

THURSDAY NOTES

November 12, 2009

Issue #9

This Week's Calendar

FRIDAY	Buddy Mass, Grades K, 5, & 8 9:00 AM
	12:00 Noon Dismissal Teacher Planning
MONDAY	MMO - Kindergarten
	2:15 Early Dismissal
TUESDAY	Grades 7 & 8 - Field Trip to St. James Cathedral & Frye Museum
THURSDAY	Boys' Basketball vs Pioneer - Home - 3:30 PM
NEXT FRIDAY	Buddy Mass, Grades 1 & 4 - 9:00 AM



Thanksgiving Basket Drive "Compassion in Action"

There are more families than ever without food for Thanksgiving. We can best demonstrate our Christian care and concern by contributing to our school wide stewardship project, "**Compassion in Action**". A wonderful way to show thanks this holiday is to contribute and deliver a basket together. If you are interested, please call the school office @ 754-5131.

Dear St. Michael School Families:



November is the month of Thanksgiving - a time during which we are all called to be especially thankful. The reality is that all we have is a gift to us from God and we have a responsibility to use these gifts wisely.

The greatest gift God gave us is His Son Jesus. Every time we attend Mass and receive communion we have the opportunity to receive Jesus in a very special way. By receiving communion we are also receiving grace. The Eucharist is a mystery, but the grace we receive to be people of love and compassion can be seen all around us. Receiving communion on a regular basis increases our love of God, our family, and our neighbors. Each time you receive the Eucharist you are receiving the grace of God.

Did you know the Eucharist means thanksgiving? Each time we participate in the Eucharist we are invited to show our thankfulness to God by responding with our lives. People sometimes ask, "At what time during the Mass does the bread and wine become the body and blood of Christ?" A more important question is at what point do *WE* become the body and blood of Christ? Receiving the Eucharist challenges us to become the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus in the world today. The Eucharist calls us to action - to be Christ to others.

Some people say, "I don't get anything out of the Mass." We are called to attend Mass not to receive but to give and to remember that all we have is a gift from God and give thanks for those gifts. The Mass is not intended for entertainment but for time with God to thank Him for His Son, Jesus, to thank Him for all our blessings, and to receive the Eucharist so we can be the feet, hands, and the heart of Christ in the world. God is calling us!

May God bless you and your family,

Jack Nelson

Landscaping Work Party

Saturday November, 14
8:00 AM till 12:00 PM



Join us in the new lower parking lot of the Downtown campus. Lunch and snacks will be provided. The event is rain or shine and volunteers should wear weather appropriate clothing and work gloves. Everyone is encouraged to bring shovels, wheel barrows, and rakes if they have them. Children are welcome but no childcare is available. Please let us know you are coming. Call the Parish Office @ 754-4667

Stewardship Update



Stewardship is one's response to the blessings of God. Stewardship is first and foremost saying "THANK YOU". As we come to greater and greater awareness of how God has blessed us we grow as a grateful person and a grateful people. This leads to action on our part.

Total Pledged 1/1/09 - 10/31/09
\$376,235

Total Received 1/1/09 - 10/31/09
\$313,397

43 - 2010 Pledge Cards have been received from school families as of 11/10/09.

Matching Formula: For every \$1.00 given during the calendar year by a St. Michael School family to the regular Sunday offertory collection at St. Michael Church (Sacrificial Giving), the parish will give the school \$1.90. There is no limit to the amount of gifts the parish will match but should the grant reach a level of \$302,860, all further donations will be matched at a lesser rate of 50%.

Cold Weather is Here!



With the cold and blustery weather upon us, please be sure your children come to school appropriately dressed. We send kids out to recess unless it is raining - so kids need to have warm clothing - COATS! It is also necessary to make sure that all clothing is labeled. Our lost and found fills up quickly with items of clothing that are not labeled.

Wreath Sale



The holidays are just around the corner. Begin the season with a beautiful holiday wreath from the St. Michael 5th grade class. The proceeds from the wreath sale help send the 5th grade to Ashland, OR. The wreaths are freshly made by a local tree farm and are delivered weekly to the school through December 10th. Order forms are enclosed in today's packet.

Snow/School Closures

Winter weather is just around the corner. St. Michael will follow the Olympia School District regarding weather closures/ delayed start times. Please be sure and watch KOMO, KING, or KIRO television for updates. The announcement will also be aired on KIRO and KOMO radio and the school voicemail and website at www.stmikesolympia.org.

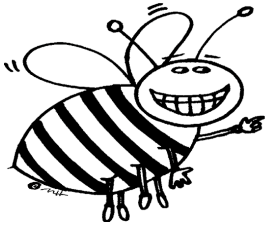


Summer Yearbook Fun!



For this year's yearbook, we have decided to do a page of what kids did over the summer. We would like parents to send in hard copies or email pictures of summer activities that represent all the variety of fun things kids did out of school. Please send to Mrs. Rafferty or email to krafferty@stmikesolympia.org ASAP!

Thanks! Yearbook Staff



“Let’s Talk About the Birds & the Bees” Speaker: Brad Henning Parents Only

Many of us are uncomfortable at best and downright squeamish at worst when it comes to talking with our kids about sex. We know that they are facing decisions and moral dilemmas that can be overwhelming, and that one wrong turn can change their lives forever. Sometimes the only thing we need for successful communication with our kids is a way to get things started ... a good “opening line.” Once you get talking, things get a lot easier.

Brad Henning, a dad himself will talk about the differences between men and women and about the ways to build healthy, long-term relationships. Using humor and true stories as tools, Brad will give you the tools to help kids see for themselves that sex is something so special that it should be saved for marriage. This is not a biology lesson. It is a real-life description of the ways that men and women relate to life and each other. Because parents/students see themselves in his illustrations, Brad is able to walk you through nine reasons to postpone sexual activity until marriage. You’ll laugh, maybe cry, but what you hear will make sense to you. Thousands of students in over eight states have decided to be abstinent until marriage as a result of this talk.

Brad will be speaking to **PARENTS ONLY** the evening of November 18th from 6:45pm to 8:45pm in the St. Michael School gym. He will give you helpful tools to help you guide your kids through this challenging time of life. Topics to be covered are: differences between men and women, what love is (and isn’t), and nine reasons to wait. You won’t want to miss it!