

September 26, 2007

Dear Parents,

*“St. Michael the Archangel, pray for us.”  
Feast Day – September 29<sup>th</sup>*

**St. Michael the Archangel** is one of **the three Archangels**. The others are **St. Raphael and St. Gabriel**. St. Michael’s name means **“who is like God?”** St. Michael is referred to in three of the books of the Bible: **Daniel, Revelation and the Letter of Jude**. In the book of Revelation, we learn about the great war that went on in heaven. Michael and his angels battled with Satan. **Michael became the champion of loyalty to God**. I encourage you as a family to **pray for and with your children that they will be strong in their love for Jesus and in their practice of their Catholic faith**. **Happy Feast Day!**

We rejoice with **Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Spencer** at the adoption of **Emilyanne Elizabeth Spencer**. Emilyanne was born on **September 7<sup>th</sup>**. Mrs. Spencer has been a valued educator at St. Michael School for the last six years. **Mrs. Betsy Ochello** has been hired to replace Mrs. Spencer. Mrs. Ochello **taught at Holy Name of Jesus School in New Orleans, LA for the last six years**. Mrs. Ochello and her husband moved to North Carolina in order for her husband to complete his medical residency at Duke. She will begin on October 8<sup>th</sup>. In the interim, Mrs. Pat Ward is collaborating with Mrs. Deane and teaching Grade 3.

Enclosed in the Wednesday Folder, you will find **Progress Reports** for students in **Grades 3-8**. You will notice that a **new grading scale** is in effect this year for **special classes** and some other classes like **Handwriting**. The new scale is as follows:

O	94-100	Outstanding
VG	86-93	Very Good
S	76-85	Satisfactory
N	75 and below	Needs Improvement

This scale was developed by the teachers to give you a **more accurate picture of your child’s progress**. The previous scale had a large grade range for the “S” category. This scale is also utilized in **Grade 1**. Please be sure to contact **your child’s teacher** if you have a question about his or her grade. **Progress Reports are not included if your child’s tuition or After School Care are in arrears**.

The **total sales for Angel Bucks this week: \$24, 245.96!!!** St. Michael School **profit: \$1,483.99!!!**

The **Iowa Test of Basic Skills** will be administered to students in **Grades 2 – 8 beginning on October 1<sup>st</sup>**. A light peanut-free **snack will be provided** to each child. However, students should be sure to bring their Nalgene® type water bottle to use during

the test. **Bottled water will not be provided** to the students. St. Michael School water bottles are available in the office for \$10.00 and can be used by the students all year. **No homework or tests** will be given to students in Grades 2 – 8 during ITBS testing days.

The **Diocese of Raleigh In-Service for teachers** will be held on **Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>** at **Cardinal Gibbons High School**. **School will not be in session for students** on this day. In addition, **school will not be in session on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>** due to the set up for the International Festival. There will be **no child care** available on these days as the school building will be closed.

The **first parent education night of 2007-2008** sponsored by the St. Michael PTO will be held on **Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00 PM** in the **Parish Center**. **Mr. John Findlater, a national speaker and educator**, will be the presenter. His topic is: **“Getting a Grip on Kids Today: Raising Kids in a Crazy and Confusing World.”** **Students whose parents attend** the session will receive an **out-of-uniform coupon**. If you attend the session, be sure to sign-in. The **teachers** heard Mr. Findlater speak last year at the North Carolina Catholic Teachers Conference in Greensboro.

Please remember that **students are not allowed to return to the school after school hours to pick up forgotten items**. Please refer to **pages 29 and 30 of the Parent Student Handbook** for more information regarding this policy.

The **first Rosary Club for 4th/5th graders** will be held on **Monday, October 1st** in **Mrs. Moore's room** from **3:00 PM-4:00 PM**. However, the **remaining dates** of this club will be the **second Tuesday of each month**. The dates will be given to the students at the first meeting. Please **email Mrs. Moore( kmoore@stmichaelcary.org)** if your **child plans on attending this club**.

Mark your calendars for the **Christmas program which will be held on Tuesday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM**.

If you missed the first meeting of the **Handbell Choir**, you can come to the meeting **next Tuesday**. This meeting is also for beginners.

Our **first and second graders** will be holding a **gently-used children's book drive and a children's coat/boot drive, respectively, in October for their Light the World projects**. Please start saving your books, coats and boots for these important drives that will benefit children who can use them. The **book drive** will run in **conjunction with the Book Fair from October 10<sup>th</sup> –19<sup>th</sup>**, and the **coat/boot drive will run the week of October 22<sup>nd</sup>**.

St. Michael School began its **recycling program on September 17<sup>th</sup>** in the cafeteria room and in the teacher's lounge. In our first week, we collected **468 water bottles** in the cafeteria room alone. Our first graders, along with Student Council, will continue throughout this school year to collect the recycled bottles and deliver them to the

recycling repository in Cary. Our first graders implemented the recycling effort as their contribution in the **Light the World** program.

**Tickets are now on sale for our 2nd Annual Fall Social** to be held on **Saturday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**. This is a special night for parents to spend time together reconnecting and getting to know each other in a great atmosphere with **music, dancing, and fun**. Consider making this the October "Parents Night Out" for your class. Information about buying tickets is included in this week's Wednesday folder. Hope to see you there!

**The International Festival is quickly approaching! Please consider volunteering** with your families, ministries, friends, or as a class. Volunteers are also needed during the week before the event on Thursday and Friday to assist with set-up and carpool traffic. Volunteer opportunities and open times are listed on-line at **[www.mysignup.com/international\\_festival](http://www.mysignup.com/international_festival)**. Much help is needed to ensure the success of the event. The **International Festival Committee would like to thank you in advance for your support!**

The **Jingle Bell Run T-Shirt Design Contest** has been extended to **Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you have questions about the contest, please contact Mrs. Colleen Ueland.

There will be **no Intermediate or Advanced band on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>**.

Peace,  
Dr. Sarah Wannemuehler