

ST. MARGARET MARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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

Lent

Lent is a time to turn back to those we have hurt or offended, and to apologize, ask pardon, and restore peace between us. We turn our thoughts inward and try to recognize the ways we have refused to obey God's laws or failed to live up to God's call that we lead a holy life. The sacrament of penance helps us in this task.

Our theme for the fourth week of Lent is **Forgiveness**.

Loving God, teach us to be people of peace. Teach us to love one another, that there may be peace in our families. Teach us to strengthen one another, that there may be peace in our school. Teach us to live and work justly, that there may be peace in our city. Teach us to give equal respect and opportunity, that there may be peace in our nation. Teach us to see that people in all countries have food, freedom, and safety that there may be peace in our world. Teach us to be peacemakers in all that we do. Amen.

Are you Bread or Stone?

When I respect others and treat them with kindness.....I am bread for others.

When I am a peacemaker where there is tension.....I am bread for others.

When I forgive those who have hurt me.....I am bread for others.

When I put others down, or laugh at them....I am stone for others.

When I gossip or want revenge.....I am stone for others.



REMINDERS

March

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

April

1.....Holy Thursday---Easter Break begins at 3:00 p.m.

13.....First Grade to Theda Clark Medical Center

16.....PK to Heckrodt Preserve

20.....Grade 3 to Voight Farm

St. Patrick's Day

Today is the feast of St. Patrick. I am including a short biography and reflection about the saint from the Church bulletin of St. Patrick's Church in Wadsworth, Illinois.

Legends about Patrick are many, but truth is best served by our seeing two solid qualities in him---humility and courage. The determination to accept, in faith, both suffering and success, allowed him to be God's instrument for winning most of Ireland for Christ.

Patrick was born around the year 389 in Britain. At the age of sixteen, he was captured by Irish raiders and sold as a slave in Ireland. He spent the next six years tending sheep. As a slave, he suffered greatly from loneliness. But in his isolation, he found a deep sense of God's love for him and he began to pray. After he was finally able to escape, he made his way home to Britain where he became a monk and studied so that he could return to Ireland as a missionary. By the year 433, he had also become a bishop. Patrick went back to Ireland and traveled throughout the land. He preached to the Irish in their own language, which he had learned during his years of slavery. By the time he died twenty-five years later, most of the Irish people had been baptized.

Monasteries in Ireland became centers of learning. Missionaries sent from Ireland later played a large part in bringing Christianity back to Europe after the cities were destroyed by invading tribes. St. Patrick's Day always comes during Lent, when the Church is preparing catechumens for baptism at Easter. Patrick used the three-leafed shamrock to try to explain to catechumens the mystery of the Holy Trinity.

As we celebrate the Feast of St. Patrick, let us remember how the seeds of faith he planted in Ireland continue to grow and flourish and that the holiness of a person can only really be known by the fruits of his or her works.

Forensics

We received word that our fifth grade Forensics Team took First Place Honors at the St. Mary Central Tournament. The trophy presentation will be Tuesday, March 23rd at 11:00 a.m. All are welcome to this short presentation.

Spelling Bee

Fifth grader, Will Cole, took fourth place in the City-wide Spelling Bee, which took place last Friday, March 12th. Congratulations to Will!!!

Celebration of the Arts

Celebration of the Arts is tonight, 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. (All students should be in dress code.)

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 is included in today's attachments and will be sent home to all students today.

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. **The contest will end this Friday, March 19th.**

Skating Party

At Wines Around the World, a Skating Party was offered as one of the "Dinner Boards." Parents could sign their children up for the party, pay \$10, and the profit would go to the school. Those parents who sponsored the Dinner Board would pay the cost of the roller rink, skates, treat and drink. The \$10 is a donation to St. Margaret Mary School. There is still space available for the skating party. It is Friday, March 26th (a "no school" day) from 1-3 in the afternoon. Sign up in the office with Mrs. Sajdak.



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

We warmly invite you to attend the 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!

Book Fair

Our Spring Book Fair will run from March 24th through March 29th. Great books, and activities are available at this year's fair. Children enjoy browsing the fair and choosing books of their own. You may even find the perfect Easter book at the Book Fair! Your child may create an on-line "wish list" of his/her favorite books. For three days before and after the event (Friday, March 19th until Thursday, April 1st), families may shop on-line and the profit from these books, as well as those sold here at school, will go to our school. Check out: www.scholastic.com/schoolbookfairs. Special note---books purchased on-line will be delivered to school after Easter.

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. (This attachment was not included last week, but is attached to this week's newsletter.)

Will Wonka-----THIS WEEKEND!!!!

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

Clipper Dash

Our third annual Clipper Dash will be held on Saturday, April 25th. A flyer was sent home two weeks ago and more information will be coming. The Clipper Dash is open to ALL students, preschool through 5th grade. **REMEMBER----T-shirt designs are due this Friday, March 19th.**

Summer School

We have information in the office for Neenah Summer School for any student entering grades 1-5. We have also received information about the Consortium Registration. These classes are offered through a consortium of Fox Valley Schools and many of the classes are for enrichment purposes. These forms need to be signed by the Neenah Summer School Director before being sent to the school offering the classes. We have registration forms in the office. Please stop in if you are interested.

Donuts for Dads

Donuts for Dads has been rescheduled!! Hopefully this time it will not be snowed out! Please see the flyer attached to the newsletter. The date is next Wednesday, March 24th at 7:15 a.m. Please reserve the date to enjoy a treat with your children.

School Pictures and Year Books

Pinnacle will be coming to school next week to take activity and team pictures and also individual pictures of some students. On Wednesday, March 24th, pictures of all activities and teams will be taken, along with pictures of new students so that they may appear in the Year Book. On Thursday, March 25th, Jr. Preschool will have individual and class pictures taken. These can be "dress up days" for students who are having pictures taken.



These are a few of our Kindergarten students at the first
Father/Daughter Dance.

(Left to Right: Anna, Julia, Mary Grace, and Eden)

Father / Daughter Dance

The cafeteria never looked lovelier and the dads and daughters had a wonderful time dancing to the D.J. music of Mark Te Tai. A good time was had by all!!

Piano

Fifteen SMM piano students from grades 2-5 diligently practiced solos and duets to play for judges' critiques on Saturday, March 13th at UW-Oshkosh. The students prepared 2 or 3 memorized pieces and wrote a theory exam. Those students entering "state" track must prepare music literature from different musical eras and may qualify for further competition performance. All Grade 5 entrants prepared 2 duets for critique as well. The young pianists accumulate performance and test points toward commemorative plaques. The "auditions" are sponsored by WMTA (Wisconsin Music Teachers Association).

The following students were involved in Saturday's event and are students of Barbara Froelich: (Grade 5) **Nathan Berg, Kate Britt, Rachel Dulcamara, Joseph Kerwin**; (Grade 4) **Meghan Higgins** (Grade 3) **Fritz Brownell, Peter Dulcamara, Frankie Greene, Michael Kerwin, Lucas Sickels**, (Grade 2) **Megan Berg, Davis Greene, Anna Higgins, Reid Sickels, Rachel Zimmerman**

Congratulations to all of these students.

Luke Peters Celebration

T-shirt orders are available in the school office or you may find one attached to today's newsletter. April 16th will be Luke Peters Day at TCCES. All students may wear their t-shirts and bracelets in support of Luke. We will also sell "Jean Passes" for that day. Any child who wishes to wear jeans with their t-shirts may buy a pass for \$1. All money from shirts and jean passes will go toward the celebration.