

February 20, 2008

Dear Parents,

“Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”

Romans 8: 26-27

As we enter into this second week of our **Lenten journey**, please know that you are in my daily prayers. I have always found great consolation in this passage from Romans. How nice to know that the Spirit intercedes for us when our words fail us.

I hope that you enjoyed the long weekend. **Tom’s sisters (Janie and Kathy)** and their husbands spent the weekend with us. We went to the ocean on Saturday. It was a great day. The ocean always feeds my soul and revives my spirit. We are so fortunate to live so close to God’s handiwork with the mountains to the west and the oceans to the east.

On Monday, I attended a meeting of the **Diocesan Finance Council** with **Peter Heath, Tom Karpus, and Msgr. Tim**. At this meeting, the Diocesan Finance Council **voted to recommend** our building proposal budget to Bishop Burbidge. This is a very important step in our building process.

Once again, I want to remind everyone of the **importance of donating to the Bishop’s Annual Appeal**. The success of the BAA at St. Michael is directly linked to final diocesan approval of our building project.

On **Saturday, February 16th**, several of our second graders received the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**. We congratulate them. How wonderful our world would be if more people would remember what these closest to God know best – how to say, **“I’m sorry.”**

Monday, February 25th will be a **Late Opening** day. **Carpool will begin at 9:15 AM** on the 25th with the tardy bell ringing at **9:45 AM**. The Before School Care Program will be in session. **If you need Before Care** service on **February 25th**, please return the form enclosed in your Wednesday folder on **Wednesday, February 20th**.

Students in **Grade 4** will attend **Mass** on **Thursday, February 21st**. You are invited to join us during Lent.

Grades 1, 2 and 3 will pray the **Stations of the Cross** on **Tuesday, February 26th** at **10:00 AM**.

We are excited to launch **Edline**, an easy way for you to keep-up-to-date online. You can use Edline to **view your child’s progress reports, receive emails with school or class information, view team and club activities, and read class news and information**. Implementing this system will **eliminate the need for paper Progress Reports** to be printed each quarter and will allow us to **publish a similar grade report at the end of each quarter when Report Cards are sent home**.

In today’s Wednesday folder, you will find **instructions on activating your Edline account**. Once you have logged on, you can **view the 3rd Quarter Progress Report** for your child under the heading **“Private Reports”** on his or her personal Edline page (Grades 2-8 only). Our teachers are busy posting class news and information for you to view as well. **Note: It is the policy of St. Michael School NOT to post homework,**

tests, or assignment due dates online. You will not find this information posted on our Edline class sites. Grades will be posted school-wide at Progress Report and Report Card times only.

If you have any **questions about accessing your Edline account**, please **access the Help features in Edline**, or contact Mrs. Carlin at mcarlin@stmmary.org or at x168 for help setting up your account.

Access to your Edline account will be blocked if your accounts (tuition, after school care, library fines, lunch debit cards, etc) are in arrears.

Bishop Michael Burbidge has designated **St. Michael Church** as the site for the **Chrism Mass** which will be held on **Tuesday, March 18th**. In order to accommodate the number of cars that will be in the parking lot, Msgr. Tim has asked us to dismiss early on that day. **Please mark your calendars: Tuesday, March 18th, dismissal at 11:30 AM.** There will be **no After School Care on this date**. I apologize for any inconvenience that this may create.

The dates for **Spring Pictures Days** have **changed**. The new dates are as follows: **Monday, March 3rd – Grades 4 through 8, Tuesday, March 4th – Pre-K through Grade 3.**

Remember to continue to collect **Campbell's Soup Labels and Box-tops**. This potential trash provides materials and money to St. Michael School. There is a container in the office for easy drop off.

All of our hard work paid off last weekend, as St. Michael School competed at the **Regional Science Olympiad Competition in Garner, NC**. The students worked hard all year to prepare for their events and competed in various fields of science. Some students constructed planes and towers, while others tested their knowledge in Anatomy, Oceanography, and Rocks and Minerals. As some students attempted to solve a crime scene, others blasted eggs into the sky hoping they would return safely to the ground. As a first year Science Olympiad Team, St. Michael School represented well, taking home **medals in 9 events!**

A Science Olympiad note from Mrs. Davey and Mrs. Reed:

Thank you to Mrs. Carlin, parents, and the PTO for all their support. A very special thanks to all volunteers that helped coach our teams: Marianne Burger, Ken Frinzi, Pat Ward, Louis Prosser, Thomas Alexander, Ashley Williams, and Diane Williams. **Congratulations to all participants:**

* Kaitlyn Peeples * Andrea Fitzgerald * Cam Alexander * Danny Maher * Ryan Biegert * Griffin Gast * Emily Adams * Emily Hodges * John Halk * Mason Allen * Ben Williams * Peter Rizzo * Stephen Gray * Brittany Leuth * Shannon Thompson * Veronica Lavelle * Savannah Lips * Amanda Taylor * Karly Donovan * Jose San Miguel * Chris Jadelis * Sam Hamashima * Kevin Nguyen * Morgan Reid * Celia Burger * Alex Gay * Tommy Fenton * Nick Teder * Christina Donovan * Stephanie Kritzell * Alaina Norzagaray * Camille Munoz * Connor Rich * Alex Wasleski * Mary Catherine Prosser * Elizabeth Prosser * Kaitlyn Hall * Cheyenne Cheung * John Zimmer *

Please contact Mrs. Davey or Mrs. Reed if you are interested in coaching next year's Science Olympiad Team. Check out Cybercenter for pictures from Saturday's competition.

Lenten peace,
Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler

