

St. Mary's Catholic School  
Newsletter January 23, 2026

Main Office

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**January 25-31**  
Catholic Schools  
Week

**January 31**  
School Carnival!!!!

**February 6**  
Midterms

**February 7**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Grade  
First  
Reconciliation  
10:00 a.m.

**February 12**  
Valentine Parties at  
2:00

**February 13**  
No School – Teacher  
Institute

**February 16**  
No School -  
President's Day

**February 24**  
Preschool &  
Kindergarten  
Open House  
5:00-6:30 p.m.

**WE NEED HELP AT THE CARNIVAL!!**  
**PLEASE SIGN UP TO WORK AT A GAME OR OTHER AREA FOR THE CARNIVAL.**

IT'S only **ONE HOUR** shifts for most things!!

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/5080E4AABA82BA1FF2-61474121-stmarys>

**Most ANY ADULT or child 4<sup>th</sup> Grade and up can sign up to work at the carnival, grandparents - aunts & uncles, alumni, etc., can sign up!**

**ST. MARY'S CARNIVAL**  
**JANUARY 31: 5-8PM**

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**  
**USE QR CODE/LINK BELOW OR CALL**  
**MRS. SCHICK AT THE SCHOOL**  
**OFFICE TO SIGN-UP**

**CAKE WALK DONATIONS:**  
**DROP AT THE SCHOOL ON**  
**JANUARY 30/31**

**SPONSORED BY:**  
**ST. MARY'S PTO**



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

## January 25-31, 2026

### Athletic Events!

#### **Boys Basketball**

**January 24**

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Regionals  
vs Delavan at  
Hartsburg-Emden at  
12:30 p.m.

**January 27**

Round 2 8<sup>th</sup> Grade  
Regionals  
7:15

#### **Girls Volleyball**

**January 27**

At St. Pat's  
at 4:30 p.m.

**January 29**

At Washington  
Central  
at 4:15 p.m.

**February 3**

At Limestone-Walters  
at 4:00 p.m.

**February 5**

At Lowpoint-  
Washburn  
at 5:00 p.m.

**Sunday, January 25**

**Pancake & Sausage Breakfast** Proceeds to go to St. Mary's School. (Bulk sausage available to purchase at breakfast.)

**Open House** for our breakfast crowd. You can go through the school to look at classrooms, etc.



**Monday, January 26**

**Muffins and Donuts for Moms/Grandmas/etc.** will be held in the cafeteria from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. (Visitors, please do not park on the south end of the school where the faculty parks – thanks!)

**Congratulations** to the students who advanced to the **All School Spelling Bee** which will be Monday, January 26 at 1:30:

5<sup>th</sup> Grade – Leighton Benner and Gabby Fitzgibbons

6<sup>th</sup> Grade – Weston Elbert and Tyler Lamkin

7<sup>th</sup> Grade – Landon Durst and Eva Schierer

8<sup>th</sup> Grade – Reagan Casey and Mariah Hermann



## Lunch Menu!!

### January 23

Fish Sticks. Peas,  
Fries, Fruit

### January 26

Chicken Noodle  
Soup, Carrots,  
Crackers, Fruit

### January 27

Geo's Pizza, Chips,  
Fruit

### January 28

Pulled Pork  
Sandwich, Fries,  
Peas, Fruit

### January 29

Spaghetti, Bread  
Stick, Salad, Fruit,

### January 30

Mac & Cheese, Corn,  
Fruit

## **Tuesday, January 27**

**Donuts and Muffins for Dads/Grandpas/etc.** will be held in the cafeteria from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m.

(Visitors, please do not park on the south end of the school where the faculty parks – thanks!)

**Geo's Pizza for student lunch.**

## **Wednesday, January 28**

**Collection/Hobby Day!** Do you have a hobby or something you are passionate about? Have you collected a lot of items for this passion or topic? Share it with us on January 28!! See the attached flyer for information.

## **Thursday, January 29**

**Bishop Tylka** will say Mass and visit classrooms.

**Dress up for Jesus:** Please wear dress clothes or uniform.

**SEE THE ATTACHED PRESS RELEASE**

## **Friday, January 30**

**Spirit Day** Show off our Catholic School Pride by wearing St. Mary's School Spirit Wear, jeans, or khaki pants. Please ensure jeans have no holes, rips, or tears and are not tight fitting. Leggings and jeggings are not permitted. If a student does not wish to wear jeans, khakis, or spirit wear, they may wear their uniform.

## **Saturday, January 31**

**School Carnival and Chili Supper** from 5:00-8:00 p.m. in the gym.

**We will be collecting for the Open Arms Food Pantry throughout Catholic Schools Week.**

## **John Lancaster Spalding Scholarship Fund 2026-2027**

### **Protocols and Procedures**

**Application Deadline: April 24, 2026**

**Submission Deadline: May 8, 2026**

#### **PROTOCOLS:**

A family applying for Spalding Scholarship assistance must be an active member in good standing of a parish in the Catholic Diocese of Peoria.

The student[s] for whom the aid is being sought must be enrolled in good standing [or seeking to be enrolled] in grades K through 12 in a Catholic school located in the Diocese of Peoria.

All scholarship assistance will be based on a family's financial need objectively assessed. The diocese will use FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment Services to determine financial need. All scholarship assistance will also be dependent upon the recommendation of the pastor that the family is an active member of the parish in good standing

If a student changes schools during a school year, tuition assistance grants will follow the student as long as the student is enrolled in and in good standing in a Catholic school in the Diocese of Peoria and the family is a member in good standing of a parish in the Diocese of Peoria.

All awards are for one school year only. A family must apply for Spalding Scholarship assistance each school year.

## St. Mary's Alumni Thriving in high school!

### **71% of St. Mary's Graduates are on the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester of the Metamora High School!**

Congratulations to  
Thomas Casey  
Javonne DuBois  
Samuel Eckstein  
Claire Noe  
Kinsey Shiverdecker  
Amie Berta  
Aubrey Huss  
Ethan Stone  
Clara Schmitt  
Nathan Wise  
Andrew Buss  
Benjamin Cronkhite  
Noah Kidder  
Alexander Schmitt  
Westin LaHood  
Benjamin Baldwin  
Noah Merrill  
Nolan Rutledge  
Gannon Huss  
Lauren Schmitt

The number of grants and the amount of each grant for the school year will be dependent upon the funds available and the size and need of the applicant pool.

Payment of Spalding Scholarship Grants will be made twice a year directly to the Catholic school a student attends. These grants will be applied to the family's tuition obligation. It is anticipated that tuition assistance grants will be announced in early June 2026.

### **PLEASE SEE THE ATTACHED INFORMATION**

### **MTHS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Information**

- 8th grade visit MTHS Day - February 6 from 8:30 to 11:30
- Parent Night - February 11 at MTHS - activity fair 5:30 to 6:15 and Guidance Department presents 6:15 to 7:00 with Q&A after if needed
- Course Selection Night - February 18 at MTHS from 4:00 to 7:00

### **Support St. Mary's Dinner Auction!**

We are seeking sponsorships and item donations for our upcoming school auction. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and every dollar goes toward the benefit of our school! Sponsorships provide great visibility for businesses and families, and donated items or experiences make our auction a huge success. Item donations can be taken to St. Mary's Church office.

To learn more, please visit:

<http://www.stmarysmetamora.schoolauction.net/2026auction.>  
**Thank you for supporting our school community!**



### **Donut Sunday!**

The February 1st Donut Sunday is going to be extra sweet, as we're not just enjoying donuts, we're building the future together! We'll have building blocks ready for kids to imagine, create and design what the future could look like. Grab a donut and help us build something amazing - together! See you after the 7:30 & 9:30 masses!

Student volunteers are needed to bring up the gifts at Mass, read a short announcement, and help serve donuts afterward in the school cafeteria. It's a joyful way to encourage children's participation and build community. Open to all students K-8. Donut Sunday is always the first Sunday of the month after the 7:30 & 9:30 masses. Sign-up link below includes more details. Any questions please reach out to Whitney Blunier 309-657-5384.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0B45ABA92CA7FA7-61678289-february>

### **\$\$ St. Mary's School Athletic Boosters Raffle \$\$**

Don't miss your chance to win CA\$H every month and help support St. Mary's School Athletics and Extracurricular Activities at the same time!

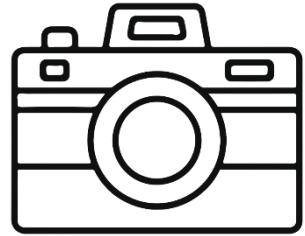
Every month, January through December, 4 names will be drawn.

CASH prizes of \$100, \$50, and two \$25 prizes are awarded to the winners!

**BY FEBRUARY 22nd, 2026** please place the lower portion and payment in an envelope labeled "StM Athletic Booster Raffle" and return it to the school office, church office, or place it in the church collection basket.

## Yearbook Photos

We are looking for photos for the yearbook—classroom pictures, sports pictures, and any extracurricular activities so everyone can be featured. Please email them to Brooke Miller at [brookebernitt@yahoo.com](mailto:brookebernitt@yahoo.com) or text them to 309-370-4525. Yearbooks will be available to order in May.



## American Heritage Girls

The day is finally here! Our first American Heritage Girls meeting will be on Monday, February 2nd in the St. Mary's School cafeteria from 3:15-4:45pm. All troop members need to have a medical form on file to participate, extras will be available at the meeting. If you have any questions or are interested in joining, please contact Sara Strong 309-361-1990 or Shay Oberry 309-678-3381.

## Volunteer Needed *This Tuesday* for Pre-K Story Library Time

If you would like to come in and read to our preschoolers, there are still times open for 2026. Volunteers will spend a few minutes reading books to our preschool children.

- Tuesdays, 10:30–10:45am in the library.
- Option to stay afterward and help with Pre-K lunch.
- Books and materials provided (or bring a favorite from home).
- If you'd like to volunteer, please contact the school office.

## The MTHS Softball team is hosting a Princess Tea Party!

Join the MTHS Softball Players on Saturday, February 7th, 2026, from 9 A.M-11AM at Metamora High School in Room 200. Dress up in your favorite princess dress and join the girls for some fun activities like makeup, nails, hair, crafts, games and snacks. Princess ages 3 and up may attend. Registration is \$25 for each Princess, and \$15 for each additional child in the same family. See the attached flyer!

Online Registration:

<https://forms.gle/fZQqGM4zTainA1sN8>

Questions contact: [metasoftballparents@gmail.com](mailto:metasoftballparents@gmail.com)

## Germantown Hills Athletic Association - Recreational Soccer

Rec soccer registration is now opened! Please see links below! Be sure to update grade level in school to ensure your child gets on the correct age level!

<https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/511866> - Recreational Soccer (k-8th grade)

<https://go.teamsnap.com/forms/511867> - 3-4 yr old training

Please reach out to [ghasoccer@gmail.com](mailto:ghasoccer@gmail.com) with any questions! (Form is attached.)

We also wanted to note some winter training opportunities this year through Peoria City Soccer:

Holiday Monday Camps: <https://peoriacitysoccer.com/monday-day-camps/>

After School Training: <https://peoriacitysoccer.com/after-school-training/>

Soccer Memberships at the Yard:<https://peoriacitysoccer.com/soccer-memberships/>

# ST. MARY'S OPEN HOUSE

January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
7:30AM-11:30AM

MEET OUR ADMINISTRATION, TOUR OUR CLASSROOMS & SEE OUR  
CHRIST CENTERED COMMUNITY IN ACTION AS WE KICK OFF  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

## PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST



\$10/PERSON  
\$6 FOR 12 & U

HOSTED BY THE  
KNIGHTS OF  
COLUMBUS

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT ST. MARY'S SCHOOL