



# ST. GABRIEL

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

## NEWSLETTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS...

#### December

...16—Eat at or order take out at Perkins in Neenah; 10% of money made between 5-8:00 p.m. goes to St. Gabriel School.

...21—Pre-Kindergarten Christmas program at 10:00 a.m. in the church

...22—Liturgy planned by Grade 5 at 8:15 a.m.

...22—Preschool Christmas program in the Large Motor Room at 10.00 a.m.

...23—Preschool Christmas program in the Large Motor Room at 10:00 a.m.

...23—Early dismissal for Christmas Vacation, 11:30 a.m.; Prayer Service in the Main Hall starting at 11:15

#### January

...4—School Resumes

...5—Liturgy at 8:15 a.m.

...12—Liturgy planned by Grade 4 at 8:15 a.m.

...12—TCCES State of the State Address at SG – 6:30 p.m.

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK...** With Christmas coming, Grandma was out shopping for gifts for her grandchildren. While she was at the toy store going through her list and carefully selecting gifts, she noticed a small homeless girl outside wistfully looking into the store. Grandma's hearts went out to this little girl. She invited her into the store and asked her to pick out a gift for herself. As they walked out of the store, the little girl held grandma's hand and looked into her kind eyes and asked, "Are you God?" Grandma, somewhat embarrassed and somewhat touched said, "No, my dear, I am not God." "Then who are you?" continued the little girl. Grandma thought for a moment and said, "I am a child of God." The little girl, full, satisfied and smiling, said, "I knew there was a connection." —From "How Big is Your God?" by Paul Coutinho, SJ

***Merry Christmas to all of you! May God's blessings be with you all during this holy time of the year!***

**WHAT A NIGHT...** Under the direction of Mr. Arboleda, students in kindergarten through grade 5 performed a wonderful Christmas concert on Thursday, December 10, 2009. A dress rehearsal was held in the afternoon with the night performance beginning at 6:30. The concert was held in St. Gabriel Church, which is a tradition for the school and a beautiful setting to listen to Christmas music and the telling of the Christmas story. Mrs. Keesler, Mr. Kroll, Mr. Harrmann, Sean Bergholz (son of Mrs. Bergholz), and Mrs. Heywood, the school piano teacher accompanied the students on the last couple of songs. It was a very special day for everyone, especially the fifth graders who told the Christmas story by assuming the roles of the people involved.

**SWEETNESS OF CHRISTMAS, A SUCCESS...** Mrs. Knott along with Mrs. Houlihan planned out another wonderful Christmas craft project for students in kindergarten through grade 5. The event was held in the school cafeteria. Thank you to all of the parents who came in and helped the students complete the projects. Our hope is that all of you enjoy the gift.



Twin City Catholic  
Educational System

**LAWRENCE ACADEMY OF MUSIC...** a division of the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music in Appleton is offering group string lessons. The String Project is a teacher-training program for college students that also provides area children in grades 3-12 with affordable instruction on the violin, viola, cello and string bass. The second semester begins January 26. Please contact the Academy at 920-832-6632 or visit [www.lawrence.edu/dept/acad\\_music](http://www.lawrence.edu/dept/acad_music) for more information

**IMAJN** Masses in January and February 2010 will be on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month. Therefore, the January IMAJN dates will be January 10 and 24; February's dates will be February 14 and 28.

**CROSS COUNTRY SKIS AVAILABLE...** Did you know that TCCES has cross country skis that your family can use at very low rates? We have many sets, ranging in size from kids in about Pre4 through adult men's. This is a great opportunity to try a fantastic family sport that your kids can enjoy throughout their lives.

Your family may use the skis as often as you like throughout the season for a flat rate of only \$40.00 per family, or you may use them by paying \$5/person (\$20 maximum/family) each time. For more details or to reserve skis for your family, call Heather at 209-1022 or Molly at 420-4398. (All money collected is being saved for ski maintenance and/or purchase of additional equipment.)

**GRADE ONE SCIENCE...** In science first grade students have been studying matter. They learned about the 3 kinds of matter: solid, liquid, and gas, and the characteristics of each. Did you know that water can change its state of matter? Water can be a liquid, then freeze to a solid, ice. It can also evaporate into a gas.

**MUSIC IN PREK...**The Pre-Kindergarten class at St. Gabriel is learning about different kinds of instruments in music class. They are exploring the string instruments, the wind instruments and the percussion instruments. As part of their curriculum, they are making their very own instruments. They made maracas out of plastic bottles and beads for their percussion instrument and will make guitars out of Kleenex boxes and horns out of cardboard rolls. At the end of the year, they will form a band and play their instruments.

**BODY BOOKS...** The third graders are authors and illustrators of Body Books. As part our study of the human body, body books were written. The book consists of six of the human body systems. The organs of the different systems were drawn in and labeled. A

short summary of each system was given. The students enjoyed working on this project.

### ***St. Mary Central High School's Registration Night – January 13, 2009***

SMC's Registration Night for Incoming Freshmen and Transfer Students is on Wednesday, January 13 at 6:30 p.m. Incoming students and their parents will have the opportunity to register for 2010-2011 classes and meet with the SMC Faculty, Administration and Guidance Department. For additional information please call Jennifer Miller, Director of Admissions at 722-7796 x206.

**St. Gabriel School Office** will be closed from noon on Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> until Monday, January 4<sup>th</sup>.

**NIGHT OUT AT PERKINS TO HELP SG... Tonight,** Wednesday, December 16, from 5:00 until 8:00 p.m., 10% of all net sales at the Neenah Perkins will be donated to the St. Gabriel PTO. This includes take-out orders, eat-in meals, and the bakery to-go. This is the first time the PTO has tried this fundraiser, if you can please help make it a success.

**GOLFING AT SG...** The students at St. Gabriel School were recently introduced to the game of golf in their physical education classes. The students spent two classes learning safety and experiencing swinging a golf club. One the first day the students were taught how to grip the club and practiced full swings off a tee. During the second class the students practiced aiming as they tried to chip the ball off the grass practice mats at several targets.

**DELICIOUS SCIENCE LESSON...**The kindergartners have been exploring their 5 senses in Science class. The students began the unit with popping popcorn. Each student had to use his or her senses of smell, taste, touch, sight and hearing to explore popcorn. Students played a sound game where one student made a noise behind a curtain and the other student had to guess what was making the sound. Lastly, Mrs. Schultz, a parent from the class, came in and taught the class how to use sign language to communicate.

**BritBeat...** America's premier tribute to the Beatles, performing live at Waverly Beach! The show, sponsored by Bergstrom Automotive, begins at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, January 23. Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Tickets can be purchased in advance for only \$10 each, or \$15 for one/\$25 for two at the door. Silent auction items will be available for bid. 100% of the proceeds from ticket sales will benefit the SMC Booster Club athletics and co-curricular activities. For tickets, stop by the SMC office or any Zephyr home sporting event; call Sue at 722-7796, ext. 853; or email [smcboosterclub@tcces.k12.wi.us](mailto:smcboosterclub@tcces.k12.wi.us).