



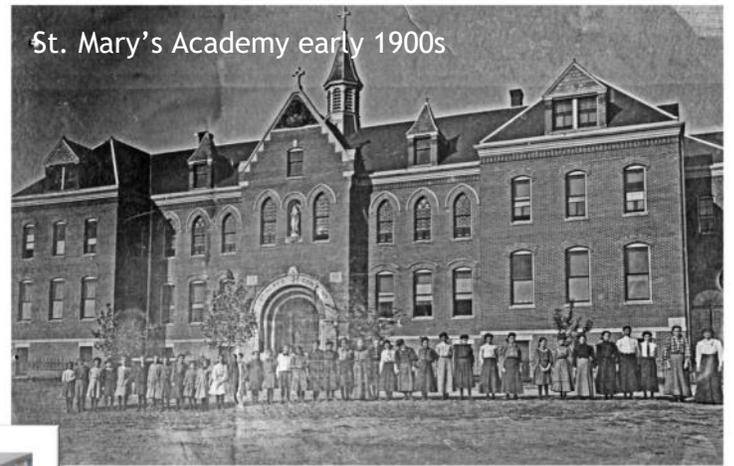
St. Mary's Students 1928



Arial View 1930s

# St. Mary's Catholic Schools

Summer 2019



St. Mary's Academy early 1900s

*Then and Now*



*We joyfully proclaim...  
May My Soul Magnify the Lord!*

## St. Mary's Catholic Schools

Development Office

310 E. Adams

O'Neill NE 68763

402-336-1602

[www.stmarysoneill.org](http://www.stmarysoneill.org)

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[jmwallwey@archomaha.org](mailto:jmwallwey@archomaha.org)

### President

Father Bernard Starman

### Principal

Mr. Cody Havranek

### Assistant Principals

Mrs. Paula Atkeson, '84

Mrs. Jennie Schneider, '84

### Guidance Counselor

Mrs. Paula Atkeson, '84

### Athletic Director

Mr. Tony Allen

### Development Director

Mrs. Jennifer Wallwey

### Mission Statement

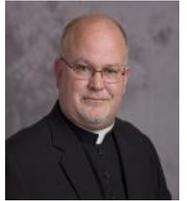
St. Mary's Catholic School is committed to forming students in the image and likeness of Jesus Christ, through the hands of Mary, fostering the formation of the whole person, body, mind and soul.

Uniting learning with Faith in God, and our Faith in God with daily life, we joyfully proclaim, "May My Soul Magnify the Lord!"

### Change of Address

To notify us of address changes or personal updates, please fill out the on-line form at [stmarysoneill.org](http://stmarysoneill.org) under the Alumni Tab or call the Parish Office at 402-336-1602.

# Greetings from our president . . .



Dear St. Mary's Alumni, School Families, Benefactors & Friends,

The 118<sup>th</sup> Academic Year at St. Mary's is in the history books. The faculty and staff have begun a much needed and deserved summer break. We said "farewell" to 16 graduating seniors (our newest alumni) and we wish them well in all of their future endeavors. We also said, goodbye to our own Mrs. Peg Wettlauffer, who retired after many years teaching at St. Mary's Elementary School. We wish her a very happy retirement.

For the first time in possibly in the history of St. Mary's there will not be a priest teaching theology in the Jr./Sr. High School. Fr. Sund will assume a new role with the realignment of Catholic parishes in Western Holt and Boyd Counties. That role will consist of being the "Chaplain" of the school and will involve restarting a peer ministry program for the school. Fr. Weeder and I will be as involved as we can on a day to day basis. Jr./Sr. High theology classes will be taught primarily by Miss Bridget Schneider (7-11) and Deacon M.J. Kersenbrock will teach the senior class.

We were fortunate to have several excellent applications for the open positions in the elementary school. Mrs. Sara Hartman will be the fourth-grade teacher, Mrs. Melinda Podany will be the new second-grade teacher, and Mrs. Traci Berg will be the new Resource Teacher.

The St. Patrick's Maintenance Committee continues to work with Peter's and Associates and ETI Technologies to investigate the best options for an upgrade to the heating (and potentially) cooling system for the grade and high school buildings. Hopefully we will have a plan of action for those projects in the very short term. While our boilers are in good condition, some of the other necessary mechanicals are wearing out, and with more than 50 years of service that is to be expected. Deferred maintenance is never a good thing. So you can be looking forward to the introduction of a new capital campaign in the not too distant future.

Have a great summer and we look forward to seeing you at the annual Alumni Reunion at the end of June!

Ad multos annos!

Rev. Bernard G. Starman  
President

## Snowball Royalty



Pictured front row (l-r): Crownbearers Colt Sibel and Laura Otte. Back row (l-r): Freshman attendant Gabe Pribil, Sophomore Attendant Connor Semin, Jr. Attendant Ethan Shoemaker, King Jack Krotter, Queen Brook Benson, Princess Ansley Kramer, Jr. Attendant Katie Pongratz, Sophomore Attendant Araceli Perez and Freshman Attendant Olivia Jarman. Not pictured: Prince Zach Crumly.



## Prom Royalty



St. Mary's Prom Dance was held March 23 at O'Neill Community Center. Front row (l-r) Crown Bearers Brooks Kelly, Terrick Shields, Aubrie Peterson, & Brooklyn Nolan. Back row (l-r) Prince Grady Semin, King Jacob Pongratz, Queen Ashley Kramer, Princess Codi Fehring.



# From Our Principal

Spring time at a school is always a bitter-sweet time. There are teachers moving on from their current position and fresh new faces stepping into their roles. This year is no different. We have one teacher retiring from their position and moving on to bigger and better things. **Mrs. Margaret (Peg) Wettlaufer** will be retiring at the end of the 2018-2019 school year. Mrs. Wettlaufer has been at St. Mary's for 29 years. I would like to thank Mrs. Wettlaufer for all of her hard work and dedication to St. Mary's School and St. Patrick's Parish. She will definitely be missed next year!

We are fortunate at St. Mary's to have a veteran staff of teachers dedicated to the mission of St. Patrick's Church and St. Mary's School. This is great for our students, but when we look for teachers this can sometimes feel like we have some big shoes to fill. I believe we did a great job of finding teachers who are not only excellent educators but also dedicated to the mission of St. Mary's School. Due to the Parish realignment in our area, we are shuffling a couple of teachers around in our buildings as well. **Mrs. Sarah Hartmann** is moving from our Resource position into the 4th grade classroom. Sarah did a great job in our Resource room, and I am sure she will do a great job in the classroom as well. **Miss Bridget Schneider** will be moving from the 2nd grade classroom into the Theology position at the 7th-11th grade levels. Miss Schneider has been working on her Theology certificate this year and should be finished by the end of May. We have also hired two new full time teachers. **Mrs. Traci Berg** has been hired as the new Resource/Title 1 Teacher. Mrs. Berg has 10 years of classroom teaching experience in Mead, NE. **Mrs. Melinda Podany** has been hired as the new 2nd grade teacher. Mrs. Podany has three years of classroom experience in Grand Island, NE. We are excited to welcome these staff members to our family!

Spring time is also a bitter-sweet time because we have students that have been a big part of the school for the past 13 years moving onto bigger and better things. I would like to congratulate the graduating class of 2019. We have 16 graduates in the class of 2019. Of those 16 graduates, 13 students are pursuing higher education at college, two are enlisted in the military, and one is entering the workforce. Out of the 13 students choosing to pursue higher education, all are seeking scholarships to help with their upcoming education. This year, we averaged just over \$51,000 in scholarship offers per student continuing on to college. Each of our graduates have many accomplishments to celebrate and much to look forward to in the future. During our Grandparents Breakfast this month we celebrated some of the achievements of our senior class. We celebrated the Marian Award winners along with our Honors Graduates. The Marian Award is awarded to one girl and one boy from the graduating class. This honor is awarded to the student that epitomizes the qualities and values of St. Mary's School. I would like to congratulate Brooke Benson and Grady Semin for being awarded the Marian Awards for the Class of 2019. A well deserved honor for these two students. Honor students for the class were Ansley Kramer graduating Magna Cum Laude (4.0 GPA), Brooke Benson graduating Summa Cum Laude (3.75-3.99 GPA) and Grady Semin, Abigail Hedstrom, Jacob Pongratz, and Codi Fehringer graduating Cum Laude (3.5-3.74 GPA). Congratulations to all of our graduates and best wishes for the future!

In closing, I would like to thank all of the Alumni of St. Mary's school for their continued support of our school and the mission we pursue! Without your generosity, we would not be able to accomplish everything that we do. Have an enjoyable and relaxing summer!

*Mrs. Cody Havranek*  
Cody Havranek, PK-12 Principal

## WILD WEST CASINO NIGHT

The annual St. Mary's \$10,000 Raffle & Casino Night took on a Wild West Theme this year and we had a rootin', tootin' good time! After prizes and expenses, we were able to bring in \$12,700 for St. Mary's. Thanks to all who donated, purchased tickets, and helped in any way to make the event a success!



## St. Mary's Awards & Scholarships

We received \$22,250 in scholarship and grant donations this spring, in addition to the Madeline Ullum & Mona Shelton accounts that we are able to withdraw from each year. With that money, \$20,350 in scholarships was awarded to 40 of St. Mary High School's top academic students for the upcoming school year's tuition. The remaining amounts will be used to provide assistance (grants) to those who could not otherwise afford to attend St. Mary's. Thank you for your generosity!

# Class of 2019



## Class Motto

*Nothing in life is worthwhile  
unless you take risks.*

*Denzel Washington*

## Class Bible Verse

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and  
your plans will succeed. - Proverbs 16:3*



## Class Awards

*Summa Cum Laude  
Ansley Kramer*

*Magna Cum Laude  
Brooke Benson*

*Cum Laude  
Codi Fehring    Abby Hedstrom  
Jacob Pongratz    Grady Semin*

## Marian Awards



*Grady Semin & Brooke Benson*

## Athlete of the Year



Grady Semin was named Athlete of the Year. He is pictured here signing his letter of intent to Mount Marty College in Yankton, SD to play basketball. Pictured with Grady are St. Mary's Athletic Director, Tony Allen, basketball coach, Phil Baumgart, and his parents, Karie and Eric Semin.



*Brooke Taylor Benson*  
 Parents: Dean & Mary Jo Benson  
 Plans to attend Chadron State  
 College studying human biology  
 (pre-Physician's Assistant) through  
 RHOP Program



*Kevin Joseph Butterfield*  
 Parents: Phil & Natalie Butterfield  
 Plans to attend Northeast  
 Community College in Business  
 Management



*Wyatt Cooper Colman*  
 Parents: Chad & '94 Sandy (Moss)  
 Colman  
 Plans to attend college studying  
 farm & ranch management



*Zachary Edward Crumly*  
 Parents: Ryan & '93 Ann (Boyle) Crumly  
 Plans to attend University of Nebraska-  
 Lincoln majoring in either education or  
 agricultural engineering



*Codi Rose Fehringer*  
 Parents: Andrew & Brandi Fehringer  
 Joined the Air Force with a job in  
 Munitions Systems, with plans to get  
 a bachelors degree later to become  
 a pilot



*Cole Patrick Gaughenbaugh*  
 Parents: '84 Wayne & Rebecca  
 Gaughenbaugh  
 Plans to attend Wayne State College for  
 pre-chiropractic



*Abigail Lynn Hedstrom*  
 Parents: Jim & Lisa Hedstrom  
 Plans to attend Northeast  
 Community College majoring in  
 nursing



*Lawson A. Hofer*  
 Parents: Jason Hofer, and  
 '88 Mark & Mari Bauer  
 Has enlisted in the US Army



*Decemberlyn Shae Kilcoin*  
 Parents: Lisa Aldaz & Marty Kilcoin  
 Plans to attend Northeast Community  
 College Norfolk studying criminal  
 justice, to become a probation officer



*Ansley Jean Kramer*  
 Parents: Kyle & Susan Kramer  
 Plans to attend University of  
 Nebraska at Kearney majoring in  
 Pre-Vet/Biology



*Jackson William Krotter*  
 Parents: Joe & Ann Krotter  
 Plans to attend Northeast  
 Community College majoring in  
 Agri-Business



*Abigail Lillian Page*  
 Parent: Sara Hansen  
 Plans to attend Mount Marty  
 College, majoring in  
 Exercise Science



*Jacob Colin Pongratz*  
 Parents: '95 Dave & Teresa Pongratz  
 Plans to attend South Dakota School  
 of Mines & Technology, in pursuit of  
 a degree in chemical engineering



*Cole Arthur Rosenkrans*  
 Parents: Chad & Jolene  
 Rosenkrans  
 Plans to work in the farm & ranch  
 industry



*Grady Allen Semin*  
 Parents: Erik & Karie Semin  
 Plans to attend Mount Marty  
 College playing basketball &  
 majoring in business



*Jacob William Wiese*  
 Parents: Roger & '87 Regina  
 (Mudloff) Wiese  
 Plans to attend University of  
 Nebraska- Lincoln majoring in  
 Business, minoring in Graphic Design

# State Track

State track 2019 qualifiers from St. Mary's included Faith Williamson (800m and 1600m), Abby Everitt (200m, high jump, long jump, and triple jump), Grady Semin (200m and 400m), Grant Winkelbauer (800m), and Cole Rosenkrans (discus).



Congratulations to our medalists:

Abby Everitt—5th place in 200M run & 6th place in Long Jump  
Faith Williamson—3rd in 800M run



This year's junior class showed their leadership skills by leading the junior high retreat.



Drexel House prepared & presented a skit for our students regarding teenage dating violence in conjunction with a presentation from Bright Horizons. They were also invited to take their message to other area schools.

# District Speech



Vera Butterfield & Betsy Crumly earned runner up in duet at District Speech contest.



Our Grade School students showed us what they "love" during Catholic Schools Week.

# State Wrestling



Congratulations to Cole Rosenkrans on a fantastic season of wrestling, including his 100th win, setting the St. Mary's pin record, and ending with securing 6th place in his weight class for Class D in Nebraska.



Following the flooding throughout the area, several St. Mary's High School students and sponsors spent a day helping organize supplies.

# A Little Nostalgia. . .

As I was preparing this May's edition of the Spirit Newsletter for St. Mary's, I found myself feeling nostalgic. Could they possibly have imagined how that school that began in 1900 would still be growing & thriving in 2019? The rich traditions behind St. Mary's Catholic School can't be missed. I see them frequently. When I'm looking through the alumni database, I see a list of graduates ranging from the early 1900s to now, and I see so many family connections. Grandparents, parents, and children who have all attended here. Alumni who come back to teach here. . . and then younger alumni coming back to teach next to those very teachers who taught them. When I am searching for pictures of "St. Mary's School" on google & finding pictures of the Academy or the Academy fire and I find myself fascinated by the rich history of this place. I see St. Mary's families post on Facebook pages and you see that their entire families, parents/children/aunts/uncles/cousins all attend or have attended St. Mary's.

As I was looking at the information on our new teachers next year—or some of their moving around in jobs—it struck me how connected they are to St. Mary's! Whether they are alum, or family, or both—the connections are pretty impressive!

I truly do believe that St. Mary's becomes an integral part of our students, our teachers, and their families. Coming back here to their alma mater is part of "coming home" as we see when so many of you enroll your own children at St. Mary's. I hope that you also will find the time to "come home" even if it's only for a visit and to see how we continue to say "May My Soul Magnify the Lord!" each day at St. Mary's. I pray that our current students also feel that sense of "home" within these walls. St. Mary's truly is a home for them: another family that not only loves & cherishes them, but challenges them, expects great things from them, and sends them into the world to make their mark with courage, kindness, and faith.

In gratitude for all you do,

*Jennifer Wallwey, Director of Stewardship & Development*

## We have NINE teachers who are also St. Mary's alumni...



'84 Paula Boyle Atkeson

'84 Jennie Dugan Schneider

'71 Carol Dugan Fuhrer

'05 Sarah Novak Hartmann

'05 Christina Reynoldson Spader

'02 Sara Kelly Cole

'08 Leah Reiman Chohon

'09 Brittany Peterson Boyle

'15 Bridget Schneider

**'68 Peg (Martin) Wettlaufer** is retiring from teaching this year after 29 years at St. Mary's. In addition to this, 3 generations of her family have all graduated from St. Mary's!



## Seven of our teachers are married to SMH alumni—

Mrs. Mary Novak is married to '81 Scott Novak.

'84 Jennie (Dugan) Schneider is married to '86 Tim Schneider

Traci Berg is married to '96 Ryan Berg.

'08 Leah (Reiman) Chohon is married to '99 Eric Chohon.

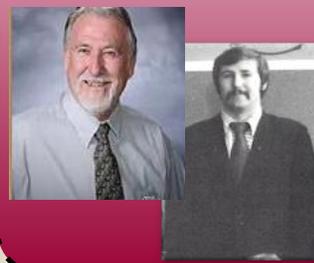
'09 Brittany (Peterson) Boyle is married to '09 Matt Boyle.

Mrs. Melinda Podany (2nd grade) is married to '12 Ryan Podany.

Mr. Luke Bulau is married to '03 Michelle (Shoemaker) Bulau.

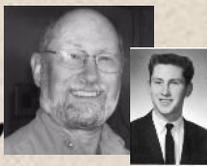
## One of our Math Teachers, Mr. Steve Bahrij, has been teaching at St. Mary's since the fall of 1973! That is 46 years of educating, sharing, & connecting with students!

at St. Mary's since the fall of 1973! That is 46 years of educating, sharing, & connecting with students!



## We have 2 mother-daughter teacher pairs on staff!

'05 Sarah (Novak) Hartmann (elementary resource teacher last year) will be teaching 4th grade alongside her mother Mary Novak who teaches 5th grade. And '15 Bridget Schneider (2nd grade teacher last year) will teach theology at the high school with her mother, '84 Jennie (Dugan) Schneider who is the librarian, assistant principal, and teacher of "a little bit of everything."



'66 Daniel Schaaf passed away in North Platte, Nebraska on December 30, 2018 after a hard-fought battle with cancer. Daniel was a US Marine & Vietnam veteran. He is survived by his wife, Judie, 4 children, and 6 grandchildren, as well as several siblings: '66 Dianne (Schaaf) Hilger, '67 Cathy (Schaaf) Grutsch, '68 Joe Schaaf, '71 Yvonne (Schaaf) White, and Marcellus Schaaf. He was preceded in death by his brother, '69 Lauren Schaaf.

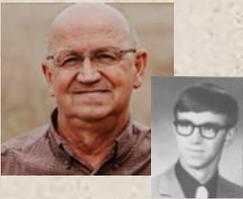
'51 Luanne (Fritton) Adams passed away on Monday, January 14, 2019 at Avera St. Michael's Hospital in Tyndall, South Dakota.

'43 John Brennan passed away on May 28, 2018 at the age of 93 in Cape Fair, Missouri. John was with the Corp of Engineers and was involved in building Fort Randall Dam. He was injured in World War 2 in the Battle of the Bulge. John was preceded in death by his first wife Janet (they had 8 children together) and is survived by his 2nd wife Lucy, 7 children, and 1 step-daughter.

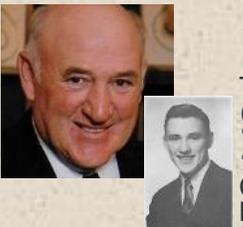


'56 Barbara (McCarthy) Pruss passed away peacefully at her home in O'Neill surrounded by her family on April 10, 2019. Barb was a loving and devoted wife, mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great-grandmother, sister, daughter, aunt, nurse, friend, and horse lover. Barbara is survived by her husband of 59 years, Bernard, and children '78 Bernard Pruss II and wife Maru, Daniel Pruss and wife Linda, and Diane Pruss of O'Neill, three grandchildren, three great grandchildren, sisters '58 Kay (McCarthy) Butterfield, '62 Lynn Higgins, '65 Jim McCarthy, and many other beloved family members. She was preceded in death by her sons '81 Gregg and Robert Pruss; brother, '40 George McCarthy and sister '46 Bev McCarthy.

Jami Cuddy, age 32, of Chicago, Illinois, passed away Saturday April 27, 2019 at her parents' home in Bozeman MT after an 18 month battle with osteosarcoma cancer. She is the daughter of '78 Tim & Kim Cuddy, and granddaughter of '55 Jerry & Viona Cuddy.



'72 Edgar J. "Jim" Boyle, Jr. age 65, passed away on May 11, 2019 at Avera St. Anthony's Hospital in O'Neill. Jim loved Husker football, fishing, playing pitch, and discussing politics. He was proud of his service to his country in the Army, his 18 year job with the postal service and the many years he spent trucking. He had friends far and wide and never met someone he couldn't talk to. He was a man of stories, antidotes, and knowledge. Most of all he was a loving husband, father and grandfather. He will be missed. Jim is survived by his wife, Mary, children Steven (Johanna), Kimberly (David) Davenport, Patrick (Stephanie), and Megan (Jessie) Poessnecker, & their families, as well as his mother, Alice Boyle, sister Shirley Chmiel, and brother Timothy (Angie) Boyle.



'54 Thomas Langan passed away at the age of 82 on May 18, 2019 at Avera St. Anthony's Hospital in O'Neill. He was the 10th of 14 children and graduated from St. Mary's Academy in 1954. Tom is an Army veteran. He enjoyed playing cards, exploring his Irish heritage, his Angus cattle, and Farmall tractors. Tom is survived by his wife of 57 years, JoAnne Langan, four children, '82 Bill Langan of O'Neill, '83 Jeff (Kristi) Langan of O'Neill, '86 Maria Langan of Lincoln, and '87 Julie (Bob) Regan of O'Neill; two grandsons, '14 Kyle and Tyler Regan; three brothers, '59 Mike (Veronica) Langan of O'Neill, Philip Langan of O'Neill, '67 Terry (Karen) Langan of Omaha; three sisters, Joan Hafsaas of Omaha, Agnes Langan of Salem, Oregon, Lonnie Brown of Twin Falls, Idaho; and many nieces and nephews. Tom was preceded in death by his daughter, Nancy in 1962, and siblings, Gerald Langan, Mary Johnson, '47 Margaret Rossmeier, Jim Langan, Hugh Langan, Martin Langan, and Jack Langan.



'42 Mary Ann (Janousek) Schmit of O'Neill Nebraska passed away on May 19, 2019 at the O'Neill Care & Rehabilitation Center. She and her husband Edward raised their family in O'Neill. Later in life, Mary Ann enjoyed traveling, was an avid card player, and she was a wonderful baker. Her faith was very important to her, and she attended Mass daily, was a sacristan, and led many rosaries. Her smile brought joy to many and will not be easily forgotten. Mary Ann is survived by her four children, '68 Mike (Lexie) Schmit of York, '70 Ron (Eileen) Schmit of O'Neill, '71 Regina (Joe) Kafka of Valley Springs, South Dakota, '77 Don (Holly) Schmit of Aurora; and many grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, and nephews. Mary Ann was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Ed in 1971; and two siblings, '43 Martha (Janousek) Beckwith, and '45 George Janousek.



'06 Elizabeth (Willis) & Lance Koenig welcome home a baby girl, Nora Lucille. She was born August 6, 2018 and joins older siblings Liam (5) and Hattie (2).

'08 Amber (Baseggio) Mathine & husband Ben welcomed home baby boy Harrison James Mathine on December 4, 2018. He joins big sisters Beckett & Kollins.

'09 Zach & Kelsey Sibbel welcomed a baby girl, Kasyn Jane, into their family on December 14, 2018.

'12 Tayler (Kelly) & Dan Rentschler welcomed home beautiful baby girl Layna Ann on December 14, 2018.

'01 Mark & Jacqueline Mahony welcomed baby girl Anna Macey into their family on January 31, 2019.

'07 Megan (Gaughenbaugh) & Nate Kelly welcomed home baby girl, Swayzie Elyse on February 4, 2019. She joins big brothers Kale, Brooks, Huxton, & Maverick.

'12 Ella (Spencer) & Fernando Vasquez welcomed home Sofia Rosalie Vasquez born on April 2, 2019.

*Congratulations!*

'14 Emily (Everitt) & Ryan Kleier were wed on July 7, 2018 at St. Patrick's Church in O'Neill, and are currently making their home in Lincoln, Nebraska.



'12 Megan (Schneider) & Keith Jorgensen were wed on May 18, 2019 at St. Patrick's Church in O'Neill.

'13 Connor Connot married Samantha (Slack) on February 2, 2019 at St. Patrick's Church in O'Neill.



'37 Ann (Pribil) Knower celebrated her 100th Birthday in February 2019 surrounded by family and friends. Happy Birthday to you, Ann, from your alma mater!



**2019 Alumni Volleyball Tournament Champs:** Back row l to r '16 Tracy Chvala, '15 Bridget Schneider, '14 Emily Everitt  
Front row L to R '16 Sydney Hupp, '16 Rylie Pistulka, '16 Emily Pongratz, '16 Riley Sibbel, '15 Mackenzie Wecker



**2019 Alumni Basketball Tournament Champs:** Back row L to R '16 Sydney Hupp, '14 Erin Boyle, '14 Emily Everitt, '16 Kaylee Harvey, '16 Tracy Chvala, '16 Riley Sibbel,  
Front row L to R '15 Bridget Schneider, '14 Jessica Simons, '16 Emily Pongratz, '15 Mackenzie Wecker

**Congratulations to alumnus '16 Marcus Schneider,** the newly elected president of the Newman Center Board Exec Team at UNL!

**Congratulations to alum, '16 Riley Sibbel,** and her Concordia Bulldogs teammates on being the NIAA Division 2 Women's Basketball National Champs!!



Two of our alumni were featured in "Meet the Coach" from the Huskerland Prep Report in February 2019. '85 Kevin Asher is currently the head boys basketball coach at Hastings St. Cecelia. '96 Kim Boettcher Stengel is the head girls basketball coach at Maywood/Hayes Center.

'18 Karissa Nichols recently received the 2018/2019 Emerging Leader Award at College of Saint Mary. This award is given to a first or second year student who shows exemplary leadership skills in student organizations she is involved in. Karissa is involved in Dance Team, Student Senate, DUO (Do Unto Others), and SEAN(Student Education Association of Nebraska). Student Senate members nominated Karissa for this award.

*Congratulations*



*College Graduates*

- '08 Dr. Matthew Wecker, Doctorate in Anesthesia
- '09 Joleen Stowell, Masters Degree from UNO Grace Abbot School of Social Work
- '10 Braden Baseggio, Associate of Applied Science Degree in Agriculture, Diversified Agriculture, Northeast Community College
- '11 Derek Blumenstock, Doctorate in Optometry, University of Houston
- '12 Jessica Pongratz, Bachelor of Science in Nursing from College of St. Mary
- '13 Carli Baseggio, Graduate from Bryan College of Health Sciences
- '14 Cheyenne Rosenkrans, Degree in Exercise Science from Wayne State College
- '14 Deanna Tomjack, Associate of Applied Science Degree in Business, Northeast Community College
- '15 Molly Atkeson, Summa Cum Laude from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- '15 Brittany Soukup, Magna Cum Laude from Chadron State, Pre-Med
- '15 Logan Spencer, Summa Cum Laude from Chadron State, Pre-Med
- '15 Traci Vandersnick, Bachelor of Nursing
- '15 Mackenzie Wecker, Bachelor's Degree in Athletic Training
- '16 Kaylee Harvey, Associate Degree in Practical Nursing, Northeast Community College
- '16 Paula Zakrzewski, Summa Cum Laude from University of Nebraska at Kearney
- '17 Logan Connot, Associates of Arts Degree, Northeast Community College
- '17 Breanna Hedstrom, Associate Degree in Practical Nursing, Northeast Community College
- '17 Jack Reiman, Degree in Civil Engineering Technology & Land Surveying Science Technology, Southeast Technical Institute
- '17 Andrew Thompson, Associate of Applied Science Degree in Electrical Construction & Control, Northeast Community College

Thank you to our Alumni and Friends!

## St. Mary's Scholarship & Grant Gifts

- In honor of '12 Luke & '13 Kyle Loecker
- In memory of Sister Colleen Mahony
- In memory of Clement & Mary Murphy
- In memory of '49 Victoria Zakrzewski Bowen
- In memory of '04 Jesse Robert Peetz, Marian Award Winner
- '71 Regina Kafka
- In honor of Father Joe Sund for his dedication to the word of God.
- '68 Cindy Brown Brenneman in honor & memory of Class of 1968
- '64 H. Michael & '64 Linda (Stuifenberger) Hammond
- '60 Morris Pongratz in memory of his parents, Bernard & Vera Pongratz
- '62 Pat (McKenzie) Druke in memory of Tom Druke, Rex Druke, John Newquist, & '78 Judy McKenzie Colfack
- In memory of Roman Filips
- Sisters of St. Francis, Sacred Heart Province
- In memory of '97 Emily Reiser & '95 Nicole (Reiser) Bennett
- '78 Barb (Gettert) & August Waterman, in memory & honor of the class of 1978
- In memory of '91 David Duffy
- St. Patrick's Altar Society
- '67 Jim & Pat (McKay) Gokie in memory of class of '67 classmates: Patsy (Dufek) Wranek, Pat Grutsch, Bob (Feather) Donohoe, John (Dick) Stuijbergen, Lynda (Hynes) Coday, and Patsy (Gillogly) Coventry
- '46 Marie (Schneider) Ramold in memory of Andy Ramold & '88 Joan Ramold Sintek
- Coni Dowd-Molvig & Charles Molvig
- '56 Edie Gallagher in memory of Jim & Alice Gallagher
- '71 Joe & '71 Carol (Dugan) Fuhrer in honor of class of 1971
- In memory of '63 Bob & '67 Patsy (Gillogly) Coventry
- In memory of Matt & Lucille Liewer
- In memory of Ted Kallhoff, Charles & Ione Thelander, and Theodor & Teresa Kallhoff
- Father Joseph Sund
- Keith & Carol Willis, in memory of Betty Bogus
- Rosemary Workman
- '55 Jerry & Viona Cuddy, in memory of their granddaughter Jami Cuddy
- '76 Gene & '76 Ellen (Walnofer) Chohon in memory of Ray & Bessie Walnofer
- '64 Michael Grutsch
- '30 Madeline Ullom Trust
- '34 Mona Shelton Trust

## St. Mary's Development

- Cindy Brenneman, in memory of our dear mother, '46 Bonnie Hynes
- Ed & Hedy Winkelbauer
- Bob & '87 Julie (Langan) Regan
- '50 Elizabeth Chichester
- Kevin & Jodi Loecker
- '72 Kevin & Patty Mahony
- '62 Pat (McKenzie) Druke
- Dr. Matthew & Erika Winkelbauer
- Reiser Insurance Group
- Torpin's Rodeo Market
- Kersenbrock Dental
- Randy & Brenda Hupp
- Mauri & Anita Koenig
- Shad's Electric
- Kevin & Julie Barlow
- Don & Mary Duffy
- Josh & Lisa Mlnarik
- '61 Jerry & Virginia Gokie
- Daniel & Mary Schartz
- '67 Jim & '67 Pat (McKay) Gokie
- Mike & Deb Kelly
- '65 Ellen Braesch
- '86 Chad & Jane Reynoldson
- '88 Kris (Schneider) & John Harvey
- '88 Greg & Karla Herley
- Leigh Mueller
- '88 RF & Tammi Buche
- '89 Kim (Gokie) Schroll
- '59 Mary Helen Fuchs
- '65 Frank Kamphaus
- '62 Mary Lois (Jansen) & Dick Mlnarik
- '15 Adam Soukup
- '78 Steve & Connie Soukup
- '91 Tim Walnofer
- '04 Ryan & Bri Kelly
- Steve & Leila Bahrij
- In memory of '04 Jesse Peetz
- Toni Schneider
- Tony & Angie Allen
- '85 Bill & Jessica Eby
- '71 Nancy (Dufek) & Lee Pierson
- Rosemary Workman
- '76 Roger & '77 Terri (Novak) Ruzicka
- Knights of Columbus
- St. Mary's Home & School
- O'Neill Family Pharmacy
- '76 Benedict & Maureen Mattern
- David & Margaret Fuscher
- In memory of Marilyn Mattern
- '69 MJ Gillette
- '58 Tom Donohoe
- '46 James Merriman

## Journalism Computer Updates

The St. Mary's Journalism Department needs to update their computers. The computers in us are at least 6 years old. The best type of computers for graphic design, layouts, and image work is Apple Macs. We would like to purchase 5 new computers (2 iMac desktops & 3 Macbook Air laptops) at \$1200 each, so total cost will be \$6000. These computers will benefit all students enrolled in Journalism, Digital Photography, and our newest elective, Digital Design. The computers will be used for yearbook publication as well as to develop skills in graphic design, layout, and basic photography and image manipulation.



# The Spirit of St. Mary's Alumni

Have you ever wondered why our alumni is mostly limited to an annual banquet, the annual volleyball & basketball tournament, and supporting the school financially?

Well, even if you haven't, I have. I have been serving as the Development Director for St. Mary's and St. Patrick's for 5 years now, and I love my very eclectic, challenging, and ever-growing job here! Your generosity towards your alma mater leaves me no doubt of your love for this school, and I'd like to see our alumni more active & involved in St. Mary's today. I have so many ideas floating around, from a homecoming celebration to a Hall of Fame to a giving challenge, and this is just to get us started!

Do you love St. Mary's? Do you want to see her continue into the future for years to come while still treasuring her traditions and legacy? Then your voice, your ideas, & your hands are needed. If you'd be willing to help serve on a 'council' of sorts, I'd love to work with you. We will meet a few times a year to discuss ways to stay better connected & informed, offer events for our alumni, and organize ways to recognize our alumni & our students. With the latest technology, we can even meet from a distance! Please consider what you could do for your alma mater, and remember we need people from over the generations! Either email me at [jmwallwey@archomaha.org](mailto:jmwallwey@archomaha.org) or call me at 402-336-1602, and we will put our heads together to come up with new ideas or bring life to the ideas already in place. Do you know someone who would be a perfect fit for this? Ask them or contact me with their information!

You can fill out the information on the insert in this newsletter & return it to our office, OR you will have the opportunity to do so at the annual banquet at the end of June. This form can also be found on our website at <https://www.stmarysoneill.org/alumni> See below 👂 a few upcoming 'changes' to get the ball rolling. . . .



## Operation Tribute

We need your help! We are so grateful to those who have served or are serving in the military. We would like to recognize St. Mary's Alumni, faculty, and staff that are serving or have served in the past. This is a big undertaking when you look at the fact that we have a 119 year history!

Please send any information on military service that you know our alumni have been involved in, whether it's current or past, even posthumous. I will need their name (maiden name if they are female), graduation year or time they were at St. Mary's, and branch of service. If you'd like to include any other details, I would be glad to have it! There is a form that can be filled out on our website [www.stmarysoneill.org/military-service](http://www.stmarysoneill.org/military-service) or use the form inserted in the newsletter.



## Home Sweet Homecoming

We want to welcome you 'back home' with an Alumni Homecoming Celebration! According to Wikipedia, "*Homecoming* is the tradition of welcoming back former students and members and celebrating an organization's existence." So let's bring that BACK to Homecoming at St. Mary's!

**Friday, September 6th**

**O'Neill High School Football Field  
SMH Cardinals vs. Bloomfield Bees  
Kickoff is at 6 pm**

**Free Admission for Alumni!**

**Tailgate Beginning at 5 pm &  
going through Halftime**

**Fun "Cheer Gear" just for you!  
Special Alumni Recognition  
at Halftime!**

# St. Mary's Graduates are invited to join us for our ANNUAL ALUMNI WEEKEND!

Friday, June 28

6:00 pm to 8:00 pm – Wine & Cheese Social in the St. Mary's High School commons

Saturday, June 29

9 am – 12 pm Golfing will be available at the O'Neill Golf Club  
Connect with some friends & call 402-336-1676 to make arrangements.

5:00 pm Alumni Mass at St. Patrick's

6:00 pm Honor Class Pictures on the church steps for Classes of 2009, 1994, and 1969

6:00 pm Social in St. Mary's Commons  
St. Mary's School will be open for you to take a "trip down memory lane."

6:45 pm Banquet Dinner in St. Patrick's Parish Hall in basement of St. Mary's High School

*Contact any of the Alumni Banquet committee members for further information:*

'70 Peg (Hammond) Gray 402-336-2722 grayp1970@hotmail.com

'73 Ann (Hershiser) Wrede 402-336-3948 awrede73@q.com

'62 Mary Lois (Jansen) Mlnarik 402-336-1664 mlmlnarik@q.com

'79 Linda (Ziska) Schneider 402-340-7923 lschneid91@gmail.com

Name & Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_

Year graduated: \_\_\_\_\_ Maiden Name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

***Alumni Banquet tickets are \$30/each. Please reserve by June 21st.***

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ tickets at \$30/each Total enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

*Checks should be made to St. Mary's Alumni Association. Return registration form and check to:*

**St. Mary's Alumni Association**

c/o Peg Gray

PO Box 12

O'Neill, NE 68763

**Save  
The Date**  
August 24  
2nd Annual Parish Picnic/  
Back to School Bash  
September 6  
HOMECOMING!  
November 3  
Annual Fall Auction  
O'Neill Community Center



Enclosed in this newsletter is a yellow paper. PLEASE complete this with your updates & return it to us. If you have completed college or are no longer living with your parents, please get us your current contact information. There is also a form on the back for Operation Tribute. Thank you!