

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT!

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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The new name for our parish, as announced at Masses this past weekend, will be Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish. Bishop Lennon has also directed that our school's name shall be Sacred Heart of Jesus School. This change is to take effect in June. The School Advisory Board will discuss the transition to the new name at its meeting on Wednesday, February 17th at 7:00PM in the school library.

A LENTEN REFLECTION: The readings for Ash Wednesday give us the call to action for Lent. In the Epistle, 2 Corinthians 5:20-6:2, St. Paul tells us that "**Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation!**" Pope Benedict echoes this cry, calling us to action, to changing our hearts. We should etch this cry in our hearts and minds—this is the time given by the Church to renew our lives and turn back to God. Our lives have become hectic with many activities, many work and family obligations, a barrage of noise and visual stimulation through the radio, TV, stereo, movies, computer, and games. We need to slow down and live with our eyes and ears open in the spiritual world.

Remember the basic catechism question, "Why did God make us?" The answer is simple: "God made us to know, love and serve Him in this world and to be happy forever with Him in the next." Our primary purpose on earth is to glorify God. This present life is merely a preparation for everlasting life. Are we living for that purpose, or for just the fleeting happiness the world and flesh can give?

The important time is NOW, and we need to make the best of NOW. Lent is not the time for procrastinating! What shall my family and I do this year for Lent?

Some useful ideas to consider...

1. **Something for the mind.** We should do some research, study the papal encyclicals, read the Catechism of the Catholic Church, delve into Church history, and study Catholic philosophy.
2. **Something for the soul.** This should be deeper spiritual reading that gives a program, guidance, and spiritual direction, including writings of the saints like St. Teresa of Avila, St. Thérèse of Lisieux or St. Francis de Sales.
3. **Something for the heart.** We need inspiration. The best way is to read biographies of Christ, Mary, the Saints or people who put their spiritual life into action. Bishop Fulton Sheen's *Life of Christ* is excellent Lenten reading.

At the end of our life at the personal judgment, we will be accountable for every moment of our lives. Is all the time used wisely, or is there room for improvement? Are morning and evening prayers in the routine? Remember... NOW is the time to make the best of our daily duty.



DRAMA CLUB NEWS: The St. Gregory the Great Parish Drama Club Board of Directors meets every Thursday at 8PM. The meetings are held near that night's play practice area, usually the PFC or Church Hall. All parents are welcome and encouraged to attend! If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Melissa Wenzler (wenzler3@yahoo.com) or Carol Sisson (pcja4639@sbcglobal.net).

Drama Club Position Opening: Assistant Producer(s)!

The St. Gregory the Great Drama Club is looking for one to two parents/family members to serve as Assistant Producers of this year's production of *The Music Man*! Our hope is to engage parents/family members of our younger students in order to guarantee production leadership for the future. We are looking for people who: love the theater (no actual theater experience necessary), enjoy working with bright and talented kids, are committed to the holistic education of our students, and want to ensure the continued growth and prestige of the Drama Club. If you are interested, please contact Carter Welo, Producer, at SoEuclidHdwe@aol.com or (216) 990-9194.

The PSAS Tuition Aide forms are available in the school office. Please call the school to request one. Forms must be completed and submitted to PSAS by March 1st.

“HOME OF THE JAGUARS” FEBRUARY 16, 2010



REGISTRATION INFORMATION: Thank you to all the parents who sent in their Registration forms for the fall! We still have families who have not responded. We need these returned ASAP to help us plan class sizes, the number of new students we can accept, and teachers needed. Do not lose your placement by failing to return the Registration forms and fees. A late fee of \$35.00 will be assessed after Friday, February 19th. If you are not planning to return next year, please notify the school office.

Our annual Malley's Candy Fundraiser starts today!!!! Malley's is generous enough to give 33% of every dollar spent! This year it will benefit our Drama Club to help keep cost down for the production of our play. Review the brochure that is in the mail pack and you will see the wonderful and DELICIOUS Easter treats you already buy! You can also purchase on-line. For every \$200.00 spent on-line (per seller) you will receive one free admission to Cedar Point for the 2010 season. E-mail to family and friends and their order can be shipped directly to them, in state or out of town. Our order pick-up will be Monday, March 22nd in the PFC. Who doesn't LOVE Malley's and of course the Music Man! What a great combo! Any questions don't hesitate to call Jennifer Ewing (216)382-6227.

A NOTE FROM THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT: Applause...Applause... to students in grades 1, 3, 5, 6, and the Junior High Chime Choir for the fun and spunky performance of "*The Best of Broadway*", taking us down memory lane with the songs of past Drama Club play performances. Many thanks to our teachers: Mrs. Jones, Mrs. Suppel, Sr. Kathleen, Mrs. Rybka, Mrs. Liebenauer, Mrs. Mullins, Mrs. Ball, and Mrs. Hanus for all their creative ideas and practices with their students. Also, a thank you goes out to Mrs. Guzan, Mrs. Hyland, Mrs. Klug and Miss Soukup for sharing their talents in making the concert a success!

A special thank you goes out to our wonderful Music Director, Mrs. Marilyn Freas, for bringing the best out of every student as she prepared them so well for the concert that was held on Thursday, February 11th. We appreciate all of your hard work and the evening was a delight for all involved!

ATHLETIC CLUB NEWS: Spring CYO Sport Registration forms are due on Friday, February 19th. The form was sent home in last week's paper pack. The registration forms can also be downloaded from the Athletics page on the school's website.

The Ursuline Institute of Learning offers individual tutoring and instruction for all ages (k-adult) in a variety of subjects and in preparation for GED, ACT, SAT and other standardized tests. Contact Sister Susan Mary Rathbun, OSU at uil@ursulinesisters.org or (440) 449-1200 ext. 280 for further information and to register for services.

Is "Homework" a source of dread, dissension, perhaps even disgust in your home? Are you wondering what prevents your children from getting homework done, done on time, and done willingly? Here are four common productivity-dragons and suggestions on how to "slay" them.

1. LACK OF ORGANIZATION

Make certain the child has a space set aside for doing homework. It should be quiet, well lit and properly equipped. At least once a week put an encouraging sign on the wall.

2. LACK OF FUN

Yes, you can make it fun. For example, tack flip chart paper to a wall, pop in once a night (at different times), and ask the child to recap via magic marker all he has done/learned so far. These review sessions reinforce the learning. Plus, they add a bit of pressure—reminding the child that you will be expecting the chart paper to be filled. Further, the sheets can be saved and used again when the child is studying for a test.

3. TELEPHONE/COMPUTER

Remove these two time-wasters from the learning environment. If you can't put the computer in a different room or if it's required for assignments, then make it understood that if it is on, it must be used only for homework purposes.

4. PETS (and other interruptions)

Make everyone in the household aware of the study time and keep it.

5. POOR TIME MANAGEMENT

Spend a minute before the homework begins discussing with your child what he or she will be doing, what are the priorities, how much time will be required, etcetera.

By: Marlene Caroselli, Ed.D

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