



**St. Mary Catholic Schools**  
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July 21, 2009

Dear St. Mary's Families,

It is hard to believe summer is coming to an end and school supplies are beginning to fill backpacks. It seems like school just ended! I am looking forward to another year of success at St. Mary's. This year is a special year as 2010 will mark the centennial of St. Mary Catholic Schools! What a strong tradition of success! 100 years and still helping develop successful, faith-filled students!

This success is dependent upon the relationship between parents, staff and students. To get this relationship off on the right foot, I encourage all parents to attend our Open House on Monday, August 17th. Please join us in the lunchroom at 6:30pm for comments on the upcoming year. We then invite you to visit classrooms and drop off supplies. Please do not buy book covers as we have FREE St. Mary Cloth book covers, courtesy of HR Graphics and some of our local businesses. Denise and Kristy will be available at Open House to collect forms, class fees, and lunch money.

This year, we will focus on the Corporal Works of Mercy each month. These works are charitable actions by which we come to the aide of our neighbors in bodily necessities. We hope that we can provide not only our students, but parents and staff alike, with a better understanding of the teachings of our faith.

Please take time to review the handbook with your children. Please also take the time to complete the enclosed packet of paperwork **and** the online forms, and return it to the office as soon as possible. This information is critical for us, especially if your child becomes ill or if we need to dismiss school early. We appreciate you taking the time complete these forms, and this year, three forms are available online at [www.stmarycatholicschools.org](http://www.stmarycatholicschools.org).

My first official day of the 2009-2010 school year is fast approaching. I will be available at the school beginning August 3<sup>rd</sup>. During the school year, I encourage you to contact me if you have any questions. Feel free to phone, e-mail ([kelly.neill@k12.sd.us](mailto:kelly.neill@k12.sd.us)) or stop in. Look for a weekly newsletter coming home with your child from me to inform you of any upcoming events or other important information.

I thank you for giving me the opportunity to help guide your child's academic and religious education.

Yours in education,

Kelly L. Neill

Our Mission

St. Mary Catholic School strives for a united community of academic excellence and stewardship by embracing the Gospel and carrying the light of Christ.