



# The Barrister

“Prefer nothing to the love of Christ.”

February 11, 2009

*Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes*



*Our Patron Saint*

*Sts. Benedict and Scholastica*



Gracious God,  
thank You for the gift  
of Catholic education.  
Day after day, week  
after week,

You give us many opportunities  
to know Your great love, peace,  
and forgiveness.

Help us respond to  
Your Good News and the  
*good news of  
Catholic education.*

Amen.



## Anniversary Apparition By Our Lady of Lourdes

Today Holy Mother, the Church, marks the **151st Anniversary of the first apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary to St. Bernadette** at the Grotto of Massabielle in France.

Since that time, much has been written and said about St. Bernadette. Perhaps no site has been more documented in terms of physical cures. This does not even begin to take into consideration the spiritual healings that have taken place for those who go in pilgrimage to Lourdes, France.

St. Bernadette, herself, has been the topic of many stories, partly because she was found to be incorruptible when the canonization process began for her. To this very day, her body remains for all to see at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of Charity, in Nevers, France.

## Our Lady of Lourdes, pray for us.

## WinterFest 2009



STM Home & School  
Association's

**THIS Friday,  
February 13th**

5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. in  
the Gym



**Everyone is invited to attend.**

Fun for the whole family.  
Games, refreshments,  
face painting, and more!



What happened when the two angels got married?  
*They lived happily ever after!*





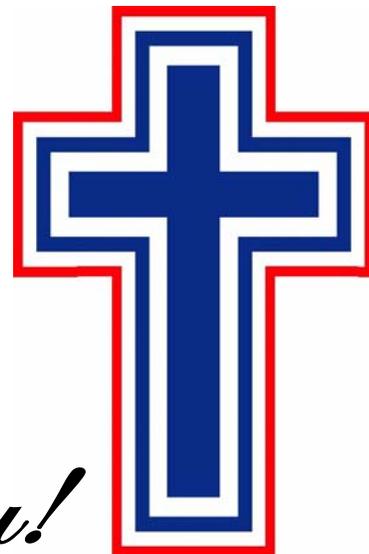
# Let us pray to the Lord ...

*On Saturday, February 14th, the following boys and girls from our 3rd grade will make their First Confession. We, their Parish Family, congratulate them and promise our prayers.*

*We will all be praying for you.*

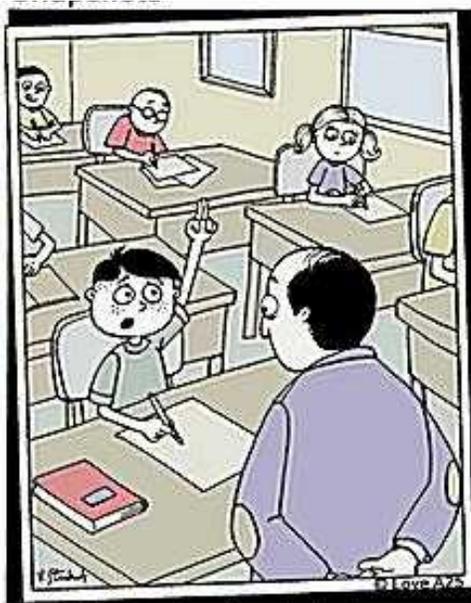
**Ashlie Albrecht  
Sabrina Alvarado  
Kelani Benson  
Michael Biegel  
Caden Bosak  
William Boukal  
Justin Brent  
Harrison Bronisz  
Nolan Brough  
Richard Caraher  
Eric Correa  
Louis Covelli  
Dominic Dy  
Donald Flynn  
Julia Fugger  
Peter Galanos  
Madison Gawlinski  
Jacqueleen Gonzalez  
Caitlin Haislip  
Cooper Haislip  
Jaycee Helmer  
Jake Hemingway  
Michael Hrinda  
Mackenzie Huck  
Faith Huss  
Hope Huss  
Sarah Johnson  
Daniel Kapitan  
James Kleszynski  
Joseph Kotso  
Scott Lyons  
Thomas Maloney  
Raul Mendoza  
Karina Monjaras**

**Colin O'Brien  
Grace O'Brien  
Katherine O'Shea  
Meredith Osmulski  
Jacob Patton  
Francis Reardon  
Victoria Reardon  
Michael Reynolds  
Aaron Richards  
Ashley Savickis  
Ethan Smith  
Nathan Smith  
Emily Staniszewski  
Mitchell Switalla  
Nicholas Szala  
Matthew Tabaczynski  
Evan Torres  
Jace Wegrzyn  
Jessica Wiess  
Elizabeth Zaczyk  
Andrew Zajakowski  
Alexa Zaleski**



*God Bless You!*

DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER FOR 2009-10 !!! SPACES ARE FILLING QUICKLY.



This test doesn't understand me.

**Mary, Our Good Mother, pray for us.**

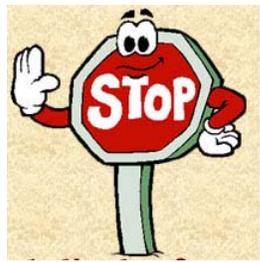
# PROGRESS REPORTS

NEXT Friday, is Progress Report Day.  
**Please ask for these.**  
Sign and return to homeroom teacher.  
WOW, is this year going quickly!!!

## And Now A Word from... T.R.I.P.

For the week of Feb. 16, TRIP orders should be turned in on TUESDAY morning, Feb. 17 (because of the Monday school holiday) and will be sent home or available for pick up after 3 pm on THURSDAY Feb. 19.

### 2009-2010 Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program Now Underway



Tuition assistance application forms for the 2009-2010 school year are now available in the parish office. Catholic families who belong to a Diocese of Gary parish and have their children enrolled in any diocesan school, grades 1 through 12, may apply. Kindergarten and preschool students are not eligible. A \$21.00 non-refundable processing fee must accompany the application. Approximately \$500,000 is distributed on the basis of need to assist Catholic parents in providing Catholic faith formation, strong academic programs and safety for their children in our Catholic Schools.

**The filing deadline is February 23, 2009.**

This is the date that completed applications must be returned to the pastor. This deadline will be strictly enforced. Parents will be notified of the results in writing by April 30, 2009

# For Your Calendar ...

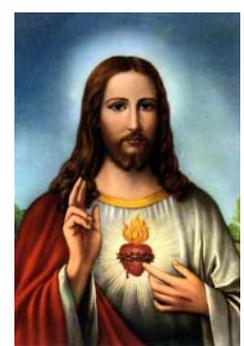


**NO  
SCHOOL  
MONDAY,  
FEBRUARY 16**



**PRESIDENT'S DAY**  
*Have a safe and enjoyable  
long weekend.*

+JMJ  
Dear Parents/Guardians:  
Thank you for **all** you do to help us make Jesus known and loved!  
Have a wonderful week--and **Happy Feast of St. Valentine!**  
To Jesus through Mary,  
*Mr. Nurdyke & Faculty*



*The love in your  
heart was not  
put there to stay.*

*Love isn't love  
until you  
give it away!*



**Girl Scouts.**  
Girl Scout Council of  
the Nation's Capital

# Girl Scout Sunday

Girl Scout Sunday will be celebrated on March 1st at 10:00 a.m. mass. All Girl Scouts are encouraged to attend and process in with Fr. Holy at the beginning of mass.

Please arrive in the vestibule by 9:45 a.m. and wear your Girl Scout uniform if you have one. Girls will sit as a group in the front pews.

If you have a full Girl Scout uniform and would like to participate at mass as a flag bearer/guard, altar server, cantor, lector, petition reader, or gift bearer, call **Barbara Jamrose at 922-3783.**

If you need any further information, please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your assistance. Barbara Jamrose at 922-3783



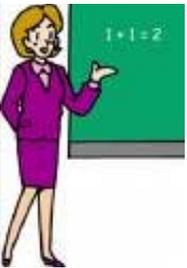
# TEACHERS/PRINCIPALS WANTED

The Diocese of Gary is looking for a few good teachers. If you, or someone you know, is interested in a career teaching in one of the wonderful Catholic Schools, please pass on the following information:

**Catholic Schools Teacher Recruitment Fair** Sponsored by the Diocese of Gary

**Saturday, March 14, 2009 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM**

**Location: St. Mary Catholic Community School**  
405 East Joliet Street, Crown Point, 46307  
Phone: 219.663.0676



**What to Expect:**

A free **Open Networking Opportunity** where Teacher Candidates and principals from approximately 20 local elementary and secondary level Catholic schools can meet.

Catholic School Principals will have the opportunity to collect resumes from and interview Teacher Candidates. Teacher candidates will have the opportunity to connect with prospective employers.

A **Candidate Booklet** will be created after the event that participating schools can use to locate participating candidates from various certification areas.

**Who Should Attend:**

Any certified, or soon-to-be certified, teacher or administrator interested in a rewarding career in Catholic education.

**RSVP:**

E-mail ([showard@stmarycrownpoint.org](mailto:showard@stmarycrownpoint.org)) or Call Sheila Howard with the following information: Name, School, Level (elementary, secondary), subject area, phone number, address.

**Questions:** E-Mail [SHoward@stmarycrownpoint.org](mailto:SHoward@stmarycrownpoint.org) or call Sheila Howard at 662.6804



*February*  
*Month of the Holy Family: Jesus, Mary and Joseph*

# CHECK EDLINE FREQUENTLY.



Have YOU registered  
 for 2009-10?  
 The seats are filling quickly.



WE  
 LOVE  
 JESUS  
 and  
 MARY!

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### Abolitionism and the Underground Railroad

The early abolition movement in North America was fueled both by slaves' efforts to liberate themselves and by groups of white settlers, such as the Quakers, who opposed slavery on religious or moral grounds. Though the lofty ideals of the Revolutionary era invigorated the movement, by the late 1780s it was in decline, as the growing southern cotton industry made slavery an ever more vital part of the national economy. In the early 19th century, however, a new brand of radical abolitionism emerged in the North, partly in reaction to Congress' passage of the Fugitive Slave Act of 1793 and the tightening of slave codes in most southern states. One of its most eloquent voices was William Lloyd Garrison, a crusading journalist from Massachusetts, who founded the abolitionist newspaper *The Liberator* in 1831 and became known as the most radical of America's antislavery activists. Antislavery northerners—many of them free blacks—had begun helping fugitive slaves escape from southern plantations to the North via a loose network of safe houses as early as the 1780s. Known as the Underground Railroad, the organization gained real momentum in the 1830s and eventually helped anywhere from 40,000 to 100,000 slaves reach freedom. Harriet Tubman, its most celebrated —conductor,” was a former slave who married a free black man and escaped from Maryland to Philadelphia in 1849. On numerous risky trips south, she helped some 300 other slaves escape before serving as a scout and spy for Union forces in South Carolina during the Civil War. The success of the Underground Railroad helped spread abolitionist feelings in the North; it also undoubtedly increased sectional tensions, convincing pro-slavery southerners of their northern countrymen's determination to defeat the institution that sustained them.

Our SCIENCE FAIR projects  
 are going to be AWESOME!!!  
 The BEST ever!!!!



**Oh Parents, Come to Our Assistance ...  
 Oh Parents, Make Haste to Help Us ...**

Please join us in reminding the children that they may **NOT** use their cell phones during the school day. They may **NOT** send text messages **EVER** during the school day. Phones will be confiscated.



### COMING NEXT WEEK ...

Watch for IMPORTANT DATES for the 2009-10 School Year ... These dates will help you with your advanced planning.

Our lives begin to end the day we remain silent about things that matter. MLKing, Jr.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you hang my first painting on the refrigerator, and I immediately wanted to paint another one.

When you thought I wasn't looking I saw you feed a stray cat, and I learned that it was good to be kind to animals.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make my favorite cake for me and I learned that the little things can be the special things in life.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I heard you say a prayer, and I knew there is a God I could always talk to and I learned to trust in God.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you make a meal and take it to a friend who was sick, and I learned that we all have to help take care of each other.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you give of your time and money to help people who had nothing and I learned that those who have something should give to those who don't.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I felt you kiss me good night and I felt loved and safe.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw you take care of our house and everyone in it and I learned we have to take care of what we are given.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw how you handled your responsibilities, even when you didn't feel good and I learned that I would have to be responsible when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw tears come from your eyes and I learned that sometimes things hurt, but it's all right to cry.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I saw that you cared and I wanted to be everything that I could be.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I learned most of life's lessons that I need to know to be a good and productive person when I grow up.

When you thought I wasn't looking, I looked at you and wanted to say, "Thanks for all the things I saw when you thought I wasn't looking."

Everyone influences the life of a child.

# FIT TIPS

## How Strong Are You????

Since you might be 'cooped' up inside due to the cold weather this week, why not test your upper body strength and see how strong you are. This fun activity can have the whole family joining in. Assume EITHER the full pushup (as shown) or bent-knee pushup position and see how many full pushups you can complete without losing good form. Practice doing pushups during commercials over the next month and then re-test yourselves. You'll be amazed at how much you'll improve if you work at it.

For normative data on children, access the following website:  
[www.presidentschallenge.org/pdf/normative\\_data.xls](http://www.presidentschallenge.org/pdf/normative_data.xls)

For adult data, access the following website:  
[www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/home-pushup.htm](http://www.topendsports.com/testing/tests/home-pushup.htm)



## Food Tips

Just because Valentine's Day occurs during Lent this year, doesn't mean you can't enjoy some sweetness. This tasty treat is a perfect Valentine's Day after school treat. Have the kids decorate the outside of the plastic cup with valentine's day stickers to make it extra special. These treats have 120 calories per cup. To view a video of this recipe log onto: [http://www.kraftfoods.com/kf/recipes/recipe\\_detail.htm?recipe\\_id=104723&ctx=&pf=true](http://www.kraftfoods.com/kf/recipes/recipe_detail.htm?recipe_id=104723&ctx=&pf=true)

### Things You'll Need:

2 cups boiling water, divided  
2 pkg. (4-serving size each) JELL-O Brand Strawberry Flavor Gelatin  
1-1/2 cups cold water, divided  
ice cubes  
1 cup thawed COOL WHIP Whipped Topping  
Raspberries (for decorative topping)

**STIR** 1 cup of the boiling water into 1 pkg. of the dry gelatin mix in medium bowl at least 2 min. until completely dissolved. Stir in 1 cup cold water; pour evenly into prepared cups. Refrigerate 1 hour or until gelatin is firm.

**MEANWHILE**, stir remaining 1 cup boiling water into remaining package of dry gelatin mix in medium bowl at least 2 min. until completely dissolved. Add enough ice to remaining 1/2 cup cold water to measure 1 cup. Add to gelatin; stir until thickened. Stir in whipped topping with wire whisk until well blended. Spoon into prepared cups. Refrigerate 3 hours or until firm. Decorate with raspberries. Store in refrigerator.

**THIS WEEKS  
FOOD TIPS  
TO ENJOY!!!**

# ISTEP+ EXAMINATIONS

The week of March 2. Children will have extra worksheets for Math and Language Arts.

Parents, please ask for these and help the children review. We are doing so in school. With all of us reviewing with the children, our ISTEP scores will be even better than they are already.



**Students in Grades K-6**  
**Please remember to give your**  
**completed Six Hour reading**  
**forms to your homeroom teacher**  
**by**  
**February 24, 2009**

## **PARTY LIKE A ROCK STAR!**



Air Band and Air Guitar Contest!!

PRIZES for Best Rockers!!

**GRADES 6 - 7 - and 8 ONLY MAY ATTEND**

Please join us for our Party Like a Rock Star Dance on Saturday, February 14, 2009. The dance will be hosted by our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Leadership Committee and will be held in our gym from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. This will be a casual dress dance. (Please, no cargo pants or midriff shirts allowed.) The admission for the dance is \$7.00, plus a donation for the St. Vincent De Paul Society, and snacks and pop will be provided. St. Vincent De Paul Society is especially in need of: macaroni and cheese, hamburger helper, instant potatoes, paper towels, dish soap or laundry soap. Of course, all donations are welcome.



### **ATTENTION PARENTS OF 8<sup>th</sup> GRADERS:**

We are asking you to bring an item based on your last name. We have divided the alphabet into 3 groups and have assigned a category (please see below). The categories will be rotated for the next dance.

**A-D:** SNACKS: Some ideas: chips, dips, candy, pretzels. **E-M:** APPETIZERS: Some ideas: Finger-foods- hot or cold, fruit, vegetable trays. **O-Z:** DESSERTS: Some ideas: cookies, brownies, cupcakes.

The above are only suggestions, OF COURSE; MOST ANY FOOD ITEM WILL GLADLY BE CONSUMED BY OUR STUDENTS!!!! ☺

**Any parent of a 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student is welcome to chaperone.** Since a large group of students are expected to attend, 15 chaperones will be needed. You will be contacted by phone the night before the dance if your help is needed!! If you have any further questions, please feel free to call **Eileen Hinojosa (219) 931-2746.**

### **Candy Love**

*Four-year-old Sam loved candy almost as much as his mom Sally did. He and Daddy had given her a beautiful heart-shaped box of chocolates for Valentine's Day. A few days later Sam was eyeing it, wishing to have a piece of it. As he reached out to touch one of the big pieces, Sally said to him, "If you touch it, then you have to eat it. Do you understand?"*

*"Oh, yes," he said, nodding his head. Suddenly his little hand patted the tops of all the pieces of candy. "Now I can eat them all."*

Love is all we have, the only way that each can help the other.

*"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another."*

## St. Valentine's Story

Let me introduce myself. My name is Valentine. I lived in Rome during the third century. That was long, long ago! At that time, Rome was ruled by an emperor named Claudius. I didn't like Emperor Claudius, and I wasn't the only one! A lot of people shared my feelings.

Claudius wanted to have a big army. He expected men to volunteer to join. Many men just did not want to fight in wars. They did not want to leave their wives and families. As you might have guessed, not many men signed up. This made Claudius furious. So what happened? He had a crazy idea. He thought that if men were not married, they would not mind joining the army. So Claudius decided not to allow any more marriages. Young people thought his new law was cruel. I thought it was preposterous! I certainly wasn't going to support that law!

Did I mention that I was a priest? One of my favorite activities was to marry couples. Even after Emperor Claudius passed his law, I kept on performing marriage ceremonies -- secretly, of course. It was really quite exciting. Imagine a small candlelit room with only the bride and groom and myself. We would whisper the words of the ceremony, listening all the while for the steps of soldiers.

One night, we did hear footsteps. It was scary! Thank goodness the couple I was marrying escaped in time. I was caught. (Not quite as light on my feet as I used to be, I guess.) I was thrown in jail and told that my punishment was death.

I tried to stay cheerful. And do you know what? Wonderful things happened. Many young people came to the jail to visit me. They threw flowers and notes up to my window. They wanted me to know that they, too, believed in love.

One of these young people was the daughter of the prison guard. Her father allowed her to visit me in the cell. Sometimes we would sit and talk for hours. She helped me to keep my spirits up. She agreed that I did the right thing by ignoring the Emperor and going ahead with the secret marriages. On the day I was to die, I left my friend a little note thanking her for her friendship and loyalty. I signed it, "Love from your Valentine."

I believe that note started the custom of exchanging love messages on Valentine's Day. It was written on the day I died, February 14, 269 A.D. Now, every year on this day, people remember. But most importantly, they think about love and friendship. And when they think of Emperor Claudius, they remember how he tried to stand in the way of love, and they laugh -- because they know that love can't be beaten!

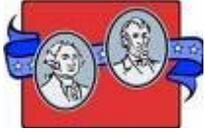
**God is Love.**

**Without love, all our efforts are in vain.**

# S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF FEBRUARY 16, 2009

Daily Ala Cartes: Salads – Large \$2.20, Small \$1.75; Yogurt - \$0.65; Milk - \$0.40

Monday, February 16  
**NO SCHOOL**



Tuesday, February 17  
Chicken Patty  
Whipped Potatoes/Gravy  
California Mixed Veggies  
Pumpkin Bread/ Bread  
Pears  
Milk

Tuesday Volunteers  
Marcy Burzynski  
Peg Gonzalez

Wednesday, February 18  
Corn Dog  
Potato Wedges  
Green Beans  
Applesauce  
Vanilla Wafers  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Corn Dog \$1.10*

Wednesday Volunteers  
Debi Pillarella  
Maryanne Bolanowski  
Adriana Valdes

Thursday, February 19

Chicken Noodle Soup  
P.B & J. Sandwich  
Celery Sticks & Dip  
Peaches  
Cookie  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Soup \$1.65/\$1.40*

Thursday Volunteers  
Cathy Lyons  
Lori Whelan  
Nicole Soria

Friday, February 20

Bosco Sticks  
Marinara Dip  
Salad  
Mixed Fruit  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Bosco Stick \$0.85 (1)*

Friday Volunteers  
Jane Surd  
Mary Brough  
Agnes Nahnsen



## St. Thomas More School Lunch Program 2008-2009

1. Menu subject to change.
2. Hot Lunch Prices: Student - \$1.80/day 5 days = \$9.00 20 days = \$36.00  
Adult - \$2.45/day
3. Cash or checks made payable to STM are accepted. NSF checks will be charged a \$25 fee.
4. Families with more than one student eating hot lunch are encouraged to send in ONE check (or cash) in one envelope. Money will be divided between siblings accordingly.
5. Days not used are credited for future use. There is a \$-9.00 charge limit per account. If students do not bring in money after 5 charges, they will not be allowed in the hot lunch line until payment is made. However, students will be offered a peanut butter or cheese sandwich if they have nothing else to eat.
6. Students should turn in payment in a SEALED envelope labeled with the following information:  
Lunch Money, Student First & Last Name, Teacher Name, Amount Enclosed.
7. E-mail Mrs. Murray for lunch account balance inquiries: [lmurray@stm-school.com](mailto:lmurray@stm-school.com)
8. Remember to check Edline for the Monthly Menu/Volunteer List.