



St. Mary's Grade School



304 E. CLOUD | SALINA, KS 67401 | 785-827-4200

Lenten Symbols

Lent is a forty-day penitential season spent in preparation for the highest holy days of our Christian faith, the Triduum: Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter. Over the centuries many symbols have evolved that represent key spiritual aspects of this holy season.



Ashes. In the Old Testament ashes represent death and sorrow for sins. Ashes and dust are synonymous. Our bodies are made of dust (Gen 2:7), and upon death they return to “dust and ashes” (Gen 18:17). Ashes serve as a stark reminder of human mortality which is a compelling reason to do penance.

Violet. Violet is the liturgical color for the season of Lent, as well as the color of the stole worn by the priest for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Violet is a somber color which symbolizes mourning, suffering, humility, regret, and the willingness to do penance, particularly fasting. Violet’s association with suffering is based upon Jesus’ Passion when the soldiers clothed him in a purple cloak and tortured him (Mk 15:17-20; Jn 19:2-3).

Barren stones. Jesus went out into the desert where the landscape was parched and the surface covered with loose stones and almost no sand. The stones are a symbol of austerity and rigor, desolation and misery, severity and sadness. The devil used stones to tempt Jesus, “If you are the Son of God, command that these stones become loaves of bread” (Mt 4:3), but Jesus made them a symbol for overcoming temptation when he replied, “One does not live on bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God” (Mt 4:4; Dt 8:3).

Fish. A fish is a Lenten symbol for the obligation to fast on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday and to abstain from all flesh meat on every Friday in Lent.



Praying Hands. Praying hands represent prayer, the activity that ranks first among the other three traditional penitential practices: fasting, almsgiving, and works of charity.

Prayer is the premier way to strengthen one’s relationship with God, and in so doing, to turn away from sin.

Rice Bowls symbolize the Lenten penitential practice of almsgiving. It is better to give alms than to store up gold, for almsgiving saves one from death and expiates every sin. Those who give alms shall enjoy a full life” (Tob 12:8,9).

Pretzels. Pretzels had their origin in early Christian Lenten practice. “Because fat, eggs, and milk were forbidden during Lent, a special bread was made with dough consisting of only flour, salt, and water. These little breads were shaped in the form of arms crossed in prayer and were called *bracellae* (Latin, ‘little arms’). Among the Germans the Latin word became ‘bretzel.’ These pretzels were a common Lenten food throughout the Middle Ages in Europe and became an all year round snack, in its original shape, only in the 19th century”



School Council Summary

St. Mary's School Council met on Jan. 28. The school council discussed the progress of the STREAM Curriculum. The staff is planning STREAM Academies for the 2019 summer. The program will complement the summer art camp.

Dr. Compagnone explained the School Improvement Plan, including plans to review the Language Arts Program.

St. Mary's School received a grant from the Hanson Foundation to complete the Greenhouse Project.

Before Christmas break, \$25,000 was raised for the school's endowment and was matched by an anonymous donor.

Dr. Compagnone also reported that the school updated a total of 35 computers to Windows 10 operating systems through proceeds from a donor's gift.

The council reviewed the preliminary 2019-20 school calendar and tabled it for future approval.

Advancing the Vision



About 5 years ago, the Advancing the Vision Campaign was **launched. The main focus of the project's mission was to complete a 2.1 million dollar project to house a new gym facility to be utilized for both Sacred Heart Jr/Sr High School and St. Mary's Grade School.** A wing was also added to house a full-day kindergarten program. Mel and Marge Bergkamp along with Greg and Margaret Brown were co-chairs of the campaign. Pictured are the Berkamps next to the honor roll plaque. The plaque was built and donated by Lawrence and Phyllis Wetter. (Lawrence Wetter also in the photo). Thank you to all the generous donors!



“Race for Education”

Are you interested in helping St. Mary's Grade School raise funds in order to continue to provide a quality education and affordable tuition??

Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000 which will go to the general fund.

Race for Education will be held on Friday, April 12th!!

For more information call the school office at 785-827-4200.



More Information Plus

No School

There will be No School on Monday, February 18th.

Chocolate Sales

We appreciate all the effort in the chocolate fundraiser. The fundraiser ended on Friday, February 8th. We are hoping to have a complete sell out!

Tax Information

If your child is enrolled at Love 'n Learn Day Care, St. Mary's Pre-K program or St. Mary's Extended Care Program, you may qualify for a tax credit. Please consult your tax accountant. If you qualify, you will need the school's Federal ID Number. We will be glad to provide the information if you make such a request in writing. We will not give the information over the phone. Please allow a couple of days for processing.

Pre Enrollment Forms are Due by Friday, February 22nd!!



Kansas Wax Museum 2019

Wednesday, January 30th was the date of St. Mary's Grade School's 4th grade famous Kansas Wax Museum. The students chose a famous person who contributed to our great State of Kansas. They did much research, memorizing and costume designing. On the big day, St. Mary's APR was the scene of an awesome wax museum. Each student had a "button" and would "come to life" and tell visitors about their character. Some examples of the characters were Wilt Chamberlin, Clyde Cessna, Mamie Williams, Hattie McDaniel.

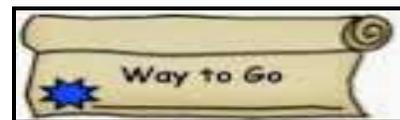
Pictured are the two fourth grade classes.

Geography Bee

For the 33rd year, the National Geographic Society is holding the National Geographic Bee for the students in the fourth through eighth grades in schools across the United States. The school winner completes a written test which will determine if he is eligible for the state competition that will be held in Topeka on March 29, 2019. The state winners will then progress to The National Geography Bee to be held in Washington D.C. May 19-22, 2019. All school winners are eligible to win the national championship and its first prize: a \$25,000 college scholarship, Lifetime Membership in the National Geographic Society and a trip to the Galapagos Islands.

School Winner: Ethan Newell

Participants were: Kale Leners, Jack Ward, Trent Blackwell, Caroline Stone, Alex Ortiz, Elias Gordon, Ethan Newell, Carson Lehmann, Dorian White, Levi Reed.



Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

February 2019

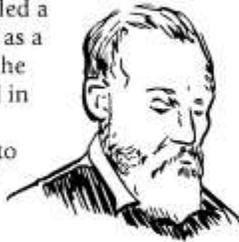
St. Marys School



Thoughtful Moments

St. Jerome Emiliani

St. Jerome led a wayward life as a soldier until he was captured in battle and turned back to God. After a miraculous escape, he returned to Venice and studied for the priesthood. After being ordained, he began working for the poor. He was especially devoted to caring for orphans—victims of a recent war. To help, he and some companions founded the Clerks Regulars of Somascha. He is the patron saint of orphanages and abandoned children.



Through the eyes of a child

Let a child's wonder about the mysteries of God's love awaken your own sense of excitement. In connecting with your children, you may find you are reconnecting with the child in yourself.

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might"
(Deuteronomy 6:4)



Share what you love about being Catholic

We choose to be Catholic because we know joyful practice helps

us to become the people God wants us to be. A good way to help children find the same joy in our Faith is to share what we love about it ourselves:

"My grandmother prayed the Rosary every day of her life," said Lisa. "When I was old enough, she gave me my own Rosary and taught me how to pray it. This prayer has helped me through many tough times in my life and I pray it often with my own children."

"I enjoy celebrating the seasons of the liturgical year and marking the

milestones of our Faith," said Chris.

"My children love changing the colors of our displays, singing seasonal hymns, and learning the stories of saints from long ago."

"I fell away from the Church when I was in college," said Erica.

"Then I started dating a man who was a devout Catholic and I went to Mass a few times with him. We fell in love and he asked that I go to Confession so we could receive Communion

together. I did it for him, but felt such a thrill when I heard the words of absolution and realized that Jesus really did forgive me. Now we tell our children that Confession brought us together."



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why do Catholics choose godparents for baptism?

In the early Church, most people who were baptized were adults converting to Christianity. Because of the persecution, sponsors would confirm the integrity of potential converts, called catechumens, to make sure they weren't spies. They



would also instruct the catechumens. When infant baptism became more common, sponsors would make the Profession of Faith for the infants and be responsible for raising them in the Faith if the parents were unable to. This is when the name "godfather/godmother" came into use.

Compañeros en la fe

Ayudando a nuestros hijos a crecer en la fe católica

Febrero de 2019

St. Marys School



Momentos para pensar

San Jerónimo Emiliani

San Jerónimo vivió una vida disoluta como soldado hasta que fue capturado en una batalla y se convirtió a Dios. Tras escapar milagrosamente, regresó a Venecia y estudió para sacerdote. Después de ser ordenado empezó a trabajar para los pobres. Se dedicó especialmente al cuidado de los huérfanos víctimas de una guerra reciente. Para ayudarlos, fundó con algunos compañeros la Orden de los Clérigos Regulares de Somasca. Es el santo patrón de los orfanatos y los niños abandonados.



Por los ojos de un niño

Deje que el asombro de un niño por los misterios del amor de Dios despierte su propio sentido del entusiasmo. Al conectar con sus hijos quizá descubra que está reconectando con el niño que vive dentro de usted.

"Escucha, Israel: Yahvé nuestro Dios es el único Yahvé.

Amáds a Yahvé tu Dios con todo tu corazón, con toda tu alma y con todas tus fuerzas" (Deuteronomio 6:4).



Compartan lo que aman de ser católicos

Elegimos ser católicos porque sabemos que nuestra práctica gozosa nos ayuda a ser las personas que Dios quiere que seamos. Una buena manera de ayudar a los niños a encontrar el mismo gozo en nuestra fe es compartir lo que nosotros mismos amamos:

"Mi abuela rezó el rosario todos los días de su vida", dijo Lisa. "Cuando tuve la edad suficiente, me dio mi propio rosario y me enseñó a rezarlo. Esta oración me ha ayudado en momentos difíciles de mi vida y lo rezo a menudo con mis propios hijos".

"Disfruto celebrando los distintos tiempos del calendario litúrgico y señalando los momentos importantes de

nuestra fe", dijo Chris. "A mis hijos les encanta cambiar los colores de

nuestras decoraciones, cantar los himnos de cada tiempo y aprender las historias de los santos de antaño".

"Me aparté de la Iglesia cuando estaba en la universidad", dijo Erica.

"Luego empecé a salir con un hombre que era un

católico devoto y fui unas cuantas veces a misa con él. Nos enamoramos y me pidió que fuera a confesar para que pudiéramos recibir juntos la comunión. Lo hice por él, pero sentí una gran emoción al

escuchar las palabras de la absolución y me di cuenta de que Jesús me había perdonado de verdad. Ahora les decimos a nuestros hijos que fue la confesión lo que nos unió".



¿Por qué hacen eso los católicos?

¿Por qué eligen los católicos padrinos de bautismo?

En la Iglesia primitiva, la mayoría de los bautizados eran adultos que se convertían al cristianismo. A causa de las persecuciones se necesitaban patrocinadores que confirmaran la integridad de los posibles conversos, llamados catecúmenos, para cerciorarse



de que no eran espías. Se encargaban también de la instrucción de los catecúmenos. Cuando el bautismo de los niños fue más común, los patrocinadores hacían la profesión de fe por los bebés y se responsabilizaban de educarlos en la fe si los padres no podían. Así se empezaron a emplear los términos "padrino" y "madrina".

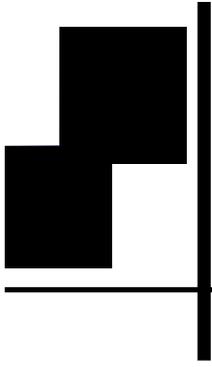
Soup Supper Benefit for Mrs. Zoe Greenemeyer

Please join in for an evening of good Food and Fellowship as we raise funds to help ease the financial burdens of the Greenemeyer family. Soup Supper with free will donation and other items available for purchase!



**Saturday, February 16
5:00 - 7:30pm at
Immanuel Lutheran Church
255 S. 7th Street**

Zoe is a teacher at St. Mary's Grade School and has been diagnosed with idiopathic condylar resorption. She is scheduled to have her jaw joints replaced and undergo upper jaw surgery on May 21st in Dallas. The family will need to remain in Dallas for 2 weeks post-op care.



February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
					Catholic Schools Week	
3 Angel Choir to sing at St. Elizabeth's @ 10:30	4	5	6	7	8 Chocolate Sales End	9
	-----Aluminum Can Drive-----					
10	11 IHOP Night out	12 H&S meeting	13 Valentine's Parties MWF Classes	14 Valentine's Parties	15	16
	-----Aluminum Can Drive-----					
17 No School Staff Development	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 School Council 5:30	26	27 5th & 6th Grade Parent Meeting @ SH	28 1st Communion Parent Meeting 10am or 7pm		

Pre-enrollment Forms for 2019-2020 ARE due February 22nd

They were mailed to current & interested families. If you need pre-enrollment forms please contact the office—827-4200.

Love of Learning



Learning of Love

United In Christ - Body, Mind and Spirit



St. Mary's Messenger

St. Mary's School
304 E. Cloud
Salina, KS 67401

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