

## *St. Patrick School Family Newsletter*

November 4, 2009

Dear Parents,

We have been given an opportunity to apply for working a concession at the auto show in January. It would require a team effort to fill three shifts for a minimum of one day from 8:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. For each day that we would work, we would need 7 people to cover three shifts (8 a.m. – 12 p.m.; 12 p.m. – 4 p.m.; 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.) for a total of 21 people. On the application we would need to submit what day(s) we would cover. The school is then paid a percentage of what is sold for our services. At the end of the newsletter there is a survey to see if you would be willing to work and for how many hours you would be available. Workers must be at least 18 years old. It is important that you fulfill your obligation or send a replacement for us to receive the funds. All forms must be returned by Friday, November 6 so that we can determine if this is a feasible fundraising opportunity for our school.

This Friday, November 6 report cards will be distributed. Parent-Teacher Conferences will be held on Wednesday, November 11 from 3:45 – 7:45 p.m. I encourage you to attend and spend time with your child's teacher to discuss his/her academic progress. This event serves as an opportunity to gather information and provide input in the formal education process for your child at St. Patrick School. It allows discussion time for recognition of your child's success as well as areas in need of improvement. To prevent long waiting lines please limit your conference time to ten minutes per teacher. Those wanting an extended conference may set up an additional meeting date at the conference. In today's newsletter you are receiving an information sheet with helpful hints regarding report cards and conferences.

Our drama class has begun. Classes are every other week so the next class will be held Monday, November 9 from 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. I apologize that incorrect information was given in the newsletter last week. This Thursday we will begin our cooking class from 3:00 – 4:15 p.m. Students should meet at the office after school for these classes.

Tomorrow our school community will host the *Are You Smarter than the St. Patrick School Students*. Four of our school families will send their brightest and most talented adult representatives to engage in a variety of activities and answer this question. Their day begins at 11 a.m. with lunch and a friendly competition with their children. Throughout the afternoon they will visit classrooms for additional activities and an opportunity to collect more points. The day will end with a school assembly and a final game show quiz. Please join us at 2:15 p.m. for our assembly to learn, *Are You Smarter than the St. Patrick Students*. This event was my auction donation for the 2008 auction. I thank our participants for supporting our school as well as sharing their time and talents with our school community. I also thank those who are helping me to prepare for this event. Remember this is a jeans day with St. Patrick School spirit tops for students and staff.

Yesterday at Mass we acknowledged our two classes who received the cross for responsible actions during October. Grade 4 was recognized for role modeling the character trait of responsibility. One student stepped up to hold the door open for a parent. Another student reminded her classmates to take the needed art supplies with them to class. Other actions of responsibility included turning in completed assignments on time and helping to raise funds for an organization needing to purchase equipment. Our seventh grade received the upper elementary cross by responding positively to a teacher request for assistance. A student showed his responsibility by assisting the younger St. Patrick students on the bus. Other students were recognized for bringing back the game cart from the gym and taking responsibility for bringing in the class lunch bin. We also received nominations for individuals from grades 2, 3, and 8. I thank all of our students and staff who acted responsibly. I encourage you to submit nominations for those showing compassion during the month of November. Nomination slips are located outside of the school office or you may contact the office.

On Monday all classes visited the cemetery to offer prayers for our deceased relatives, friends, and parishioners. Students also have submitted names to remember in prayer during November. These names will be posted in the showcase by the office after our school community offers prayer for them.

Congratulations to the winners of the five gift bags for the Magazine Drive. Thank you to all who supported our magazine drive and cookie sale, as well as those who assisted in counting money and order, and sorting and packing cookie dough orders. I also acknowledge several individuals who sent in donations to the school instead of purchasing magazines.

We have received 63% of the K1 forms back regarding the distribution of the Potassium Iodine tablet(s) to students. We need 100% of the forms returned so we know each parent's intention for their child in the case of an unlikely Fermi incident. If you have misplaced the form sent home two weeks ago, please contact the school office.

This Saturday our eighth grade student will be enrolled in Confirmation at the 5:30 p.m. Mass. I encourage you to pray for our students as they prepare for this sacrament and discern their commitment to becoming adult members in the Catholic Church. I encourage you to attend the Men's Club Breakfast this Sunday from 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. This group provides our community with outstanding sports opportunities at minimal cost to our youth. They also support many parish improvements with their financial donations such as air conditioning for the gym, our playscape, picnic tables for the students, the parish roof, etc.

I thank our students for the wonderful veteran cards which they made and will be sent to local veterans this week. Approximately three hundred cards will be sent to express our appreciation for their service commitment to defend our country. I invite you to join us in honoring these local heroes by attending our Veterans Mass on Tuesday, November 10. Our music teacher, Mr. Vandergriff has been working with all students who will offer a song of thanks "Everyday Heroes", as our closing song. We will then journey with the veterans and their guests to the flag pole and have a flag raising ceremony. After this you are invited to join them for a reception in the lunchroom. Before departing, our veterans will also do a school assembly with our students.

### **WEEK AT A GLANCE**

#### **Thursday, November 5 (No Specials)**

- Gym and embroidered wear order forms and payment due.
- *Are You Smarter than a St. Patrick Student?*
- Jean Day with St. Patrick School spirit top.
- Cooking class 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Friday, November 6 (ART)**

- Report cards distributed
- First Friday Mass

#### **Saturday, November 7**

- Confirmation Enrollment, 5:00 p.m. Mass

#### **Sunday, November 8**

- Men's Club "All You Can Eat" Breakfast, 8 – 11:30 a.m.
- SMCC Open House, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

#### **Monday, November 9 (PHYS ED)**

- Drama class, 3 – 4:15 p.m.

#### **Tuesday, November 10 (MUSIC)**

- Veterans Mass 8:00 a.m. with activities

#### **Wednesday, November 11 (PHYS ED)**

- Parent-Teacher Conferences, 3:45 – 7:45 p.m.

#### **Thursday, November 12**

- No school for students – Professional Development Day for staff

#### **Friday, November 13**

- No school for students or staff

### **NO SCHOOL:**

There will be no school for students on Thursday, November 12 and Friday, November 13.

### **VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST:**

The Men's Club will sponsor a Veterans Day All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast on Sunday, November 8 from 8 – 11:30 a.m. The cost is: Adults \$5.50; Veterans \$3.00; Children 6-11 \$3.00; Children 5 and under – free. The menu includes scrambled eggs, pancakes, potatoes, sausage links, ham, muffins/quick breads, coffee/tea, hot chocolate, and orange juice/milk. If you are able to help at the breakfast or are able to provide muffins or quick bread for the breakfast, please contact John or Laurie Durbin at 457-4583.

### **ELEVENTH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION:**

Tickets for the auction and dinner continue to be for sale at a cost of \$35.00. This is a \$5.00 discount that continues until November 16 when the cost goes to \$40.00. Those attending can select a school family, or have Fr. Bob and myself to designate a family to receive one of two \$250 scholarships that will be drawn that evening. Plan ahead with your family and friends to reserve a table together. Help is still needed to solicit auction items and ads for the booklet. If you are able to make follow-up calls, please contact School office 654-2522. If your family plans to donate items for the auction, please bring them to the office by Friday, November 13 so it may be listed in the auction booklet. The final auction meeting will be held on Sunday, November 22 at 1:00 p.m. at the Alessandrini residence.

Help is still needed to sell dinner tickets, raffle tickets, and cookbooks in the Church Meeting Room before and after the following Masses: 5:30 p.m. Mass on 11/7; 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. Masses on November 14, and 8:00 Mass on November 15. Please notify the school office if you are available for any of the Masses on those dates.

**APPROPRIATE DRESS FOR THE WEATHER:**

With the arrival of November, we can expect many changes in the weather. Please remember to make sure your child is dressed for the weather and recess. This includes warm coats, hats, gloves, and boots when there is snow on the ground.

**NOVEMBER SERVICE PROJECT:**

During the month of November, our service project will be to collect food for the needy and warm coats, gloves, hats, and scarves. The Jones family has graciously volunteered to deliver these items to the Capuchin Center in Detroit. We have received a request for food in the Monroe area and some of the food will be shared with the local food pantry.

**OCTOBER SERVICE PROJECT RECAP:**

Thank you to all who participated in the October service project. The following items were collected for Sr. Judie's mission of providing sack lunches to the homeless:

6 cases of bottled water, 75 jars of peanut butter/jelly, 430 fruit/applesauce cups, 175 servings of snacks, 10 canisters of hot cocoa mix, 160 envelopes of hot cocoa mix, 10 juice boxes, 800 paper bags, 80 drink holders, 200 styrofoam cups, 6 packages napkins, 15 packages plastic spoons, and 3 big bags of clothes.

**H1N1 VACCINE:**

As follow-up to the information sent home last week, the Monroe County Health Department faxed a reminder that the H1N1 vaccine is distributed according to the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for targeted priority groups:

- Pregnant women
- Household contacts and caregivers for children younger than 6 months of age
- Healthcare and emergency medical services personnel
- All people from 6 months through 24 years of age
- Persons ages 25 through 64 years who have health conditions associated with higher risk of medical complications from influenza

**PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN:**

If you have not yet taken a *Protecting God's Children* workshop, below is a list of upcoming workshops in our area. You may register online at [www.virtus.org](http://www.virtus.org) (Organization: Detroit, MI Archdiocese). If you have any questions or need assistance registering, please contact the school office.

St. Michael Parish – Monroe, Saturday, January 23, 2010, 9:00 a.m.; St. Joseph Parish – Maybee, Tuesday, March 9, 2010, 6:00 p.m.

**YEARBOOK:**

Your help is needed in providing photographs for the upcoming yearbook.

**LOST:**

There are two Halloween CDs missing from the Halloween Carnival. If anyone knows where they might be, please contact the school office.

**BOXTOPS:**

Boxtops for Education is offering "30 Days of Thanks". For 30 days, they are giving away a gift a day. From November 16 through December 15 you can enter for a chance to win a gift basket filled with various prizes. Each winner's school will receive 100 bonus boxtops. You may register daily, starting November 16 by going to [btfe.com/30days](http://btfe.com/30days).

**GOODSEARCH:**

Thank you to those who used the *Good Search* website. For the month of October our school raised \$13.50. The more people that use it, the more the school will make. Remember to use Good Search when making your holiday purchases online.

**ALTAR SOCIETY PUMPKIN ROLL SALE:**

St. Patrick Altar Society is sponsoring a pumpkin roll sale. Each roll is \$10 and checks should be made payable to *St. Patrick Altar Society*. Pumpkin rolls may be picked up Friday, November 20 or after all the Masses on November 21/22.

**SCRIP:**

Tuition credits for the summer scrip period are being calculated at this time. Thank you to the families that continued to use scrip through the summer. The new Winter/Spring period begins this week and will run through the last week of April, 2010. This allows your family seven months to earn credit toward the 2010-2011 school year. Use this easy opportunity to earn tuition credits as well as earning funds for the school too! Remember that it costs no extra money and takes just a little bit of time and planning. You are receiving the holiday schedule in today's family envelope so please plan ahead and be conscientious with the due dates and delivery dates during the holiday season. Check for the latest scrip order form and Great Lakes Scrip Retailers list, plus the holiday schedule online at [www.stpatsmi.com](http://www.stpatsmi.com) under the scrip page.

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:**

Be compassionate as your God is compassionate. *Luke 6:36*

Ruth Meiring

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**Cobo Hall Concession Stands Survey**

Detroit Auto Show - January, 2010

*Please return by Friday, November 6, 2009*

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

\_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to work (check all that you would be available for):

\_\_\_\_\_ a week day: Mon\_\_\_\_\_ Tues\_\_\_\_\_ Wed\_\_\_\_\_ Thurs\_\_\_\_\_ Fri\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ the weekend Sat\_\_\_\_\_ Sun\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Either

\_\_\_\_\_ I would be available for the following shift(s):

\_\_\_\_\_ 8 a.m. – 12 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ 12 p.m. – 4 p.m. \_\_\_\_\_ 4 p.m. – 9 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_ If needed, I would be able to work \_\_\_\_\_ day(s).