



Catholic Schools Week 2024

St. Mary Catholic School, Newton

***Bolted Activities need volunteers**

Sunday January 28	Monday January 29	Tuesday January 30	Wednesday February 1	Thursday February 2	Friday February 3
My Parish Lights the Way	Celebrating our Community (Kansas Day Celebration)	Celebrating our Students	Honoring Our Nation	Encouraging Vocations	Celebrate our Faculty & Staff
ALL students wear uniforms to your Parish Mass to bring awareness to our Catholic School	School Uniform OR Come to school dressed as a Kansas Pioneer, Farmer, or Famous Kansan!	School Uniform OR Spirit Wear/ Catholic Schools Spirit Wear Day	School Uniform OR Come to School Dressed for your future career! What do you want to be when you grow up?	School Uniform OR Come to school dressed as a Saint you admire or have a special devotion to!	School Uniform OR Wear your favorite team shirt or Jersey!
Participate in Mass ministries if possible, and thank at least three parishioners for their support of our school!	Writing thank you letters to our school volunteers Family Chili Luncheon Chalk the Sidewalks with Catholic Inspiration	Spelling Bee 1:05pm	Talent Show 10:00am Thank you letters/ draw pictures to send to active duty and retired service members	Come to Mass with our students! 3rd & 4th Grade Saints Wax Museum Pastor Luncheon Class letters to Seminarians/ School Wide Card to Joseph Mick	All School Movie & Picnic in the Gym Special Lunch for Staff

Notes:

- Start collecting your change! Middle School Penny Wars will happen each day this week to support the Walk in Sisters Shoes fundraiser, benefitting the Katharine Drexel Fund. Last year our Middle school students raised \$904.96 for the St. Katherine Drexel fund, with the 8th graders CRUSHING the competition. Will you help lead your class to victory? The winners (by points) will be served a pizza lunch by the 2nd place team. More information will be communicated directly from the Middle school teachers.
- There are a number of Spirit days that involve dressing up. These are fun bonus days, but **the school uniform is ALWAYS okay to wear.** Many students enjoy dressing up and doing something extra, and some do not. Please do what works best for your family, including wearing the regular school uniform, any and all days during Catholic Schools Week.
- Monday:
 - Come dressed as a Kansas pioneer, farmer, or famous Kansan! Have fun as a family...do you have family pictures out on the farm? Try and recreate a treasured family photo! Admire a famous Kansan like Amelia Earhart, Dwight D. Eisenhower or Fr. Emil Kapaun? Come dressed in garb that resembles your favorite Kansan. Have a favorite pair of boots or plaid shirt? Match them with a pair of jeans and come to school on this “Celebrating Our Community” day. Please no jeggings or jeans with holes in them.
 - **Come and eat a Chili lunch with your Child(ren).** We will follow a similar format as the Thanksgiving luncheon, since it seemed to eliminate the line for families and students. All students and families will sit in the Gym at the same time. 8th grade will be served first, 7th second, so on and so forth. Fees will be charged to student lunch accounts based upon the RSVP survey sent out (available on the month at a glance). **\$5.00 per adult, no fee for child visitors.** Adult guests DO NOT have to buy a lunch to attend. Special thanks to Miss Jessica and our kitchen crew for this special meal!
 - Serve Times
 - Adult Guests- Served starting at 10:45a (May begin entering the building at 10:30a, no earlier please)
 - Middle School Students (5th-8th) - Start serving at 11:00a
 - 2nd-4th Grade - Start serving at about 11:25a
 - Kindergarten & 1st Grade - Start Serving at about 11:35a
 - Other activities that day: Our students will be able to “Chalk the sidewalk” with Catholic Inspiration.
- Tuesday:
 - Some have been working towards this moment all year long! Now that our classroom champions have returned from the Valley 9 spelling bee, Our school-wide spelling bee will be Tuesday afternoon as well, at 1:05pm. **Parents and families are welcome to attend and cheer on the students.**

- **Wednesday:**
 - Be proud of your future profession! All people and professions have a role in our community, state, and nation. Come dressed as what you want to be when you grow up! Plan on running a business, working in the machine shop, or saving animals in a veterinarian clinic? Extra gear like helmets or tools may be asked to be put to the side during class time. Again, the school uniform is always okay to wear.

- The talent show is back at SMCS again, **come and watch the show!** Your child must have turned in their form **NO LATER THAN THE START OF THE DAY, WEDNESDAY, January 10th.** The form may be turned into the front office or to their teacher. All talent show performances must be healthy and wholesome, lyrics will be closely monitored. If a performance is not approved, an application can be resubmitted with an alternate song/ performance idea. Students can perform with anybody, regardless of age/grade. **Parents and families are welcome to attend and cheer on the students.**
 - Classes will also be working to send thank you letters to active duty and retired service personnel.

- **Thursday:**
 - It is “dress like a saint day”! Come to school dressed as a saint that you or your family has a devotion to, or perhaps a saint that you enjoyed learning about at school!

Common question: What if they are not recognized as a saint by the Church yet? Any person in the formal canonization process recognized by the Church is eligible for consideration (such Servant of God Fr. Emil Kapaun, or Blessed Carlo Acutis). Any gear that comes with our students may be asked to be set to the side during class time.

 - **You are invited to Mass! Come, show our support as a community for an increase of vocations, and in appreciation for the current Pastors of our community by joining our students for Mass on Thursday. Hope to see you there!**
 - Other activities that day: We will be sending a card to our St. Mary Seminarian Joseph Mick as a school community, and writing classroom letters to other seminarians and Religious Sisters.
 - Students are going to enjoy a special luncheon with our Newton community Pastors. This year Thursday’s lunch will be picked by Fr. Jorge!!! Last year Fr. Bergkamp added his favorite school lunch from when he was growing up to the menu...Stromboli! That has become a quick favorite around the school. I wonder what Fr. Jorge will pick for us, and will it become the new favorite? Special thanks to Miss Jessica and our kitchen crew for another delicious meal!

- **Friday:**
 - Celebrate our staff day! Teachers & ALL STAFF will be enjoying a special luncheon AS A STAFF in the parish center.
 - This is a crowd favorite! Students and staff are encouraged to come to school sporting the gear of their favorite team and/or SMCS spirit wear to finish out the week. Any local, regional or national team... professional or amateur, it is fair “game” to show your team spirit on Celebrate Our Staff Day.
 - Picnic Lunch and Movie in the gym for students! We will finish out the week with a movie for students during lunch! Break out the checkered tablecloths and wicker baskets...it's time for a pic-nic! The school lunch will be a sack lunch, but students are welcome to bring a sack lunch from home. Please remember, no sodas or candy are allowed at lunch. Popcorn will be served after the 1st half of the movie is complete.
 - Pray the Day Away! Please take time as a family to pray for our Catholic School faculty & staff.