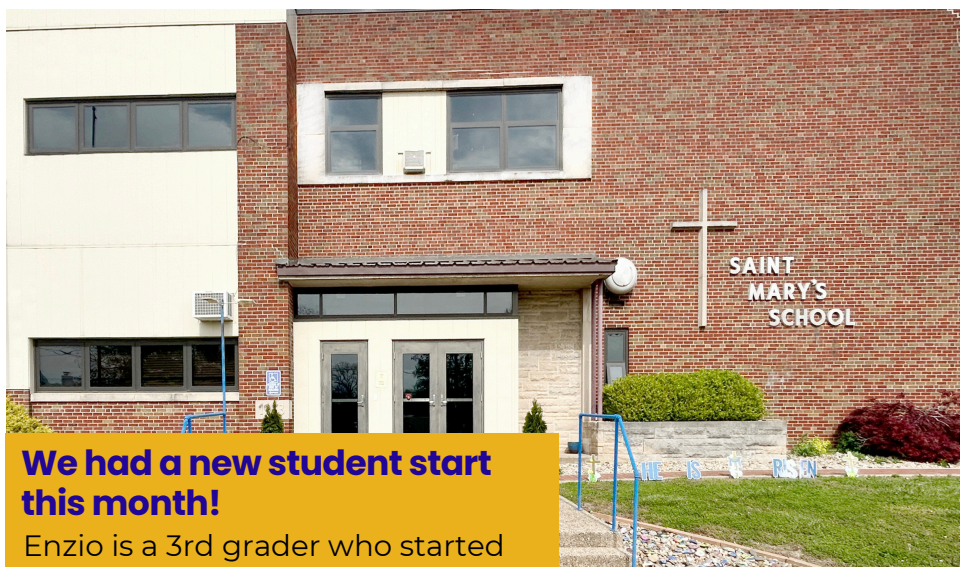


THE ORBITER

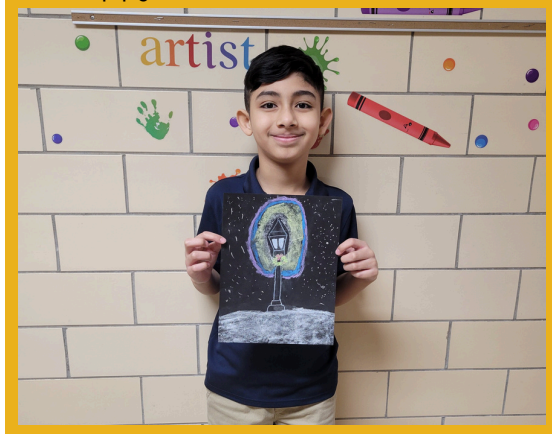


"Encourage one another & build each other up" – 1 Thessalonians 5:11



We had a new student start this month!

Enzio is a 3rd grader who started with us on January 14, 2025. We are so happy to have him with us!



Written by: Annie McGrail

St. Mary's Catholic School has had a very eventful January! We started the year off strong with 6 extra snow days after our holiday break! We celebrated our 8th grade Cheerleaders and Basketball players, Volleyball season started, and many of our SMS kids auditioned for Matilda the Musical at Wabash Valley College. We ended the month by celebrating Catholic Schools Week!

Rockets of the Month

Congratulations to the Rockets of the Month, Liam Berberich and Nolan Adams. Great job boys!

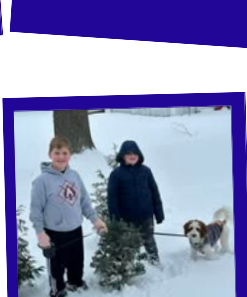
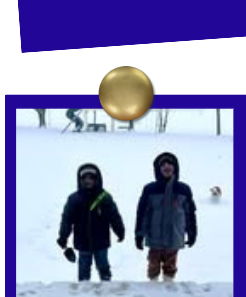
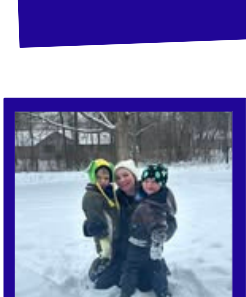
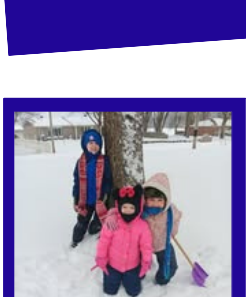
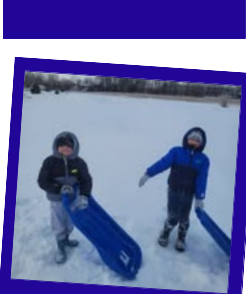
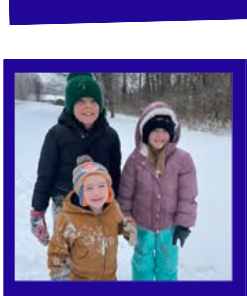
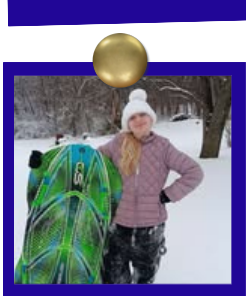
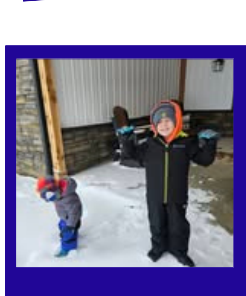
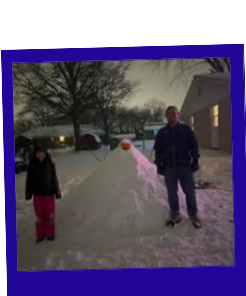
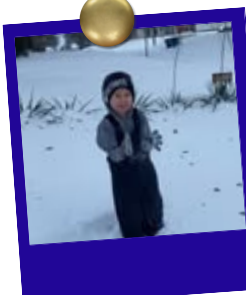
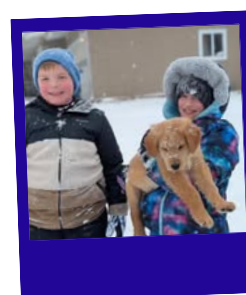
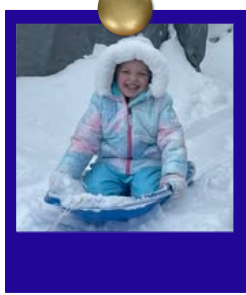
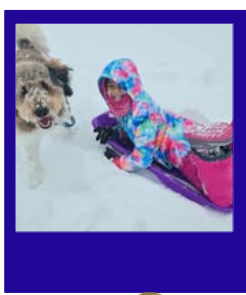
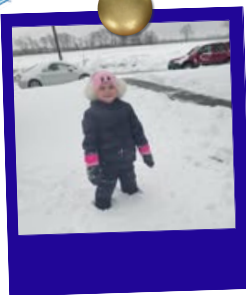


Upcoming Important Dates

- **February 14th** - School Improvement Day (Dismiss at Noon)
- **February 17th** - Presidents Day (No School)
- **February 18th** - Art Club
- **February 22nd** - Rockets 5K
- **March 4th** - No School Mass
- **March 5th** - Ash Wednesday School Mass
- **March 5th** - Student Council
- **March 7th** - Stations of the Cross
- **March 14th** - March Dadness
- **March 21st** - No School

SNOW

We were surprised with 6 extra snow days this year! We asked the students to show us how they were spending their free days and in return we received the sweetest snow day pictures!



Happy New Year!

A few of the grades asked their students for their 2025 goals/resolutions!

"My personal goal is to score 97 touchdowns, read more football books, learn how to pitch, and try a big mac" - Roman

"My New Years resolution is to be more organized. It was my resolution last year and wasn't really accomplished so I made it this year's too." -Amelia

"My personal goal is to get a turkey, to read the whole Diary of a Wimpy Kid series, to learn to play football, and to try apple pie." -Paul

"My New Years resolutions are to eat healthier because I'd like to get in shape. I would also like to learn more on the bass guitar because I got a bass for Christmas. Finally, I would like to be more productive because I waste a lot of time." -Aiden

"My personal goal is to go to church more, I want to read "Press Start", to learn to use chopsticks, and to try dragon fruit." - Claire

"My New Years resolution is to eat healthier and work out to get stronger. I want to try and get all A's because I know I can do it. I want to learn to have a consistent overhand serve for volleyball because serves help win games." -Lucy

"My personal goal is to exercise 30 minutes a day, read the whole series of Goosebumps, learn to fish by myself, and try fish." -Duke

"My personal goal is to try not to watch YouTube, read 365 hours total, to learn how to punt a football, and try an orange." - Luke

"My New Years resolution is to be more organized so I can find things easily. I want to exercise so I can be fit for track and I would like to travel more so I could see new places." -Keirsten

"My personal goal is to work out more, read 20 minutes a day, learn how to fish, and try pumpkin pie." -Sophia

"My personal goal is to do an ariel at gymnastics, read a whole book of Diary of a Wimpy Kid, learn how to speak Spanish, and try pickles." -Violet

"My personal goal is to help people each day, read 5 minutes a day, learn how to do magic tricks, and try cabbage." -Izzie

"My personal goal is to watch more storyline online, read more library books, learn to read small words, and try a banana split." -Stella

Happy New Year



Cheer

Congratulations to our 8th Grade Cheerleaders, Amelia Crummley and Keirsten Malone!



Lucy Mann, our 8th Grade Lady Rocket!



Basketball



Congratulations to the Lady Rockets basketball team for winning the Consolation Championship at the Belleville Diocese tournament!

Congrats!

January Highlights – 6th Grade

6th Graders were asked what their favorite part of January was!

"CSW Sports Day! Go Dodgers!"
- Easton

"CSW Celebrity Day!"
-Emmett

"I loved Silly Safari! My favorite
animal was the fox!"
-Kenny

"The donation drive and seeing
Mrs. Wissel get pied!"
-Kannon

"I liked Pajama Day!"
-Amelia



Mrs. Wissel got pied!

"I liked the C-Team Basketball
Tournament in Clay City. We
got 4th Place!"
-Graham

"I really liked watching the Percy
Jackson movie in English class!"
-Thayer

"Pajama Day was my favorite
CSW Day!"
-Marisa

"Catholic Schools Week
was GREAT!"
-Saul



"I'm so proud of our
students and staff for
donating over 1,500 items
for the St. Mary's Food
Pantry!"

-Mrs. Naas



Catholic Schools
United in Faith and Community



Virtue



The faculty and staff were asked to tell me about a time during the month of January when they witnessed a student or fellow staff member do something virtuous.

1st Grade



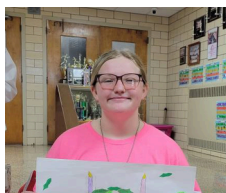
"The first graders had a free draw day in art class. Free draw meaning they could draw anything they wanted. They decided since one of their classmates went home sick they all would make him get well cards. I see that as the virtue of kindness."



Mrs. Mann

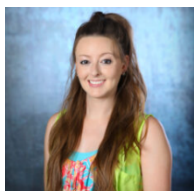
"Several times throughout the month, students have had trouble handling their emotions. Each student was addressed lovingly and patiently and were helped to calm down."

Willow Trail



Mrs. Morris

"Every morning when she comes in or is in the hallway some little one is ready to give her a hug. She always talks to these students and encourages them with her words and smile."



"While waiting to enter the music room, the first graders asked Mrs. Morris a question. She could have given a quick response and dismissed the question. Instead, she chose to answer patiently and lovingly which also taught a lesson."



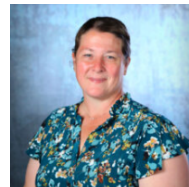
Mrs. Vickie

"Her incredible patience shines through every day, especially when tending to their various boo-boos, tummy aches, and headache complaints. She approaches each situation with a calm demeanor and genuine care, ensuring that each child feels heard and supported. Her dedication not only helps our students feel better physically but also fosters a nurturing environment in our classroom. Her compassion inspires all of us to go above and beyond in our interactions with students and colleagues alike. It serves as a reminder of the importance of kindness and empathy in our roles as educators."

Mrs. Spencer



"I was having a rough day. Mrs. Spencer offered to keep her class so that I could rest. This meant that she would lose her planning time. She is ALWAYS asking about and thinking of others."



Mrs. Lucas

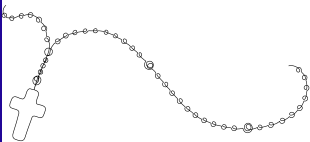
"Mrs. Lucas always goes above and beyond to include all the students. When we have early dismissals or changes of schedule due to presentations, field trips, or other events which cause grades to miss her class, she works with the teacher to arrange a different time. Other times she is the first to say, "Do you need help? or How can I help?" She is a true team player who always seems to put herself last."

Alaina Ile



"I see her constantly trying to help classmates stay on the right page when working and turning in assignments."

*"The goal of a virtuous life is to become like God."
-St. Gregory of Nyssa-*



Mrs. Naas



"She always knows when you are feeling down or unwell. A card, candy, or special drink may show up in your box or on your desk. She always asks about what is going on in your life and follows up. Her compassion for others is such a blessing and lesson to us all."

Mrs. Wissel



"I had a problem with a lesson I was planning. She helped me see another side by helping me work it out in my head. Her experience is an asset to us all. Also, I have been ill, and she offered to take my classes (and always does) so I could leave."

Mrs. Whitney Hamm & Miss Abby



"Whitney exudes the virtues of kindness and generosity. She always puts others above herself and finds ways to intentionally bless others. Her heart is pure and full of love. I'm thankful to call her a colleague and friend."

"How she and Miss Abby have come together as a team this year has been inspiring. The virtue I see her and Miss Abby expressing the most, especially towards each other, would be Unity."

Miss Beck



"I see her connecting with the kids on a level that I cannot. I love that she helps me see another side and helps me to be more kind and patient. I know that if I ask her for help in any way, that she would help no matter what she has going on."

Mrs. Erica Hill



"Erica inspires me every day! She is kind and so helpful to me and the kiddos. Especially in January on the days it was rough she kept me upbeat and strong."

Graham Naas



"Graham has demonstrated the virtue of diligence this month. He works extremely hard every day to follow directions, seeks extra help when he doesn't understand something, and displays great effort and a positive attitude. I admire these characteristics in Graham and it makes me want to stay the course when things get difficult. If Graham can do it, so can I!"

Alaina Ile, Lucy Mann, Presley Stevens, Isaac Trapp, Thayer Hocking, Easton Ile, & Graham Naas



"ANYTIME I need help with anything I am doing these students automatically volunteer. They do not even need to know what they are volunteering for, they just help."

"Graham is continuously seen being virtuous. He always goes out of his way to offer a hand, help a teacher or a fellow student. Even just today he offered to help carry Cheyenne's backpack for her because her hands were completely full walking up the stairs. He always says good morning, asks how people are doing and takes others feelings into consideration. I feel like he is often overlooked as one of the "crazy 6th grade boys" however, he is respectful and kind. something that we should all strive to be!"



"Be constant in practicing every virtue, and especially in imitating the patience of our dear Jesus, for this is the summit of pure love."

- St. Paul of the Cross, priest (1694-1775 A.D.)



Saint Mary's
...the Spirit is in the School



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL
SHAM-ROCK!
DINNER+AUCTION

SATURDAY MARCH 15 @ THE ANDERSON BUILDING

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THIS COMMUNITY EVENT

DINNER | LIVE BAND
LIVE AUCTION | SILENT AUCTION
DESSERT AUCTION

TICKETS ARE \$35/PERSON
includes: dinner & bid number for live+silent+dessert auction

Featuring

DINNER FROM PLEASANT VALLEY CATERING | LIVE MUSIC FROM WHISKEY THROTTLE

SM Saint Mary's

Tables are going quickly! Once we sell out, we will not be able to add more due to spacing. Make sure you get your tickets ASAP! Auction items are being gathered, maybe a trip or two on the horizon, an outdoor excursion, possibly?! Let's not even get into the delicious desserts we have confirmed! Grab your spouse, best friend, date night, or friends night out! Tasty food, live music, and so much fun!

LADY ROCKETS

Please join us to celebrate a great season!

Basketball Awards Banquet

Friday, February 21st | 6:00pm
SMS Gym

- All Lady Rockets players & their families are invited
- Cake & Punch will be served



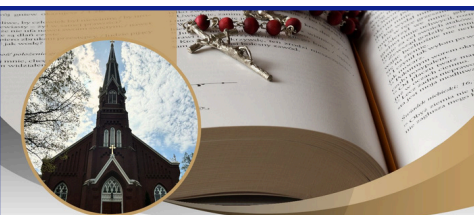
Please RSVP to Coach Jennifer by February 14th
417-988-6223

Lady Rockets

SOFTBALL Awards Banquet

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST
6:00PM
SMS GYM

CAKE & PUNCH WILL BE SERVED, PLEASE LET COACH MEL & COACH DANIELLE KNOW IF YOU WILL BE THERE.



ST. MARY'S YOUTH Group

WEDNESDAYS 6-7:30PM | 4-12th Grade are welcome!

Location: St. Mary's Church Parish Center
Join us for Fellowship, Food, & Fun!



Monthly editions of "The Orbiter" will be posted on Facebook, St. Mary's School website, and copies will be available in the office.