

ST. GREGORY THE GREAT SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

A NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE

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The people in our everyday lives—family members, neighbors, co-workers and friends—can provide a graced “desert experience.” In that “desert” of Lent, that space outside of the ordinary where we examine things more closely, we can find the sacred in the ordinary things of life. This Lent, let us use the ordinary things of each day to help us rediscover our faith.

Monday

The backyard

Is 65:17-21; Jn 4:43-54 - It’s time for a little “new creation” in the backyard. Look for new plants or flowers to remind the house that God is always up to something new.

Tuesday

Doormat

Ez 47:9, 12; Jn 5:1-16 - Replace or revitalize your doormat and promise to walk into spiritual and physical health. Let us take some action—just like the handicapped man of Bethesda.

Wednesday

Planner and checkbook

Is 7:10-14, 8-10; Lk 1:26-38 - Look at your planner and your checkbook. We are saying yes to whatever we spend our time or money on. Like Mary, say yes in some new way today to God’s will.

Thursday

Act of Contrition

Ex 32:7-14; Jn 5:31-47 - Say a heartfelt Act of Contrition today. Is money, food, sports, clothes—anything—getting in the way of our discipleship?

Friday

The doorknob

Wis 2:1a, 12-22; Jn 7:1-2, 10, 25-30 - Jesus took a risk going to the Feast of Tabernacles. What is God daring you to do? Put your hand on the doorknob and walk out into a world that dares you to be Jesus’ disciple.

Saturday

Soup pot

Jer 11:18-20; Jn 7:40-53 - Get out the soup pot and make a batch of good soup. Let the aroma incense our domestic church, our homes. At supper, with soup and bread, talk about who Jesus is to you.



‘HOME OF THE JAGUARS’ MARCH 23, 2009

Bishop Lennon’s recent letter regarding the merger of St. Margaret Mary Parish with St. Gregory the Great Parish included a statement that the future worship site is “to be determined.” This delay comes despite our cluster team’s recommendation that St. Gregory’s be the site for the merged parishes. The St. Gregory School Advisory Board has sent an appeal letter to the bishop asking him to accept the recommendation of our cluster team. We ask all parents to write to the bishop in support of this appeal.

A sample letter is posted at www.stgregoryonline.org/appeal. This is the letter that parents distributed at Mass yesterday. Please view the letter as soon as possible. Write an individual letter, or just print and sign the sample letter. Send it to the school office by tomorrow, Tuesday, March 24th. All letters will be hand delivered to the bishop’s office in time for the appeal deadline of Wednesday, March 25th. Thank you for acting on behalf of St. Gregory the Great Parish and School.

MERGER TALK: Fr. Ireland invites you to attend an update session Wednesday evening March 25th at 8PM in the Church Hall regarding the Merger. He and two members of the Cluster planning committee from St. Gregory, along with Fr. Hudak and two of his Cluster Planning Committee members, and our counterparts from all parishes designated to close or merge, will meet with Bishop Lennon and his implementation staff earlier that day. We will hear from the Bishop what our next steps are to be. All participants will have an opportunity to raise questions and concerns relative to the merger at that time. Father would like you to come to hear from him what insights we have received.

NEWS FROM GRADE SIX: Grade Six recently "visited" ancient Egypt and other African kingdoms in their Ancient History class. As a culminating activity, each student was to choose a topic of their choice that deals with Ancient Egypt. They were then asked to write a short research paper on the topic and create a model of their topic. They were encouraged to be as creative as possible, using any building and art media that they wished. We have many models of pyramids, the Sphinx, hieroglyphs, mummies, paintings, jewelry and much more. The models will be on display in room 207 until Spring Break. Stop by for a look!

MUSICAL NOTES: Mrs. Marilyn Freas, St. Gregory's Music teacher, was awarded a grant in the summer of 2007 to attend a Class Guitar Workshop in Gahanna, Ohio, sponsored by MENC (Music Education National Conference). The 5-day workshop equipped Mrs. Freas with a guitar, guitar manuals, software, strings, and the instructional tools to teach class guitar. The grant was awarded with the promise to begin a group guitar class within a two-year period. Thanks to the generosity of the PTC, the promise has been kept.

The seventh and eighth graders are learning how to play guitar in their music classes. The PTC has generously provided the school with 15 3/4 size guitars, instruction books, strings, and music stands. The students are learning to play chords as well as individual notes in a group setting.

The junior high students will be studying guitar throughout the 3rd quarter. Seventh graders this year will continue their guitar studies in next year's music classes.

Our lunch monitors are a dedicated group of adults who help to assure the safety of our students at lunch and recess. Most members of this group are able to schedule time to be with us at least one day each week from 11:25AM to 1:00PM. They receive a stipend for each day that they help in this role. Would you consider joining this group and helping with this important task? Please call the school office at (216) 381-0363 for more information about becoming a lunch monitor.

CERTIFICATE PROGRAM NEWS: Please mark your calendars. The Malley's Candy orders will be ready for pick-up Monday, March 30th from 6-7:30PM in the PFC. Please be considerate and arrive during these scheduled hours. There is still time to order your Easter candy. Malley's is accepting online orders until April 6th and FREE shipping for orders over \$95.00.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION: Congratulations to Mrs. Jones and her first grade class for winning the box tops contest! The class turned in over 800 box tops. Our totals for this turn-in period earned St. Greg's over \$750.00. Please continue to turn in your box tops! We will have a final collection for this school year in mid-April. Each classroom, preschool through grade eight is eligible for the box tops classroom contest. The classroom turning in the most box tops will receive a special treat. Any questions please contact Monica Ferrante at (216) 571-3859 or email mons_ferrante@yahoo.com. Thank you!

IMPORTANT DATES

Howley Family Scholar Application due – March 30th
M. Thomas Moore Family Scholarship Fund due – April 1st
Michael C. Licursi Scholarship due – April 6th

Please note for your calendars: April 20th & 21st
Early Prevention Screening (EPSF)
No classes for Kindergarten or Preschool (ONLY)

PTC NEWS: PTC intent forms went home today to the current committee heads. Please fill them out and send back by Monday, March 30th. If you have any questions, please call Charlene Krebs@ 216-382-2305.