

# ST. GABRIEL

*Centered in Jesus, St. Gabriel Catholic School is committed to excellence in developing our faith, academics and service.*

## NEWSLETTER



### UPCOMING EVENTS...

#### October

...8—14—Scholastic Book Fair at St. Gabriel School

...8—Fire Department visit to grades 1-3

...8—Grade 2 Field Trip to Grignon Mansion (p.m.)

...8—Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences after school

...11—PTO-sponsored Hayride at Homestead Meadows from 11:30-2:30 p.m.

...13—School Liturgy planned by Miss Lamecker's Kindergarten class at 8:15

...13—Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences after school

...14—Grades 2-5 Field Trip to the Weidner Center for a play

...15—Seton Buddy Visit

...16—Grade 3 Field Trip to Bergstrom Mahler Museum in Neenah

...20—School Liturgy planned by Mrs. Olsen's Kindergarten class at 8:15 a.m.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...** Storytelling is important in a child's faith formation. In fact, your child's learning in a religion classroom is based primarily on storytelling. The stories about our Hebrew ancestors, from the Old Testament in the Bible help us to understand the Jewish religion and culture into which Jesus was born. Stories about Jesus and the stories he told teach your child and us about the Catholic faith.

We also have our own family stories of faith. In asking about the religion lessons your child is having at school, you can share your memories about what you learned. You can also share memories of the sacrament, like your First Communion or when you were confirmed. Looking at family pictures, can lead to conversations about baptisms and other holy moments. The stories of Scripture and our own personal stories form the basis of faith for our children. Sharing them is very important to our family and our faith formation.

Last Friday morning, we gathered as a school community to pray the Rosary—a Catholic tradition. Each decade was led by one of the grades. As we prayed that group of ten Hail Marys, the class leading the prayers was remembered along with their families in prayer.

**THANK YOU, FATHER!...** Although we should appreciate our clergy all of the time, October has been designated as Clergy Appreciation Month. Thank you, Father Allen, for all that you do for St. Gabriel School. In addition to leading us in our weekly liturgy celebrations, Father also visits the classrooms bi-weekly. For activities and stories to help your family celebrate the Year of the Priest, be sure to visit [www.osv.com/priestyear](http://www.osv.com/priestyear).

**THIS FRIDAY IS THE SMC HOMECOMING PARADE. THE TCCES ELEMENTARY DRUMMERS AND TWIRLERS WILL LEAD THE ELEMENTARY STUDENTS. CHANGE FOR THIS YEAR—OUR STUDENTS WILL JOIN THE PARADE AT SETON.**

**DON'T FORGET THE HAYRIDE AND SOCIAL!!!!**



**GUIDANCE NEWS...** To incorporate faith into all aspects of your child's education, we are working on a Guidance Prayer. During the month September, each child was given a bookmark with a Guidance Prayer that he/she can say when looking for guidance with personal emotions. This is the Prayer...

*God, You created me and you know the emotions I am facing right now. It helps for me to talk to you about my emotions and right now I am feeling \_\_\_\_\_, because \_\_\_\_\_.* I know that you love me and I pray that you will help me understand my feelings so that I may do my best to follow you. Amen.

**NEWS FROM GRADE 3...** Mrs. Marion Schumacher recently donated a dictionary to each student in third grade. She personally wrote the name of each student and signed each book. The books were given to the students to keep and use in school. This is the second year that Mrs. Schumacher has made the donation to our school and we thank her for her generosity and thoughtfulness.

**NEWS FROM GRADE 4...** The fourth grade students are again helping the St. Gabriel School community celebrate birthdays. Students designed a personal place mat for each student and teacher who celebrated a birthday in September. These mats, streamers, and pom-poms decorated the special birthday lunch table. The entire school community sang *Happy Birthday* and *The Blessing Song* to honor the birthday group. This custom is held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Summer birthdays are celebrated as half-birthdays.

**NOTES FROM THE BANDROOM...** *Fourth graders* are currently learning instrument assembly and tone production. It is critical for the beginners to be able to recognize notes by their letter name, how they are fingered, and how to produce the correct pitch. *Fifth graders* continue to practice sheet music and are finishing their first lesson book

**FIELD TRIP FOR GRADE ONE AND KINDERGARTEN CLASS...** Recently the group visited The Gardens in Appleton. While there, students made and filled seed packets, toured the gardens, and learned about products made from plants. The favorite activity was when the students pretended to be seeds and began to grow. As they grew, they were squirted with water, had oatmeal thrown on them, and air blown on them. These actions showed them that plants need sun, water, nutrients, and air to grow. The first graders were asked to share some comments about the trip...We rubbed our hands on lavender plants. When we smelled our hands, we could smell the lavender-*Lauren*; Picking the seeds off of the flowers in the garden was fun-*Sophie*; I liked the Rose Garden a lot. It was really cool to see all those roses. It was cool to see the back of the garden where the oak tree was-*Elise*; My favorite part was the vegetable garden with the big sunflowers-*Ellie*.

**HILARIOUS ST. HILARION?...** St. Hilarion's name is actually a good depiction of his personality. Although he is one of the lesser known saints today, in his time (291-371) people were naturally drawn to him as a source of spiritual wisdom and peace. Despite his best efforts to live in prayer and solitude, he had reached such fame by the time of his death that his body had to be secretly removed so that a shrine would not be built in his honor. Honor St. Hilarion's magnetism by telling a joke on his feast day, October 21.

**HALLOWEEN PARADE INFORMATION...** It has become a custom here at St. Gabriel School to celebrate with a parade. The parade will begin with a short prayer service. Led by the 5<sup>th</sup> grade drummers and twirlers the group will then leave the building and parade outside, weather permitting. The event will start around 2:15 p.m. on Wednesday, October 28.

**SMC HOMECOMING PARADE IS THIS FRIDAY.**