

St. Mary's School
Celebrating 60 Years

This year Saint Mary's School is celebrating its 60th anniversary! And on **Wednesday, January 25th at 6:30 p.m., the School will be hosting an Open House** for those interested in a Catholic Education for their children, Pre-K through 8th grade. Because Saint Mary's School is so important to our Parish and the Farmington Valley, let me tell you something about it.

Most days, after the 8:00 AM Mass, I go to Saint Mary's School to join our children and faculty in Morning Prayer. After a few words of welcome by our principal, Mrs. Williamson, the children conduct the Morning Prayer that consists of readings from scripture, reflections, and the Lord's Prayer and concludes with the Pledge Allegiance to the Flag and the St. Mary's Student Pledge, which goes like this.

*As a student of St. Mary's School,
I promise to live my life knowing
that God surrounds me and all those I meet.
I will be kind and respectful to others
by treating everyone the way I want to be treated, and
I will help those in need.
I will study hard and continue to learn all my life.*

What a wonderful faith-filled way to begin the day! What a wonderful foundation for a life of continued faith and learning!

St. Mary's Parish is the home of a great school that provides an outstanding academic preparation in the Catholic tradition. In addition to being more than well-prepared for high school, our students experience what it means to be part of a Catholic community each and every day. They are provided with faith formation that goes beyond learning the content of their Religion curriculum. At St. Mary's School, children pray together, care for one another and those in the greater Simsbury community as a way of living out their faith and Catholic Social Teaching.

Last spring students at St. Mary's had outstanding standardized test scores that allowed the school to apply for consideration as a Blue Ribbon School. Students have the opportunity to study science with scientists from the Talcott Mountain Science Center and are challenged to take as advanced a math curriculum as possible. Reading and writing are part of the backbone of a strong Catholic school education and St. Mary's continues this tradition. Our school was a leader in the integration of technology into the curriculum through the 1:1 iPad program begun several years ago. That program continues today and will have updated equipment in the fall.

At St. Mary's we strive to provide after school activities that will engage the students with one another and increase learning and school spirit. I invite you to become better acquainted with this gem of a school at our Open House this **Wednesday January 25 at 6:30 pm.**

Father Matera

The Mission Statement of St. Mary's School:

To ignite spiritual growth and promote academic excellence within a nurturing faith community. United together, we inspire students to know, love and serve God.