



THE MUSTANG *messenger*



Where Faith and Knowledge Meet
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Dear St. Michael Families and Friends,

March 7, 2018

Happy March!

As I mentioned last week, the students in Grades 2-7 are taking the Iowa Tests of Basic Skills (ITBS). I think many of us have noticed a rise in test anxiety, especially with standardized testing. Please let your child know that these tests should not cause anxiety or nervousness. We simply want him or her to try their best. At St. Michael School, we use the data from these tests simply to help drive our instruction and best meet the learning needs of our students. During these testing weeks, it is important that our students get plenty of rest and eat a wholesome breakfast each morning. Any time you ever have questions about our assessments or curriculum requirements, please do not hesitate to ask me. I am happy to help in any way that I can.

This week we will not have a school Mass. The students in Grades 2-8 will participate in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. On Friday, our Fifth Graders will lead us as we pray the Stations of the Cross at 2:00 p.m.; we would love to have you join us.

Saturday night, remember to "spring forward" and turn your clock ahead an hour.

Thank you to those of you who have returned your blue re-registration form and fee for next year. If you have not done so, turn them into the office as soon as possible.

Have a wonderful week!

Yours In Christ,

Carolyn Murphy

Principal

Important Dates to Remember

Mar. 8 - Volunteer Appreciation Night

Mar. 21 - Spring Pictures

Mar. 29 - Last Day of School before Easter break

Apr. 1 - Easter Sunday

Apr. 14 - Jesus Day @ 10:00 a.m.

Apr. 16 - Classes resume

Apr. 16 - Confirmation Rehearsal @ 7:00 p.m.

Apr. 17 - Confirmation @ 7:00 p.m. with Bishop Binzer

Apr. 18 - Jesus Day @ 7:00 p.m.

School News

Online Book Fair

PLEASE SHOP OUR ONLINE FAIR! The in-school Scholastic Book Fair is now over, but you may still shop online! There is an extended choice of books and proceeds will still go to our school. Just follow the link below. Many thanks for your support!
www.scholastic.com/fair

Cafeteria

Currently, Mrs. Holley is unable to send out negative balance emails. They are working to resolve this issue. Payments can still be processed. Thank you!

Marian Award

Congratulations to these eighth grade Girl Scouts for earning the Marian Medal! The girls and their leaders, Diane Giglio and Christine Garay, spent over a year learning about Mary by going on a retreat, writing an essay, keeping a journal, earning at least 15 service hours, and touring museums, churches, and a synagogue, plus many after school troop meetings.

Congratulations to Maelynn Geoppinger, Izabel Giglio, Bella Puthoff, Sophie Miller, Catie Keefer, Elena Madrid, Anne Miller, Caroline Miller, Stephanie Garay, and Anne-Marie Tardivon!



PTO News

PTO Volunteer Appreciation Event

We are SO excited to celebrate with our wonderful St. Michael school volunteers at the Brick House on Thursday, March 8th, from 7:00-9:00p.m. If you are a volunteer for St. Michael School, this night is for YOU! We will be giving special recognition to our Committee Heads and our Homeroom Coordinators who do SO MUCH during the year!

Don't forget to **RSVP!**

Fish Fry Volunteers

There are still a few shifts left for students in 6th-8th to help as Bussers or at the Drink Table, as well as for clean-up crew each Friday night!

Here's the link if you would like to volunteer for this Parish event:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c044ca8a929a0f85-20>

St. Michael Serves News

Lent St. Michael Serves – March 2018

St. Michael Serves weekend is March 9-10, and we will be offering service opportunities that are open to the entire parish – families, singles, seniors, teens, etc. **Space is limited for off-site projects, so advanced sign-up is mandatory.** Please contact Mary Heilers at mary.heilers@gmail.com or 779-4626 to sign-up and get additional details on the projects, or if you have questions.

Friday, March 9 - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon

Princeton Closet – (Adults only) Volunteers will sort and fold clothes for needy kids in Princeton Schools.

Saturday, March 10 – Offsite Locations

Cottingham – 10:00-11:30 a.m. – Visit with residents of Cottingham Retirement Community while enjoying the following activities with them:

- Coffee, juice, donuts, and conversation
- Sing-along OR Bingo

Warm Welcomes – 9:00-11:00 a.m. - The mission of Warm Welcomes is to partner with community members of all ages to encourage, empower, and enrich the lives of youth in foster care. Volunteers will be going to their West Chester location to stuff Welcome Bags with age-appropriate items that will be given to children entering foster care in Southwest Ohio.

Healing Center – 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon - The Healing Center provides help to residents of Greater Cincinnati when challenges invade their lives by offering practical (food pantry and clothing/household items), social, and spiritual support to over 3,000 guests per month. The majority of the guests are families with young children. Volunteers gather to sort, organize, and prepare food donations from Kroger and clothing donations to be distributed to their Food and “Wearhouse” stores. Younger children (ages 10+) can work in the prep room making bags of groceries with adult supervision.

Saturday, March 10 – St. Michael Cafeteria

Come any time between 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Rosary Making – We will be teaching craft bead rosary making. The completed rosaries will be donated to Holy Cross Family Ministries. <http://www.hcfm.org/en/SupportHCFM/Volunteer/SendUsYourRosaries.aspx>

Warm Welcomes Blankets – In additional support of Warm Welcomes Foster Care Outreach, we will be making no-sew blankets that will be used in the Welcome Bags. A blanket is included with every bag that is given to a foster child.

St. Vincent de Paul and Princeton Closet Personal Care Bags - Volunteers will assemble care bags for our St. Michael chapter of St. Vincent DePaul and Princeton Closet to hand out to their clients in need. The bags will include personal care items and a prayer card. *Personal care item donations are needed for this project - toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, deodorant, etc.*

Cottingham Easter Basket Making –Volunteers will be making Easter baskets and filling them with candy and goodies for the residents at Cottingham.

Dog Toy Making – Braided dog toys will be made from old t-shirts to donate to a local animal shelter.

Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 1 Peter 4:10

News to Share?

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If you have any news that you would like to share with our St. Michael Parish School community, please email Kaylene Schwab at kaylene@saintmichaelchurch.net.