



The Barrister

"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."

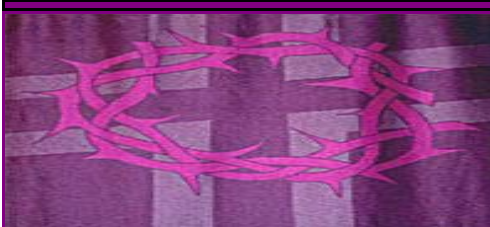
March 18, 2009



Our Patron Saint

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

Sts. Benedict and Scholastica



O Jesus,

light of the world, why were you born, and why did you die in such obscurity?

Bethlehem was hardly a shining place, the stable hardly a burning stand for Light come into the world.

Was not Calvary too an ending place for life and light; And would not a cross in the afternoon sky, turn all eyes away?

Blind man, did your eyes turn away too? Or were you so accustomed to the dark as to see what others could not see?

For once, it was not long ago, Someone seeing you all in darkness touched your eyes and told you to wash until you saw God's glory shining through your beggar's clothes.

And you believed, no one could stop you, or explain it all away, you believed.



CONGRATULATIONS, MICHAEL!!!

Our Michael Peters, an eighth grade student has taken **FIRST PLACE** in the Scripps Spelling Bee regional competition. He will be heading to Washington, D.C. where he will compete in the national finals.



**ETERNAL REST
GRANT UNTO HER...**

Please pray for the soul of

Mrs. Genevieve Biegel,

the mother of Mrs. Mary Jo Biscan, our school secretary.

Mrs. Biegel went home to Almighty God on Monday.

"Death is not extinguishing the Light,

it is putting out the Lamp because Dawn has come."

Please keep Mrs. Biscan, and her family, in your prayers.



**LET YOUR
PEPTUAL LIGHT
SHINE UPON HER.**



**SPRING BREAK IS
COMING TO
ST. THOMAS MORE
SCHOOL!**

Break begins

3:00 PM on

Friday, March 20, 2009

School resumes

8:00 AM on

Monday, March 30, 2009

Please travel safely. You are loved.



Lord Jesus, it is hard for me to imagine the anguish your mother felt at your condemnation. But what about today, when I hold a grudge ...? "Crucify him!" When I judge others...? "Crucify him!" Doesn't this

bring tears of anguish to both you and your mother? Forgive me, Jesus.

Thousands in U.S. to Join Church

Many Feel They Have Found a Home

WASHINGTON, D.C., MARCH, 2009 Tens of thousands of Americans will join the Catholic Church this Holy Saturday through the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults.

**GIVE THANKS TO
ALMIGHTY GOD!!!**



GOOD LUCK TO OUR SWIMMERS!!!

The following swimmers will be heading down to Indianapolis this weekend to compete in the Indiana Age Group Swimming Championships. They have been working over the past 6 months to prepare for this event.

We love our



Swimmers swimgraphics.com

They are:

**Wilson Beckman,
Mary Beth Blocher,
Matthew Dempsey,
and
Nikki Smith.**



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.



Item for Your Attention:

SB 528, School Scholarship Tax Credit, has been assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee. It appears that it is temporarily stalled in committee. To keep current with the issues around this Bill, the mindset of your State Representative, sample letters and phone call messages, visit www.inscholarshiptaxcredit.com for information.

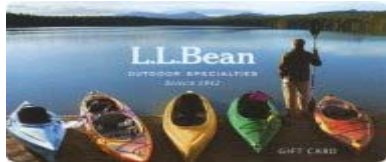
UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

Week	Orders In	Orders Available
3/23/09	NO TRIP—SPRING BREAK	
3/30/09	Mon., 3/30	Wed., 4/1
4/6/09	NO Special order TRIP—SUPPLIER HOLIDAY*	
4/13/09	Tues., 4/14	Thurs., 4/16
4/20/09	Mon., 4/20	Wed., 4/22

Please plan your orders accordingly (stock up on gas and grocery TRIP on 3/30).

*Select TRIP merchants will be available for purchase on Thursday, April 9 from 8 am to 9 am in the Raven's Roost (next to the principal's office).

Order these merchants on 3/30/09 to take advantage of the discount increases:



From 3/14/09 to 4/3/09, **JC Penney** will increase from 5% to 6%, **L.L. Bean** will increase from 15% to 17%, **TGI Friday** will increase from 9% to 10%, and **Cabelas** will increase from 11% to 14%.

Important News from T.R.I.P.

Good News from T.R.I.P.



Our Sorrowful Mother

“Mr. Nordyke, what is Mary’s Way of the Cross?”

Mary’s Way of the Cross, is a unique meditation on the final walk of Jesus, from condemnation to death to His burial in the tomb, as seen through the eyes of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, who made the first way of the cross. In addition to the usual fourteen Stations of meditation, *Mary’s Way of the Cross* includes a Fifteenth Station of Christ’s resurrection from the dead. After meditating on the walk of Jesus to Calvary, each Station presents a thought provoking personal application to encourage our own deeper personal appreciation of what Jesus did for us.

*Receive the Seal of the Holy Spirit,
Gift of God, the Father.*



His Excellency, Bishop Dale J. Melczek, Bishop of the Diocese of Gary, will be in our parish to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation on the 8th grade Catholic students of our school and Religious Education Program.

**Saturday, April 4, 2009 10:30 AM
St. Thomas More Church**

We continue to pray for these young men and women who will receive the Holy Spirit and will work hard to *Profess, Defend* and *Spread* the Faith of our Holy Catholic Church.



The 8th Grade send their heartfelt THANKS for supporting their bake sale this past weekend. This will help cut their cost for their trip to Washington after graduation.



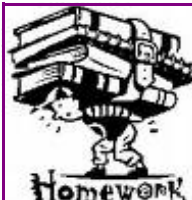
Our Book Fair continues until Friday, March 20th. It is being held in our school Library from 8:30 until 3:30.

Participation has been **FANTASTIC!** Thank you.



*O Lord Open My Lips,
and My Mouth Shall
Proclaim Your Praise.*

Remember, the Holy Mass is offered every Wednesday evening, at 7:00 PM during Lent.



Homework - Yes, St. Thomas More School **does** still give homework. It appears, however, that several of the students feel that they are exempt from doing it.

Please, no one is given a free pass.

If your son/daughter comes home without homework, please call me. (Applies to all grades.)



Please keep **Mrs. Jonell Becker**, the Grandmother of Sophia Becker-Toro, Grade 2, in your prayers as she recovers from surgery.

Please keep **Mrs. Mary Benson**, grandmother of Kaleigh (Pre-K), Kyra (Grade 1), Kelani (Grade 3), Joshua (Grade 4), and Jared (Grade 6)

She will be having surgery on Friday.

Please pray for the **children of STMS** and the **teachers of STMS** who are suffering from the flu.

Let Us Pray to the Lord.



CONGRATULATIONS 4TH GRADE!!!

Mrs. Barkey's Class

Congratulations to Mrs. Barkey's class for collecting the most labels in this year's Box Top & Tyson labels contest. Her class was rewarded as the Box Tops & Tyson Labels Contest Winner with a Pizza Party.

Thank you to everyone who participated. As a result we had a record collection this year, and added over \$1400 to HSA's fundraising efforts.

Keep collecting and submitting your Tyson labels. We need a few more before we can submit those. If you have any questions, contact Julie Joyce, Box Tops/Tyson Coordinator, 708-903-0692.

THANK YOU!!!



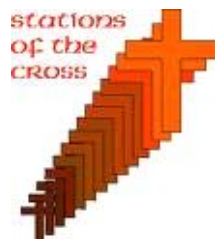
Market Day is Monday, April 6th.

We are requesting volunteers from the 1st grade parents.



HAVING DIFFICULTY WITH EDLINE ???

Some of the EDLINE (Grade Section) is being repaired. It will be up and running as soon as possible. The students do have the papers.



Come and join the students on Friday afternoon at 2:15 as they walk with our Lord through the Stations of the Cross.

Pray for us, Dear Sorrowful Mother.

MATH FACTS MUST BE PRACTICED AT HOME ...



As parents already know, children from First Grade up are working on their math facts. They are taking timed tests to increase speed and accuracy. The State Examinations have timed tests. In order for the children to master this State Standard, they must practice at home.

In school, the children are expected to be able to master a varying number of problems, based upon their grade level, in 2 minutes.

EXAMPLES : 2 + 2 0+4 6+1 3+3 5+7 9+9 8+ 6 etc.

Using “devices” like counting on our fingers, using “Touch Math,” or drawing out the problem slows the child down. The ISTEP+ Exam does not allow added time, but does expect the children to work quickly and accurately.

PLEASE PRACTICE WITH YOUR CHILDREN. Thanks.



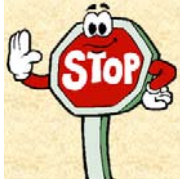
SAFETY FOR OUR CHILDREN



PLEASE, for the safety of ALL of the children we, once again, must remind all parents to follow our dismissal plans.



1. If you pick up your children, please put your car in line.
2. If you park by the baseball field, you must get out of the car and come and get your child. Way too many are running to the field and an accident could happen. Especially with the young children.
3. Parents should not enter the gymnasium, at dismissal, to get a child. The teachers on duty must get all children to the correct bus.
4. If your child will be riding a different bus home, he/she must have a note from the parent signed by the Principal. Bus drivers will not allow a child to ride a different bus if there is no note.



Especially with the change in weather the children are eager and often do not watch for moving cars. We **LOVE** the children and do not want anything to happen to them. Thanks so much.



If I can enjoy a joke at the expense of another; if I can in any way slight another in conversation, or even in thought, then I know nothing of Calvary love.

Save the Date!
TRIVIA NIGHT

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



SPRING MUSIC PROGRAM

The church is alive with the sound of music!

The Spring Program, featuring our awesome singers in grades Pre-K through Grade 4, will take place in St. Thomas More Church at 7:00 PM on **April 23rd** and Grades 5-8 on **April 21st**. If there is a problem, or question, please call *Miss Daniel*, Music Teacher, at **836-9151** extension **231**.



St. Joseph, Foster Father of Jesus, we LOVE you!

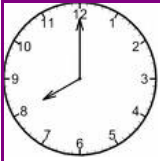
Thursday, March 19th, is the Feast of St. Joseph. The students may add the color **Red** to their school uniform.



Dear Mom,

A Note For MOM ...

Please be sure to hold FRIDAY, APRIL 17th, 2009 open on your calendar. Your son (or sons) will want to treat you to an evening of dancing and hot'dorves at our annual Mother/Son Dance for students in Grades 4-8.



Students are to arrive at school by 8:00 AM. Coming tardy disrupts the learning atmosphere of all the children. Please be fair. Thanks.



St. Thomas More's 8th Grade Class
is sponsoring a

Lake Perch/Fried Shrimp Fish Fry

Friday, April 3, 2009

4:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

St. Thomas More Social Center
Adults \$9.00 Children \$4.50

Dinners include:

Lake Perch, Fried Shrimp, or Combo
French Fries, Cole Slaw, Beets,
Bread & Butter, Coffee, & Condiments
Macaroni & Cheese is available.
Desserts available for a donation.

Carry outs are also available!

Thank you in advance for your support!

All proceeds benefit the 8th grade class trip to Washington D.C. in June.

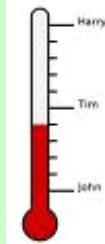
Call Kathleen at 836-2660 for more info.

**MY JESUS,
I LOVE YOU
VERY MUCH.**



FRIED SHRIMP

LAKE PERCH



**THOSE WACKY
OUTSIDE TEMPS**



**THIS IS PERFECT
FLU AND COLD
WEATHER—
PLEASE (AS WE DO)
REMINDE THE CHILDREN
TO WEAR A JACKET
OUTSIDE.**



REPORT CARDS

Students will be bringing home their report card on

Friday, April 3rd.

Please ask for them.

Quarter 3 ends Friday, March 20.
ALL work needs to be in on this date.

The Barrister

This will be the last issue of

The Barrister

until Wednesday, **April 1st**

(REALLY - No Foolin')



Fit Bits

Fit Sleep.....Sounds unusual doesn't it? You typically expect the word "fitness" to be followed by words like, run, jump, hop, etc. However, recent studies support the fact that students are 'overbooked' and are not getting the amount of sleep they need. Not only are students reporting that stress from overbooked schedules on top of school demands is impacting their academic performance, they are reporting difficulty sleeping and having challenges with relationships (friends and family). In response to these findings, educational institutions across the country are making extra efforts to educate students on the importance of good sleep habits as well as the ability to relax.

The following is the recommended amount of sleep for children ages 3-18:

Age of Child	Suggested Amount of Sleep/Day
3-6 yrs. old	10-12 hours of sleep per day
7-12 yrs. old	10-11 hours of sleep per day
12-18 yrs. old	8-9 ½ hours of sleep per day

FOOD BITS

The St. Joseph's Table is a ritual "meatless" meal typically celebrated by Sicilians and Sicilian-Americans in fulfillment of a promise made to St. Joseph for his assistance in a time of family or personal crises. St. Joseph's Bread is a traditional bread served on St. Joseph's Day. It is an egg bread that is usually formed into beautiful sculpting designs. Breads in the form of crosses, staffs, wheat sheaves, images of St. Joseph, and braids of the Blessed Mother adorn the St. Joseph table and are eaten throughout the feast day. This is a fun tradition the whole family can enjoy. You can purchase frozen bread dough and form your bread into the images stated above or use your imagination to create new images. If you'd like to try it from "scratch", follow the link below:

http://www.recipelink.com/cookbooks/2001/0312261381_2.html



S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF MARCH 30, 2009

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

Monday, March 30

Hamburger/Cheeseburger
French Fries
Pickle Spear
Peaches
Pudding
Milk

Ala Carte: Burger \$1.40

Monday Volunteers

Peg Gonzales
Laura Jo Prucha
Amy Osmulski

Thursday, April 2

Ham
Parslied Potatoes
Carrots
Bagel & Cream Cheese
Applecrisp or Fruit
Milk

Ala Carte: Bagel \$1.10

Thursday Volunteers

Diane Beckman
Eileen Speranza
Andrew Lerma

Tuesday, March 31

Chicken Patty
Whipped Potatoes/Gravy
Broccoli
Pears
Dinner Roll
Milk

Ala Carte: Chicken Patty \$0.85

Tuesday Volunteers

Kathy Davidson
Sue Doherty
Chris O'Brien

Friday, April 3

Cheese Pizza on a Bun
Salad
Mixed Fruit
Cookie
Milk

Ala Carte: Pizza \$0.70 (1)

Friday Volunteers

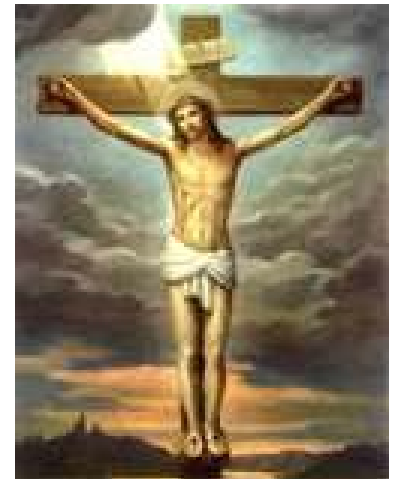
Joann Hajduch
Melissa Reardon
Tammy Savickis

Wednesday, April 1

Mostaccoli w/ Meat Sauce
OR Buttered Noodles
Cheese Slice
Green Beans
Muffin
Fresh Fruit
Milk

Wednesday Volunteers

Alicia Zaleski
Patti Gething
Nita Barajas



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.