St. Thomas More School Principal's Newsletter



The Barrister

"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."
September 16, 2010

Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian

Educating the whole child in the values of Jesus and Mary



Sts. Benedict and Scholastica

Our Patron Saint

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Breathe in me O Holy Spirit that my thoughts may all be holy;

Act in me O Holy Spirit that my works, too, may be holy;

Draw my heart O Holy Spirit that I love but what is holy;

Strengthen me O Holy Spirit to defend that is holy;

Guard me then O Holy Spirit that I always may be holy.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, September 19: Catechetical Sunday Mass 10:00 AM

Monday, September 20: 1st Quarter Progress Reports come home.

Thursday, September 23: NO BARRISTER WILL BE PUBLISHED NEXT WEEK

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1: Diocese of Gary

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2: Ministry Congress

Our Lady of Palestine, pray for us.



INDUCTION OF THE 2010-2011 STMS STUDENT COUNCIL WILL BE on THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2010 AT 7:00 PM IN THE STMS GYM.

ALL are invited to come and witness this fine group of students assume the responsibility of Student Council.

Career Networking Group

<u>September 16:</u> Kelly Venegas - HR Director for the Diocese of Gary presenting on Interview Skills along with a "mock interview". Career Networking Group.

October 21: Dr. Vicky Oliver, M.A., LCSW - Psychotherapist presenting on Aspects of Transition and Moving Forward.

Progress Reports will come home, with the students, on Monday, September 20th. Please remember to ask for them.

In appointment by His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI. Your principal is truly humbled.

THE KNIGHTS OF THE HOLY SEPULCHRE

I am out of town next Thursday through the weekend attending the annual investiture of the Knights of the *Holy Sepulchre*. This year it takes place in Cleveland, Ohio.

The new constitution of the *Order of the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre* was promulgated by Pope Paul VI in 1977, and the Order now enjoys protection under canon law. This constitution clearly sets forth the reasons for its continued existence:

The Order relives in a modern manner the spirit and ideal of the Crusades, with the arms of faith, of the apostolate,, and of Christian charity. To this end the Order (a) fosters in its members the practice of the Christian life; (b) is zealous for the preservation and spread of the faith in Palestine; (c) champions the defense of the rights of the Catholic Church in the Holy Land, the cradle of the Order.

The Order has grown tremendously in defense of the Faith during the twentieth century. With a strong allegiance to the papacy, serving it as soldiers of Christ, the members of the Order are linked to the Church in a unique way, carrying with membership in the Order a responsibility of faithful witness, as well as the dignity of being in the service of the papacy.

"The Order now comprises five classes: Knights of the Collar, a rank established by Pope Pius XII in 1949. There are twelve in number; Knights Grand Cross: Commanders with Star, who are also called Grand Officers, an honor given for special merit; Commanders; simply Knights." Female honorees hold the same ranks or classes but are known as Dame or Lady of (rank), depending on the local custom. It is more correct, from a protocol posture, to refer to female members as Dames of (rank); however, local practices have established the customs for each jurisdiction.

Finally, unlike some chivalric orders whose membership is open to non-Catholics and even the papal orders of knighthood that admit non-Catholics and, in some cases, non-Christians alike, the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulchre is reserved solely for practicing Catholics in a state of grace and in communion with Rome. It is precisely that faith that bonds them so closely to the Sovereign Pontiff. The investiture ceremony itself requires the pledge of defense of the Faith with a Profession of Faith, which, of course, only the Catholic faithful could undertake.

To enter, one is first approached by his/her Parish Pastor. From here, one must be approved by the Bishop of the Diocese. The final approval, and appointment, is made by the Sovereign Pontiff, His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI, himself.

His Eminence John Cardinal Foley and His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, Archbishop of Chicago, will represent His Holiness, Pope Benedict XVI at the Investiture. His Excellency, Bishop Dale Melczek, Bishop of the Diocese of Gary (also a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre) will be in attendance.

I am so very honored to be invested as a Knight of the Holy Sepulchre and do all I can to profess, defend and spread our Holy Catholic Faith. Please keep me in your prayers. Know that you will be in mine.

Chat Modyke



HOMEWORK HOTLINE

Phone lines are open!



Rose-Hulman's Homework Hotline is now open for the school year, and we're ready to take math and science homework calls. Students can reach us at 1-877-ASK-ROSE (1-877-275-7673), Sunday through Thursday, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. (EDT). Students may also visit our website at www.AskRose.org.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK EDLINE VERY OFTEN ... DAILY.



Parents can check their children's lunch account balance at no cost by signing up on www.cafeprepaycom. There is also a link to CafePrePay on Edline. Parents also have the opportunity to use their Visa,



MasterCard, American Express or Discover Card to pay for school meals. Just follow the directions to set up a personal account. Further information can be found by clicking on the Frequently Asked Questions link, or by calling their Help Line.



Mary, Our Good Mother pray for us.

8th Grade Parents

My name is Kathleen Pagorek and I am the sponsor for the 8th grade trip to Washington, DC. I am inviting you to attend an informational meeting on WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, @ 7pm at the WEIS CENTER SOUTH CAMPUS about the upcoming trip. This is a wonderful opportunity for your child to "live" and be a part of history. I will be available to answer all of your questions and give you and your child a little "splash" of what the trip is about and how exciting it can be and even educational.

So I hope that you will take the time to attend and see what this trip has to offer your child. Many students have already signed up and you are encouraged to attend this meeting too. I will let you know about our 2 fundraisers and how the children can sign up for them. See you all on **WEDNESDAY**, **SEPTEMBER** 22nd.







MUNSTER FIRE DEPARTMENT OPEN HOUSE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9TH

The Munster Fire Department invites all residents to participate in their annual Open House at Fire Station No. 2 (550 Fisher Street) on Saturday, October 9th from 11AM to 4PM. There will be a live fire demonstration at 3:00PM, extrication demonstrations, food, door prizes, fire engine rides, fire safety information, extinguisher training, the Fire Safety House, a haz-mat display, music, Sparky the Fire Dog, a jumpy house, the Indiana National Guard, and a fire hose demonstration. For more information please call 836-6960.



Tardy to school ... Not Good!



Parents: Just yesterday I sent an important email reminding <u>everyone</u> of the starting time for school. Today, we had **37 children TARDY to school.** When children do come on time, many morning activities get messed up. As a result, the following policy will be in effect as of Monday, September 20, 2010.

<u>Grades 1-4</u>: After **THREE** (3) tardies to school, the child will lose recess. After **FIVE** (5) Tardies I will <u>require</u> a Parent/Principal Meeting in order for the return to school......

<u>Grades 5-8:</u> If the student is IN SCHOOOL, but tardy to class, they will receive an automatic detention. If tardy due to late arrival into the building, a detention will be given after **THREE** (3) late arrivals.

We must **all** remember that tardies effect our accreditation. Today, for example, we had over 20 children tardy to school. We **hope** this policy will help to rectify the problem.

ALSO ... Page 15 of the Handbook states that a parent <u>must</u> call the school when a child is going to be absent. We <u>HOPE</u> everyone will follow this policy. Thank you.

Bus riders <u>may no longer switch buses to ride home with friends</u>. In the past, students were permitted to take a different bus if they were already registered for the bus, but **this is no longer allowed**

Thank you for your cooperation. Munster Public Schools





KINDERGARTEN REMINDERS ...



- 1. "I'M A BIG KID NOW" ... Please allow the Kindergarten
- 2. students to walk to class without mom or dad. They will do very well.
- 2. Mom/Dad, please get me to school on time. I have to be in my classroom at 8:00 AM. (I get a frown if I am late.) 8:30 AM on Thursdays.



First Grade Girl Scouts



Any first grade girl interested in joining Daisy's, there will be a parent meeting on **Thursday, September 23 at 5:45 p.m. at the Weiss Center** (formerly Cornerstone). Please bring the following items:

- Medical/Insurance information (doctor's name/number, Immunizations, etc.)
- \$24 cash/check (payable to Girls Scouts of GCNWI) for council membership (\$12 mom/\$12 girl)

\$12 cash/check (payable to Girl Scouts Troop 10055) for troop dues (badges, supplies, etc.)

If you are unable to attend this meeting & would like more information regarding the girl scouts please contact Lisa Silva at (219) 313-2068 or lisa.silva@live.com.

"The Harvest Gala committee is meeting tonight at 7pm in the Teachers Lounge. Please come join us to learn more about this terrific fundraiser for our school."



Reminder...First HSA

Meeting
September 23rd
6:30 p.m. in the Cafeteria
N.U.T. (no uniform
today) Cards

Chair Positions that are still open are as follows:

- All School Picnic
- Trivia Night
- Communion Breakfast (2nd gr. Parent)
- Pizza with Santa

If you are interested in chairing, please contact Mrs. Haugh, Co- President HSA

ULTRA GROCERY STORE

will be given...

Please send your **ULTRA** grocery receipts to school from

September 1st – December 31st.

ULTRA will give us 5% of the receipts collected.

An easy way for the HSA to raise funds for the students.

E NEED YOUR HELP PLEASE

School activities benefits **YOUR** children

Getting involved in the many Home &

God loves a cheerful giver!

Notes from the School Counselor ...

Rule No. 1 is, don't sweat the small stuff. Rule No. 2 is, it's all small stuff.

Worrying is something we all do but wish we didn't have to experience. Sometimes worrying feels like it is consuming large amounts of our day. You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive.

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But how can we do that? How can we stop worrying? Here are eight ways:

1. Focus on what you can control

Thinking about things you can't control puts unnecessary burden on your mind. For example, why should you worry about how bad the economy is? There's nothing you can do about it unless you are a key person in the government. No matter how much you think about it, nothing will change. So instead of worrying about it, focus on things you can control like You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive and You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive.Don't worry about things you can't do anything about.

2. Use your imagination positively

Your imagination is a double-edged sword. You can use it to dream big dreams and keep your motivation high, but you can also use it to discourage yourself. People often worry about something because they fill their imagination with all the bad things that might happen. The reality is often not that bad, but it looks worse and worse because they give it too much attention.

3. Expect good things to happen

Not only should you use your imagination positively, but also you should expect good things to happen in your life. Instead of expecting something to fail, expect it to succeed. Instead of expecting people not to like you, expect them to like you. You should be realistic, of course, but always expect to be a winner in life.

4. Accept responsibility

You might make mistakes in the past and worry about the consequences. In this case, the solution is to accept responsibility. Don't let your worry drag you down. Accept the responsibility and move on. You still have a lot of great things waiting for you.

5. Be grateful

It's easy to focus on the few things that *could* go wrong that we forget about the many things that *already* go right. That's why having an attitude of gratitude is important. It keeps your perspective in balance. It makes you realize that for one thing that goes wrong there are many more things that go right. Just start with these You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive.

6. Run vour own race

You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive. yourself with other people. Comparing yourself with others will only drain your mental energy. You have your own race to run. Instead of comparing yourself with others, focus on being the best that you can be.

7. Simplify your life

The simpler your life is, the fewer things you could worry about. So instead of doing a lot of things, focus on the few things that are most fulfilling and give you the most return for your time and effort You need to know how to stop worrying if you want to live life to the fullest. Why? Because worry doesn't do you any good. It won't help you live a better life. It won't make you feel better and more energized. Instead, it will make you less happy and less productive.

8. Have faith

You should focus on things you can control. But what about things you can't control? What can we do to eliminate any worry about them? The answer here is *faith*. You need to believe that everything will go well no matter how bad it might seem. You need to believe that everything will come out better in the end. Having faith eliminates a lot of worries in your life. It gives you peace of mind.

THE MUNSTER DUBLIC LIBRARY NEWS ...

I Will Not Ever Eat a Tomato – Wednesday, October 13 at 4pm

Children in Kindergarten or older will hear Lauren Child's book, discuss their favorite foods and make edible dirt.

Diary of a Wimpy Kid book discussion –Thursday, October 7th at 5:30pm

Children in 4th grade or older who have read "Diary of a Wimpy Kid" or who are interested in Greg Heffley's adventures will discuss the first book in the series. Please register to ensure that enough copies of the book are available.

Happy Halloween - Wednesday, October 27th at 4 pm

Children currently in Kindergarten or older will celebrate the holiday with stories, games and a parade. Costumes are encouraged but not required.

Family Movie Break – Friday, October 29th at 2pm

Casper, the world's friendliest ghost, makes his motion picture debut as a supernatural sidekick to a lonely young girl who may be the only human that can confirm that the peaceful poltergeist does indeed exist. This film is rated PG and has a running time of 96 minutes. Snacks are allowed, but clean up is required. Children 5 and under must be accompanied by an adult.



Please remind the children to use their Church envelope every time they come to Holy Mass. What a wonderful habit to teach them.

Basketball Registration

Wednesday, September 22nd from 6-8pm In the Gym foyer

Any 5th - 8th Grade student is eligible to participate.

Registration Fee: \$75 payable to 'STM Athletics'



Registration/Physical Form available in the school office and on-line at www.nwicyo.org.

If you have already played a Fall sport, the form is <u>not</u> required.

Boy's: Form and Fee due by <u>Friday, October 1st.</u> Girl's: Form and Fee due by <u>Friday, November 19th.</u>

A \$25 late fee will be assessed for any forms/fees received after the deadline.



Everyone has the desire to win, but only champions have the desire to prepare.

S.T.M. LUNCH MENU - WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2010

Daily Ala Cartes: Salads—Large-\$2.25; Small-\$1.80

Yogurt--\$0.70

Milk--\$0.50

Monday, September 27

Sloppy Joe **OR**

Chicken Patty Sandwich

French Fries

Corn

Rice Krispie Treat

Pears Milk

Ala Carte: Sandwich \$1.50

Monday Volunteers

Kim Power Tara Hurubean Katie Fesko **Tuesday, September 28**

Corn Dog Tater Tots Carrots

Pineapple Tidbits Graham Crackers

Milk

Ala Carte: Corn Dog \$1.20

Tuesday Volunteers

Cathy Lyons Nancy Berkley Amy Lee Wednesday, September 29

Mini Sub Sandwich Shredded Lettuce Nachos & Cheese Carrot Sticks Applesauce

Cake Milk

Ala Carte: Sandwich \$1.20

Wednesday Volunteers

Agnes Nahnsen Michael Smith Kim Cipowski

Thursday, September 30

Pasta w/ or w/o Meat Sauce American Cheese Slice

Green Beans

Bread Mixed Fruit

Milk

Thursday Volunteers
Kelli Galanos

Julie Blanford

Friday, October 1

Bosco Sticks Marinara Dip

Salad

Fresh Fruit

Jello Milk

Ala Carte: Bosco Stick \$0.90 (1)

Friday Volunteers

Susan Seydel Janice Reynolds

Martha Smith

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

- 1. Menu subject to change.
- 2. Hot Lunch Prices: Student \$1.90; Adult- \$2.50
- 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. 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 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. Check Edline for the monthly menu; check the Barrister for the weekly menu and volunteer list.
- 8. Go to www.cafeprepay.com to check student account balances and to make credit card payments.

S.T.M. LUNCH MENU - WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

Daily Ala Cartes: Salads—Large-\$2.25; Small-\$1.80

Yogurt--\$0.70

Milk--\$0.50

Monday, September 20

Hamburger/Cheeseburger

Pickle Spear French Fries Fresh Fruit

Pudding Milk

Ala Carte: Burger \$1.50

Monday Volunteers Susan Dimopoulos Leticia Kotso Tuesday, September 21

Chicken Nuggets Spanish Rice

Tuesday Volunteers

Jennifer Halun

Susie Thompson

Diane Mikrut

Corn

Applesauce

Milk

Wednesday, September 22

Pepperoni Pizza Slice

Corn Fruit

Vanilla Wafers

Milk

Ala Carte: Pizza \$1.50

Wednesday Volunteers

Alice Balbo Dawn Fehr Amy Wiess

Thursday, September 23

Ham

Parslied Potatoes

Broccoli Bagel & Cream Cheese

Applecrisp or Pears

Milk

Ala Carte: Bagel & CC \$1.20

Thursday Volunteers
Tammy Savickis
Amy Osmulski
Lori Whelan

Friday, September 24

Cheese Quesadilla Salad/ Salsa Cup

Tater Tots

Peas or Carrots

Peaches Milk

Ala Carte: Quesadilla \$1.50

Friday Volunteers
Mary Brough
Dan Rusnak

Martha Smith

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