



The Barrister

"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."

May 13, 2010

Feast of Our Lady of Fatima



Our Patron Saint

May: Month of Our Blessed Mother, Mary, Most Holy

Sts. Benedict and Scholastica



Between May 13 and October 13, 1917, three Portuguese children received apparitions of Our Lady at Cova da Iria, near Fatima, a city 110 miles north of Lisbon. (See February 20 entry for Blessed Jacinta and Francisco Marto). Mary asked the children to pray the rosary for world peace, for the end of World War I, for sinners and for the conversion of Russia. The third visionary, Lucia dos Santos, became a Carmelite nun and died in 2005 at the age of 97.

Mary gave the children three secrets. Since Francisco died in 1919 and Jacinta the following year, Lucia, who later became a Carmelite nun, revealed the first secret in 1927, concerning devotion to the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The second secret was a vision of hell.

Pope John Paul II directed the Holy See's Secretary of State to reveal the third secret in 2000; it spoke of a 'bishop in white' who was shot by a group of soldiers who fired bullets and arrows into him. Many people linked this to the assassination attempt against Pope John Paul II in St. Peter's Square on May 13, 1981.

The feast of Our Lady of Fatima was approved by the local bishop in 1930; it was added to the Church's worldwide calendar in 2002. Sister Lucia died in 2005 at the age of 97.

HARVEST GALA 2010

The Harvest Gala Committee is having a call-out for volunteers to help in the planning of next year's event.



Please join us on **Thursday, May 20th at 7:00 P.M. in the Solar Room.**



All are welcome!



Let's remember to pray for one another every day.

FROM THE DESK OF THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents\Guardians: + JMJ

We have so enjoyed another week of activities at STMS.

The recent Band Concert was Terrific. So much musical **talent**. Tuesday evening was the induction of Junior High Students into the National Junior Honor Society.

The students are enjoying the weather outside. To hear the laughter on the playground is wonderful.

So much more for which to look forward! As Father reminded the students at the All School Mass on Tuesday, we still have lots of work to do. Thank you, parents, for your continued support.

Prayers said daily for you! To Jesus through Mary,

Chet Dardyske
Principal



THANK YOU, MRS. LUSK

School Nurse Day was May 12, yesterday. We are so very fortunate to have Mrs. Suzanne Lusk guiding our Health Office during the school day. Mrs. Lusk attends to bumps, upset stomachs, headaches, scrapes, and a HOST of other situations.

Please take a moment out of your busy day and let Mrs. Lusk know how much you appreciate what she does for your children. She, indeed, is an angel among us.

A HAPPY MOM!

I wanted to let you know that the assigned children in my group were excellent today! They not only checked in with me, they used their manners, listened, and respected all the parents on the trip. I just can't get over the pleasure I had with them today.

I find myself telling everyone how well behaved our 6th grade students were and I wanted to thank you as well as Mrs. Banach and Mrs. J.

In fact, I thought the entire class represented the school really well! In my opinion, it was another good day for St. Thomas More kids and we should be proud of them!

A Note to the Principal ...

"I can't say enough about the recent Mother/Son dance. What a wonderful experience this was for the boys, and for me. My boys danced with me most of the evening. The training on how to be gentlemen was terrific. Speaking with so many other mothers, we liked how the boys were dressed in ties and nice clothes. Another "A+" for St. Thomas More. I am looking so forward to next year and the Mother/Son dance.

Please give special thanks to Mrs. Banach, and the other teachers working with Student Council for all they did to make this evening one which this mother will long remember.

Thank you for all you do for our children and St. Thomas More School."

WOW, I, as Principal, certainly do appreciate hearing the Good News of STMS. Thanks for writing and sharing this GOOD NEWS of STMS.



THANK YOU 8th Grade Band!

A picture of our 8th grade Band at their last concert. It is very sentimental seeing pictures of the last events for the 8th grade. Their futures are so very bright.

Please remember to check EDLINE on a daily basis.

This is the time of year when some "let down" their guard.

ALL SCHOOL ACCOUNTS

This is a reminder to those who may owe money on their children's:



School Lunch Account

Please send in a payment as soon as possible, bringing these accounts up to date. Student report cards and diplomas will be held until all fees are paid. For balance inquiries, call Mrs. Murray at 836-9151 x324 or e-mail lmurray@stm-school.com. **Thank you.**

Tuition, Kids Time, Athletics, etc.



Please take care of this BEFORE the end of the term.

In order for 8th Grade to participate in graduation activities, **all** accounts must be settled. Report cards, diplomas and transcripts will be held.

Grade 7 and below ... Report Cards will be held.

Please call if we may be of help.

Mary, Mother of Jesus, pray for us.

Use T.R.I.P.It Pays.

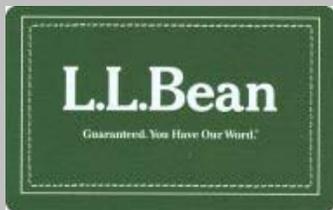
How much are you paying for tuition? Below is a list showing the dollar amount of credits earned by people using T.R.I.P. from January through April 2010. These amounts do not even include credits earned from programs like Market Day or Fannie May.

Families earning credits ranging from \$1.00-\$24.99	27
Families earning credits ranging from \$25.00-\$49.99	16
Families earning credits ranging from \$50.00-\$74.99	13
Families earning credits ranging from \$75.00-\$99.99	12
Families earning credits ranging from \$100.00-\$149.99	15
Families earning credits ranging from \$150.00-\$199.99	9
Families earning credits ranging from \$200.00-\$249.99	2
Families earning credits ranging from \$250.00-\$299.99	5
Families earning credits ranging from \$300.00-\$399.00	2
Families earning credits ranging from \$400.00-\$499.00	3
Families earning credits ranging from \$500.00-\$557.60	1

Many school families are not paying the full amount for tuition. Are you?

To learn "All About T.R.I.P." and how to start using it, go to www.stm-school.com or call Susan Anglin at (219) 844-2178.

Current notes about TRIP:



Merchant Increases: From 5/15/10 through 6/11/10, **L.L.Bean** will increase from 15% to 17%, **T.G.I. Fridays** will increase from 9% to 10%, and **JC Penney** will increase from 5% to 6%.



National Junior Honor Society Induction

**Please do your very best
to pray the Rosary for an
increase of Religious
Vocations.**



T.R.I.P. is here for YOU.

Monday - May 24th
7th/8th Math

Tuesday - May 25th
7th/8th Lang. Arts

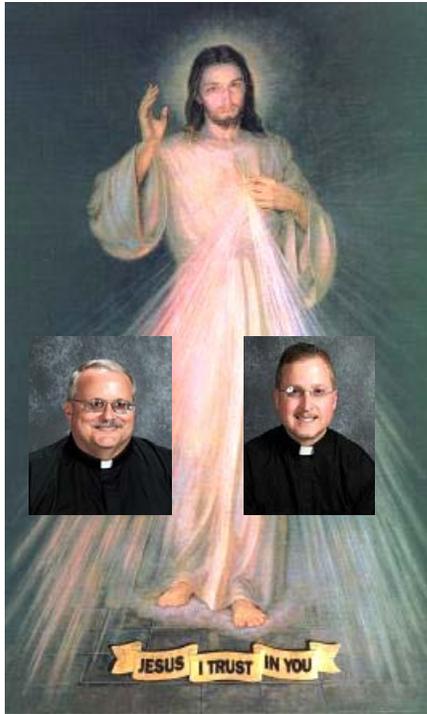
Wednesday - May 26th
7th/8th Social Studies

Thursday - May 27th
7th/8th Science

Friday - May 28th
7th/8th Religion



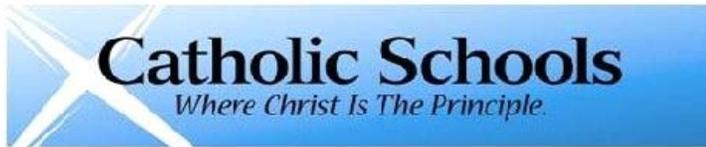
Grades 7 & 8 FINAL EXAM SCHEDULE



*Queen of Peace,
pray for us*



It is so very evident that our holy priests DO, in fact, Trust in Him. During this *Year of the Priest*, please continue to pray for Father Mike and Father Rick that Jesus will continue to shower Father Mike and Father Rick with His Grace.



AWESOME MUSIC!!!

The Spring Band Concert was **FANTASTIC!** The students did an **OUTSTANDING** job. Almighty God certainly did bestow musical talent on so many of our STMS kids.

We also say a HUGE **THANK YOU** to our Band Director **Mr. Rick Mlynarski**. He is **AWESOME!!!** We are **GRATEFUL!**

Thank you so much!

PARENTS: Please remind the children that cell phones are to remain in their backpack and **NEVER** brought out during school. This includes in the morning. Phones will be confiscated if a student has it out of the backpack. **NO**, they do not need one at school unless it is your choice.



8th Grade SPECIAL Schedule

May 14 6:30 PM 8th Grade Athletic Banquet

May 20 6:00 PM Honors & Awards Dinner

May 24 - 28 Final Examinations

May 27 1:00 PM Baccalaureate Mass Practice

May 28 1:00 PM Commencement Practice

May 28 7:00 PM Baccalaureate Mass

(**ALL** members of the 8th grade are required to be at the Baccalaureate Mass in order to participate in graduation ceremonies on Saturday. There can be **no** exceptions to this policy.)

May 29 at 10:00 AM — Commencement Ceremony
(Ceremony takes place in the school gymnasium.)



IMPORTANT PARENTAL REMINDER ...



Parents: Please remember that a child **may not** ride a Munster school bus unless he/she is (A) A Munster Resident (B) Is **Registered** on that bus and has paid the fee.

Parents may not tell a child to simply “ride the bus home.” This puts both the MPS and STMS in major trouble should something happen.

**Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum.
Benedicta tu in mulieribus, et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Iesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei, ora pro nobis peccatoribus, nunc, et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen**



Mrs. Pykosz and Miss Hecimovich took the children bowling for the Spring Fest raffle. These were our lucky winners and they had a blast.

6th Grade QUARTER EXAMS

Monday - May 24th

Math & English

Tuesday-May 25th

Social Studies & Science

Wednesday - May 26th

Religion

Study NOW ... Avoid the
rush.

WELLBITS

As a continuation of our month long celebration of Physical Fitness, the information in this week's WELLBITS offers some easy, economical ways to get up and get active.

How Much Exercise Do Kids Need?

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children and teens should be "physically active for at least 60 minutes per day," although they stress that it doesn't have to be 60 minutes of continuous activity. For example, if your eight-year-old played soccer for 20 minutes during Mr. Francis' gym class at school and then played baseball with his friends for 45 minutes after school, he would meet the AAP's recommendation of 60 minutes of physical activity for that day.

Exercise Is Good For Kids!

Regular exercise is good for kids. It has been shown to help them build strong self-esteem, sleep better, have more energy, decrease anxiety, and decrease depression. And as most people know, along with a healthy diet, regular exercise is the best way to lose weight and prevent childhood obesity. Remember that kids, even teens, don't usually stick with exercise programs that involve "calisthenics or programmed aerobic exercise." Instead, kids do better with lifestyle exercise programs, including active free play and organized team and individual youth sports.

To get kids more active and more interested in exercise and fitness, it can help to: Get the whole family involved in being more active, keeping in mind that most kids would rather be outside playing, instead of watching another "Sponge Bob" repeat -- they just don't want to be outside by themselves. If you go outside with your child to play catch, tag, or simply go for a walk, you can usually be sure that your child will be quick to follow.

Have your kids use "active transportation" in which they have to use stairs, instead of elevators, and walk to school or to their friend's house, instead of always being driven.

Encourage more unorganized outdoor free play.

Support personal fitness and fun recreational activities.



7th & 8th grade Parents & Students ...

On TUESDAY, MAY 18th @ 7:00pm at the STM South Campus WEIS CENTER, Mrs. Pagorek will be hosting the final meeting for the 8th grade class to DC and for the future 8th grade class of 2011 to see how this works and sign-up.

Mrs. Pagorek is inviting all 7th grade students to bring their parents to the WEIS CENTER and see the excitement of planning for their trip to DC next year.



ATHLETIC REGISTRATION and PHYSICALS

Fall Sport Registration:

Cross Country, Soccer and Volleyball

Free Physicals

Monday, May 17th

6 pm - 8 pm

Weis Center – South Campus

(formerly known as the Cornerstone Center)

Any STMS 5th - 8th Grader is eligible

Registration Deadline: Friday, July 30, 2010

**Fees: Cross Country \$10, Soccer and Volleyball \$50
payable to 'STM Athletics'**

Registration Forms available online at

www.nwicyo.org



It's not easy being a parent! As children grow into their teens, every family goes through stress and conflict. This is a normal part of growing up. Understanding the changes your child is going through makes it easier to be a positive parent.

Remember, physical changes begin early. Teens vary in their development even more than little children do. There is no "right" time for changes to occur. In general girls begin changing inside as early as 7 years old. They can begin to menstruate as early as the age of 9. Boys begin to change inside as early as 9 and they may start a growth spurt as early as 11 and keep growing until they are 21.

Physical maturity occurs long before emotional maturity. Teens often don't know how to handle their new sexual maturity. Teens think: "if I look like a grown-up, why can't I act like an adult?" Television, movies and friends tell teens to be sexually active; parents, schools and churches do no. This conflict can get the teen to wonder "how and where can I talk about the conflicts I see and feel?"

Physical changes can cause emotional upset for teens. The hormones which trigger growth can also cause mood swings. Although hormones have been over emphasized in the past, they probably have some influence on behavior.

When emotions are "out of control," more conflicts happen between parent and teens. Here are some general guidelines for different ages:

- 11-12 can be very moody and emotional
- 13-14 can be irritable, excitable, more likely to explode than to control their emotions.
- 15 may try to "cover up" their feelings-may be more moody and withdrawn.
- 16-17 often calm down and settle into more adult pattern of behavior.

So, if several years of irrational behavior are in your future what do parents and teens need?

- Realistic expectations of each other.
- Feeling in control. Teens need to have some areas of their lives where they are taking responsibility for themselves.
- Strong self concepts.
- Constructive communications skills.
- A supportive environment. Adolescents need stable, well-structured, predictable guidelines because they are feeling so unstable themselves. Teens experience less stress when their parents are consistent, clear, firm and fair.

Because their brains are still "under construction" teens need help from their parents in:

- Providing routines and structure
- Helping them sort through priorities and making plans
- Helping them organize their time and their thoughts
- Helping them think through hard decisions when they ask for your help.

Form many families, having a teen in the house is the most stressful stage in their life. Teens find the many changes they are going through stressful. Even though there are some tough times as teens grow up, there are some wonderfully fun and happy times that seem to make parenting teens worth all the trouble. When you think about it, it's almost a miracle that in such a short period of time, children turn into adults. Love them and accept them as they grow. They need you and your support much more than they are willing to admit.



PEER TUTORING NOTICE

Peer Tutoring for the 2009/2010 school year will end the week of May 17th. sessions will be on Tuesday, May 18th, Wednesday, May 19th, and Thursday, May 20th.

We hope your experience has been a helpful one for you.
See you next year!

The National Junior Honor Society Tutors



S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF MAY 17, 2010

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

Monday, May 17

Corn Dog
Potato Wedges
Green Beans
Fruit
Animal Crackers
Milk

Ala Carte

Corn Dog \$1.20

Monday Volunteers

Janet McComis
Pauline Brett
Catharine Olsen

Tuesday, May 18

Mini Sub Sandwich
Shredded Lettuce
Carrot Sticks
Carnival Crunch
Pears
Milk

Ala Carte:

Sandwich \$1.50

Tuesday Volunteers

Chris O'Brien
Sue Doherty
Kathy Davidson

Wednesday, May 19

Chicken Fryz
Buttered Noodles
Broccoli
Fruit
Vanilla Wafers
Milk

Wednesday Voluteer

Nita Barajas
Patti Gething
Alicia Zaleski

We LOVE our Cafeteria!

Let the cooks know how much you appreciate them.

Thursday, May 20

Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce
Cheese Slice
Salad
Dinner Roll
Fruit
Milk

Ala Carte:

Sandwich \$1.20

Thursday Volunteers

Diane Beckman
Amy Wiess
Andrew Lerma

Friday, May 21

Cheese Quesadilla **OR**
Grilled Cheese Sandwich
Tater Tots/Salsa
Carrots or Peas
Fresh Fruit
Sherbet
Milk

Ala Carte:

Quesadilla \$1.50

Friday Volunteers

Cynthia Becker Toro
Martha Smith



IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Menu subject to change.

Hot Lunch Prices: Student - \$1.85/day 5 days - \$9.25 20 days - \$37.00 Adult - \$2.50/day

Cash or checks made out to STM are accepted.

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.

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.**

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

E-mail Mrs. Murray for lunch account balance inquires: lmurray@stm-school.com

Remember to check Edline for the monthly menu and the cafeteria volunteer list.

Finn Passing Academy to Welcome Quarterback and Skill Player Hopefuls

MERRILLVILLE – The inaugural Finn Passing Academy, a four-day camp presented by the Region Sports Network and hosted by former Andrean quarterbacks Billy, Bobby, and Tommy Finn, will run from July 19-22 at Andrean High School.

The Finns, all of whom were successful signal-callers at the Merrillville based school, will be the primary instructors for the non-contact, fundamental based program that is open to young players entering the fifth through eighth grades.

“Given the complex nature of so many of the offenses that are taught by the coaches in Northwest Indiana, we thought a camp that stresses the fundamentals would be beneficial,” Billy Finn said. “If we can teach them some of the basics like footwork, then they might be a little ahead of the game.”

The cost of the camp will be \$125 until June 30. After that the cost will be \$150, which will also be the cost for day of event walk-ups.

Finn said guest speakers from the high school and college coaching ranks will be available but that the primary teachers will be the three Finn brothers. Billy was the 1993 Post-Tribune First Team All-Area quarterback, while Bobby was the Post-Tribune Player of the Year in 1997 and a first team All-State selection.

Tommy Finn was the Region Sports Network, Post-Tribune and Times Player of the Year while leading Andrean to the 2004 state championship.

“We feel like we benefited from some really good coaches when we played,” Finn said. “And, we also know that we want to make this camp fun because that is what football, and sports in general should be. We are going to have a good time but at the same time we will be imparting skills that will help them become better football players.”

The Finns have been using their contacts among the NW Indiana head coaching fraternity to get the word out about their fledgling endeavor. The goal is bring in young players from throughout the Region.

“We want to have as many communities represented as possible,” Finn said. “We have been fortunate to have several coaches from area schools promise their support. Before we’re through we plan on reaching every city and town in Northwest Indiana.”

The camp will also be geared towards running backs, wide receivers, and tight ends. Individual and game skill contests will be held while intangibles such as leadership skills will be evaluated on a periodic basis.

“We want the camp participants to take away things that they can use away from the football field,” Finn said.

On field basics that will be stressed include footwork, ball handling, passing and receiving. Daily activities will begin at 9 AM with check-in at 8:30 AM. Performance tee-shirts will be part of the package and an athletic trainer will be on hand each day. Activities will end around noon.

In case of inclement weather activities will be moved into Andrean’s gym.

Information and registration for the camp can be completed at the camp web site at www.finnpassingacademy.com.

“My brothers and I feel fortunate that we had good teachers and we picked up a lot of good knowledge along the way,” Finn said. “We are looking forward to teaching some of the skills that we feel are necessary to becoming successful, not only in football, but in life.”

One of the goals is to have an instructor to student ratio that is conducive to good instruction and retention.

“With all the help we’ll have on site, we believe every kid who comes in will pick up a good, solid background in football basics,” Finn said.