

8-9-22

# St. Mary's Crusaders Softball Update

*Submitted by Mrs. D. (Coach Diane Dahlin)*

Our St. Mary's Crusaders played their last games on Monday, August 8 - a round-robin tournament with all teams.

Our 1st game was with St. Joe's Team #2. Our bats were slow getting started and they held us scoreless for the first 3 innings. The Joey's scored 1 run in the first inning, we held them in the 2nd, but let them score 5 runs in the 3rd inning. So we had to play some catch-up ball. We scored our first run in the 4th inning. But we came back with 5 runs in the 5th inning, stringing our singles together to get some runners across the plate! And the game was tied!! However, St. Joe's answered with 5 more runs in the 5th to offset our own runs, and we couldn't come back in the 6th inning. We took the 11 to 6 loss to a great opponent!

We played St. Francis Tigers in the 2nd game. Right out of the shute, the Tigers scored 4 runs in the 1st inning. But our Crusaders got the bats going earlier with 2 runs in the 2nd inning. Both the Tigers and the Crusaders added another run in the 3rd inning. With the score 3 to 5, our Crusaders needed to get some runs. They rose to the challenge in the 4th inning and scored 3 more to take the lead. We were able to hold the Tigers scoreless for the rest of the game and took a 6 to 5 win!

Our 3rd game was with St. Joe's Team #1. They jumped out ahead in the 1st inning, scoring 3 runs against our 0. But our Crusaders answered with 4 runs in the 2nd on an "almost" home run from Caleb Lage (he was out at home plate as he stumbled and had to pick himself up from the dust) with the bases loaded to take the lead. We added 2 more runs in the 3rd for insurance. The Joey's were able to pull out 5 runs against us in the 4th inning, but we came back with 3 more of our own with a triple from Matt St. Claire, a double from Grant Johnson and a triple from Caleb Lage to get some runners home. This put us still in front with a score of 9 to 8. The Joey's came out in the 5th inning with 2 runs to take the lead from us. We could not get our runners home in the 5th inning, and ended the game with a 10 to 9 loss.

All of our tournament games were exciting ones to watch and we played very well—taking 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the league—in spite of the scores! We had so much fun playing that night and we had a good crowd of fans to cheer us on also - THANK YOU!! It has been a privilege to be a part of the Crusaders softball each summer for so many years. I thank you for the opportunity and your support of our youth!