

BOBCAT BUZZ



February 2022

It's Catholic Schools Week! I am so happy that we get to celebrate this year with some fun activities, such as Move Up Day, Open House, Texas Entertainment Experience, MOD Pizza and of course Mass! It was AWESOME to see students and teachers at Mass this past weekend. It is a blessing to be part of this wonderful community. Though we have had some changes in events and other things due to the pandemic, we are still growing in mind, heart and spirit. I have often been asked, "Why work in a Catholic school?" My answer is simple; I see Jesus in the words, actions and service of our students, families and staff. I am blessed that I get to work with future saints! It is a privilege to serve as principal that not only promotes academic, physical and emotional growth, most importantly our faith is at the center of what we do here at SMCS.



"A good school provides a rounded education for the whole person. And a good Catholic school, over and above this, should help all its students to become saints." - Pope Benedict XVI



 Mrs. Halbardier

UPCOMING EVENTS

Date	Time	Activity
Jan 31—Feb 4		Catholic Schools Week
Feb 3		BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT CANCELED DUE TO WEATHER—WILL BE RESCHEDULED
Feb 6	All Masses	First Sunday Mass
Feb 11		1 st Round of Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Ends
Feb 12	7:45 AM	Steps for Students Run/Walk Downtown
Feb 14	2—3:00 PM	Class Valentine's Parties SMCS Color Walk First Registration Incentive Ends
Feb 21		No School
Mar 7		Archdiocesan Tuition Assistance Program Notifications Sent
Mar 11	12:00 PM	Noon Dismissal
Mar 14—18		Spring Break

PRAYER AND MASS INFORMATION

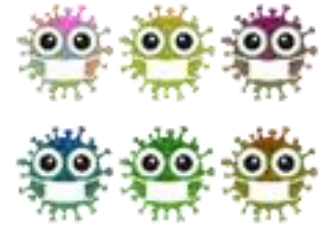
Week	Morning Prayer Leaders	Friday Mass Servers
Jan 31—Feb 4	Mrs. Croniser's 6 th Grade	Mrs. Rivet's 2 nd Grade
Feb 7—11	Mrs. Donaldson's 6 th Grade	Mrs. Mellado's 3 rd Grade
Feb 14—18	Mrs. Little's 5 th Grade	Mrs. Matthew's 3 rd Grade
Feb 21—25	Mrs. Castillo's 5 th Grade	Mrs. Pray's 4 th Grade
Feb 28—Mar 4	Mrs. Keaten's 4 th Grade	Mrs. Keaten's 4 th Grade

COVID-19 UPDATE

Mrs. Halbardier continues to monitor the local Covid-19 situation and is adjusting school policy as appropriate:

- Jan 31— Morning Temperature Checks DISCONTINUED. Parents please continue to check symptoms (listed on your car tag) prior to drop off.
- Feb 1— All 1st through 8th Grade students will return to Cargill Hall for lunch.

Visit the school website's [Bobcat's Now!](#) page for the most up-to-date SMCS Covid-19 policies.



STEPS FOR STUDENTS

Feb 22, 2022 is Steps for Students, the Diocese's largest fundraising drive.



All funds pledged to SMCS come back to our school. **Our goal is \$20,000 fundraising and 100% student participation.**

Congratulations to Ms. Richardson's, Mrs. Rivet's, and Mrs. Mellado's classes for having 100% participation and earning pizza and donut parties. [Register now!](#)

SMCS COLOR WALK

Feb 14 is the annual Steps for Students celebration at SMCS. There will be games, a color walk, and Cool Cow Creamery ice cream. Safe Haven trained parents are welcome to attend the color walk outside the school. Please contact [Coach DeLeon](#) for more information.



2022-23 ENROLLMENT

Enrollment for the 2022—23 school year is open! SMCS is offering [registration fee](#) discounts when registering before:

- Feb 14—\$125/student
- March 7—\$75/student
- April 11—\$50/student



SMCS will pay the FACTS fee when families create their FACTS payment plans by April 11. See the [Admissions Process](#) page for more information.

Pick up a SMCS Enrollment Yard Sign from the office and show your Bobcat Pride!

SMCS PRAYER GROUP



Come join the SMCS Prayer Group! The group meets every Wednesday after car line. Contact [Mrs. Howes](#) for more information.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Thank you to all of the SMCS supporters! Our 2021-22 Fundraising efforts have been very successful.

Fundraising to date:

\$8000	The Annual Fund
\$2159	The Christmas Shop
\$853	Advent Sales



SMCS fundraising opportunities:

- [Amazon Smile](#) (set SMCS as your charity and use the link for your orders)
- [Kroger Community Rewards](#) (Connect your Kroger Plus Card with Organization Number UV373)
- [Box Tops® for Education](#) (App available on Google Play or the App Store)
- SMCS Cafeteria Fundraisers (Friday lunches, treat sales)
- Donate directly to the Annual Fund. Contact [Mike Gremillion](#) for more information.

SMCS GALA—MAY 14!



SMCS's Annual Gala will be on Saturday May 14th in our new Parish Ministry Building. Enjoy a Hawaiian evening, with a raffle, dinner, drinks, live and silent auctions, and a dessert auction. The Gala is the largest fundraiser for St. Mary Catholic School and we need your support. Volunteers are needed for overall planning and to organize the [class auction baskets](#). Contact [Patricia Richards](#) to join the team!

SMCS ATHLETICS

Track and Field starts on Feb 15. Practices are on Monday, Tuesdays, and Thursdays until 4:45pm. Contact [Coach DeLeon](#) for more information.



NEW CLUBS

Mrs. Lopez is sponsoring two new clubs open to 1st through 4th graders, the [Game and Puzzle Club](#) and the [Bookworm Club](#). Please consider donating new or gently used games and puzzles.



SAFE HAVEN TRAINING



All adults who have regular contact with students including classroom visits, volunteering at school, driving for field trips, etc. are required to have Safe Environment training every 5 years. Access it at [CMG Connect](#).

UNIFORM REMINDERS

Only SMCS sweaters or jackets are allowed in the classrooms. Non-uniform outdoor jackets can be used during recess. See the [school uniform website](#) for more details.



MORNING CARLINE

We would love to have parent volunteers help with morning car line. Contact [Mrs. Ellison](#) if you are interested.



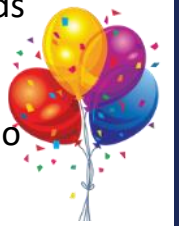
FIRST SUNDAY MASS



Students who attend any Mass in person wearing full dress uniform will earn **free dress the following Monday**. At this time, it is not necessary to sign in at the Narthex.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February 15	Mrs. Richards
February 24	Ms. DeLeon
March 2	Mrs. Mellado
March 5	Mrs. Keaten



THANK YOU

...*All Steps for Students Registrants*
...*Coach Ellison and Coach Sbaschnig for a great basketball season*
...*Mrs. Pray, Mrs. Keaten, and Mrs. Little for serving as Eucharistic Ministers at school Mass*
...*Mrs. Chikli, Mrs. Smith, and Mrs. Matthews for helping out in classrooms when needed*

RESOURCES

ParentsWeb (FACTS, grades, lunch ordering)
stmy-tx.client.renweb.com/pwr
Teacher's Friday Letters
<https://www.stmarylc.org/academics/newsletters.cfm>
St. Mary Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/stmarylc