

My Dear Saint Mary Families,

I hope everyone has had a fun and refreshing summer break. For me, the bit of sadness that I always feel as summer draws to a close is, this year, very much tempered by my excitement for this new school year. We will be welcoming five new teachers, two new teacher aides and 35 new or returning school and/or preschool families into our Saint Mary school community.

Mrs. Susan Gehring will be joining the faculty as a part time kindergarten teacher. Mrs. Martha Wood will also serve in kindergarten as a teacher aide, and Ms. Sameh Wall will serve as a teacher aide for third grade. Ms. Sarah Conley and Mrs. Sherelle Descher will be joining the middle school staff. Ms. Conley, a recent graduate from the University of Notre Dame, comes to Saint Mary as part of the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) Teaching Fellows program and will be teaching middle school science. Mrs. Descher comes to us from All Saints Catholic School and will be teaching 7th and 8th grade language arts, 8th grade religion, and serving as 8th grade home-room. Joining our group of “specials teachers are Mrs. Kerina Montilla and Mrs. Kathleen Meijerink. Mrs. Montilla will share her time between School of Saint Mary and St. Pius X Catholic School and be teaching Spanish to our first through sixth grade students. Mrs. Meijerink, who will be our PE teacher and athletic director, comes to Oklahoma from St. Bruno Catholic School in La Habra, California, where she also served as a PE teacher and athletic director.

We have worked hard this summer to continue to make improvements to the physical space of our school. We have addressed several security needs including adding security film to all the south facing school and preschool classrooms, updating our security camera system software, adding additional cameras for better outside visibility and replacing the doors of the south entrance with new exterior doors that preserve the original look of the building and an interior set of security doors. The space from the former Saint Francis room has been added to the existing cafeteria which has substantially increased the size of the cafeteria. We have new flooring, new lighting, and new tables and chairs will be arriving soon.

The teachers have been in and out all summer long working hard to be ready for a new school year. We are looking forward to seeing everyone on Monday for registration and to getting this new school year going.

Wishing everyone a fun and safe last weekend of summer enjoying the few days of this cooler weather!

Suzanne Nelson

The School of St. Mary exists to carry out the educational mission of the Church
by teaching children to live, love, learn and walk with God.

For Your Information

SCHOOL OF SAINT MARY

www.schoolofsaintmary.com

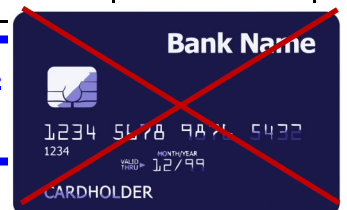
August 9, 2024



August 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
11	12 7:15 Registration— Parents Only	13 Teacher Inservice	14 1st Day School and After School Care	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22 Back to School Night	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 1:00 Dismissal	31
September 1	2 No School / Labor Day	3 Free Dress	4	5	6 PreK-8 Vision Screening	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Correction on Registration Mailing—[Credit cards are not accepted at registration.](#)
It was erroneously stated in the registration mailing that credit cards were accepted. I am sorry for the confusion.



Registration Information

Date: Monday, August 12th, 7:15am – 11:45am
Adults only (no students)

Place: School Building – Use School Front Door

Parking: Main lot – Registration will be in the school building.

General instructions: Have the Registration Day Payment/Fee Form (obtained at the Office Table) completed each time you purchase school supplies, Pizza/Field Day lunches, or Yearbooks.

- **Parents must visit the Finance Table (in the gym) last.** One check may be written for all charges except Kindermats – **credit cards are not accepted.**
- **Kindermats (\$14) are purchased separately from the kindergarten teachers (credit cards are not accepted).**

Downstairs Tables

Office Table (Start here):

- Pick up Registration Day Payment/Fee Form and Parent/Student Handbook
- Turn in Family Emergency Information Form with any needed corrections
Turn in baptismal certificates, birth certificates and any other requested paperwork that has not already been turned in.

Health Table: Turn in immunization records and physical forms and inform health room staff of any health issues affecting your child. All immunization and physicals must be up-to-date for a child to begin school.

- The State Board of Health requires that children attending school in Oklahoma have five DPT or Td inoculations, four doses of polio vaccine, two doses of the measles, mumps and rubella vaccine, one varicella, three hepatitis B and two hepatitis A vaccinations.
- Students entering 7th grade are required to have one Tdap.
- Physical exams are required for all new students and middle school students who participate in School of Saint Mary sports.

Grade Tables:

- Check in at each grade level where you have a student enrolled
- Sign screening permission slips
Kindergarten Table – purchase Kindermats (\$14). Payment is made at the Kindergarten Table (check or exact change only - Credit Cards are not accepted).

Yearbook Table: Stop here to order a yearbook (\$32). Your name will be taken and you will be charged on the Registration Day Payment/Fee Form.

Music/Art Tables:

Stop by for an overview of the music and art programs.

After School Care Table: Pick up information and/or register your child/children.

Upstairs Tables

School Supply Table (8th grade room): Pay for your pre-ordered school supplies (Registration Day Payment/Fee Form)

Middle School Teacher Tables: Check in at each teacher and grade level where you have a student enrolled

Athletics: Check in at this table to meet the new PE teacher. **Middle school parents should stop here for middle school athletics paperwork.**

Gym (Last stop)

Cafeteria Table (in gym): Pick up August menu. Talk to cafeteria staff about the cafeteria work requirement. Families are asked to work in the cafeteria 10 hours per semester. Families who are not able to work the required hours will be charged \$15 per hour for every hour less than the required 10 hours. Families will be billed on their FACTS account in January and June for the missed hours.

Home & School Table(in gym):

- Pay for Pizza Day (\$35 per student) (Registration Day Payment/Fee Form)
- Pay for Field Day lunches (Registration Day Payment/Fee Form)

Crest Merchandise / Spirit Items Table(in gym): Order CrestWare and Spirit items online – samples will be available at this table.

MaryFair Dinner You may purchase MaryFair dinner tickets (Registration Day Payment/Fee Form).

Finance Table (in gym) – Last Table – Must stop here.

Pay for items purchased on the Registration Day Payment/Fee Form. **One check may be written for all charges on the Registration Day Payment/Fee Form at the Finance Table.**

Middle School Confirmation

August 2, 2024

Dear Families,

On June 29, Bishop Konderla announced that the Diocese of Tulsa and Eastern Oklahoma will move to the Restored Order model for administering the Sacraments of Initiation. This means that children will prepare to receive both Confirmation and First Holy Communion at the same Mass, sometime during their third-grade year. This shift will also impact children who have received their First Communion but have not yet been confirmed. At the Church of Saint Mary, this group includes rising 3rd through rising 11th graders.

The COSM Faith Formation Team plans to incorporate Confirmation preparation into existing youth programming to address this large group. For the 2024-2025 school year, we invite all students in grades 6 through 11 to prepare for and receive Confirmation. Current rising 3rd through rising 5th graders will be confirmed during the 2025-2026 school year.

Preparation for 9th-11th graders will occur after the 5:00 pm Sunday evening Mass— during the usual meeting time for High School Youth Group. Weekly dinners will begin at 6:00 pm, and programming will run from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Sixth through 8th graders will meet before the 5:00 pm Sunday Mass, from 3:30 to 4:45— during the usual meeting time for Middle School Youth Group. Both age groups will use a version of the LifeTeen Purpose Confirmation Program. This program runs like a youth group night— not a typical religious ed or CCD class.

Sessions will begin on Sunday, September 15 and continue weekly (with breaks) through Sunday, March 2, 2025. Confirmation will occur on Sunday, February 27, 2025, at one of two Masses. Children whose last name begins with A - M will attend a special 12:30 pm Mass. Last names N-Z will be confirmed at a special 3:00 pm Mass. The full calendar for Confirmation preparation is below.

Following spring break, middle and high school youth groups will continue to gather at their respective times, though programming will shift away from a Confirmation-specific focus.

Registration for Confirmation preparation is now available on the [parish website](#).

We look forward to working with you and your children this year. Please feel free to contact us with any questions.

In Christ,

Nick Bernard, Director of Youth Ministry (nbernard@churchofsaintmary.com)
Katie Svejkosky, Confirmation Coordinator (ksvejkosky@churchofsaintmary.com)



Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Open House

August 11th, 2024

Atria

after the 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Masses

Calling all families with children ages three up to twelve. Please join us for a come and go Open House of the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Atria. Our Catechists will be happy to share with you the materials that allow our children to fall in love with Jesus and His Church.

Please contact Christine Hassink, chassink@churchofsaintmary.com, for more information

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd



Registration Open!

A religious education Montessori based approach rooted in scripture and liturgy.

Serving children ages 3-12.



SCAN ME

For more information and to register, please visit www.churchofsaintmary.com/cgs or contact Christine Hassink at chassink@churchofsaintmary.com

Calling all bakers!

We are already preparing for this year's MaryFair Auction, and we need your help! Please consider donating a dessert for the event. This year's dinner will take place on Saturday, October 5th, and the theme is Mirrorball: Looking back at 70 years of St. Mary.

You can sign up to bring a dessert at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040D45ACAB28A0F94-50396289-mary>

Please spread the word to anyone who you think might be interested. Deadline for signup is September 15th.

Last year the dessert auction brought in almost \$5,000 for our community thanks to your time and talent. Please help us to make this year just as great!



Sincerely,

Laura Andrews and Corinn Castro
Dessert Co-chairs



Back To School Picnic

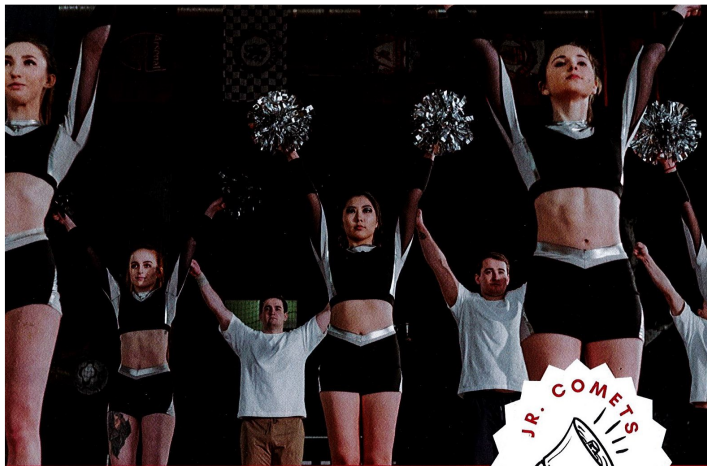


Friday, August 23rd

6-8pm

Snacks ONLY and entertainment provided

RSVP by Tuesday, August 20th



GOT THE SPIRIT? WE WANT TO HEAR IT!

Sign up now to be a Jr. Comets Cheerleader!

GRADES 4TH-8TH!

We are excited to announce the development of a Jr. Comets cheer squad to cheer on the Jr. Comets's football teams this fall. The cost is \$180. Please register through the Jr. Comets Sportbase website at www.jrcomets.com or sportabase.com. Practices start soon! For more information, please get in touch with Program Directors, Leslie Meyer at 918-812-3809 or Rachel Meadows at 918-728-4174.

It is sign up time for Clark Youth Theatre for Fall 2024! Classes on Tuesday the 10th of September!



We look forward to having you all back with us this school year!

Here is the link with further information and to enroll: <https://www.hisawyer.com/clark-youth-theatre/schedules/activity-set/936305>

As you may remember, we need a parent volunteer to help bring kids over from the school. Unless an individual comes forward, I have made a sign up genius to share the responsibility. :-)

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B45A5A729A7FA7-50548530-parent>

Can't wait to see you in the Fall!

Clark Staff