

ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

*The Mission of St. Margaret Mary School is to nurture a
Christ – centered Community of Life-long Learners.*

The Catholic Church has designated the time from June 2009 until June of 2010, the Year for Priests. The month of October has been especially designated as a time of prayer for priests and as Vocation to answer God's call to priesthood. During this year, as a school community we will be praying for Fr. Mike that God will bless him abundantly in his service to our parish. We are blessed to have Fr. Mike's loving and faithful ministry at St. Margaret Mary and we appreciate his gifts of witness, encouragement and compassion. Please include him in your family prayer during this Year for Priests.

Halloween

Thank you to our Room Parents for organizing a special treat for Halloween, as well as the special celebration for the Feast of St. Margaret Mary. Because Halloween falls over the weekend and our last day of school this week is today, our class celebrations will be "low-key."

Halloween is a holiday that brings up questions about superstitions and fears of the occult. As Christians, we can celebrate Halloween as a fun day that also reminds us of the Roots of the celebration. Even Trick or Treat and Jack-O-Lanterns also have their origins in Christian traditions. Halloween comes from the word "hallow" which means "holy" and a contraction of the word "evening." It is the evening before the feast of "all the holy ones," the saints. From the earliest days of Christianity, we have honored those who died for their faith and those individuals whose lives were "the gospel in action." Many were not even known by name.

Celebrating a feast to honor all of these saints on the first of November began in 835 A.D. Choosing this date helped to "Christianize" a pagan festival of death.



Twin City Catholic
Educational System



REMINDERS

Upcoming Events

November

2.....Grade 3 Fallen Timbers

6.....Grade 20 - - - Liturgy

11.....Grade 2 Barlow
Planetarium

11.....Grade 4 and 5 to
Oshkosh for a Play

13.....Grade 4B- - -Liturgy

12.....Grade 1 and 2 to
Oshkosh for

12.....Kindergarten to PAC
for

14.....**JUMBO GUMBO**

20.....4K/B- - - Liturgy

December

3.....Grade 5- - - Paine Art
Center

4.....Grade 4K/B - - Liturgy

7.....PK to Shopko

Christianity brought light to the darkness of the human fear of death. Many families celebrated the anniversary of the death of loved ones. This was a continuation of a Jewish custom. In the 11th Century, November 2nd was chosen to honor all of the faithful dead. Halloween has been the eve or vigil of these two important feasts for a thousand years. Now the month of November is set aside to remember and pray for our beloved dead.

Visitors to Building

Last week, we had a minor incident in our building. One of the secretaries unlocked the door for a visitor whose head was covered because of the rain. She went out into the hall to greet the person and he was nowhere to be seen. We had the teachers lock their doors while we were looking throughout the building for the visitor. It was found that he was someone coming in to help with a maintenance task, but he did not come to the office first to sign in.

This is a good time to remind all parents that if you come into the building after the day starts, always check into the office. Please don't think "I'm just running to drop this in my child's classroom." This is for the safety of all of our children. Simply sign the log and pick up a visitor's badge. When you leave, stop in the office and sign out. It is important for us to know who is in the building at all times. We appreciate your cooperation.

Fire Station.

There were two winners for the Fire Department drawing to spend the morning at the Fire Station. The winners were both from the first grade---Cole Young and Luke Peters. They had breakfast with the fire fighters, spent the morning learning about the job of the fire fighters, and returned to school on a fire truck.

We want to thank the members of the Neenah/Menasha Fire Department for the wonderful programs they share with our children on fire prevention and thank them for the amount of time they spend with our students to keep them safe.

Box Tops for Education

Thank you to the entire school for participating in the recent Box Tops Collection Contest. Together, the school collected 6,965 Box Tops which means \$696 cash! The prize of an EXTRA RECESS goes to Mrs. Peroutky and Mrs. Griffith's PK class and the OUT OF UNIFORM DAY prize goes to the 3rd grade, Mr. Hickey/Rippl. Thanks again for all the enthusiasm. Keep clipping! (from Melanie Bomier) Thank you to Melanie and the members of her committee who counted all of the labels!

New Arrivals

The DeWitt Family welcomed two new members to their family. Owen Charles and Jacob Stanley arrived last week. Congratulations to big sister and brother, Ellie in Kindergarten and Jonah in Preschool. We are happy to have you join the St. Margaret Mary School Community.

Saturday Morning Basketball

The Basketball Skills Program is especially geared toward 3rd and 4th graders. It teaches them ball handling, dribbling, and shooting skills that help them prepare to play on a team when they reach 5th grade. It is a fun program that operates on a “come as you can” basis. It is held in the St. Margaret Mary gym from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. each week. Please see the attached flyer and Basketball Waiver form attached to this newsletter.

After School Care

I apologize to Chris Ullman, our After School Care coordinator. I put her email in the newsletter last week and misspelled her name. The email is cullman@tcces.k12.wi.us.

News From Food Service

In these tough economic times, please know that we offer free and reduced price lunches. You may fill out an application at any school or contact the food service office at 967-0107. If you did not qualify before, but your employment has changed, please consider filling out an application. This is a federally subsidized program. Besides the help to individual families, this helps to supplement TCCES food service and also helps to obtain additional title funds for the school.

SMC Technology and Engineering Club (TEC) Open House

Tuesday, November 17 (please note this is a change from the TCCES calendar)

6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. SMC TEC building (next to Zephyr field)

Come see the SMC TEC team in action! They are busy preparing their robotics projects and VEX tournament planning. The VEX Robotics competition is a unique varsity type sport for the mind designed to get high school students excited about math, science, technology, and engineering. **All are welcome!**