



ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Lent

Jesus taught us the greatest commandment is “to love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” The second is like it: “Love your neighbor as yourself.” We cannot love someone we do not know, so if we want to love God, we must spend time with Him to learn to know Him. We can spend time with Him through reading the Scriptures and can speak to Him in prayer, in the freedom and quiet of our hearts. We come face to face with Him in the Sacraments, especially Reconciliation during Lent, and the Eucharist. We can also meet Jesus in others. One of our greatest challenges is to see the face of Christ in our neighbor and to love our Lord Jesus in the person before us.

Our Lenten reflection this week is **Fasting**. Fasting can mean eating less, or giving up something that distracts us from knowing God. We return to our question-----

Are you Bread or Stone?

-----When I take less of something so that others will have some.....I am Bread for others.

-----When I think about those less fortunate and am moved to do something to help them.....I am Bread for others.

-----When I am selfish and do not want to share.....I am Stone for others.

-----When I think of myself first and take whatever I can get.....I am Stone for others.

Will fasting help us to meet God? It all depends on the attitude in our hearts. God wants us to change the things we do only if it will make our hearts, souls, and minds overflow with love for Him and our neighbors.



Twin City Catholic
Educational System

REMINDERS

March

4.....FACES Meeting 7:00 p.m.
in Art Room

5.....Liturgy 8:15 Grade 3R

7.....IMAJN Mass 5:00 p.m.

7.....Reconciliation Retreat
Grade 5----1:00 p.m.

8.....SMC Forensics Tournament
for grade 5---after school

9.....First Reconciliation 6:30

11.....Preschool and PK to play
in Oshkosh (Albert Kimball
Auditorium)

12.....Liturgy 8:15 Grade 2Z

13.....Father/Daughter Dance
in SMM Gym

14.....Daylight Savings Time

15.....Grade 3 Trip to PAC for
Symphony

16.....SMM Story Time

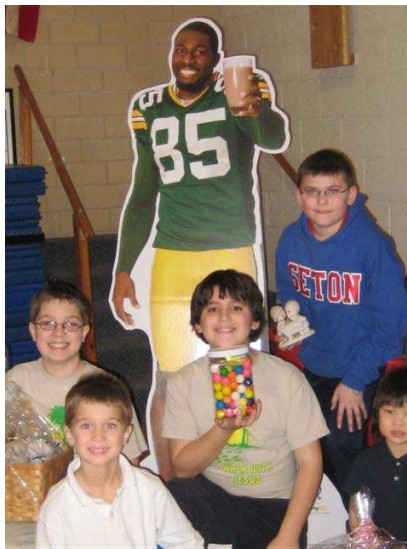
16.....SMM Reconciliation

Social Justice

Our theme for the month of March is ***Social Justice***. Within the TCCES community, all members are taught to respect human dignity and are challenged to work for the greater good of all. In TCCES schools, the rich tradition of Catholic social teaching is integrated into the whole curriculum. During the month of March, we will look at the various principles of Catholic Social Teaching.

Some examples this year of the way our school community reaches out to those in need:

- Halloween candy collection for the food pantry
- Pet food collection for the animal shelter
- Milk money for the Fox Valley Warming Shelter
- Boots and snow pants collection for the Emergency Shelter
- Million penny collection for tuition assistance
- "Souper Bowl" Collection for the Food Pantry
- Girl Scout Collection of Children's clothes for the Community Clothes Closet
- "Backpack for Afghanistan" project
- Luke Peters Celebration of Life



Students posing with items won
in the Raffle for Haiti.

Special Project Thank You

Following the Haiti Earthquake, our students were anxious to find some way to help. In addition to the Student Council project, some of our students worked on individual projects. The Higgins Family sold "Hot Chocolate for Haiti" earning over \$100. Lauren Sweeterman made and sold bracelets with the profits (\$175) going to Haiti relief. This is a letter from Lauren to our school families.

"I wanted to update everybody who bought *Hope for Haiti* bracelets from me. My Grandpa is a Rotary member in Savannah GA, and works with a school called Matenwa Community Learning Center (M.C.L.C)

which is located off the mainland of Haiti. This island has been affected by the earthquake in such a way that it hasn't been able to receive food from the mainland.

I recently sent a letter with a check for \$175.00 to a woman who works with this community and school. The children who attend the M.C.L.C. school are being fed breakfast, now the rest of the children's families need the food too. The money is going to be used to help provide meals to the kids and their families because food is very scarce due to the earthquake. If you want to check out their website go to: www.matenwac.org

The money from the bracelets you bought is going to help those children, and their families. Thank you very much for your support!!!” (from Lauren Sweeterman)

SMC Project

Perhaps you saw the article in the newspaper about the Lenten Project at St. Mary Central High School. Ten names were drawn at random---eight students and two faculty members. Each person was given \$100 and asked to increase the amount through developing an idea for using the money to do something worthwhile this Lent. One of the students whose name was drawn was Sean Bergholz, a former SMM student. He has a letter attached to this week's newsletter announcing that he will be at school Friday, March 5th at dismissal, selling bracelets made in the Philippines to help raise money for the Lenten Project. Please read his letter.

TCCES Teacher / Staff Awards

TCCES has established 3 teacher and staff awards to acknowledge the talent and dedication of our exceptional employees. Please take time to nominate teachers and staff members that you feel have made a tremendous impact on your children. Details and nomination forms for the St. John Baptist de la Salle Outstanding Teacher Award, St. Frances Xavier Award for Positive Influence, and St. Anne Award for TCCES Spirit are available in the News section of the TCCES website or by following this link <http://tcces.org/smc/alumni/TCCESTeacherAwards.html>.

Food Service Change

There will be a change in the entrée for Friday, March 5th. Cheese quesadillas will be served in place of the cheese pizza.

Spelling Bee Winners

Will Cole was the winner and Joe Kerwin the runner-up in the fifth grade Spelling Bee. The City-wide Spelling Bee will be held on Friday, March 12th at 9:30 a.m. Congratulations to Will and Joe. Will will compete, with Joe filling in if for any reason, Will is not able to attend.

Forensics

In their first tournament this year at Seton Catholic Middle School, our fifth grade team competed well and earned ALL red or blue ribbons for their performances. Congratulations on a job well done. Our fifth graders and their coaches, Mrs. Stoffel and Mrs. Buss are to be commended. Their next contest will be at St. Mary Central High School next Monday evening. Good Luck!!

Announcing the Box Tops Contest Winners!

An Extra Recess...PreK Griffin/Peroutky
An Out of Uniform Day.....1st Grade Mrs Zeinert
Thank You for Collecting Box Tops for Education!



Dear Friends of Catholic Education and St. Mary Central High School:

We warmly invite you to attend SMC's 25th annual Zephyrfest celebration on Saturday, March 27th at the Paper Valley Hotel in Appleton.

The St. Mary Central High School family has been blessed in countless and significant ways over the years by Zephyrfest. Never losing sight of the reason for the occasion, hundreds of volunteers come together each year to ensure the vitality and impact of Catholic education in our community.

There are many entertaining and exciting opportunities offered at Zephyrfest! Would you enjoy a trip for four to San Francisco, a wine cooler, hunting trip, big screen TV or a cash prize? Try your luck at our raffles! Bountiful oral and silent auction items await your bid and the Wheel of Z-fest is a chance to have fun and collect cash and prizes. And don't forget the Key Club with the pristine vintage Chevy convertible!

Kindly keep in mind this enjoyable event has a serious purpose. Every dollar earned at Zephyrfest will go directly to support the programs, innovations and educational & co-curricular experiences that set St. Mary Central High School apart in our community.

Reservations or donations to Zephyrfest can be made by visiting <http://www.zephyrs.tv/zephyrfest/> or by calling Sue Thelen at SMC at 920-722-7796, ext. 853.

Thank you for your generous support, and may God bless you!

First Reconciliation

A retreat for those celebrating First Reconciliation this year will be held on **Sunday, March 7th at 1:00 p.m.** in Friendship Hall. All First Reconciliation candidates and at least one parent or another adult are asked to participate in the retreat. All First Reconciliation families received an email about this activity. Please call the Religious Formation Office if you have any questions (729-4562).

Fifth graders from our parish will celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time on **Tuesday, March 9th at 6:30 p.m.** in church. All fifth grade students are invited to attend this special evening for your classmates. After First Reconciliation, all are invited to Friendship Hall for a reception. Please keep all of these students in your prayer as they prepare for this sacrament of God's healing love and mercy, especially during this Lenten Season.

All families are invited to the St. Margaret Mary Parish Communal Reconciliation Service on **Tuesday, March 16th at 6:30 p.m.** There will be several area priests present for confession.

First Eucharist

The first Eucharist Candle and Banner-Making Event will be held on **Sunday, March 21st, from 1:00-2:30** in Friendship Hall (lower church). All First Eucharist candidates and at least one parent or another adult are asked to be present for the event. All First Eucharist families will receive a more detailed email about the activity. Be prepared to choose a First Eucharist Mass time:

- **Saturday, May 1st at 5:00 p.m.**
- **Sunday, May 2nd at 7:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, May 2nd at 9:30 a.m.**
- **Sunday, May 2nd at 11:30 a.m.**

There will also be a group picture and opportunity for individual portraits on **Tuesday, April 27, 2010**. Written rehearsal directions and a Bread Party Kit will be distributed.

World Math Day

This is a program introduced in computer class. Mr. Srnka supplied children in third through fifth grade with a password, which allowed them to compete on the computer with students from around the world in completing math facts. As of 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday afternoon, the students had already completed 18,874 facts! Mr. Srnka will give us the results of the competition in next week's newsletter, but it has created an awareness of the need to practice and recall math facts quickly and accurately and also make us more aware of being a part of a global community.

SCRIP Change

Kwik Trip will be changing from a return of 10% to 5% as of the 18th of March. Please be aware of the change as you order SCRIP. You can buy SCRIP for Chili's!! If people are going to go to Chili's between

March 16th and June 16th, mention the Luke Peters Celebration of Support to your server and 10% of your bill will be donated.

Milk Caps

March is Milk Cap month. The milk companies are asking for schools to turn in the collected milk caps by the end of March. We need to have a minimum number of caps to be able to realize a profit. Therefore, we will have a Milk Cap Contest from March 15th –19th. Please send in any milk caps marked with any kind of cash back label to your child/ren's classroom(s). We will reward the class with the highest number of caps with an out of dress code day.

Reminders

- Please continue to bring in the items to your child's class for the Luke Peters Celebration. We would like to have all items into school by March 19th. Thank you for the generosity already shown.
- Father / Daughter Dance in the school gym on Saturday, March 13th. Please see the flyer attached to today's newsletter.
- Rescheduled **Donuts for Dads**-----Wednesday, March 24th-----7:15 a.m. More information in next week's newsletter.
- Clipper Dash---Saturday, April 24th
- SMC Robotics competition---this Saturday, March 6th
- FACES Meeting---Thursday, March 4th, 7:00 p.m. in Art Room

TCCES Presents "Celebration of the Arts" on March 17 at the Fox Cities PAC

Parents, grandparents, alumni and friends are invited to the 5th annual TCCES "Celebration of the Arts" at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center on Wednesday, March 17. The evening will feature student musicians and singers from the elementary, middle and high school levels along with a wide range of visual art created by students from the five TCCES schools – St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary and St. Mary Elementary Schools, Seton Catholic Middle School and St. Mary Central High School. This event is open to public and free.

The evening will feature performances by the St. Mary Central High Schools and Seton Catholic Middle School bands and jazz bands, the elementary band from St. Gabriel, St. Margaret Mary and St. Mary Elementary Schools, SMC and Seton's Show Choirs, and the fourth and fifth grade choirs from the TCCES Elementary Schools.

Celebration of the Arts is on Wednesday, March 17 at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. The event will begin with a reception and visual art display at 5:30. The concert will begin at 6:30 and admission is free. Bergstrom Automotive is the sponsor for this event.

Please R.S.V.P. to Ann Engelhard by March 12 if you are planning to attend the reception prior to the concert. You may R.S.V.P. via email to aengelhard@tcces.k12.wi.us or 722-7796 ext. 201.

