



Parent Newsletter
May 13, 2020

St. Mary's School...Putting Faith in Children Since 1913

Thank you to our SMS Home and School Association for the Teacher Appreciation gift and card. We love our *Faith Over Fear* t-shirts. The message is dear to our hearts (see below from last Sunday's gospel). We truly appreciate your thoughtfulness and will wear our shirts with pride in our belief in Jesus Christ.

"I am the Way, the Truth, and the Life. Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in Me." Gospel of St. John

The May Crowning was beautiful. The sun was out and so was the wind! Thank you to Leslie Butler for filming the event and posting it to our school website. Thank you to Father Keenan for the readings. It was a lovely May Crowning.

This Friday, May 15th is the date for returning students' belongings. Just a reminder. The schedule is posted on our school website under Quick Links.

On Friday, May 22nd, families will return all textbooks. Schedule is in Quick Links on the school website. Please let Robbin Clifton know if you need a time that is different from the schedule. rclifton@smsterling.org

Important Dates

1. Friday, May 15th is **Pick Up Belongings Day**. Schedule is posted on the SMS website under **Quick Links**.
2. Friday, May 15th is a Teacher Plan Day.
3. Wednesday, May 20th is the last day for 8th grade students.
4. Thursday, May 21st is the **last day for remote instruction** for PreK-7th grade.

5. Friday, May 22nd is a Teacher Plan Day.
6. Friday, May 22nd is textbook collection day--see schedule in Quick Links on school website.
7. Friday, May 22nd is the 8th **Grade Mass and Graduation Ceremony** at 6:30pm live streamed from St. Mary's Church with Father Keenan and Father Bruce Ludeke officiating. Although this is a non-attendance ceremony, graduates names will be announced and awards also will be announced.
8. ****There will be no remote instruction** on Tuesday, May 26, Wednesday, May 27th or Thursday, May 28th. Teachers will be collecting missing assignments on these days.
9. ****The last official day on the school calendar for Pre K-7 is Thursday, May 28th. 6/7 awards through Google Meet with teachers.**
10. ****The last official day on the school calendar is Friday, May 29th. This is a Teacher Institute Day.**

****Teachers may suggest some online learning sites for students but will not be issuing any assignments.**

8th Grade Graduation

There have been several changes in our plans for 8th grade graduation due to the current COVID situation and compliance guidance from several governing bodies. The only change this week is that we will celebrate with a **full Mass** on Friday, May 22nd at 6:30pm in St. Mary Church. Father Keenan and Father Bruce Ludeke will concelebrate the Mass. There will be no student or family attendance because of the state rule regarding the ten person limitation for gatherings. This Mass will be live streamed at 6:30pm by Newman Central Catholic HS (Tim Nelson-Director of Development).

Save the Date: **June 26th** is the date we set for the traditional Graduation Mass and Ceremony **IF we are allowed to do it. Students and families will attend this Mass if the Stay Home Order is lifted.**

Eighth Grade Awards on Thursday, May 21st

1. 8th Grade teachers will set up a Google Meet on this date.
2. All of the traditional awards will be presented including the Newman scholarships.

3. Students can invite their parents to join them for this meeting.

6th and 7th Grade Awards

Awards for students in sixth and seventh grades will be given during a Google Meet set up by their teachers on May 28th.

Registration for 2020-21

Two more days! We are counting down the days and are getting excited to see our enrollment numbers for next school year.

Tuition and Fees

The monthly draw for tuition will take place in May for families who signed up for the ACH. Tuition payments for the families who signed up for quarterly tuition payments are due on the last day of school--May 29th. Thank you.

Thank you to everyone who has sent in their registration fees and materials for 2020-21. Reduced fees for registration and books will continue through May 15th. After that date, fees will return to the regular rate. Please let us know if you need any additional registration packets and we will mail them to you.

Respectfully Yours in Christ
SMS Interim Principal
Kathy Howard