



# The Barrister

"Prefer nothing to the love of Christ."

April 7, 2011

St. John Baptist de la Salle



Our Patron Saint

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

Sts. Benedict and Scholastica



Blessed be God, the giver of salvation, who decreed that mankind should become a new creation in himself, when all would be made new. With great confidence let us ask him:  
*Lord, renew us in your Spirit.*

Lord, you promised a new heaven and a new earth; renew us daily through your Spirit,  
- that we may enjoy your presence for ever in the heavenly Jerusalem.  
Help us to work with you to make this world alive with your Spirit,  
- and to build on earth a city of justice, love and peace.  
Free us from all negligence and sloth,  
- and give us joy in your gifts of grace.  
Deliver us from evil,  
- and from slavery to the senses, which blinds us to goodness.



## Sacrament of Confirmation

Saturday, April 16, 2011  
His Excellency,  
Bishop Dale Melczek, will be in our parish to administer the Sacrament of Confirmation.

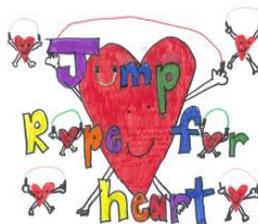
Wisdom  
Knowledge  
Counsel  
Fear (Awe) of the Lord  
Understanding  
Fortitude  
Piety



All are invited to come to the  
**10:30 AM**  
**Mass**  
**St. Thomas More Church**



We will be doing Hoops for Heart next week, **April 11-15**. Money is due **NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, APRIL 19**. The representative from the American Heart Association will be here the next day to collect all of the money. Our goal is to try and raise \$2500. The class that raises the most money will be given a pizza party before school ends this year.  
Thank you for all of your support and efforts. *Mr. Francis*



### Pope John Paul II will be beatified May 1.

Benedict XVI noted the approaching date: "While through the Lenten journey we prepare for the feast of Easter, we also draw near with joy to the day in which we will be able to venerate this great Pontiff and witness of Christ as Blessed, and entrust ourselves still more to his intercession."



Whoever wishes to be my follower must deny his very self, take up his cross each day, and follow in my steps. Luke 9:23

Good for LENT ...  
and BEYOND ...

A Lenten Reflection

- Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism—become an optimist.
- Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.
- Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.
- Give up discouragement—be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred—return good for evil.
- Give up negativism—be positive.
- Give up anger—be more patient.
- Give up pettiness—become mature.
- Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
- Give up jealousy—pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping—control your tongue.
- Give up sin—turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up—hang in there!



Fannie May  
money due:  
Friday, April 15th



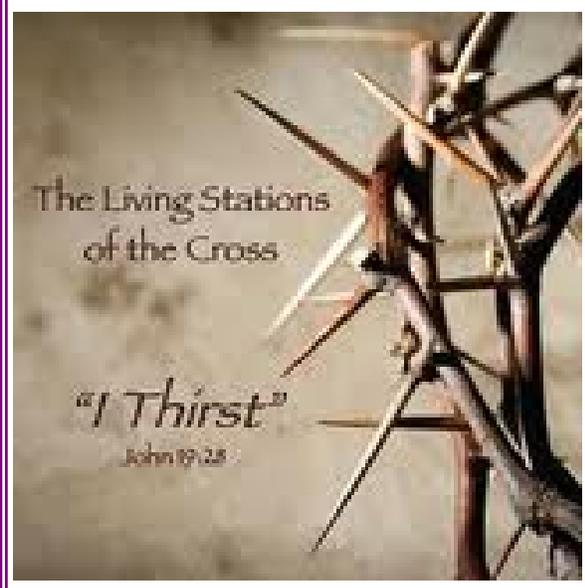
Clip.  
Earn.  
Help them  
learn!

SAVE UP TO 10% OFF  
EARN FREE STUFF FOR YOUR SCHOOL  
SAVE UP TO 10% OFF  
clip UPCs for LFE points!

God's kindness leads  
you toward  
repentance.

EDLINE *edlJNe* EDLINE EDLINE

WE LOVE JESUS!  
News you CAN use ... From T.R.I.P.



STMS 8th GRADE PRESENT:

*The Living Stations of the Cross*  
*St. Thomas More Church*  
*1:30 P.M.*  
*Friday, April 15, 2011*

Come, join us!

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER:

TRIP resumes April 11. Turn in orders by 8:30 am on Monday and receive your cards on Thursday after 3 pm.



**INCREASES:** From 4/2/11 through 4/15/11, **Home Depot** will increase from 4% to 6%.

From 4/9/11 through 4/29/11, **Shutterfly** (9% to 14%) and

**Overstock.com** (8% to 10%) will increase (Overstock--write in on back of form to order).

What's NEW from T.R.I.P.?

I offer it to You with all the love of my heart,

for I love You, Lord.

Into Your hands I commend my soul;

Use what talents you possess: the woods would be very silent if no birds sang there except those that sang best.

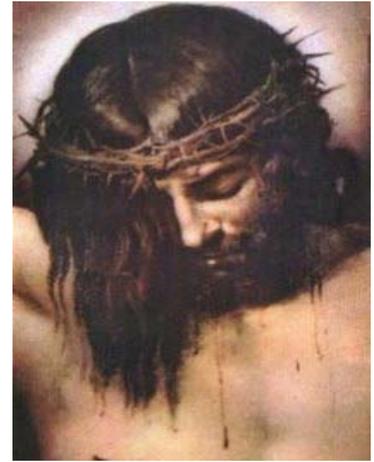
For your CALENDAR.



*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.

Let us ever glory  
in the cross  
of Christ,  
our salvation and  
our hope.



*“Look at His adorable face.  
Look at His glazed and sunken eyes.  
Look at His wounds.  
Look Jesus in the face.  
There, you will see how He loves us.”  
St. Therese of Lisieux*



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



## Confessions in School

**Confessions for the school children (grades 3-8) will be heard after the 8:30 AM morning Mass on Monday, April 18, 2011.**



## BULLYING PREVENTION PROGRAM THIS MAY AT MUNSTER HIGH SCHOOL

The Munster Police Department and Munster's CHOICE Community Council will be sponsoring a Bullying Prevention Program on Tuesday evening, May 10, 2011 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM at the Munster High School Auditorium (8808 Columbia Avenue, enter through the auditorium doors on the southwest side of the building). Admission is **FREE** and is open to any member of the public (parents are especially encouraged to attend, but children are welcome). During this important presentation, an area expert on bullying will provide information about its causes and effective prevention methods. There will also be school officials, social workers, and police officers on hand to answer questions and provide information about available resources that are available to both parents and bullying victims. For more information please contact Officer James Ghrist at 836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org).



## For your Family Calendar ...

Our St. Thomas More Parish Lenten Penance Service is:

Monday, April 18th at 7:00 P.M.

## SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Having any difficulties at school? Having a hard time with EDLINE? Need to ask a question? Just need to talk?

Please call my office. I am always available for you. 836-9151 ext. 328

**SCHOOL? NO  
CHURCH? YES!**



**No School**

Friday,  
April 22, 2011

*Let us kneel in homage  
at the cross of Christ.*



**Mass of  
HOLY CHRISM**

On Thursday, April 21st (*Holy Thursday*) the students in Eighth Grade will represent St. Thomas More at the *Cathedral of the Holy Angels* for the Mass of Holy Chrism. Father Mike will accompany the students and will give them a tour of the Cathedral Church of the Diocese of Gary.



**ANDREAN HIGH  
SCHOOL**

Application forms have been mailed to families of 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the STM/Andean Scholarship. This scholarship is for an 8<sup>th</sup> grade St. Thomas More student to attend Andean High School. The scholarship amount will be \$1,000 for the 2011-2012 school year.

Applications are due back to the school office by April 15<sup>th</sup>.



**8th Grade Parents:**

Dear parents, it is YOUR turn to help spiritually prepare your 8th grade child for Confirmation. Please help to prepare your sons and daughters to be **Spiritually** ready to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation **and** the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist, by having your son/daughter go to confession by Saturday (April 9th) .

Confessions are from 3:30 - 4:30 PM each Saturday. This gives parents a chance to go to confession, have a clean soul, and be prepared to receive the Holy Eucharist with your son/daughter at his/her Confirmation.

**Music, Music, Music ...**

 **SPRING MUSIC PROGRAM** The church is alive with the sound of music!

The Spring Program, featuring our awesome singers in Grades Kindergarten through Grade 3, will take place in St. Thomas More Church at 7:00 PM **Thursday evening.**

**Parents/Visitors:**

One of the areas of responsibility we hold close to our hearts is teaching our students proper behavior in the church. We always remind the children that our Lord, Jesus Christ, is very much present in the Tabernacle, and deserves the respect of reverential quiet.

We ask our parents & visitors to be mindful of this and to remember our holy Catholic Teaching of the True Presence of Jesus in the Tabernacle. Please follow the directions concerning pictures and loud conversation.

Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

# *Words to Help ...*

*From Mrs. McCabe, Counselor*

Add "Facebook depression" to potential harms linked with social media, an influential doctors' group warns, referring to a condition it says may affect troubled teens who obsess over the online site.

Researchers disagree on whether it's simply an extension of depression some kids feel in other circumstances, or a distinct condition linked with using the online site.

But there are unique aspects of Facebook that can make it a particularly tough social landscape to navigate for kids already dealing with poor self-esteem, said Dr. Gwenn O'Keeffe, a Boston-area pediatrician and lead author of new American Academy of Pediatrics social media guidelines.

With in-your-face friends' tallies, status updates and photos of happy-looking people having great times, Facebook pages can make some kids feel even worse if they think they don't measure up.

It can be more painful than sitting alone in a crowded school cafeteria or other real-life encounters that can make kids feel down, O'Keeffe said, because Facebook provides a skewed view of what's really going on. Online, there's no way to see facial expressions or read body language that provide context.

The guidelines urge pediatricians to encourage parents to talk with their kids about online use and to be aware of Facebook depression, cyberbullying, sexting and other online risks. They were published online Monday in Pediatrics.

Abby Abolt, 16, a Chicago high school sophomore and frequent Facebook user, says the site has never made her feel depressed, but that she can understand how it might affect some kids.

"If you really didn't have that many friends and weren't really doing much with your life, and saw other peoples' status updates and pictures and what they were doing with friends, I could see how that would make them upset," she said.

"It's like a big popularity contest – who can get the most friend requests or get the most pictures tagged," she said.

Also, it's common among some teens to post snotty or judgmental messages on the Facebook walls of people they don't like, said Gaby Navarro, 18, a senior from Grayslake, Ill. It's happened to her friends, and she said she could imagine how that could make some teens feel depressed.

"Parents should definitely know" about these practices," Navarro said. "It's good to raise awareness about it."

"Facebook is where all the teens are hanging out now. It's their corner store," O'Keeffe said.

She said the benefits of kids using social media sites like Facebook shouldn't be overlooked, however, such as connecting with friends and family, sharing pictures and exchanging ideas.

"A lot of what's happening is actually very healthy, but it can go too far," she said.

Dr. Megan Moreno, a University of Wisconsin adolescent medicine specialist who has studied online social networking among college students, said using Facebook can enhance feelings of social connectedness among well-adjusted kids, and have the opposite effect on those prone to depression.

Parents shouldn't get the idea that using Facebook "is going to somehow infect their kids with depression," she said.

St. Thomas More's 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class  
is sponsoring a



Featuring STMS kids!

Lake Perch / Baked Cod /  
Fried Shrimp Fish Fry

Friday, April 8, 2011

4:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. St. Thomas More Social Center

**Ballet Folkloric of East Chicago will perform at 6:15 p.m.**

Adults \$10.00 Children \$5.00

Dinners include:

Lake Perch, Fried Shrimp, or Potato En-  
crusted Cod (baked),  
French Fries, 3 Bean Salad, Cole Slaw,  
Beets,

Bread & Butter, Condiments, Pop/Coffee

Adult beverages, pop refills, macaroni & cheese  
and desserts will be available for an additional cost.

**Carryouts are also available!**

**Thank you in advance for your  
support!**

**All proceeds benefit the 8<sup>th</sup>  
grade class trip to  
Washington D.C. in June.**



Call Kathleen at 836-2660

*Eat fish, live longer!*

LAKE PERCH

FRIED SHRIMP

## EIGHTH GRADE PARENTS CONFIRMATION REMINDERS ...

### Practice

Friday, April 15, 2011  
Arrival: 5:45 P.M.

### CONFIRMATION DAY

Saturday, April 16, 2011  
Arrival: 9:45 A.M.

### Dress Code for the Confirmation Mass

#### Boys:

Dress slacks, dress shirt, tie (jacket or  
sweater optional)  
No jeans, athletic shoes or T-shirts

#### Girls:

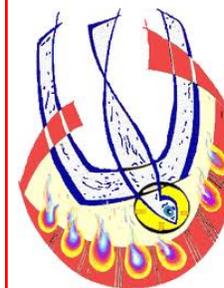
Dress, skirt with appropriate sweater or  
blouse, or pantsuit

No low cut, spaghetti-strap, strapless or  
backless tops **shoulders MUST be  
covered**

No mini-skirts or tight fitting clothing  
Skirts should be at least **knee-length**.

Do not wear any ornamentation that  
denotes non-Christian attitudes and  
values.

**PARENTS ...** Please assist us in regard  
to make-up. In addition, parents  
**PLEASE** make sure your student is  
**NOT** chewing gum. Bishop has noticed  
this in previous years.



#### Questions?

Please contact  
**Mrs. Morgan**  
Director of  
Religious Formation

836-9151

Lord, by your Cross and Resurrection, You have Redeemed the world.



**Market Day**  
Family of Fundraisers

We would like to thank everyone who supports our monthly Market Day sales. Last month families earned 20% towards their tuition credit. This month, Dessert Bonus Days are back! When you purchase Market Day desserts, you can earn more for your tuition credit-up to 30% if together we sell over 100 desserts. There are ten high quality pies, cheesecakes and individual desserts, all \$13 and under. Please look for your April order guide to come home soon or visit marketday.com to order today.

For the month of April we need **1st grade families to come and help with our sale.**

**Pickup is on Monday April 11th.**

**Volunteers are needed from 3:30-5:00.**

Tammy Forbes  
Market Day  
NWIN Account Rep219-448-0618



*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.*

**Man can't live by bread alone.**

*Remember you are dust ...*

*and to dust you shall return.*

+ JMJ

Dear Parents:

Our Lenten practices, whatever they may be, are much more than pious devotions. Whether our practice takes the form of "giving up" dessert during Lent, redoubling our efforts at prayer, increasing our contribution to help those in need, fasting, or abstaining from meat, they are all to be understood as a Spirit-assisted effort to empty ourselves of all that would stand in the way of being filled to overflowing with the light and life and love of God. Do we really have room enough for God?

So many of us live amid so much clutter, so much noise. We travel through life at breakneck speed. Lent is the time to empty ourselves not only of the seemingly never-ending stuff, sound and speed in our lives, but also of our pettiness, our prejudice, our anxiety, our fear. It is an opportunity to make room, not only for God, but for those who come our way. How open is our door to those who come to us? Is there room enough in our hearts and our homes for those in need?

To the question, *Who is my neighbor?* Jesus' answer is clear. As his disciples, we are called to attend to the last, littlest, lowest and least in society and in the Church. As we enter Holy Week, join me in committing our Lenten practices to making room for the stranger in our midst, praying for the courage and strength to offer our spiritual ministry to all who come to us, offering our prayer and support for the ones in our midst who, like Jesus, have no place to rest their heads (Matthew 8:20).

Be assured of my prayers as we walk with Jesus.

Chet Nordyke, Principal

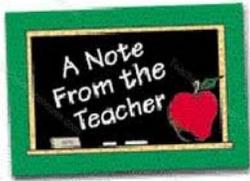
**St. Thomas More, pray for us.  
St. Benedict, pray for us.  
St. Scholastica, pray for us.  
St. Francis, pray for us.  
Let us pray for one another.**



# Sing to the Lord ...

Auditions for third grade students interested in being cantors will be held on Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 4:00 pm in church. Cantors lead the congregation in singing the responsorial psalm and alleluia at school Masses. **Cantors must be Catholic.** If your child is interested in auditioning to be a cantor, please fill out the form, given to the children, and return it to Mrs. Javorka by **April 15<sup>th</sup>**. On April 19<sup>th</sup>, please pick up your child in church at 4:00 pm.

Thank you,  
Mrs. Javorka  
Music Teacher



Parents: Please remind the children that we still have PLENTY of school days left to this year. Children are arriving at classes without pencils, pens, paper, etc. Please “replenish” the important parts of the supply list.

Thanks,  
*St. Thomas More Faculty*

## “Spring” Into Action to Reduce Screen Time and Get Active



Parents and caregivers should set rules that reduce “screen time” by limiting the amount of time children spend on the computer, watching TV and playing video games. The time spent in front of the screen could be better spent being more physically active.



### Talk to Your Family

Explain to your child/ren that it's important to sit less and move more in order to stay healthy. Health experts suggest no more than two hours of computer or television time per day unless it's related to work or homework. Children younger than two should be kept away from the TV entirely. Don't use TV time as reward or punishment; practices like this make TV seem even more important to children.

### Set Screen Time Limits and a Good Example

Create a house rule that limits screen time to one to two hours every day. More importantly, enforce the rule. You need to be a good role model and limit your screen time to no more than two hours per day, too. If your kids see you following your own rules, they're more likely to do the same.

### Log Screen Time vs. Active Time

To get a sense of what changes may need to be made in your household, track your family's screen time and active time. First, log how much time your family spends in front of a screen, including things like watching TV and movies, playing video games and using the computer (outside of school or work). Then, look at how much time the family spends doing physical activities, such as walking, doing active chores or playing sports together. If you see that your family logs more hours in front of the screen than being active, sit down together and set goals to increase

your physical activity.

# WELL BITS

He who is kind to the poor lends to the LORD,  
and he will reward him for what he has done.



## National Junior Honor Society

### HELP THOSE IN NEED

IN KEEPING WITH THE LENTEN TRADITION OF  
ALMS GIVING,  
THE NJHS IS ASKING THAT ALL STUDENTS GIVE A  
DONATION OF \$2.00 OR MORE TO ASSIST THOSE  
DEVESTATED BY THE EARTHQUAKE/Tsunami IN  
JAPAN.



JUST GIVE YOUR DONATION TO YOUR HOMEROOM  
TEACHER ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13<sup>TH</sup>.

ALL DONATIONS WILL BE SENT, THROUGH  
CATHOLIC CHARITIES, TO A CATHOLIC CHURCH IN  
JAPAN THAT WAS DAMAGED.

THANK YOU IN ADVANCE FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Whoever closes his ear to the cry of the poor  
will himself call out and not be answered.

*Share with God's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.*

*"He who obtains has little. He who scatters has much."*

## Subject: Faith *A Story for Lent and Everyday ...*

A blind boy sat on the steps of a building with a hat by his feet. He held up a sign which said: "I am blind, please help." There were only a few coins in the hat.



A man was walking by. He took a few coins from his pocket and dropped them into the hat. He then took the sign, turned it around, and wrote some words. He put the sign back so that everyone who walked by would see the new words. Soon the hat began to fill up.

A lot more people were giving money to the blind boy. That afternoon the man who had changed the sign came to see how things were. The boy recognized his footsteps and asked, "Were you the one who changed my sign this morning? What did you write?"



The man said, "I only wrote the truth. I said what you said but in a different way. "I wrote: "Today is a beautiful day; but I cannot see it.""

Both signs told people that the boy was blind. But the first sign simply said the boy was blind. The second sign reminded people how fortunate they were to have their sight. Should we be surprised that the second sign was more effective?



### Moral of the Story:

Be thankful for what you have. Be creative. Be innovative. Think differently and positively. When life gives you a 100 reasons to cry, show life that you have 1000 reasons to smile. Face your past without regret. Handle your present with confidence. Prepare for the future without fear. Keep the faith and drop the fear. It's a beautiful thing to see a person smiling. But even more beautiful is knowing that you are the reason for the smile!

Faith is not about everything turning out OK; Faith is about being OK no matter how things turn out. Enjoy this beautiful day with a heart full of gratitude.



**“DARE NIGHT” AT THE RAILCATS STEEL YARD-  
GARY SOUTHSORE RAILCATS VS. ST. PAUL SAINTS**

**Saturday, June 18, 2011 at 6:10PM**

**\$10.00 for each ticket (\$3.00 goes back to the Munster DARE Program)**

Parents, fifth graders, their siblings and friends are invited to attend this year’s DARE Night at the RailCats Steel Yard.

DARE students from all of the surrounding communities will be participating that evening and students are encouraged to wear their DARE T-shirts to the game. The community that has the most participants will have a representative throw out the first pitch!

- \* To participate, please send **\$10.00** for each ticket (**checks made payable to the Gary RailCats**) to the address below (please include your name and address for mailing purposes). Please note that this is not a school field trip and parents are responsible for transporting and chaperoning their children.

**Munster Police Department  
c/o Officer James Ghrist  
1001 Ridge Road  
Munster, Indiana 46321**

Tickets will only be sold through the end of May and seats from our reserved section will be distributed randomly until they are sold out. For more information, please contact D.A.R.E. Officer James Ghrist at 836-6639 or [jghrist@munster.org](mailto:jghrist@munster.org).

**We hope to see you there!**

- ◆ The event is not only for fifth graders, but their parents, siblings, and friends. Parents can order as many tickets as they want to order.
- ◆ Parents must transport their children to the game and are responsible for chaperoning their own children as well.
- ◆ The game is called “DARE Night” as several other communities will also be advertising the event to their DARE students and selling tickets to them (and their families).
- ◆ If students want to go, their parents need to mail \$10.00 for each ticket to Officer James Ghrist at the police department (address is on the flyer) and include their name and address so that tickets can be mailed to them.
- ◆ The individual seats will be provided from the front to the back. Officer Ghrist will distribute the closer seats to the people who order them first and will distribute them until he runs out of tickets. He have 200 to sell but can possibly get more.
- ◆ If our town has the most participants, I will get to choose one student to throw out the first pitch before the game.
- ◆ The seats are supposedly right behind home plate and slightly along the first base line, according to the Dyer officer who is helping organize.
- ◆ There are a limited amount of tickets, so parents should get their orders in as soon as possible.

# S.T.M. LUNCH MENU – WEEK OF APRIL 11, 2011

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

Yogurt--\$0.70

Milk--\$0.50

## Monday, April 11

Hot Dog/Chili Dog  
Baked Beans/Carrots  
Nacho Chips & Salsa  
Mixed Fruit  
Fruit Snack Bag  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Hot Dog \$1.20*

## Monday Volunteers

Lee Ann Mellon  
Maria Cano  
Leticia Romero-Kotso

## Thursday, April 14

Ham  
Parslied Potatoes  
California Mixed Veggies  
Bagel & Cream Cheese  
Applecrisp or Fruit  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Bagel & CC \$1.20*

## Thursday Volunteers

Catherine Olsen  
Pauline Brett  
Janet McComis

## Tuesday, April 12

Chicken Tacos **OR**  
Beef Taco Sticks  
Lettuce/Cheese Salsa  
Tater Tots  
Sherbet  
Fresh Fruit  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Taco Stick \$0.90(3)*

*Ala Carte: Taco \$1.20*

## Tuesday Volunteers

Kim Cipowski  
Lisa Dato  
Jeanne Mossburg

## Friday, April 15

Cheese Pizza  
Salad  
Peaches  
Rice Krispie Treat  
Milk

*Ala Carte: Pizza \$1.50*

## Friday Volunteers

Vesna Sopic  
Diana Perez  
Dan Rusnak

## Wednesday, April 13

Spaghetti w/ Meat Sauce  
Cheese Slice  
Green Beans  
Muffin  
Pears  
Milk



## Wednesday Volunteers

Roz Fields  
Dawn Fehr  
Kathy Pettis



LENT ...



a journey to what matters most.

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Menu subject to change.

Hot Lunch Prices: **Student - \$1.90; Adult- \$2.50**

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.

**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.

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.**

Check **Edline** for the monthly menu; check the Barrister for the weekly menu and volunteer list.

Go to [www.cafeprepay.com](http://www.cafeprepay.com) to check student account balances and to make credit card payments.