



The Barrister

"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."

March 4, 2009

St. Casimir



Our Patron Saint

We adore You, O Christ, and we praise You.

Sts. Benedict and Scholastica

Jesus, THANK YOU for helping us carry our cross.



Lenten Prayer Thoughts for the Week...

Lord, forgive us for condemning You through our failure to love others. Sometimes we feel that life is against us and we fail to realize that challenges are as much a part of life as rewards. Lord, we love You and thank You for undergoing Your passion to save us.

Lord, all of us have crosses in our lifetime, large and small crosses. Please help me shoulder mine. Thank You, God, for giving me my guardian angel in order to help me bear these crosses. May I learn from these experiences and be able to love myself and others better as a result.

LENTIL SCHEDULE



Stations of the Cross

Join the students of St. Thomas More School at **2:15 PM** during Fridays of Lent, in the church, as we walk, with our Lord, through the **Stations of the Cross.**

Jesus, I will take up my cross and follow You.

IMPORTANT FOR PARENTS ...

We are **HAPPY** to **HELP** you.

GREAT NEWS!!!

The **\$100.00 REGISTRATION FEE** will be extended until

MONDAY, MARCH 16th.

Please, if there is a difficulty in registering for next school year, call Noreen Bickel or Chet Nordyke. (836-9151 x 328)



IMPORTANT WEEKEND REMINDERS ...



Remember, we "Spring Ahead" one hour this coming Saturday evening.



Please put a new battery in your smoke detector. We want you safe and well.



Ask your child to read aloud to you.



Parents: I know this will be **VERY** hard to believe, **BUT** ...



There are girls **trying** to wear such things as eye make-up, finger nail polish, and colored “lip balm” in school. Really, I kid you not



The teachers, and I, become a wee bit fearful when the girls say they didn't “know” they had it on. (How does one do this without knowing they did it???)

To avoid having to scrub it off **AND** get a detention, please remind the young ladies not to wear these things. They will have years to do so.

Also ... IF the children are granted an “Out of Uniform Day,” only **jeans** would be permitted. “Pajama Pants” are **NEVER** permitted.



For those parents unable to join us for the school stations, St. Thomas More Parish will have Stations at **7:00 PM** on each Friday during Lent. There is also a Mass on Wednesday's during Lent at **7:00 PM**.



Lent in School...

If you have the chance to come down the Main Hall of school, you will not help but notice the many footprints leading to the Lenten Window (created by our very own Father Mike!). Each footprint tells what the student is doing for Lent to make Jesus smile.

First Grade has put together a Stations of the Cross booklet and coloring a section each day.

Other grades are saying special prayers, visiting the Blessed Sacrament, working on special projects, all to help us walk with Jesus and carry our cross.

Parents ... Come and add **YOUR** footprint, too.

Jesus, we LOVE you!

REMEMBER ...



Turn in your registration for next year. Classes are filling up quickly.



If you need another registration form, you may download from Edline (under Forms) or pick up in the Main office. Thanks!!

We do not become fully alive until our names become VERBS and not just NOVNS.



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.*

Confession is the first step to repentance.

**LITTY CAMERA
BOOK FAIR!**
READING MAKES YOU A STAR

SHOWTIME: Premiering Sunday, March 15th
after
8:00, 10:00, and 12:00 Masses

Monday 16th thru Friday 20th
8:30-3:30

WHERE: STM School Library

EVERYONE WELCOME!
Bring the Whole Family!!

Any Questions? Please call
Amy Osmulski @923-8240
or Anita Hemingway @972-1123

SCHOLASTIC

**GAS ???
GROCERIES ?**

**Thursday Morning
T.R.I.P.**

Did you know you are
able to purchase T.R.I.P.
certificates every
THURSDAY morning
from 8:00 - 9:00 AM
from the Raven's Roost
(School Supply Store)
located in the Main Hall
of school, next to the
Principal's Office?
Mrs. Amy Lee will be
happy to help you in
any way she can.

**RESTAURANTS ???
STORES ???**

Market Day
A fundraiser like no other...

The next Market Day is
Monday, March 9th.
Orders are due by Thurs.
March 5th.
**We are asking the 2nd
Grade parents to help!**



**NEW (???) OPPORTUNITY TO
STAY EVEN MORE
CONNECTED WITH EDLINE!**

As a parent, do you ever find yourself saying,
“Gee, I wish I could be sent an email notice when new private
reports (like grades) are posted to **EDLINE**? Well ...

It's as easy as 1—2—3 ...

1. Log in to your EDLINE account.
2. On the left side where it says **COMMAND CENTER**
CLICK: MANAGE ACCOUNT
3. **EMAIL PREFERENCES:** Make sure each of
them is marked “YES.” By doing this, you will be notified
each, and every, time a new grade is posted.

**NO MORE HAVING TO JUST GUESS
WHEN GRADES ARE BEING POSTED.
YOU DO, HOWEVER, HAVE TO CHECK FOR
ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ASSIGNMENTS.**

IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM T.R.I.P.



For those who ordered Ultra/Stracks gift cards the week of Feb. 16, you should have received a phone call from Stracks letting you know that the cards were okay to use. If for some reason you did not receive this call, the cards **are still okay to use** (as of 2/21/09). Stracks thanks you for your patience and apologizes for any inconvenience. Please feel free to use any/all Ultra/Stracks gift cards purchased.

Save the Date! TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday, April 18, 2009
7:00pm Gym (\$100/table)



IMPORTANT SCHOOL DAYS 2009-2010

August 24

**First Day of
School All Students**

October 29-30

Fall Break

November 25-27

Thanksgiving Break

December 21 - January 1

Christmas Break

March 22-26

Spring Break

June 3

Last Day of
School **Full Day**

I hope these important dates will help you with your family planning. More "incidental" dates will appear as they become part of the school calendar.

Chet Reflects on AWESOME Students...

Dear Parents/Guardians:

As I visit various classrooms, I experience much learning taking place. The children are incorporating higher thinking strategies as they respond to questions presented by the teachers. It is awesome to watch the development of the students as they move from one grade to another. They, and we, are so blessed. **Thank you parents**, for your cooperation in seeing that the written and study homework is completed each night. The practice is what makes the children successful in mastering skills and concepts. Keep up the good work! We thank God for you and all you do for Catholic education. You, as parents, have a difficult job as the primary educator of your children. You model and set the values of education through work and deed.

ISTEP is in progress. It is the most difficult of the ISTEP tests to date.

Walking faithfully through Lent with Jesus.

Principal

CONGRATULATIONS to three Alumni **from St. Thomas More School...**

attending the Hoosier Boys and Girls State from Munster High School. This is a week-long session for students to learn more about the government process and to further develop their leadership skills. We are very proud of Patrick Fagan, Matt Skiba, and Alexandria Doctor.



As we personalize Jesus' decision to take up His cross, we are confronted with three responses to carrying it. Like the disciples, we can refuse the cross and run away. Like Simon of Cyrene, we can carry the cross because it's forced on us. Or, like Jesus, we can willingly embrace it.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TELL YOUR CHILDREN EVERY DAY HOW MUCH YOU LOVE THEM. EVEN THE BIG ONES!

Fanny May Candy Sale

Stock up on all of your favorite Easter candy now and help St. Thomas More



School. The candy sale runs until **Friday, March 6th**

Individual order forms can be found in the school and parish offices.

Questions? Contact:

samhofferthfrancis@sbcglobal.net

Book Fair and Bake Sale



Mark your calendars now for the Annual

STMS Book Fair

beginning

Sunday, March 15th.

The 8th grade will be sponsoring a Bake Sale after all Masses on

March 14/15th.

Thank you for your support.



Who is St. Casimir ?



Casimir, born of kings and in line (third among 13 children) to be a king himself, was filled with exceptional values and learning by a great teacher, John Dlugosz. Even his critics could not say that his conscientious objection indicated softness.

Even as a teenager, Casimir lived a highly disciplined, even severe life, sleeping on the ground, spending a great part of the night in prayer and dedicating himself to lifelong celibacy.

When nobles in Hungary became dissatisfied with their king, they prevailed upon Casimir's father, the king of Poland, to send his son to take over the country. Casimir obeyed his father, as many young men over the centuries have obeyed their government. The army he was supposed to lead was clearly outnumbered by the "enemy"; some of his troops were deserting because they were not paid. At the advice of his officers, Casimir decided to return home. His father was irked at the failure of his plans, and confined his 15-year-old son for three months. The lad made up his mind never again to become involved in the wars of his day, and no amount of persuasion could change his mind. He returned to prayer and study, maintaining his decision to remain celibate even under pressure to marry the emperor's daughter. He reigned briefly as king of Poland during his father's absence. He died of lung trouble at 23 while visiting Lithuania, of which he was also Grand Duke. He was buried in Vilnius, Lithuania. He was buried with his favorite song, a Latin hymn to Mary called "Daily, Daily Sing to Mary." Because of his love for the song, it is known as the Hymn of St. Casimir though he didn't write it.

St. Casimir is patron saint of Poland and Lithuania.

ISTEP+ EXAMINATION WEEK

Choose the sentence that is MOST clearly written.

My books I left on top of my desk.

I left my books on top of my desk.

I left on top of my desk my books.

On top of my desk I left my books.

Drew is pulling a wagon loaded with some wood. Drew adds more wood onto the wagon. If Drew now pulls the wagon in the same direction with the same amount of force, how will the speed of the wagon compare to before?

The speed will be lower because the mass has been increased.

The speed will be higher because the mass has been increased.

The speed will be the same because the amount of force used is the same.

The speed will be the same because the direction of the force is the same.

What is the area, in square centimeters, of a circle with a diameter of 6 centimeters?

9.42 square centimeters

18.84 square centimeters

28.26 square centimeters

56.52 square centimeters

EXAMPLES OF ISTEP+ QUESTIONS ... GRADES 3, 5 and 7. Language, Math and Science

News from the Eagle's Nest...

Good Luck to our Dribblin' Eagles in the semi-finals of the Diocesan Tournament

Saturday, March 7th at St Thomas More's Gym

10am 8th Grade Girls vs St Paul's, Valpo

11am 7th Grade Girls vs St Paul's Valpo, win—play in the finals on Saturday, March 14th

1pm 5th Grade Girls vs St Mary's, Crown Point

If the girls win on Saturday, they play in the semi-finals on

Sunday, March 8th at St Thomas More's Gym

3pm 5th Grade Girls vs TBD

4pm 8th Grade Girls vs TBD



2-Ball Winners



5th Grade: Shawn Haugh and Luke Ginalski
Megan Zabrecky and Jill Ackermann



6th Grade: Lauren Kasuzba and Natalie Vellutini
Michael Hayes and Austin Eiland



7th Grade: Laura Gonzalez and Carmen Ruiz
Sam Toth and AJ Argamasilla



8th Grade: Megan Mohica and Andrea Paunicka
Jeremy Gawlinkski and Tyler Patterson



Track Registration

Monday, March 9th 6-8 pm
School Cafeteria

Registration Fee: \$20 payable to 'STM Athletics'



Questions? - please contact Joann Hajduch at 836-8513 or Tim Smith at 838-3932.

Congratulations to our CYO Free Throw Finalists!

5th Grade: Winner

Luke Ginalski

9/10



6th Grad: Runner-up

Nick Podkul

7/10e

7th Grade: Runner-up

Frank Podkul

7/10

8th Grade: Runner-up

Chad Mateja

7/10

Calling All St Thomas More Parish and School MOMS!

The St. Thomas More Moms' Group would love for you to join us! We meet the first and third Thursday of the month from 8:30 am to 10:00 am in the Solar Room. This is our schedule for March, April, and May: 3/19 : Bible Study, 4/2: Meeting to stuff Easter eggs for our Easter Egg Hunt on 4/11, 4/16: Bible Study, 5/7 Meeting (possibly meet at the park), and 5/21: last meeting and Bible Study. The Moms' Group is a wonderful resource for all parish moms to fellowship and support one another in a Catholic setting based on the values of Jesus and Mary while our children play together. We hope you can join us! Please call Dawn Hein at 923-6352 with any questions.

S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF MARCH 9, 2009

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

Monday, March 9

Ravioli w/ Meat Sauce
Cheese Cup
Green Beans
Corn Muffin
Pears
Milk

Tuesday, March 10

Hot Dog/Chili Dog
Baked Beans
Pretzels
Fresh Fruit
Animal Crackers
Milk

Wednesday, March 11

Chicken Nuggets
Corn
Mixed Fruit
Bread Slice
Milk

Monday Volunteers

Denise Smith
Eileen Hinojosa
Diane Perez

Tuesday Volunteers

Maria Cano
Jeanne Mossburg

Wednesday Volunteers

Agnes Nahnsen
Debi Pillarella
Amy Wiess

Thursday, March 12

Roasted Turkey
Whipped Potatoes/Gravy
Peas/Carrots
Peaches
Pumpkin Bread/Bread
Milk

Friday, March 13

Cheese Pizza Slice
Salad
Applesauce
Cookie
Milk

Lent 2009

Jesus, we walk with You.

Ala Carte: Pizza \$1.40

Thursday Volunteers

Joy Chronowski
Anita Hemingway
Susan Bleza

Friday Volunteers

Tammy Savickis
Marcy Grim

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
8. Remember to check Edline for the Monthly Menu/Volunteer List.