

MARCH 2010 NEWSLETTER



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Who in your life influenced your faith? Who shaped your view of religion and spirituality? Was it a parent, a priest, a nun, a good friend, or someone else?

I know that in my life there have been many people that have planted the seeds of faith. Some were great teachers who opened up the scriptures for me. Then there were those individuals who reminded me of how much God loves me. I have found great inspiration in those people who have maintained their faith, even when faced with great tragedies or illness.

As I reflect, I am thankful that God continues to place people in my life to help guide me, but I am most thankful for the role my own parents played in raising me. They were daily role models in terms of how to live a life that protects your faith.

As parents, it is our job to plant the seeds now, when our children's hearts are ready. Are you encouraging your family to pray together? Are you setting a good example by attending Mass and encouraging your children to listen? Are you helping them with their faith formation by discussing the readings after Mass? Are you planting the seeds of faith?



IMPORTANT DATES/FACTS

- March 1 – 2nd Grade Reconciliation/First Holy Communion Retreat @ 6:30 p.m. in Auditorium
- March 12 – Snow Make-up Day for December 9
- March 16 – 2nd Grade First Reconciliation @ 6:30 p.m. in Church
- March 22 – Reconciliation for Grades 3, 4, and 5.
- March 22 to March 29 – IOWA Testing
- March 27 – Reading Competition for 4th & 5th grade team members @ Bellefonte High School
- April 1 – Snow Make-up Day for February 10
- April 2 – Vacation – Good Friday
- April 16 – First Holy Communion Practice from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- April 17 – First Holy Communion @ 10 a.m.
- April 28 – Grandparents are welcome to join us for 9 a.m. Mass, followed by a short get-together in grandchild's classroom.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Congratulations to **Marian Wayne** who received our **Distinguished Graduate Award** for 2010. She is a 1949 graduate of St. John School. Mrs. Wayne believes her early education in a Catholic school and the influence of the sisters gave her a solid foundation on which to continue to build her faith, know more about God and His teachings, and become closer to Him. She also believes that Catholic schools are the best environment for children to build a strong faith foundation, while getting to know God and His love for us. She taught our CCD classes for 19 years, and more recently, worked in the school cafeteria. She remains active in the Church by assisting with church cleanings, parish dinners, fish fries, funeral dinners, and Summer Fest. She is also an active member of the Catholic Daughters and the Legion of Mary. Thank you and congratulations to Marian Wayne!
- We are extremely grateful to the **Knights of Columbus** for their \$900 donation that will be awarded in six \$150 scholarships for the 2010-2011 school year. It is not based on financial need or academic excellence, but chosen randomly. One student from each grade will receive this scholarship to aid their family in fulfilling their tuition obligation for next year. The 2010-2011 recipients are: Isaac Dechow-Kindergarten; Anna Cingle-1; Elizabeth Marchini-2; Grace Sherman-3; Alyssa Brezler-4; and James O'Donald-5. God bless the Knights for their generosity and continued support of our school and Catholic education.
- **Giant A+ Program** – We recently earned \$405.75 from Giant for the month of January. This brings our four-month total to \$1,665.95. Thank you to everyone who registered Giant Bonuscards so that we are able to earn cash for our school.
- Thank you to everyone who visited the **Fun Fair**, bought raffle tickets, or donated items. We really appreciated your support and participation in this event. Thanks also to Heather Moyer, Amy Carmack, and their team of volunteers for giving of their time and talent to organize and facilitate the day's events.
- Thank you to Tim Glunt, owner of the Hofbrau, for his **pizza voucher fundraiser** in memory of his mother, Susan. We raised \$1,710 and would like to thank all of our parents who again made this fundraiser a success.
- Thank you to **Brittany Sherman** for donating her time and talent to paint the school logo in our foyer. We have received many compliments on the lovely job she did.
- We would like to thank the **Catholic Schools' Week Parent Committee**, comprised of Amy Carmack, Lori Dempsey, Melissa Sinner, and Natalie Stanton, for all of their planning and implementation of activities for our students and families during Catholic Schools' Week. We would also like to thank Corinna Anskis for coordinating our National Food Day event. Their time and enthusiasm were so very appreciated by the students, faculty, and staff.
- **Interscholastic Reading Competition** will be held on Saturday, March 27 at Bellefonte High School. Members of the St. John Salamanders are under the direction of Mrs. Wolfe and include Bella Bevilacqua, Sofia Bjalme, Angela Capparelle, Erinn Cavanaugh, Morgan Dubbs, Emma Holderman, Ryan Lidgett, Rose Maggs, Toni Masullo, Kylie Schultz, and Amber Smoyer. Good luck at the competition.
- **Tuition Reminder** – If you've selected the two-payment tuition plan, the March payment is now due. Families must be current with all tuition payments by the last day of school to receive the end-of-year report card. In addition, for students transferring from or not returning to St. John School, permanent records will not be forwarded to the new school until all tuition is paid in full. Thank you for your commitment to St. John School.
- **Tuition Contracts for the 2010-2011 school year are now past due.** We ask for your quick response in completing and returning outstanding contracts because we are unable to complete a budget for next school year without this information. Thank you for your cooperation.