

# Counting Our Blessings

St. Ann School

Mr. Craig King, Principal

October 1, 2009

2009

## Oktoberfest

- The countdown has begun, only eight days until Oktoberfest. We are hoping that all our hard work has paid off and we will have the most successful Oktoberfest yet. We have used many avenues of P.R., but the best P.R. is word of mouth. Invite everyone you know, neighbors, family, co-workers, and friends.
- It is very important that everyone is aware of their Oktoberfest work assignment. If you are not sure what you are signed up for, please call the school office at 775-1301. Your involvement is critical in making this event a success.
- Oktoberfest starts at 5:00 PM, on October 10th. The menu for the evening includes Pulled Pork or Marinated Chicken Breast Fillet, Tossed Salad, Cheesy Potatoes, Dessert, and a Beverage for \$7. A Hot Dog meal will also be available for \$4. Dinner hours are from 5:00 - 7:30 PM.
- The events for the evening include a Silent Auction, Cash Raffle, Themed Basket Raffle, Cash Bingo at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Children's Games, and a Laser Shoot with Ranger Rick.
- A variety of children's games are available and are open from 5:00 - 8:00 PM, in the classrooms.
- The St. Ann Oktoberfest Silent Auction is a great place to find some unique and creative gifts. Christmas is right around the corner, and the Silent Auction might have just what you're looking for. We have items big and small, such as gift certificates, gift baskets, MSU game tickets, a Red Wing autographed puck, YMCA enrollment certificate, Avalanche Bay passes, home accessories, jewelry, and much more.
- We are still in need of a 12-pack of pop or water from each family. The pop-drop is outside the gym. Meijer has Coke products on sale this week, check it out!
- Drop off a cake for the Cake Walk either on Friday, October 9th, in the kitchen or Saturday, 9:00 AM - Noon. Make sure your cake is on a dish/platter that you do not expect to get back.
- Blue Raffle ticket stubs and money need to be turned in by Monday, October 5th.
- When you come to the Oktoberfest, please park in the front church parking lot. The lot will be properly lit, and we would like to reserve as much space as possible for the parishioners and public in the back lot.

### – ST. ANN SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT –

Guided by the Holy Spirit, we at St. Ann School provide a Catholic education that meets the needs of students spiritually, academically, physically, and socially.

### Weekend Mass Schedule

Saturday: 4:00 PM

Sunday: 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 5:30 PM

### Lunch Program

Are you feeling the effects of the harsh economic times? Below is a chart from the State of Michigan to see if your family qualifies for free or reduced lunch at St. Ann School. All applications are confidential, even the student receiving free or reduced lunch does not know they are a recipient.

Total Family Size	Annual Income	Monthly Income	Twice per Month	Every Two Weeks	Weekly Income
1	\$20,036	\$1,670	\$835	\$771	\$386
2	\$26,955	\$2,247	\$1,124	\$1,037	\$519
3	\$33,874	\$2,823	\$1,412	\$1,303	\$652
4	\$40,793	\$3,400	\$1,700	\$1,569	\$785
5	\$47,712	\$3,976	\$1,988	\$1,836	\$918
6	\$54,631	\$4,553	\$2,277	\$2,102	\$1,051
7	\$61,550	\$5,130	\$2,565	\$2,368	\$1,184
8	\$68,469	\$5,706	\$2,853	\$2,634	\$1,317
*For each additional household member add:	\$6,919*	\$577*	\$289*	\$267*	\$134*

Your children may qualify for free or reduced price meals if your household income falls within the limits on this chart. You may apply for free lunch at LunchApp.com and look for Church of St. Ann-St. Edward under district selection. Free/reduced paper application are also available outside the school office. If you have any questions, feel free to call Terry Duley at 775-1301.

Tuesday, October 13th, there will be a free t-shirt drawing for anyone who takes hot lunch. Make sure you sign up for hot lunch in the morning to have a chance to win a t-shirt.

Reminder that lunch supervisors need to be here by 11: 00 AM.

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### *Partners in Faith*

Please read the attached *Partners in Faith* as it is a great resource for parents. Notice how gathering with your family at Mass is emphasized and Eucharist is mentioned three times.

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### ISD Services

In partnership with the Wexford/Missaukee ISD, St. Ann School receives the services of Luke Scanlon, Occupational Therapist, and Barb Witkowski, Physical Therapist, Diana Johnson, Speech Therapist, who also has a preschooler here. St. Ann School also has the privilege of the services of Angela Simmons, Teacher Consultant, and Gary Berkebile, Psychologist.

## Upcoming Events

### October

2nd-NO SCHOOL- Conferences  
 5th-Parent Teacher Conferences PM  
 5th-4th/5th Spirits @ St. Peter, 5:30  
 5th-6th/7th Spirits @ Trinity, 6:30  
 8th-4t/5th Spirits vs CCA 6:30  
 8th-6th/7th Spirits @ CCA 5:00  
 10th-**Oktoberfest, 5:00 PM**  
 12th-4th/5th Spirits @ Trinity, 5:30  
 15th-4th/5th Spirits @ St. Michael, 5:30  
 15th-6th/7th Spirits vs CCA 5:00  
 19th-6th/7th Spirits vs St. Peter, 6:30  
 20th-4th/5th Spirits vs Heritage Christian @ Temple Hill Baptist, 5:00  
 22nd-4th/5th Spirits vs St. Peter 6:30  
 22nd-6th/7th Spirits @ Renaissance 6:30  
 23rd-PALS  
 26th-Advisory Mtg. 6:30 PM, Parish Hall  
 28th-Halloween parade & parties (Revised) 1:00 PM  
 28th-Muffins with Moms, 7:30 AM Parish Hall

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### Charitable Giving

Plan ahead for year-end charitable giving and please consider the St. Ann School Endowment Fund established through the Cadillac Area Community Foundation (CACF). There are three ways to give, you may call 231-775-9911, stop in the school office or go to [www.cadillacfoundation.org](http://www.cadillacfoundation.org)

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### Calendar Revision

In keeping with a change in CAPS schedule, we will now have school on Wednesday, November 25th. Please mark your calendar.

# Partners in FAITH™

Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

October 2009



## Thoughtful Moments

### Mass

Living a Christian life is not supported by our society today. Our children will have many opportunities to stray from living their faith. Gathering for the Eucharist every weekend is a way we strengthen our children to help them live a Christian life.

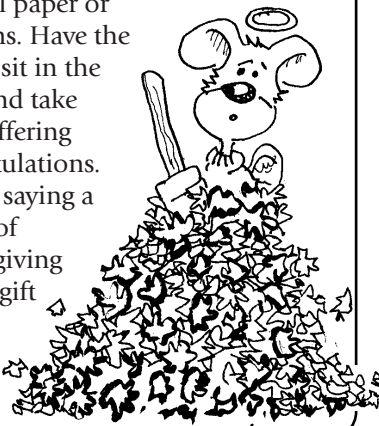


### Swaperoo

Try swapping places at the dinner or breakfast table for a change of view. Throughout the meal, act like the person whose position you took. It'll be fun to see what life looks like from a different perspective.

### The Honor Chair

When someone in the family has a reason to be celebrated, set aside a place of honor at the dinner table or in the family room. Designate a special chair and drape it with colorful paper or balloons. Have the person sit in the chair and take turns offering congratulations. End by saying a prayer of thanksgiving for the gift of your family.

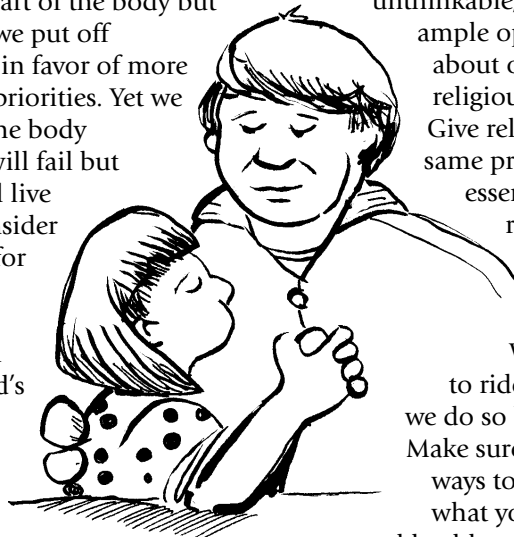


## Care for the most important part of your child

As Catholic parents, we know that our child's soul is the most important part of the body but sometimes we put off nurturing it in favor of more immediate priorities. Yet we know that the body eventually will fail but the soul will live forever. Consider these ideas for raising a strong, healthy soul in your child's body:

**Feed the soul like you would the body.**

Spiritual nourishment can come from attending Mass every weekend, receiving the Sacraments, and encouraging a regular prayer habit. Encourage prayer as a family, too.



**Educate the soul.** Denying a child a proper academic education is unthinkable, so make sure to provide ample opportunities to learn about our faith through religious education programs. Give religious education class the same priority as any other essential subject. Periodically review the homework, check on progress, and don't let him miss class.

**Show by example.**

When we teach our child to ride a bike or tie his shoe, we do so by showing him how. Make sure to also show your child ways to live the faith. Discuss what you do to keep your own soul healthy and strong.

**Daily exercise is key.** We only get better by practice. Make sure your child practices her faith every day. Prayer and service to others are two easy ways to start.

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

### Why do Catholics have animals blessed in October?

This custom is observed in honor of St. Francis of Assisi, whose feast day is October 4th. This great saint saw himself as a brother to all creation.

St. Francis is credited with the first Christmas crèche because

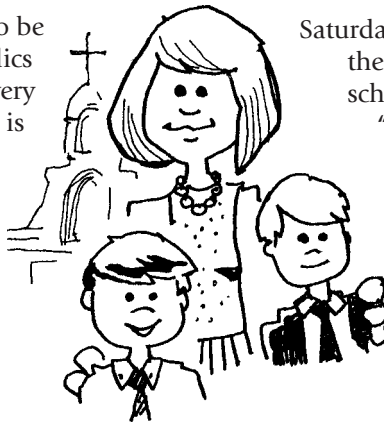


he believed all of creation should be involved in the celebration of Christmas. One story about him says that he once preached to a flock of birds that remained completely still until he gave them a blessing and urged them to go forth and proclaim God's glory.

## Don't be too busy for Mass every weekend

Studies show that the best way for parents to be sure their children will remain faithful Catholics when they grow up is to take them to Mass every weekend. That's how children learn that Jesus is there for them now and always. If you have trouble getting your family to Mass every weekend, consider this:

*"Weekends are a busy time for our family."* Schedule Mass on the calendar the way you would an important soccer game or dance performance. There are many different Mass times at different parishes, including



Saturday vigils and Sunday nights. Think of Mass the way you do a favorite television show and schedule it in.

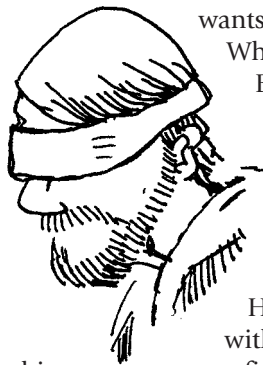
*"My children go to religious education class. Isn't that enough?"* Giving children a firm grounding in the faith is very important but without taking them to Mass every Sunday, it's like serving them a steak dinner that's missing the steak. Jesus is present, body and blood, every Sunday in your church. Don't miss the chance to bring your children there, too.

### Scripture LESSON

### Mark 10:46-52, a blind man shows the way

A blind beggar saw Jesus more clearly than the followers who were his companions. Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was near and cried out, "Son of David," a title reserved for the Messiah. Although people tried to quiet him, Bartimaeus persisted and Jesus finally noticed him and had his disciples call him over.

Bartimaeus responded by casting aside his cloak and rushing to Jesus. Even the little he had was thrown aside. The only person in Mark's gospel to call Jesus, "Master," Bartimaeus stood before Jesus humble and confident



that his prayer would be answered. It is this profound trust that Jesus wants to elicit from the crowd.

When his prayer was answered, Bartimaeus followed Jesus as his disciple.

*What can a parent do?* Sometimes difficulties of being

Christian can blind us to the joys of following Jesus.

Help children approach Jesus with excitement and confidence. When we trust him as Bartimaeus did, we become true disciples who can tackle the difficult task of leading others down the road to God.

### Parent TALK

It always bugs me that All Saints Day gets overshadowed by Halloween. Last year, I thought of a way to combine them. I challenged my son to bypass the superheroes and instead portray his favorite saint.

After scouring through books, Joshua decided on St. Michael. When we read how he led the angels in the great battle against Satan, Joshua was proud to dress as someone still protecting us today.

We found a cool warrior costume and put a cross on the chest. We made wings and a spear from cardboard we painted silver. It was perfect.

As we went door-to-door, neighbors asked him what character he was dressed as and Joshua beamed as he replied, "St. Michael the Archangel."

Not only did Joshua get more candy that night, he made quite an impression on the neighbors. After all, it's not every day you're in the company of an angel.



### Feasts & Celebrations

**Oct. 7 - Our Lady of the Rosary (1571).** Pope Pius V created this feast to thank Our Lady of Victory who helped the Christians defeat the Ottoman Turks. The feast was renamed Our Lady of the Rosary by Pope Gregory XIII.

**Oct. 15 - St. Teresa of Avila (1583).** Founder of a strict religious order whose nuns wore rough brown habits and sandals instead of shoes. St. Teresa founded more than 17 convents of Discalced Carmelites and helped reform the Carmelite friars.

**Oct. 18 - St. Luke (1st century).** St. Luke was a Christian physician from

Antioch who wrote two books of the Bible. His Gospel and Acts of the Apostles were probably written between 70 and 85 A.D.

**Oct. 28 - Saint Simon and Saint Jude (1st century).** St. Simon was a Zealot who once expected the Messiah to be a political leader. St. Jude was a fisherman. After being called by Jesus as apostles, they evangelized until they were martyred in Persia.



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.growinginfaith.com>  
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