

## *St. Patrick School Family Newsletter*

December 16, 2009

Dear Parents,

We have received word that our application to service a concession stand at Cobo Hall during the Auto Show has been approved. I have submitted the necessary liability insurance from Michigan Catholic Conference and met the Aramark coordinator for this event. Our school will receive 10% of proceeds from the concession, as well as 100% of the tips. Our date to work is Sunday, January 17, the second day of the Auto Show. This should be a busy day and we are in need of many workers. Aramark expects that we will need ten people during each shift. We also need a leader for all three shifts. There is also the possibility individuals will be needed to run an electronic cash register and will need training with this. If this is an area you feel confident with, please indicate it on the form below. All workers must be 21 years of age. Those working a shift may use their badge to visit the Auto Show before or after their scheduled shift. In order for us to participate in this event, persons must be identified for leadership positions and attend concession stand training. This training will be held Saturday, January 2 beginning at 10:00 a.m. I will attend this training and would greatly appreciate a couple of people to attend with me. Please help with this fundraiser if you are able. Thank you to those who have already expressed an interest in helping with this event.

Yesterday we completed our final Advent Prayer service and last Mass before Christmas break. Thank you to the eighth grade for sharing the meaning of the candy cane, as well as providing candy canes to our students and staff. I extend my sincerest thanks to each of you for the generous Christmas gift that I received yesterday at Mass. I received a beautiful Christmas cross that is now hanging above our prayer board. Fr. Bob and I both received a miniature tree filled with lottery tickets, as well as a gift card. Your generosity and many acts of kindness at Christmas and throughout the year is appreciated by myself and all of our staff members. This year my daughter and her family will be arriving on December 27<sup>th</sup> from Boston to spend time with us. I am very excited about having a Michigan Christmas and I look forward to seeing many of you throughout the holidays. I extend my prayers and best wishes to all the members of our school community for a wonderful and safe holiday season.

Thank you to all who have sent in special treats and other items for the staff to enjoy. Last Friday a staff luncheon was organized and provided by several moms and our kindergarten families. Today the PTO organized another lunch for the staff and Santa Secret Shop workers. I thank everyone for the special treats and many other kindnesses provided to the staff and students throughout the year.

I thank PTO for chairing the Santa Secret Shop and to all those who assisted. This is a favorite activity for our students. I also extend my thanks to those who sent in items for students to purchase, as well as those who prepared items for the worker and staff lunch. Today is the only day for the Santa Secret Shop. All items were boxed up at the end of the day and there will be no shopping tomorrow. This allows our sports teams use of the gym tonight and our gym is also available for gym classes tomorrow.

Thank you to all who ordered *Studenttreasure* books. I expect the books to arrive in January or early February. Last Wednesday, Mr. Vandergriff conducted our Christmas concert. Grades 1-3-5-6-7-8 and St. Patrick Singers did an excellent performance with many Celtic and traditional Christmas songs.

This week we are beginning the Character Ed Backpack program for students in grades K-6. Each week a student will receive the backpack on Thursday and should return it by Tuesday. In the backpack you will find character education materials, along with popcorn to enjoy while watching the DVD and reading the book. A binder inside the backpack will provide additional information. Please remember that the book, DVD, and other items need to be in the bag when it is returned.

I received a certificate for St. Patrick School's participation in the 2008-2009 Great Lakes Scholars program. Congratulations to our 2009 Great Lakes Scholars. Over 1,300 teachers participated in the project to select and honor students who not only excel academically, but show that they are well rounded individuals. Teachers were asked to consider students with a "B" average or higher. Students nominated were also involved in extra curricular activities, athletics, community or church groups, and/or community service. The nominated students then submitted an application to complete the process. These students are listed in a book that honors all of the 2009 Great Lakes Scholars and their accomplishments.

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**

**Thursday, December 17 (PHYS ED)**

- After School Cooking Class 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

**Friday, December 18 (MUSIC)**

**Monday, December 21 (PHYS ED)**

- Red/Green tops with gym uniform pants or service project jeans
- Assembly 2:15 p.m.
- No Drama Class after school

**DECEMBER 21:**

Monday, December 21 will be the last day of school before Christmas break. School dismissal will be at the regular 3:00 pm. time. Latchkey will be available for those who need this service. Students and staff are invited to wear red and green tops with their gym uniform bottoms. Students and staff who participated in the December service project may wear jeans. All students should have tennis shoes for gym class. If there is snow on the ground, students should wear boots and change into their shoes when they arrive. At 2:15 p.m. the school community will gather in the gym. Our drama club will present two Christmas plays and we will sing Christmas carols.

**SCIENCE FAIR:** All sixth and eighth grade students are participating in this year's 2010 Science Fair. Students in all grades are welcome and encouraged to participate with an individual Science Fair project as well. A panel of judges from outside the school community will evaluate all entries. The selected projects will be submitted to the Monroe County Science Fair in the spring. Entrants need to have their projects ready for judging on Friday, January 29. Science Fair packets are available from Mrs. Zochowski or the school office.

**H1N1 VACCINATION CLINICS:** The H1N1 vaccination clinics sponsored by the Monroe County Health Department are now open to everyone. Children (9 years old and younger) who have received their 1<sup>st</sup> dose at least four weeks prior to these clinics are eligible for the required 2<sup>nd</sup> dose. The next two clinics will be held on the following dates at the Monroe Bank & Trust EXPO Building at the Monroe County Fairgrounds: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 1:00 p.m.– 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, December 19, 2009 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

Faith is a gift of God. Without it there would be no life. And our work, to be fruitful and beautiful, has to be built on faith. Love and faith go together. They complete each other. *Mother Teresa*

Ruth Meiring



CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Father of love and mercy,

We thank you for sending your Son, Jesus, to us.

As we get ready to celebrate the holy feast of Christmas,

Help us to share love with others.

May we live the spirit of the Christmas season each day through the year.

Help us to live always in hope and joy because of all you have done for us.

May we always remember that Jesus Christ is the true gift of Christmas.

We pray this through the Holy Spirit who guides our hearts and our lives. Amen.

MERRY CHRISTMAS  
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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**AUTO SHOW CONCESSION**

**Sunday, January 17, 2010**

I am able to work the following shift(s) at Auto Show concession on Sunday, January 17, 2010 (please check all that you are available for):

- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (with clean-up afterwards)

I am willing to serve as leader for the following shift(s) and can attend training on January 2 from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.:

- 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- 5:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

I am willing to run a cash register and can attend training, if needed.

I would like to car pool for training on January 2 (for shift leaders).

I would like to car pool for the event on January 17.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_