

**SAINT MARY'S HIGH SCHOOL**  
*"Home of the Knights"*

November 4, 2009

Dear Saint Mary's Families,

This year Saint Mary's is hosting their 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Walk-a-thon. The event takes place on Wednesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>. Students have the opportunity to enjoy the physical activity of an approximately 5-mile long walk accompanied by faculty, staff, Phoenix Police officers, and of course, any parents who would like to join us. The walk provides an opportunity for fun and to build up our faith community. We all arrive back to campus for lunch, provided by generous donors from our school community as well as from the surrounding businesses.

Also, important of course, is the impact of the donations that come to Saint Mary's through the collection of the pledges. This fundraising event has been a school tradition since the move to this location in 1988-89. Over the years, proceeds from the event have enhanced all areas of the school program: technology, band, library, science labs, and even renovations in the locker rooms and restrooms. This year The Saint Mary's High School Annual Walk-a-thon donations will again assist in enhancing and providing for the needs of all school programs: spiritual, academic, fine arts, technology, and athletics.

Each student is required to raise at least \$100 in donations. If a student falls short of achieving the goal in pledges, the amount the student is short becomes a financial obligation of the student's parents or guardians. This type of event was originally chosen to allow students the opportunity to acquire pledges and donations from extended family, friends, and neighbors in support of them and their school. Hopefully this aspect of the event will continue to be helpful to families assisting them in meeting the fundraising goal. For example, all it takes is 5 people to donate \$20 and your \$100 obligation is met. All donations -- including any portion paid by parents or guardians to meet the \$100 student obligation -- are tax deductible. Donations need to be turned in directly to the Business Office. We ask that students collect their pledges by December 4<sup>th</sup> so that closure for the event can take place for the school and for your family as soon as possible. Students who are still delinquent on May 20<sup>th</sup> will not be allowed to take second semester final exams.

Packets have now been distributed to students in First Hour class. All pertinent information regarding the event is detailed in the packet, including prizes and appropriate dress for the day. A \$100 cash prize will go to the student in each grade level who turns in the most donations by December 4<sup>th</sup>. Donations must be turned in by December 4<sup>th</sup> in order for the student to be eligible for the prize.

Thank you for helping Saint Mary's High School through this fundraising event. Our daily prayers continue for each of our students and for the needs of each of our families. I also give thanks to each of you for the support, cooperation, and generous spirit that you give to Saint Mary's High School.

Peace and Blessings to All,

Mrs. Fessler  
Principal