



# The Barrister

*"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."*

September 3, 2009

**St. Gregory the Great**



*Our Patron Saint*

**One of the four key doctors of the Western Church.**

*Sts. Benedict and Scholastica*



**Father of all mercies**

We ask that you would bless the youngest and littlest of learners, the most helpless and powerless of persons, with Your infinite and loving mercy, granting them the strength to learn, concentrate, and act appropriately towards their teachers and fellow students.

We also ask that You would watch over them, at home and at school and grant them proper direction so that they may learn of Your wonderful virtues.

We ask this in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

*St. Thomas Aquinas  
is the Patron Saint  
of Catholic Schools.*

## Parent Signatures

Remember ... The signature sheet from the Handbook is due on **FRIDAY, 9/04/09.**



## SCOUTING NEWS ...

For all new and returning cub scouts, registration will be held the week of September 7th.

New Scout registration will be held on **Tuesday, September 8**, in the STM cafeteria from 7pm – 8pm. Returning scout registration will be held on **Wednesday, September 9th** from 7pm – 8pm in the STM school cafeteria. Scouts need not attend the registration.

Any questions? Contact Cub master Curt Anglin at 844-2178 or at cubmaster@542scouts.org



**Mrs. Barbara  
Badali  
Pre-School**



**Miss Denise  
Rusnak  
Pre-Kindergarten**



**Mrs. Karen  
Porter  
Pre-Kindergarten**

**WELCOME TO THE CORNERSTONE!**

# More GREAT News From T.R.I.P.

Earn even MORE money with T.R.I.P.!!!



**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BOOKSELLERS  
www.bn.com



**CVS/pharmacy**

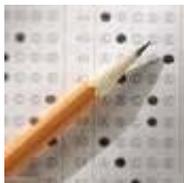
**Limited-time percentage increases:** From 9/5/09 through 10/2/09, **TGI Friday** and **Barnes&Noble** will increase from 9% to 10%. From 9/5/09 through 10/16/09, **Applebees** will increase from 8% to 10%. From 9/5/09 through 9/25/09, **CVS** will increase from 6% to 8%.

**Upcoming Dates to Remember:** For Labor Day week, orders should be turned in on **TUESDAY**, September 8 by 8:30 am and will be sent though school or available for pick up on **THURSDAY**, September 10 after 3 pm.

The Year of The Priest

## DRESS CODE UP-DATE ...

Khaki Colored Pants: These may now be worn by all students.



**IMPORTANT ...**  
Coming in  
Next Week's  
*Barrister* ...

Next week we will have a **very important** explanation of the procedure you will need in order to see the results of the **ISTEP+** test taken last Spring.

From what I have been told, the results are **FANTASTIC!!!**

## New Sections Coming to The Barrister ...

Starting with the September 10th edition of *The Barrister*, two new sections are being added ...

- 1) **HSA CORNER**: News for you concerning our awesome Home & School Association.
- 2) **Counselor's Copy**: A weekly article from our Counselor, Mrs. McCabe.



# CHURCH COLLECTION ENVELOPES

Parents, please help us help the children. Remind them, each week, to drop their collection envelope into the collection basket.

If your child has misplaced the envelopes, please have him/her come to the Main Office and more will be given.

## Labor Day



Monday, September 7

**NO SCHOOL**

Labor Day



**Don't Miss**

## VERY IMPORTANT ...

Any parent who wishes to be a field trip chaperone, Cafeteria volunteer, party helper, Coach, or Room Mother (Parent) working with St. Thomas More students in any capacity **must** complete a VIRTUS training session. There will be a VIRTUS session held on

**Saturday, September 19th at 10:00 AM  
in the STMS Solar Room.**

**You must register for this program.**

**To register, call Mrs. Herr at 836-8610 ex 336**

## My Jesus, My All.

As we embark on another school year, I want to thank you all for your support and help in the making our school year successful. Let us work together to help our children become holy, healthy, and strong witnesses of Christ and His Gospel to the world. Let us pray constantly for each other and our students.



## REMINDER ...

On THURSDAY, during the school year, Holy Mass will be celebrated at **9:00 A.M.**



It's Thursday

School begins at **8:40 A.M.**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY  
# 60  
STMS!!!**

## Mark Your Calendar ...



## Harvest Gala

Saturday

November 7, 2009

Villa Cesare

Schererville, Indiana

Watch *The Barrister* for further information.

Fall arrives on September 22 ...

## Your Attention, Please ... NEWS FROM HOME & SCHOOL

- **WELCOME** Marcus Olsen as our incoming VP
- **Entertainment books** were sent home 8/25. If extra books are needed, they need to be ordered by 9/10 and will be delivered on 9/15.
- **Cookie dough** kick off will be 9/22
- **Trivia Night** has moved to January.



## YEAR OF THE PRIEST

**THANKS Fr. Mike and Fr. Rick!**

*May Christ, in whose place you stand as priest, give you continuing grace to teach, guide and sanctify His people.*



# STMS UNIFORM EXCHANGE IMPORTANT NEWS ...

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10th



Thursday we will be giving away uniforms before end of day pick up **in the church parking lot**. If it rains, we will use the vestibule of the church. We will also still be accepting donations until next Thursday.

God Bless the mothers organizing this wonderful action. **MANY THANKS!**

# CALLING OUR MOMS' ...

The St. Thomas More Moms' Group will be meeting the first and third Tuesdays of each month during the 2009-2010 school year. **Our first meeting will be held on September 15th.** The meetings are held in the **Solar Room from 9 - 11 am**. We are on "toddler time," so please come even if you will be late. **Children are welcome.** Please join us for fellowship, snacks, and friendship. We are also planning Mom's Night Out activities, dates and times TBA. If you have any questions, please contact Dawn Hein at 219-923-6352.



## Sacrament of CONFIRMATION Service to God's People ...

Mrs. Marilyn Pajor welcomes students in 7th and/or 8th grade to help at the St. Thomas More Parish Picnic on **Sunday, September 13th** from **12:30-4:00 P.M.** The picnic is being held at the Cornerstone. You may call **Mrs. Pajor at 934-0738** for further information. This will meet service hour requirements.

Mrs. Kaaren Mashura would like to extend an invitation to seventh and eighth graders who would like to help in the nursery during 10:00 am Sunday Mass. Anyone interested should call her at 219 836-5079. This Ministry would meet service hour requirements.



As STMS celebrates its **60th Anniversary**, a former student (now a parent) brought in this picture of me when I taught here in the late 70's and early 80's. Did I **REALLY** look this young???



## PLEASE SAVE THE SODA POP TABS ...



### Remember Sister Rose Joseph??

Recently while visiting the Sisters at their Motherhouse, I remembered that Sister Rose Joseph collected the tabs from pop cans to help the Ronald McDonald House.

The process is simple. If you will save them and send them to me at school, I will get them to Sister. Thanks.

Over \$4 million have been raised through the pop tab collection program.

**THANKS**

# Some thoughts from the Principal ...



*Happy Birthday, Blessed Mother!*



**"Thank You for Being Who You Are"**

The liturgy for September 8 opens with a joyful invitation: "Come, let us celebrate the birth of the Virgin Mary." Responding to that invitation may be helpful in two ways. It can renew our personal relationship with Mary. It can also deepen our appreciation and affirmation of others as we celebrate their birthdays.

When we join in celebrating anyone's birthday, one thing we are saying is "We are glad that you were born." Certainly, we can express that sentiment to Mary. For all of us, she is a most significant person. After all, our Savior has come to us through Mary.

A birthday observance not only commemorates the beginning of a person's life but also celebrates the fact that the person continues to be among the living today. Many Polynesian people greet one another by saying, "Thank you for being alive!" In celebrating Mary's birthday, we recognize that she is fully alive; she is our Queen assumed into heaven. Although her birth into this world occurred two thousand years ago, we can prayerfully say, "Mary, thank you for being alive!"

A good birthday celebration recognizes the uniqueness of the one being honored. Appreciating Mary's uniqueness may come easily to us. She alone is sinless and full of grace; she is completely unselfish. As Mother of Jesus, she fulfills a key role in God's eternal plan and in human history. When the Church invites us to celebrate Mary's birthday, we can respond by prayerfully telling her, "Thank you for being what you are."

When we celebrate the birthdays of friends and family members, we have a chance to affirm and encourage them. Perhaps focusing on Mary's qualities can help us to appreciate our loved one's qualities too. Mary is full of grace. How do we see our loved one living the life of grace? Perhaps we can let them know that we appreciate their kind listening, their honesty, or their courage in facing difficulty. Mary had a special role to play. What special role does our loved one have? Perhaps we can mention one way in which they have been a special blessing in our lives. When we appreciate them, we are saying "Thank you for being your own good self."

As we celebrate Mary's birthday and the birthdays of others, we come closer to Mary's kind of holiness. We become a people who find joy in God, our Savior. God Bless all of you.

To Jesus, through Mary,  
*Chet Nordyke*  
Principal





# BACK PACK PAINS ...



To decrease back and shoulder strain due to inappropriate back packs the following steps can be taken.

- Make sure a child's backpack weighs no more than 10% of their body weight. A 100 pound child should carry **NO MORE** than a 10 pound pack.
- A backpack with individualized compartments will help to position contents effectively to spread out the weight.
- Use both shoulder straps.
- Make sure pointed or bulky objects are not in contact with the back of the wearer.
- Use padded shoulder straps to better dissipate weight over the shoulders (they don't dig in as much).
- Use adjustable shoulder straps to position the back pack over the upper rib cage, not on the low back.
- If the pack is still too heavy, talk to the students teachers to determine whether heavier items can be left at school, or if lighter objects such as hand-outs can be substituted for heavier books.
- Speak with the kids to let them know the importance of a properly worn backpack.
- Use a waist strap, if available, to help disperse the load of the backpack.
- If the load can not be decreased, purchase a backpack with wheels. Pulling a heavy load is easier on the spine.



## First Student Dance of the 09-10 School Year!



**Students in Grades 6, 7 and 8 are invited.**

**Saturday, September 12th 7:00 to 10:00 pm**  
**Admission: \$7.00 and a can good for St. Vincent DePaul**  
**Permission slips on Edline**

*Omnia in  
Nomine  
Domini Iesu*

***"Everything in  
the Name  
of the Lord  
Jesus"***



## Fourth Grade Girl Scouts

Any 4<sup>th</sup> grade girl interested in joining Girl Scouts are invited (with her parents) to an informational meeting on **Tuesday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm** in the **Solar Room**.

Please bring:

- Yours/your daughter's medical (Doctor's name/phone number, immunization, etc) and insurance information
- \$24 cash/check payable to "Girl Scouts" for Council Membership dues (\$12 for mom's/\$12 for daughter's registration)
- \$10 cash/check (made out to "Troop 10114") for our Troop membership dues (covers the cost of badges earned, supplies, etc)

If you or your daughter are unable to attend this meeting but are interested in joining or if you have any questions, please either call (922-0887) or email (jattwiess@comcast.net) me (Amy) **before Sept. 8**. If you do leave a message, please let me know your daughter's homeroom.

Amy Wiess & Brenda O'Shea



### **Prayer for Priests**

O Jesus, our great High Priest,  
Hear my humble prayers on behalf of your priest, Father [N].  
Give him a deep faith

a bright and firm hope and a burning love which will ever increase in the course of his priestly life.

In his loneliness, comfort him  
In his sorrows, strengthen him  
In his frustrations, point out to him

that it is through suffering that the soul is purified, and show him that he is needed by the Church, he is needed by souls, he is needed for the work of redemption.

O loving Mother Mary, Mother of Priests,

take to your heart your son who is close to you because of his priestly ordination, and because of the power which he has received to carry on the work of Christ in a world which needs him so much.

Be his comfort, be his joy, be his strength,  
and especially help him to live and to defend the ideals of consecrated celibacy.

Amen.

GETTING READY TO CELEBRATE  
BLESSED MOTHER'S BIRTHDAY  
SEPTEMBER 8  
Color Page



# S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 7, 2009

Daily Ala Cartes: Salads—Large-\$2.25; Small-\$1.80 Yogurt--\$0.70 Milk--\$0.45

## Monday, September 7

### LABOR DAY

No School



## Tuesday, September 8

Hamburger/Cheeseburger  
Pickle Spear  
French Fries  
Mixed Fruit  
Sherbet  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Burger \$1.50*

### Tuesday Volunteers

Cathy Lyons  
Patti Smith

## Wednesday, September 9

Taco Salad (chips, lettuce,  
chili, cheese, salsa)  
Carrot Sticks  
Applesauce  
Muffin  
Milk

### Wednesday Volunteers

Chris Balbo  
Jan Rademacher  
Amy Osmulski

## **Patriot Day September 11**

## Thursday, September 10

Chicken Patty  
Whipped Potatoes/Gravy  
California Mixed Veggies  
Bread Slice  
Pears  
Milk

### Thursday Volunteers

Anita Hemingway  
Joy Chronowski  
Susan Bleza

## Friday, September 11

Spaghetti w/ Tomato Sauce  
American Cheese Slice  
Salad  
Mozzarella Cheese Toast  
Peaches  
Milk

### Friday Volunteers

Cris Tumacder  
Susan Payne  
Melissa Reardon



## **IMPORTANT REMINDERS**

1. Menu subject to change.
2. Hot Lunch Prices: Student - \$1.85/day      5 days - \$9.25      20 days - \$37.00  
Adult - \$2.50/day
3. Cash or checks made out to STM are accepted.
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 and Last Name, Teacher Name, Amount Enclosed**
7. E-mail Mrs. Murray for lunch account balance inquires: [lmurray@stm-school.com](mailto:lmurray@stm-school.com)
8. Remember to check Edline for the monthly menu and the cafeteria volunteer list.