

THE ORBITER

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

We had two students participate in the Indiana Swimming State Championship this month!

Congratulations to Lilly Earnest and Ruby Morningstar-Johnson! We are so proud of you both!



Written by: Annie McGrail
St. Mary's Catholic School had a busy March! The month started with some of our students qualifying for the Indiana Swim Championship Meet and two of them going to State! We celebrated Read Across America, Mardi Gras, St. Patrick's Day, and President's Day. Eight of our students participated in WVC's Matilda the Musical and did a wonderful job! We had our Sham-Rock annual dinner and auction, and our March Dadness event. We saw the Eucharistic Miracle Exhibit, some students saw the Holocaust Exhibit, and we enjoyed our Spring Break! Volleyball, baseball, basketball, and cheer seasons came to an end and Track is in full swing. We have also been enjoying learning about the season of Lent!

Rockets of the Month

Congratulations to the March Rockets of the month, Marisa Stevens and Drew Naas!

Upcoming Important Dates

- **April 9th** - Reconciliation
- **April 15th** - 7th & 8th Grade Trip to Belleville
- **April 18th** - Good Friday - No School
- **April 21st** - Easter Monday - No School
- **April 26th** - Confirmation
- **May 4th** - First Communion
- **May 6th** - SMS Spring Concert
- **May 7th** - Student Council
- **May 8th** - May Crowning
- **May 15th** - 8th Grade Graduation
- **May 16th** - Early Dismissal (1pm)
- **May 20th** - SMS Art Club



3rd Grade



March Highlights:

- Theo Johnson – Baseball Tryouts
- Connor Macke – Playing Baseball
- Macy Ruth – St. Patrick's Day
- Hazel Drone – Spring Break
- Harper Scott – The warmth
- Nora Berberich – Spring Break
- Vivian Earnest – Mari Gras
- Drew Naas – Spring Break
- Jaida Johnson – My sister's Bday
- Enzo Santos-Valencia – The last day before Spring Break
- Ms. York – Shamrock event!

Feeling Lucky!

I am lucky to have: family, friends, God, Ms. York, mom and dad, shelter, church, books, school,

If I had 3 wishes I would wish for: "Peace, everyone to believe in God, people to have virtue.", "A million dollars, a PS5, and no more war", "

I feel lucky when: "It's my birthday", "I think it's Thursday, and it's Saturday.", "always!", "I made new friends on my first day.", "I find a penny on heads!"

I am lucky to know these people: "My class and my family", "Ms. York, Miss Beck, Mrs. Vickie, God, Grandparents, parents", "My friends"



SHAMROCK!

Annual Dinner and Auction



The event was an overwhelming success! Thank you to everyone for helping to make this event great year after year. It couldn't happen without our school families, parishioners, community, businesses, friends, teachers, and everyone else who shows up willing to be so generous!



The Yellow Jackets Baseball and Basketball had their season banquets on Thursday, March 13th. Congratulations to all of them on having a great Fall and Winter Season!



On March 17th, the AJH/SMS Cheer Team held their banquet. Congratulations on a great season!

Cheer and Volleyball

On March 11th, we celebrated our 8th grade volleyball players! Congratulations on a great season and good luck as you move on to new adventures!



Basketball and Baseball

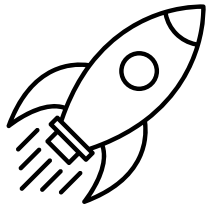
Congratulations on a great season!



Sports



Congratulations to Madeleine Mann and Madi Stevens! The Aces finished 3rd in state! We are so proud of you both and all your hard work!

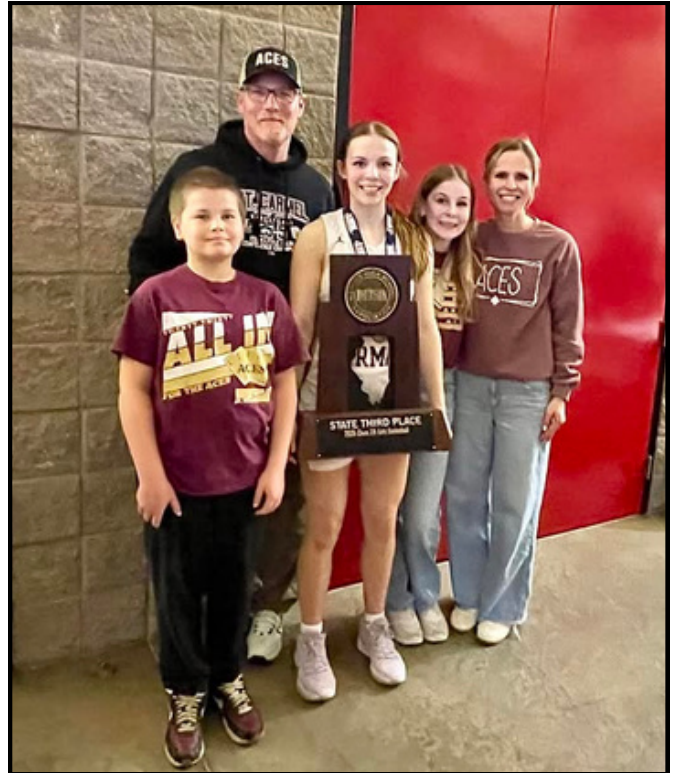


March Dadness

March Dadness was a huge hit with families! Thank you to Coach Grimes for organizing a wonderful night for your team and their families!



Alumni Success



Read Across America / Holocaust Exhibit



Over Spring Break some of our middle school went to Vincennes to tour the Americans and the Holocaust exhibit from the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. We also were able to listen to a speaker who knew Eva Kor and shared her story with us. Eva Kor wanted us to remember and educate ourselves about the Holocaust and understand the power of forgiveness.

Every year middle school celebrates Read Across America. On Day 1 we had an inference murder mystery. The “Taste of Literature” was apple cheddar scone muffins from *Pride and Prejudice*. On Day 2 middle school read to some of the younger grades. The “Taste of Literature” was hot chocolate and brotchen from *The Hunger Games*. On Day 3 the middle school did a story writing activity. The “Taste of Literature” was twice baked honey cake from *The Hobbit*! On Day 4 we enjoyed some peaceful reading. The “Taste of Literature” was blue chocolate chip cookies from *Percy Jackson*.



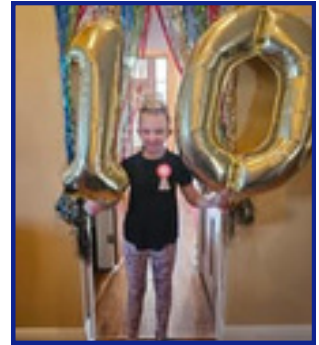
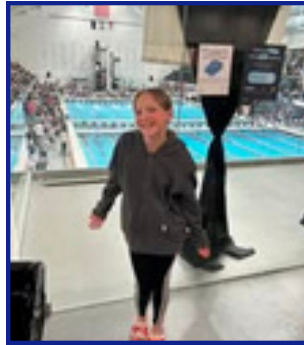
Eucharistic Miracle Exhibit

St. Mary's hosted the Eucharistic Miracles of the World Exhibit created by Blessed Carlo Acutis! Using photographs and historical descriptions, the exhibition presents a magnificent display depicting the full approved exhibit of Eucharistic Miracles recorded throughout the ages. Affirming the Real Presence of Jesus in the Eucharist. We were able to open this up to our students, our community, students from surrounding Catholic Schools and more! They were able to walk around and reflect upon how we receive Jesus in the Eucharist and learn about these amazing miracles.



SPRING BREAK

Our students had such a fun Spring Break!



Virtue



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

Otto Tennes



"During a recent very competitive ball game, only two students remained: a fourth grader and a first grader. The 4th grader hit the ball out of bounds resulting in the 1st grader becoming the victor. Otto Tennes, the 4th grader, immediately extended his hand and said, "Good game!" to the 1st grader. Otto, we commend you for being a great sport and a wonderful example to our younger students."



Vivian Crummley

"Vivian Crummley was so sweet to offer help to me and her classmates when we were making Mardi Gras masks. This was a multi-step project for Kindergarten and she was a big help. I appreciate her kindness!"

Kannon Castino



"I can count on Kannon to help around our classroom. I often find him putting up the extra chairs at the end of the day, picking things up off the floor, and tucking in chairs around our table. He does all of this on his own accord. These are little things that make a big difference and I appreciate his initiative to help!"



Viola Steckler

"I am so blessed to have been given the chance to work with such an amazing teacher (person) and to work at a school filled with kind, caring teachers and staff. They have been so welcoming from day one. Viola shows her students love, kindness and patience every day and makes learning so much fun for them. I enjoy working with her and I'm very thankful we were brought together."

Ms. Gamble



"Students often get frustrated with math, but Ms. Gamble goes above and beyond to ensure that students are mastering standards - she re-teaches lessons every day during their lunch hour, offers second chances, and integrates creative lessons and fun incentives for her students. Ms. Gamble does this all with such gentleness and patience."



Evelyn Crummley

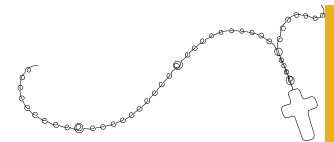
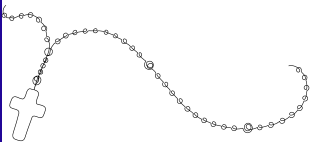
"Evelyn's sister Vivian got sick at the end of the school day. She had gotten some on her shirt. Evelyn had changed out of her school uniform to street clothes because she had play practice. She put her uniform back on and let Vivian wear her extra shirt without hesitation. I thought that was very thoughtful."

Owen Berberich



"Owen picked up a bunch of playground items that were left out without being asked!"

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





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



Father Robert Zwilling St. Mary's Pastor

**Tell us about yourself, how
you became a Priest, and
what you love about St.
Mary's Church and School!**

Greetings, I am Father Robert Zwilling, blessed to be the Pastor of St. Mary-Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Parish which includes St. Mary's School and St. Sebastian Parish. I am the youngest of 11 children. I grew up on a grain and livestock farm in the Olney area. My Dad asked me in 8th grade if I ever thought about being a priest. I said no, but because he asked, I started praying about it, going on youth retreats, talking to priests about it, and by age 19 I entered seminary training to become a Priest of Jesus Christ in 2005.

What I love about St. Mary's Church and School is that we can serve and love God 24 hours a day/7 days a week. Being able to pray, talk about, serve, and hear others talk about God is my joy! Here at St. Mary's Church every day we have prayer and worship. At St. Mary School, each day begins and ends in communion with God, even throughout the day, we seek to know Jesus better, love Him more, serve Jesus in our neighbor. While we all often fail, the gift of forgiveness, being led by God through each other, and "his mercies being new every morning (Lam. 3:22)" make all the difference! Peace and prayers in Jesus! -Father Robert



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

SMS
ONLINE REENROLLMENT
2025-2026

Opens April 15, 2025

Access the online reenrollment through
your family portal on factsmgt.com

Call the office at 618-263-3183 if you have
any questions

Saint Mary's
Catholic School



Congratulations to our
St. Mary's students and staff
who participated in WVC's
production of Matilda the
Musical! You all did a
wonderful job and we are
so proud of you!