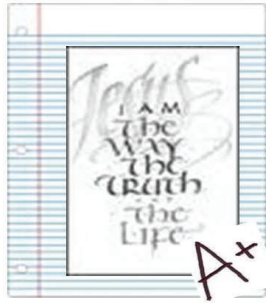


Teach us the Wisdom of God



St. Monica News & Weekly Reminder

March 15, 2010

Lunch Duty Schedule:
11:00–1:15 pm

This Week :

Monday 3/15: M. Cushman,
M. Wronski, K. Fritsch

Tuesday 3/16: No Lunch,
11:30 Dismissal

Wednesday 3/17: B. Beck,
L. Neisner, C. Eck March

Thursday 3/18: D. Hansterfer,
S. Casey, K. Brennan

Friday 3/19: S. Laudon,
T. Clark, T. Stillman,
N. Pienkos

Next Week:

Monday, 3/22: S. Martin,
T. Chick, K. Campbell

Tuesday, 3/23: M. Hines,
A. Lyons, N. Lasky

Wednesday, 3/24: K. Comisky,
C. Bassindale, A. Strother

Thursday, 3/25:
M. Flejsierowicz, M. Quirk,
J. Marino, P. Schmirler

Friday, 3/26: C. Cirulis,
L. Phillips, Tom Harris,
N. Pienkos

This Week At A Glance...

Tuesday 3/16: •All School Mass: 8:30 (Schmidt)
•**Early Dismissal: 11:30** - Staff In-service

Thursday 3/18: •Ladies of Charity Clothing Drive:
8:00 - Parking Lot
•SCRIP Sale: 3:00 - Outside of the Library

Coming Up Next Week...

Tuesday 3/23 •All School Mass: 8:30 (Bond)

Thursday 3/25: •SCRIP Sale: 3:00 - Outside of the Library
•Market Day Pick Up

Entire School Community Invited! Potluck Dinner/Open Gym!

Let's pack the gym, let the kids run free and share some good food! Come to our annual Spring Potluck dinner/open gym on Sunday, March 21st from 5pm-7pm (dinner at 6) in the Franciscan room and the gym. Whether you've been at St. Monica for years or you are a newbie, the potluck is an opportunity to connect with other families in a casual, warm atmosphere. It's a great way for our new families to meet more experienced families. The event is sponsored by the Development and Multicultural Committees, and prospective families are also welcome, so invite your friends considering SMS. We provide drinks and tableware; each family brings a dish to pass. See below for what to bring, but if you have a favorite recipe, don't worry about the alphabet, just bring your specialty!!

Last names A-K: Salads - lettuce, pasta, fruit, jello, vegetable

Last names M-S: Main dishes - casseroles, soup, sandwiches, pasta, meat, quiche

Last names T-Z: Desserts - cookies, cakes, pies, bars

Questions or to help with event: Contact Annemarie Scobey-Polacheck or Martha Cushman

**From The
Principal ...**

Dear St. Monica School Families,

*I am often asked advice regarding parenting and student performance. Here are some tips I have found helpful-

1. Develop consistent and fair family rules.
2. Develop clear guidelines and limits for your children’s behavior and activities.
3. Respect your children’s feelings and attitudes.
4. Help you children develop a strong sense of self-esteem.
5. Help your children develop good study habits.
6. Develop an open line of communication with your children; discuss their problems and fears with them.
7. Seek advice or counseling if problems arise.
8. Know your children’s friends and parents.
9. Know where your children are. Monitor their text messages and Facebook pages.
10. Meet with your children’s school staff if you have questions.

*Milton Creagh, one of today's most in-demand speakers in America, will be speaking with the junior high school students from both Holy Family and St. Monica on Friday, March 19th in Donovan Hall. A letter including Milton Creagh’s making good decisions presentation will be sent to all 6th – 8th grade parents.

*Congratulations to our 8th girls basketball team for their amazing effort this year! Congratulations to our forensics team for their successes!

Thank you for the many comments, phone calls, and emails regarding my departure. I appreciate your thoughtfulness!

Sincerely,

Maria Schram
Principal

**Home & School
Co-Presidents Scoop
Barbara Diamond & Kate Neitzel**

VARIETY SHOW DIRECTORS: Checks have been distributed to directors for expenses related to variety show. For the sake of our wonderful treasurer, please cash your check promptly. Lost checks make accounting difficult and adds unnecessary expenses for home and school. If you have not received your check, please contact one of the Variety Show chairs. Also, we ask that you keep your class’ expenses within the budget you have been given. Directors should not solicit additional funds from parents.

VOLUNTEER FORMS: We are confident ALL of you have returned your volunteer forms and we look forward to working with you next year! If for SOME reason you have not yet returned it, please do so ASAP. All school families are expected to contribute to our Home and School Association. Should you have any questions about any of our home and school activities or if we may assist you in any way, please do not hesitate to call!

Have a great week!

Barbara & Kate

Track

All 5th thru 8th grade girls and boys interested in Track, please meet in the Library after school on Friday March 19th.

Development**Corner****Tom Mlada****Reminder: Spring Potluck Dinner**

Please plan on joining us for our upcoming Spring Potluck Dinner, scheduled for Sunday, March 21st from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in the Franciscan Room. ***Please note the change in date and time (to a dinner format) – it is listed as a brunch on March 14th on the school calendar.*** All SMS families are invited to the festivities; dinner will begin around 5:30 p.m. Please see the attachment to today's Weekly Reminder for additional information.

The event, sponsored by the SMS Multicultural Arts and Recruitment Committees, will feature food (and lots of it!), fun (with open gym for the kids!), and fellowship with other SMS families. It is a wonderful opportunity to relax and catch up a bit with other school families in an informal setting. All attending families are asked to bring a favorite dish to pass and enjoy some time chatting with other parents while the kids play. Drinks and tableware will be provided.

Please join us the evening of the 21st for this special school community celebration!

Welcome Committee Program 2010-2011

Are you looking for a free and easy way in which to make a positive difference for our school community? Well, whether you are a relatively new school family or have been a part of the school community for a number of years, you can help by volunteering for our "Welcome Committee" program

The "Welcome Committee" program is designed to help ease the transition for new families and to help them become acclimated and feel welcome within the SMS community. Essentially, the program assigns small groups of our new school families to one current school parent, who in effect functions as their welcome point of contact. Our Welcome Committee team members typically reach out to their new school families once per month via e-mail or phone and provide an update about upcoming school events, activities, or traditions. There really is no expense in volunteering; the only "requirement" is a monthly outreach or personal contact with new families.

This school year, I had the pleasure of working with six school parents who were instrumental in welcoming, inviting, involving and engaging our 28 new school families. I want to thank these six school parents who served on the Welcome Committee, who so positively impacted the first-year experience of those new to our SMS community:

Marisa Klopp
Maurita Jasper
Amy Cade
Martha Cushman
Kari Nau
Moe Tarantino

If you are interested in serving on the Welcome Committee during the 2010-2011 school year, please let me know before the end of the current school year. To do so, please call me **(332-3660 ext. 123)** or e-mail me **(tmlada@st-monica.org)**.

Thanks so much for your help with this important school program!

Thank You!

During a visit with a prospective school family the other day, I was reminded once again of the amazing work our Buildings & Grounds and Maintenance staff do to maintain our school campus. The prospective parent with whom I was visiting was effusive in her praise of their efforts, and I could not have agreed more with her thoughts.

So, with that in mind, I wanted to take a moment to offer a public note of gratitude to ***Chris Stemwell, Steve Dawkins, and Eric Stemwell*** for keeping our building in its best condition, each and every day. We receive so many compliments throughout the school year regarding the maintenance and overall appearance of our facilities; in large part thanks to the energy and efforts of these three people, our school campus is a major selling point for prospective families. We are blessed to have such beautiful resources – and to have their dedication, time, and talent in helping keep them that way!

Please join me in offering thanks to Chris, Steve, and Eric for all they do to help make our school community and its physical resources Exemplary!

Happy Spring!

Tom

Battle of the Books

6th Grade In-school Battle of Books

Sixth grade teams who have read 35 or more books will compete in in-school battles for the honor of representing SMS in the 12-school invitational on the night of April 21. Ask your child if he/she qualified:

Friday, March 19, 12:15- 1 p.m. library
 Friday, March 26, 12:15-1 p.m. library
 Monday March 29, 12:15-1 p.m. library.



SMS SCRIP REWARDS PROGRAM

Easter is just weeks away. Are you ready? Stock up on *Kohls, Gap, J Crew, Land's End, Brooks Brothers, American Eagle, J Jill, Zappos, Gymboree, L L Bean, Macy's, Talbots* and more for your Easter outfits and Spring wardrobe.

SCRIP is also available for your travel needs. SCRIP offers gift cards for rental cars (*Avis, Budget*), hotels (*Disney, Hyatt, Marriott*), airlines (*American*) and even cruises. With a big ticket item like travel costs, think of the tuition credits you could earn!!

Entertaining company for Easter? Be prepared with *Pick N Save, Sendiks, Piggly Wiggly, Peapod and Sam's Club* SCRIP. Not sure what you want? Consider purchasing *Visa or American Express* SCRIP cards. Go to glscrip.com for a full list of available vendors. You will be amazed at all the businesses that participate in SCRIP!

Be prepared and have your favorite SCRIP cards on hand for the upcoming holiday. Any questions, contact Jennifer Lamont (540-0186) or Norma Herbers (962-9193) or stop by Thursday from 3:00-3:30 pm at our regular SCRIP Inventory Sale.

THANK YOU TO ALL FOR SUPPORTING SCRIP!!

Learn to Play Hurling

The Milwaukee Hurling Club will be starting its 15th season and is offering a FREE youth clinic on Saturday, March 27th for boys and girls ages 4-15 interested in learning to play this ancient Gaelic sport. Hurling is a fast action game using stick and ball skills similar to field hockey and lacrosse. If you have played tennis, hockey, baseball or soccer, and are looking for a great spring and summer sport, join the club at Uihlein Soccer Park from 11:00 AM to 1:00PM on the 27th.

RSVP to mhc.youth.hurling@gmail.com and call The Herbers Family @ 962-9193 for more information on the Fastest Game on Grass.

Former Captive of RUF Rebels to Speak at St. Monica Parish, March 25

Fr. Victor Mosele spent 30 years as a missionary in Sierra Leone, where he was captured twice by RUF rebels. He will share some of his amazing story with us, show a short video, reflect upon God's love in a broken world, and answer questions.

High schoolers and adults are encouraged to come. His book *Running for My Life* is available from Paulist Press. Refreshments to follow the talk.

Thursday, March 25, 7 pm

Donovan Hall

Living Our Faith

NEW THIS SPRING – Our host! The spring shows will be hosted by Archbishop Listecky! The Lenten shows will air between February 13 and April 3, Holy Saturday. The shows will air on Saturday mornings at noon on WISN TV Channel 12 and will also be available on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand Channel 411.

The March 27th "Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith" episode, hosted by Milwaukee Archbishop Jerome E. Listecky, spotlights Holy Week: The Most Sacred Time of the Year. Father Steve Malkiewicz, a Franciscan friar who directs liturgies at the seminary, talks about the history and significance of the Triduum – the three major celebrations of Holy Week: Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday.

Fr. Steve Lampe, Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Cardinal Stritch, talks about the historical Jesus of Nazareth.

In the filmed feature, Laura Picardo, reporter, takes us to one of the best places to pray during Holy Week: Milwaukee's beautiful and historic Basilica of St. Josaphat.

Watch "Catholic Knights presents Living Our Faith" Saturday, March 27, at noon, on WISN TV 12. The program also airs on Time Warner Cable's Wisconsin On Demand, Channel 411 and is replayed on Relevant Radio.

If you miss a show, every segment is available at www.livingourfaith.net.

Please send your articles and attachments to

stmonicanews@st-monica.org by 3:30 pm each Thursday.

Thank you!