

ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Lent

The season of Lent should be a time of prayer and a time of giving. It is a season of renewal and a time for growing in faith. We journey with Jesus through his life, death, and resurrection.

Our focus last week was on fasting. During the week, each class spent one snack time, having a snack of rice. This helped the students realize that one meal of rice a day is the only food on which many people in our world exist.

This week our focus is on prayer. The students will be meeting with their buddies during the week to make pretzels, an ancient symbol of prayer and to write a prayer with buddies. This week:

Are you Bread or Stone?

----- When I think of others who are sick, sad, or suffering in any way, and I ask God to help and comfort them **I am Bread for others.**

----- When I pray for my family, friends, or others.....**I am Bread for others.**

----- When I look the other way when others need help.....**I am Stone for others.**

----- When I ignore the suffering of others and do not include them in my prayers.....**I am Stone for others.**

Jesus, during this holy season of Lent,

We ask you to be with us.

Help us to follow you always.

May we live in justice and walk in peace.

Amen



Twin City Catholic
Educational System



REMINDERS

March

- 11.....SMM Soup and Sermon
6:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall
- 12.....Liturgy 8:15 Grade 2Z
- 14.....Daylight Savings Time
- 15.....Grade 3 Trip to PAC for
Symphony
- 16.....SMM Story Time
- 16.....SMM Reconciliation
- 17.....**TCCES Celebration
of the Arts at PAC** (practice
for grades 4 and 5 in afternoon
- 19.....Liturgy 8:15 20
- 23.....Kindergarten to the
Paper Discovery Museum
- 26.....**NO SCHOOL**-----
-----**Teacher In-Service**-----
- 27.....TCCES Solo & Ensemble
Festival at Seton Catholic M. S.
- 27.....**ZEPHYRFEST**.....
- 30.....Kindergarten to Bubolz
Nature Preserve

First Reconciliation

Congratulations to our fifth graders who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time last night. Our God is forgiving and merciful. We are to share God's forgiveness and peace with others. Our fifth graders are now sent to live in peace in their families, their communities, and their world---to share the peace of Christ with others.

Forensics

It has been a busy week for fifth graders! Monday evening they participated in the St. Mary Central High School Forensics Tournament. All of our students performed beautifully and earned all blue and red ribbons. They were well prepared and the amount of practice they did certainly showed in their performances. Thank you to Mrs. Buss and Mrs. Stoffel for their time and patience in working with the students.

Parent Surveys

Parents were asked to fill out an on-line survey at the beginning of February. The results of the survey have been compiled. We appreciate that close to 60% of St. Margaret Mary parents took the time to respond. We also asked our PK parents to complete a survey about their year in preschool. We will be using the results of both of these surveys and the comments that were added to find ways to better serve our families. Parents are interested in better and different forms of communication at some grade levels. We have begun talking about how we can make those changes. We are also looking at ways of improving the technology that will help our children have new avenues for learning. Thank you for your feedback. We welcome parent comments at any time. If you have a comment, concern, or can help us in our planning in any way, please contact us. Following our last FACES meeting, a parent shared some expertise in technology. We are looking into some of those ideas to incorporate them into our plan. Many of our parents have talents that can help us make the school a better place. Please share your ideas.

Celebration of the Arts

Celebration of the Arts is next Wednesday, March 17th. Band students should enter the PAC through the patio doors (same entrance as we came in at the rehearsal) and be in the band rehearsal room at 6:00 p.m. Choir students should be in their auditorium seats by 6:15 p.m. Parents may attend the reception and visual arts display in the main lobby at 5:30 p.m. The performance will begin at 6:30 p.m. We look forward to sharing the talents of the 4th through 12th grade TCCES students.

Son-Sational Summer

The TCCES summer program, Son-Sational Summer, will again be offered this year. In addition to the K-5 program, this year a 3 and 4-year-old preschool program will be offered. A brochure will be sent home to all students shortly, but you may find the registration form on the TCCES web site now.

Talent Show

The Talent Show will be taking place on Thursday, May 13th. Tamara Hasz has agreed to chair the event and there will be more information distributed shortly. This is a fun family evening and there are already students working on their acts. Save the date and join our "budding talents" and their families.

Milk Caps

The school collects many items that can be redeemed for cash or school related items. We have parents who generously give of their time to cut, count, sort, and mail these items. The school realizes between \$1,500 and \$2,000 a year from these recycled items. At this time, we are trying to meet the end of March deadline for milk caps. Please have your child turn any milk caps into his/her classroom teachers. We will offer prizes to the top collecting classes. Please see the attachments to this newsletter.

Skating Party

Fun for the whole family!

March 26, 2010

1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Fox Valley Roller Rink - Gillingham Rd. Neenah

\$10 per person (includes a snack coupon)

All proceeds goes to SMM.

If interested, please make reservation in the school office.

Historian

Do you know that St. Margaret Mary School has our very own historian? If you have pictures or articles about any happenings during the year, turn them into the office and we will see that Angie Staner receives them. She is continuing to fill the scrapbooks that Ann Marie Schmitz started for s a few years ago. Stop in the office and check out the history of SMM School.



Join us for [Zephyrfest 2010](#) on March 27!

We warmly invite you to attend SMC's 25th annual Zephyrfest celebration on Saturday March 27 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!

Book Fair

++++++Something New++++++

In addition to our "typical" book fair, we are also having an online book fair. It will begin on Friday, March 19th and end Thursday, April 1st. To get to the site, type in www.scholastic.com/schoolbookfairs. They will ship your order to school and you will be able to pick it up in the office. Note, it will arrive after Easter break. Any questions, email Kristin Staehler: rstaehler@new.rr.com.

Please see the attachment with all the information about our "traditional" book fair!!

Contests

Often throughout the year, the school receives information from various organizations about contests. Many involve art, poetry, or essay writing. Some contests we enter as classes and require that students try their hands at being creative. Some are offered as an independent assignment for students who choose to participate. I am sending one contest home as an attachment. If any child is interested in writing a poem during free time, parents may submit the poem for the contest. I will periodically send home some of these opportunities. We cannot possibly enter all contests by doing the writing during the school day, but parents may enjoy working with their children on one or more contests at home.

Youth Activity Fair

The NM Youth Coalition will be sponsoring the Youth Activity Fair on Saturday, March 27 from 9am - 12noon at the Boys and Girls Brigade. There is a flyer attached to the newsletter. This is a fun event for everyone.

Will Wonka

St. Mary Central Zephyr Players proudly present *Willy Wonka* on:

Friday, March 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 20th 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 21st 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 for Students (K-12), \$10 for Senior Citizens and \$15 for Adults. Reserve your tickets today at www.showtix4u.com or call 1-866-967-8167 (toll free). All performances will be held at The UW-Fox Valley Theater located at 1478 Midway Road, Menasha, WI

Social Justice Theme

A parent shared this information with us. There is a website where you can "earn" rice for Haiti. If anyone would like more information, see www.freerice.com

Luke Peters Celebration of Support

I would like to say THANK YOU for the overwhelming love and support that has been given to Luke and our family. All of the families have been such an inspiration to our family. We are so truly blessed to have a community that cares for a special little boy battling this awful disease. THANK YOU!!! THANK YOU!!!

" It's not about waiting for the storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain".

Sue Peters