



February Newsletter *St. Joseph School 2010*



Dear Families,

As we put another Catholic Schools Week behind us, I am reminded how very blessed we are to have this school which helps to shape children's lives. Here is a place where we can freely talk about our faith and belief in God and make it a part of our daily life. We can discuss global tragedies and pray for God's help. We can share our losses, illnesses, concerns, and worries knowing that we are a family praying together for each other. We can settle disputes, discipline with care, and see Jesus as our example of how we should treat each other. We can make every effort to do our best as students and staff, knowing that we are called to use the gifts and talents which God has given to us. Though perfection is out of our reach, striving for it is not. As a school...as a family, we have a model before us and we work within His embrace to live each day as His hands and feet reaching out to others.

A perfect example of this is the huge glass jar that sits outside the library, 'growing' money each day for the people of Haiti. I watched as a second grade class gathered around it one day this week and prayed together for the people of Haiti before they put their cash in the jar. In addition to that, we have barely been able to keep up with the demand for milk jugs that are being filled in the classrooms for our "Pounds of Pennies" project. Your generosity is overwhelming and sets such a wonderful example for the children.

Please put the following dates on your calendar.

Saturday, February 6 - Parents Night Out 6:00-10:00

Monday, February 8 - Parent School Council meeting 6:30 PM

Club's Choice orders due

Wednesday & Thursday, February 10 & 11 Site visit for MANS Accreditation

Monday, February 15 - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Wednesday, February 17 - Ash Wednesday - Mass @ 9:05

Thursday, February 18 - Parent Meeting for 1st Communion - 7:00 in cafeteria

Friday, February 19 - Stations of the Cross - 3:15 in church

Wednesday, February 24 - Blue jean/cupcake day

Friday, February 26 - Stations of the Cross - 3:15 in church

Weekly Mass is at 9:05 on Fridays.

***MANS ACCREDITATION**- On Wednesday & Thursday, February 10 & 11, a nine person team will be visiting our school to conduct a site review as part of the Michigan Non-public Schools Accreditation Association (MNSAA) re-accreditation process. The team is made up of Fr. Steve Mattson, Diocesan Superintendent of Schools; Sally Amman, Diocesan Director of Instruction; Michael Andrews, Diocesan Director of Catechesis, Doug Asiala, teacher, St. Peter Lutheran School; Rita Dambrun, teacher representing the public school system; Ray Rzepecki, principal of St. Mary, Westphalia; Merry Jane Robertson, principal of St. Paul, Owosso, and M. L. Konnett, teacher at Resurrection, Lansing, and Emily Miller, teacher, St. Michael, Grand Ledge. This culminates a year long study by the school staff of our curriculum, programs, staff, and facility. This portion of the accreditation procedure which includes the site visit takes place every seven years, but this is an on-going process with annual reports filed to document growth. It is a very intense process, and will serve to help us to set goals and continue to improve our educational programs.

CLUB'S CHOICE FUND RAISER - As you can see from the calendar, the order forms need to be in early next week. Some families have asked if they can make a cash donation instead of selling. If you would like that option the profit per child is \$36.50. Checks should be made out to St. Joseph School. Please attach a note so we know how to credit the donation.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2010-2011 SCHOOL YEAR has begun. In-house registration is done and we are beginning to accept registration forms from new families. We have had a number of inquiries in the office already and we are hoping for a solid kindergarten number. Please send your friends and family our way!

Sincerely,

Tomi Ann Schultheiss, Principal

