



SM ST. MARY
SCHOOL SYSTEM
2019-2020 ANNUAL REPORT



fast facts

90%

Retention Rate

10:1

Average Student to
Teacher Ratio

6.25%

Increase in enrollment
over previous year

1 in 3

Students (K-12) receive
need-based tuition assistance

71

New Students Enrolled

25%

of new students are
St. Mary Legacies!

17% Diverse Student Population

6% Hispanic

5% two or more races

4% Asian

2% African-American

72%

Catholic students

28%

Non-Catholic students

35

Sports Teams

2019 - 2020 ST. MARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE (SMEC)

The St. Mary Education Committee (SMEC) meets on a monthly basis to support the operations and goals of the school system. Committee members are appointed by the Episcopal Vicar and work in conjunction with the System Director and the Superintendent of the Diocese of Owensboro to lead the school system. The goals of SMEC are to further the Church's educational ministry, foster the mission of the school, provide direction and stability, represent the stakeholders, and support the administration.

Fr. Brad Whistle (Episcopal Vicar)

Stephen Chino (Chair)

Michael Eck

Bryan Hayden

Chris Haas

Sarah Humm

Ayana McKenzie

Chris Miller

Jamie Paxton

Stefanie Suazo

Janet Vannatter

Kelli Yazigi

director's letter

Dear St. Mary Families and Friends,

The 2019-2020 Annual Report provides testament to God's unwavering providence for St. Mary. As you know, our school year abruptly shifted in March to Non-Traditional Instruction. Our teachers and staff stepped up quickly and efficiently to the change by keeping instruction moving forward. They gave above and beyond to our students and families, persevered through some trying days, and continue to do so even in the 2020-21 school year. We consider them our St. Mary superstars!

Not to be outdone, our students excelled academically, athletically, and as servant leaders. This report gives you a glimpse of some of their achievements for the 2019-2020 school year. St. Mary produces outstanding graduates, and we receive news weekly of our alumni accomplishments throughout our nation and the world. Go Vikings!



In James 1:2-3 it says, "Consider it pure joy, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance." St. Mary continues to persevere in the midst of the pandemic. Giving was limited during the spring, but God provided for us in other ways, including diocesan assistance with grants. We are always thankful for our donors who recognize the doors of St. Mary cannot remain open without the gifts of those who value a Catholic education. Our joy remains knowing our perseverance during these challenging times allowed families the opportunity to choose St. Mary for their children.

Our mission is being a Christ-centered community rooted in Catholic tradition, empowering students academically, encouraging selfless sacrifice, and nurturing learners to become a positive influence on others. We believe we lived our mission during the beginning of COVID and continue to persevere in our mission as we move forward navigating the ever-changing channels of requirements necessary to provide face-to-face instruction. Through every challenge, St. Mary remains faithful in growing hearts, minds, and souls for Christ.

Joyfully,

Eleanor Spry

ST. MARY SUPPORTING PARISHES

We are grateful to the area parishes that work in partnership with St. Mary Schools to provide the school system with financial and spiritual support, ensuring their parishioners can choose a Catholic Education:

St. Thomas More Catholic Church
 St. Francis de Sales Catholic Church
 St. Mary Catholic Church
 Rosary Chapel Catholic Church

St. Jerome Catholic Church
 St. Joseph Catholic Church
 St. John The Evangelist Catholic Church

faith

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see. –Hebrews 11:1

Generations of St. Mary students have grown in their faith through the experience of daily religious instruction, weekly masses, annual retreats, traditional celebrations, and serving others. This focus on faith is the foundation of our school and all success or accolades we achieve flow from it.



See You At The Pole- Students participating in the worldwide day of prayer at the flag pole.



National Catholic Youth Conference- St. Mary students participated in the 2019 conference in Indianapolis.

Ash Wednesday- Students, teachers and families celebrated Ash Wednesday together.



Service Projects take place at every grade level from preschool to 12th grade. High School students completed 4,662 Hours of Christian Service during the 2019-20 school year.



Prayer is a part of the academic and athletic life of a St. Mary student.



St. Mary students participate in weekly Mass.



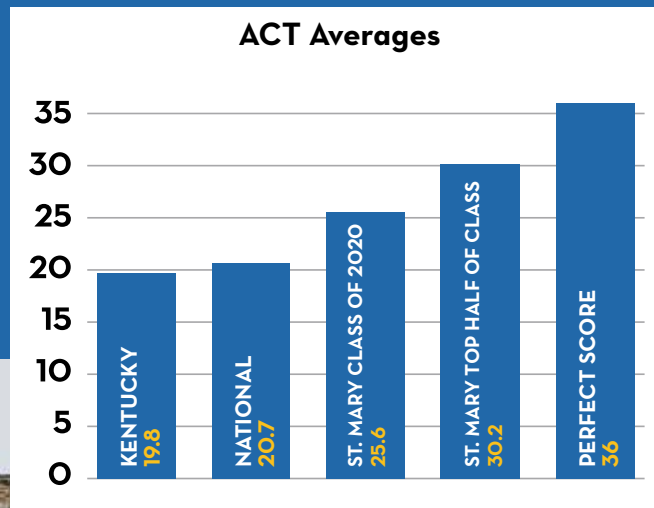
Rainbow Mass - St. Mary students joined students from across the Diocese to celebrate Mass in Owensboro.



Elementary students enjoying the Polka Dot Girls Bible Study.

academics

Class of 2020



100% 100% 100%

Graduation Rate

College Bound

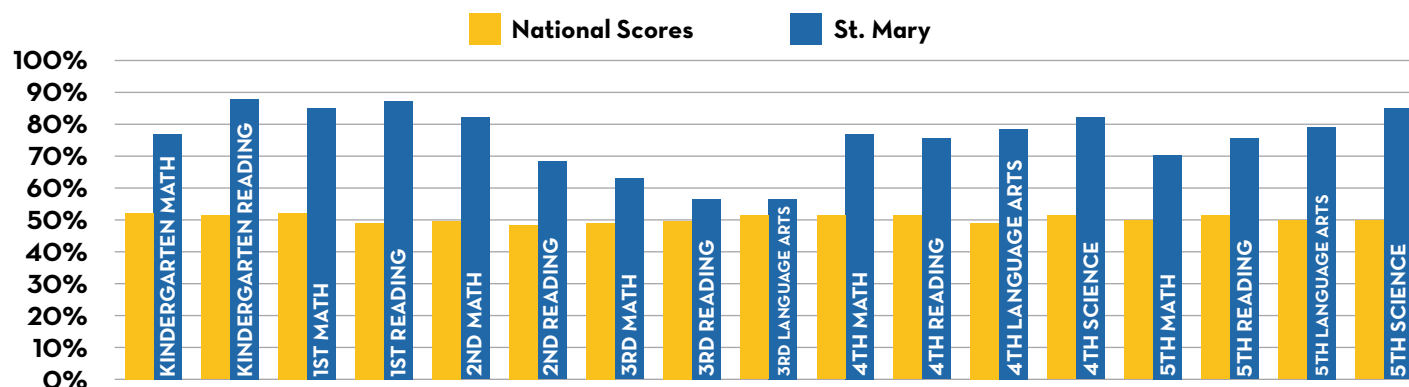
Received Scholarship Offers

The Class of 2020 was offered over \$3,200,000 in scholarships, averaging more than \$148,000 in scholarship offers per student. Average overall GPA: 3.78

CLASS OF 2020 COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE:

- Bellarmine University
- Birmingham Southern College
- Brescia University
- Centre College
- Columbia College-Chicago
- Grace College
- Harding University
- Loyola University-Chicago
- Murray State University
- New York University-Shanghai
- Northeastern University
- Northwestern University
- Ohio University
- Rhodes College
- St. Louis University
- Transylvania University
- University of Alabama
- University of California-Davis
- University of Illinois
- University of Kentucky
- University of Louisville
- University of the South (Sewanee)
- Vanderbilt University
- Webster University
- West Kentucky Community and Technical College
- Western Kentucky University
- Xavier University

St. Mary students and teachers excelled all year long in and out of the classroom. Even as our campus closed to in person instruction in March of 2020 due to COVID, our learning never stopped. Our instruction of new content continued and our students and teachers adapted and grew in the midst of the challenge!



St. Mary Elementary School uses NWEA Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) to assess the learning levels for each student. MAP is a norm referenced assessment taken by over 8 million students each year. Our teachers use this individualized information to drive instruction specific for each student. MAP scores also allow us to compare St. Mary Elementary results to national results. In the 2019-20 school year, St. Mary Elementary exceeded the national averages in every grade and every tested subject!

Sue Hein was named the 2019-20 Teacher of the Year by the Diocese of Owensboro.

Hailey Froehlich was accepted to Murray State University's Commonwealth Honors Academy. This selective program is designed to give outstanding high school juniors enhanced leadership and learning opportunities.

Nayelli McDowell was selected for the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Program. HOBY is designed to further develop leadership skills with a focus on becoming effective and ethical leaders in the home, school, and community.

5th grader Sophie Stratemeyer placed in the Top Ten in Kentucky for elementary science in the Governor's Cup Competition.

The St. Mary 7th grade Robotics Team competed in the West Kentucky RCX Regional Tournament. They placed 3rd out of 32 teams in the region to qualify for the State Robotics tournament.

St. Mary expanded its orchestra program in the 2019 school year to the elementary school. We now have orchestras in the elementary, middle and high school.

Maddie Kerr was named a National Merit Commended Student and selected for the All-State Orchestra!

St. Mary students competed at the 4-H State Speech and Demonstration Competition. Lana Flint brought home 1st Place in Demonstration and Matthew King took 1st Place in the 13 year old Speech Division.



Mrs. Sue Hein - Teacher of the Year



Sophie Stratemeyer



Maddie Kerr

athletics

Even with the cancellation of many spring sports due to COVID, the Vikings still had stand out accomplishments individually and collectively!

- Sophomore Kate Morrow made the All-American Cheer Team
- Senior Chiara Doran earned her 500th rebound, scored her 1,000th point, and Named to the All Purchase Girls Basketball Team.
- Junior Lilly Brown earned her 500th rebound
- Boys Golf team is All A Regional Champion.
- Boys Soccer is All A Regional Champion.

At St. Mary, we often speak about developing student-athletes whose pursuits on the field/court should be equally measured with those in the classroom. We are proud of our students who were named to the All-State Academic Team for maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.75 and up or received Honorable Mention for maintaining a cumulative GPA of 3.25-3.75.

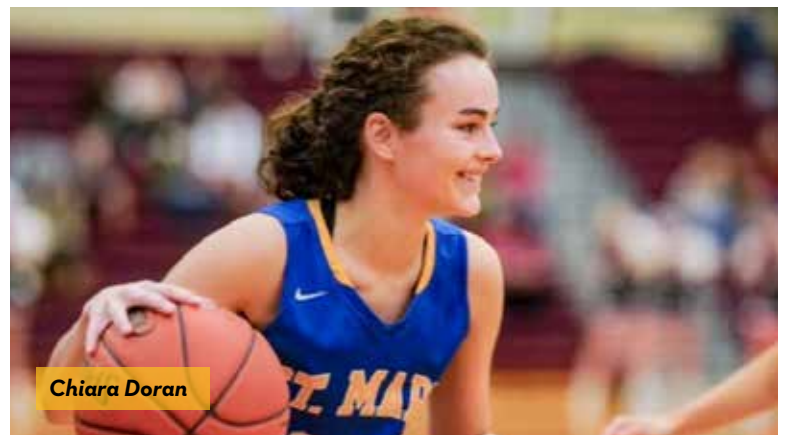
- 87% of the varsity boys basketball team made All-State Academic Team.
- 82% of the varsity girls basketball team made All-State Academic Team.
- 75% of the high school cheer team made All-State Academic Team.

Girls All Region Golf Team- Ellie Roof and Margaret Butts
Boys All Region Golf Team- Rocco Zakutney

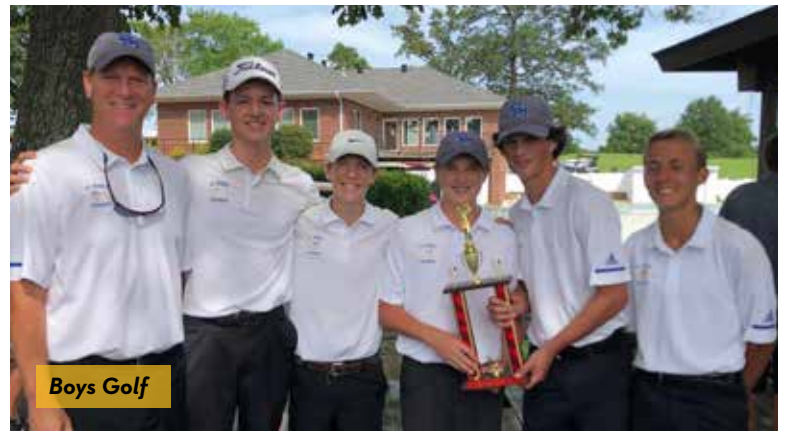
Both our boys and girls St. Mary Cross Country Teams qualified for the State Championship.



Kate Morrow



Chiara Doran



Boys Golf



Boys Soccer



Cross Country

athletics

St. Mary Athletics by the Numbers

81%

of high school students
played 1 sport

59%

of high school students
played 2 sports

33%

of high school students
played 3 or more sports

87%

of high school girls played a sport

81%

of high school boys played a sport

High School

11 high school sports
13 teams

Middle School

11 middle school sports
12 teams

Elementary School

4 elementary school sports
10 teams

Athletes who Signed with Colleges

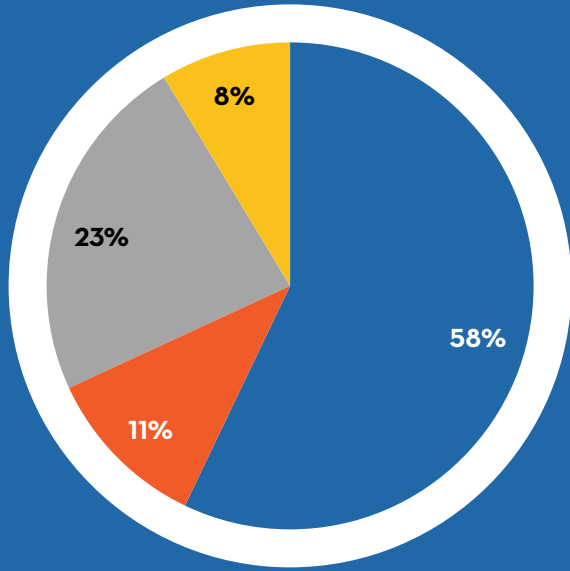
Colin Doss
Webster University
Basketball

Billy Johnston
Harding University
Baseball

Margaret Butts
Centre College
Golf



finance & support

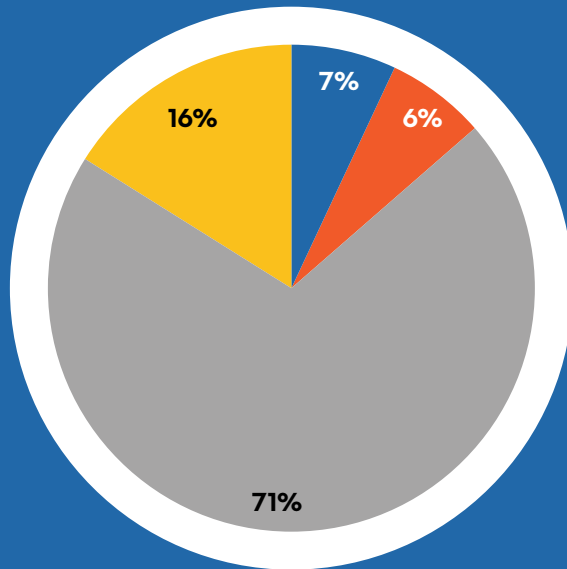


REVENUE
\$3,085,179

- Tuition, Subsidy and Fees
- Fundraising and Other Revenue
- Tuition Assistance and Endowment Earning
- Capital Campaign

EXPENSES
\$3,027,138

- Business Operations
- Instructional Expenses
- Personnel
- Buildings and Grounds



ST. MARY
REMAINS 100%
**DEBT
FREE**

St. Mary School System remains committed to keeping the cost of Catholic education affordable in order to provide our students with academic excellence in a Christ-centered environment. While tuition and fees covered approximately 70% of a student's education during the 2019-20 school year, the fundraising throughout the year allowed for technology upgrades, tuition assistance, campus improvements and maintenance, staff development and much more. We are grateful for the generosity of parents, grandparents, alumni, parishes, and community partners for helping us cover the additional cost of educating each of our students. Simply put, St. Mary is here because of the support of our community and the spirit of philanthropy that makes our Viking community strong.

Below are the main fundraising and community building events that were held in 2019-20:

ANNUAL FUND

The Annual Fund is a combination of unrestricted gifts and tuition assistance donations. With support of parents, grandparents, alumni and our community, the 2019-20 Annual Fund raised over \$216,000. These funds make Catholic education possible by providing financial aid to families who need it the most and supporting the operating expenses of the school system.

VIKING SOCIETY

St. Mary was founded in 1858 by four Sisters of Charity of Nazareth with sixty students, profound faith, and a life-changing Mission. The Viking Society was created in 2019 to carry on that legacy by recognizing leadership level giving to the St. Mary Annual Fund. By joining, donors demonstrate a personal investment in the future of St. Mary. All individuals, companies and foundations become members of the Viking Society by making an unrestricted gift of \$1,000 or more during the fiscal year (July 1- June 30) to the St. Mary Annual Fund.



THE ST. MARY AUCTION

"These are a few of my favorite things" was the theme for the St. Mary Auction. The Auction, which is held every other year, is the largest single fundraising event for the school system. The 2019 Auction raised over \$250,000 for St. Mary School System through the live and silent auctions. A special thank you to the Auction Committee and all those who volunteered their time and talent to make this another successful event!



BINGO

The St. Mary Bingo Program completed its final year in early 2020 and raised \$50,000 for the school system. We are grateful to all those who volunteered for this program through the years, especially Jackie Hopper for her faithfulness to St. Mary through the bingo program.

BLARNEY BASH

The second Blarney Bash raised \$50,000 for STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) initiatives across the school system! These funds were used to purchase Chrome carts, Smart Boards, Robotics kits, science lab materials, and more to grow our STEAM related activities.



SCRIP

Scrip fundraising is a no-selling program that allows St. Mary families to raise money for the school and reduce their tuition by using gift cards, or scrip, to pay for their everyday purchases. Families order gift cards from St. Mary at face value and earn a rebate. The rebate is split between St. Mary and the student's tuition. In 2019-20 the Scrip program earned \$22,000.

St. Mary Middle and High Schools
1243 Elmdale Road, Paducah, KY 42003

St. Mary Elementary and Preschool
377 Highland Blvd., Paducah, KY 42003

270.442.1681
www.smss.org



St. Mary, a Christ-centered community rooted in Catholic Tradition, empowers students academically, encourages selfless sacrifice, and nurtures learners to become a positive influence on others.