

ST. MARYS

THE ORBITER



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

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Kemper on their recent nuptials! May God bless their marriage with faith, joy, and love.



Rockets of the Month

St. Mary's Rocket of the Month is chosen based on how the student demonstrates virtue, character, and leadership in their day to day actions. The Rocket of the Month should demonstrate excellent behavior both inside and outside of the classroom.

Lyla Greenwood
Nominated by Mrs. Raber

Kade Deckard
Nominated by Miss Harpenau



Alumni Spotlight

The middle school was honored to have SMS Alumni and 2025 MCHS Hall of Fame inductee, Phillip DeWolf, come visit in September. He shared with us his fond memories and the strong foundation that he received at SMS. He also encouraged the students to pursue their unique interests in high school and beyond. He enlightened us with stories from his unbelievable career in national government service and answered the many questions that students had. We're so proud of Phillip and we're thankful he spent some of his time with us! Mrs. Spencer and Mrs. Waterbury were also very delighted and surprised to see him.

Phillip is the son of Phillip and Mary Jo DeWolf and the proud uncle of 6th grader, Cheyenne Aubrey.



October – The month of The Rosary

In the month of October we dedicate time to praying The Rosary in honor of The Blessed Virgin Mary. Students decorated the halls in gorgeous rosaries, we held a living rosary in the parking lot and attended church to pray The Rosary as a school. Fr. Robert brought in a gorgeous wooden hand-made Rosary for the classes to look at and observe.

Here is a bit of information about The Rosary

Origins:

The month was established by Pope Leo XIII in 1883 to honor Mary and encourage prayer for peace.

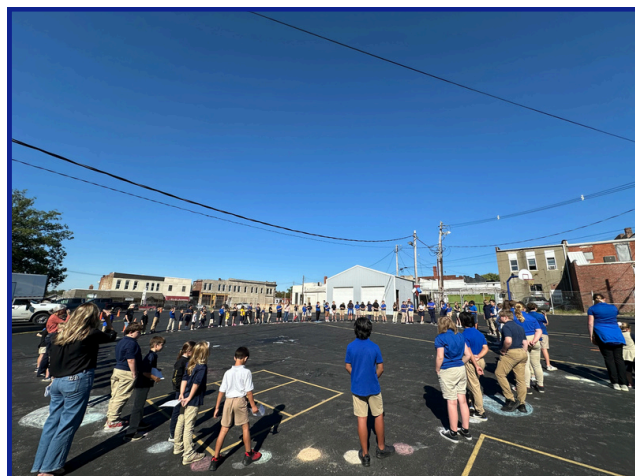
The devotion is also linked to the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on October 7th, which commemorates the Christian victory at the Battle of Lepanto in 1571 through the intercession of the Rosary.

Purpose:

The month provides an opportunity to focus on the Rosary, which is a series of prayers and meditations on the life of Jesus and Mary. It is a time for individual and family prayer, and for seeking Mary's intercession for personal intentions and peace.

How to participate:

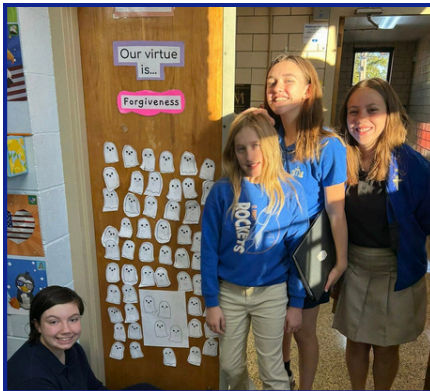
Everyone is encouraged to pray the Rosary daily during October. Other ways to participate include learning more about the Rosary, getting involved in Rosary ministries, making a rosary or rosary bracelet, and sharing the prayer with others.



Student Council Happenings



Spirit Stick WINNERS!
1st & 8th grade



Student Council has been busy! At the end of September they partnered with the Knights of Columbus to collect donations for the annual Tootsie Roll Drive.

In October, Student Council reintroduced a school favorite, the SMS Spirit Stick. Each month, classes will be challenged to a friendly, fun competition between grades. This could be a game, a cheer, or a challenge. The first spirit stick awards went to 1st grade--the downstairs winner and 8th grade-- the upstairs winner. These classes found the most paper ghosts hidden around the school within a two-week period. Students had a blast finding and collecting the ghosts.

Thanks to everyone who purchased new SMS Spirit Wear. Your items will be delivered soon. Student Council always appreciates your support!

STUDENT COUNCIL FUNDRAISER

Student Council has partnered with Golf Plus to bring some new, fresh, and comfy SMS spirit wear options! Please note the cost reflects a portion of the fundraising sale.

Online Store Open: Now until Sunday, Nov 2 @ midnight!

Online Store View & Purchase <https://stmarysrockets.itemorder.com/>

Questions? knaas@smsrockets.net

Prayer Partners

A Prayer Partner and volunteer Mass was held in October. Prayer Partners were invited to join their class to celebrate Mass together and enjoy a cookie reception afterwards. Our Prayer Partners are such a blessing and we cherish each other's friendship, thoughtfulness, and many prayers.



Veterans Day

Veterans Day is a special time for our school community to come together in gratitude and prayer for the men and women who have served our country. We honor their courage, sacrifice, and dedication to protecting our freedoms. May we always remember to keep our veterans and active service members in our prayers, asking God to bless them with peace and strength.



St. Francis of Assisi annual Pet Blessing





Fall class Field Trips



Trunk or Treat



Trunk or Treat







Thank You, Rockets Foundation!

Thanks to the generosity of The Rockets Foundation, our 5th-8th graders were able to travel to St. Louis to visit the Cathedral and venerate the Relics of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. Your support made it possible for us to charter a comfortable bus, allowing our students to enjoy a safe and enriching pilgrimage experience. We are so grateful for your continued support of these faith-filled opportunities!







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



Principal Newsletter for December



December Principal's Newsletter

As we begin the season of Advent, our school is filled with a sense of quiet joy and holy anticipation. Advent is such a meaningful time for our students to pause, prepare their hearts, and draw closer to Jesus as we journey toward Christmas. In our classrooms, we're talking about hope, peace, joy, and love—the four beautiful themes of Advent—and encouraging students to look for ways to share Christ's light with others each day. It's a blessed season, and we're grateful to walk through it together as a faith-filled community.

Here are some upcoming dates in December:

December 1 - Advent Service at 8:00 am during our Monday Morning Meeting.

December 5 - Students in grades Preschool-8th will watch a short half an hour snippet of The Nutcracker from 10:30 to 11:00. This is at Wabash Valley College at the Brubeck Theater

December 7 - The Student Council will host a movie matinee in the Gym at 4:00 pm. The movie is King of Kings. Wear your PJ's and bring blankets, chairs and your Christmas Spirit. Snacks available for purchase.

December 8 - Advent Service at 8:00 am during our Monday Morning Meeting.

December 10 - Reconciliation starting at 9:00.

December 15 - Advent Service at 8:00 am during our Monday Morning Meeting.

December 16 - Christmas Concert at 6:00 pm.

December 19 - Students in grades K-8 will attend a movie at Princeton Showplace Cinema. The movie is David. Departure time is 8:15 and return time is 11:00. Early dismissal at 1:00 pm with no Aftercare.

December 20-January 5 - Christmas Holiday

January 6 - Classes resume

Wishing all our families a blessed and joy-filled Christmas. May the peace of Christ be with you now and throughout the year ahead.

Mrs. Lori Wissel

Principal

St. Mary's School

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