long and we could always use more help. Please look out for the date of our next meeting and join us! Any and all hours spent volunteering count toward your service hours. If you have any questions or want to get involved, email Carolyn at smpabelen@yahoo.com.

Dear Parents: Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go. Children can be taught at a young age to stick with a task and not give up. There are countless inspiring stories about people who simply refused to give up on their dreams. How can you help your child develop perseverance? * Help your child set specific, realistic goals: Aim your child at a door not a wall. *Define small steps to reach goals: Breaking down a task makes it more doable. *Identify who and what can help: Cultivating teamwork helps in reaching any goal. *Monitor progress: Be realistic yet encouraging as your child stays with a task.* Reward persistence: recognize and point out when a child works at something, and cheer him or her on when he or she doesn't give up. Most importantly, your own actions are your child's most important lessons. Blessings,



Mayor of Belen, Jerah Cordova, a Saint Mary's graduate, came to talk to middle school students about a difference they could make in their community through volunteering. The middle school will be embarking on some major service learning projects this year.

Halloween Festivities

On Halloween morning we will be presenting our honor students with certificates and recognizing them for their efforts. Even though they may be dressed up as ghosts and pirates, they will accept certificates and then the little ones will have a carnival. The middle school will enjoy a movie and popcorn in the afternoon. All costumes must be appropriate with no blood and gore.

New middle school students were interviewed about how they liked being a Roadrunner this year.

How is Saint Mary's different from your previous school?

Damian —I was homeschooled and I do more work here. I also like the playground!

Crystal—I like switching classes. The teachers are really good and I love the food in the cafeteria.

Bryce—I like it that I know everyone and everyone has been really nice to me. I like being able to play sports too.

Kobe—The classes are smaller and I get a lot more help. I also like using E-readers in the classroom. The food is really good too.

Edward—I have a lot more homework now, but I like the fun activities like making signs for our game last week.

Saint Mary's Wish List

Outside benches for the playground

Desert Willow trees

Long jump ropes

Can you help us acquire these?

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