

**St. Joseph School**  
**School Office Newsletter**  
**November 21, 2008**  
*Be the hands, the heart of God.*

Sunday's Gospel story for Christ the King tells us: Jesus said to his disciples, "Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.'" "

Matthew 25:34

Happy Thanksgiving! May you and yours have a blessed and happy Thanksgiving weekend. The faculty and staff wish you the very best!

**Reverse Raffle Update**

Our annual School Commission Reverse Raffle was held on Saturday, November 15. One hundred ninety-two tickets were sold, which was outstanding! On Monday, November 10 only 38 tickets had been sold, and I was a little worried! But, as usual, people came through and bought tickets and a great time was had by all. Congratulations to our two five hundred dollar winners—Amanda O'Connor and Beth Gwinnup.

There are a few people who went beyond the call of duty for the Reverse Raffle, and I wanted to thank them.

- Karen Hornsby
- Jeff, Kathy and Hannah Johnson
- Celeste & Bryan Fischer
- Leann and Dustin Smith
- Rick/Theresa Walke and all of our babysitters!
- Angie File and our dessert makers—Evelyn Schofner, Hilda Robinson, Tom Reuter, and Johanna Beck
- Jimmy Pleak and Abby Tandy
- Classroom Basket Makers—they were great!
- Matt and Angie Settles for great decorations!
- Dennis Gilles, Stephanie Amos, Mike Hall, Denell and Tim Schacht, Robin & Joe Lux, Brandy Coomes, Lorie Lux, Mary Clark, Mary Endris, and Chris O'Connor
- Fr. Chris
- Thanks to anyone who I may have missed. The Reverse Raffle takes a lot of volunteers to make the event successful!

Many thanks to all of our donors: Indianapolis Indians, Notre Dame Sports, Marsh, Louis & Pam McIntire, Creation Museum, Ruby Tuesday, Indianapolis Colts, Residence Inn Cincinnati Airport, Studio 10, Logan's Steakhouse, El Meson, Pizza Hut, Bob Evans, Red Robin Gourmet Burgers, University of Indianapolis, Dance Kaleidoscope, Comedy Sportz Indianapolis, Indiana Live! Casino, da Vinci Group, Diane Trout-Cummins, Indiana Downs, Shelbyville Antique Mall, Lux & Lux Law Office, Dennis & Stefanie Gilles, St. Joseph School Second Grade, St. Joseph School First Grade, St. Joseph School Third Grade, St. Joseph School Kindergarten, St. Joseph School Preschool Classes, Fischer Food Grade, Inc., Beth Schoentrup, Jack Atwood, Indiana Pacers, Laura Furiak,

St. Joseph School Fifth Grade, Wetnight's Paint and Wallpaper, Bonnie Foltz, Randy & Joan Livingston, Clowe's Hall, St. Joseph School Fourth Grade, Mathies Landscaping Inc., Nancy McNeely, Arthur Murray Dance Studios, Newport Aquarium, The Kopper Kettle Inn, VIP Tooling, Indiana Repertory Theatre, The Athens Restaurant, Connor Prairie, Franklin College, Shelby Tire & Auto Care Inc., Sanders Jewelry, TGI Friday's, Courtyard Cincinnati Airport, Ball State University, Shelby County Athletic Club, Shelbyville Applebee's, Indianapolis Zoo, Argosy Casino & Hotel, Domino's, and Goodyear Auto Service Centers.

### **Veterans' Day**

St. Joseph School celebrated Veterans' Day on November 11, and the celebration was very special. Each class (kindergarten-grade 5) sang patriotic songs, poems, sayings, and essays with the group. Four veterans or present military personnel were here to help with our program, and each one shared their experiences and personal feelings with us. Heartfelt thanks to Mr. Steve Lancaster, Mr. Jim Biggerman, Mr. Bob Reese, and Mr. Josh Cord. Thanks to Fr. Chris for leading us in prayer and to Mrs. Disser, our music teacher, for coordinating the program. Mr. Cord also presented a flag to our school that has flown 3.5 combat hours over Iraq. This flag is now in our gym. The entire student body was very attentive and respectful. What great children you have!

Mr. Lancaster told us how Armistice Day began with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles at the end of World War I. This happened on November 11 at 11 in the morning. This next part is to let you know how wonderful your children are. The third graders were back in class and about ten till eleven, one of them mentioned that they should have a moment of silence at 11:11 to honor all of the military personnel who have served our country. The whole class was very excited about being able to do this. They planned to be silent and pray for one minute. At 11:11 their teacher (Mrs. Kathy Johnson was subbing) told them the time. They bowed their heads, folded their hands, and prayed for one minute. Thank you for the wonderful children you have!

The following are essays that were written and shared with the group.

#### **Freedom To Me by Zoe Laker**

To me freedom means having the right to do things that other people don't get to do. Freedom is very wonderful. A lot of men and women died to get us freedom. I am very proud of those people who won. Without them we wouldn't be able to do a lot of things. We wouldn't be able to vote, to dress the way we do, or go to church when we want. Freedom means we get to do things how we want to do them. Freedom means much to me for freedom is very wonderful.

#### **What the Pledge of Allegiance Means to Me by Emily Foltz**

When I say the pledge of allegiance, I remember that I have freedom. Our flag stands for our country and the people in it. I remember that people who fight in wars fight for my freedom. When I put my hand on my heart, I am respecting my country and my flag. I love the U.S.A.

### What Freedom Means to Me by Jennah Foltz

Freedom is a very wonderful thing that our country has. With freedom we can worship in any religion. We have the right to speak what we think is right. We can also vote for the leader of our country. With freedom we can do many things other countries can't without being killed or thrown in jail.

Without freedom, like other countries, women and children could be beaten and abused, with the leaders not even caring. With no freedom, we would be told to do something, and that would be the way it is; we would have no say about it. If we were caught worshipping a different religion, terrible things could happen to us. Without freedom we would have no right to do anything at all; we couldn't even vote for who leads our country, and that is just sad.

The people who were in the military dedicated their lives to our country, and it's a very important thing. Even though our country has freedom, we go to wars to fight for other countries' freedom.

Freedom is a very important thing. I hope that eventually every country would have it. I would definitely rather have freedom, even though sometimes I may forget I am free. Freedom is so the best!

### **November PTO Dinner, Meeting, Awards, and Program**

The November PTO event will be on Tuesday, November 25, beginning at 5:00 p.m. with a soup dinner sponsored by our fourth grade class. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the gym, followed by awards and our first grade program.

Students who will be receiving awards at the meeting include:

**Fifth Grade—Katie Settles, Trace Holt, Megan Thoman, Makayla Schacht, Jennah Foltz**

**Fourth Grade—Nick Walke, Josie Roell, Hannah Dwenger, Billy Blocher, Zoe Laker**

**Third Grade—Katie Lux, Nate Reuter, Samantha Watson, Konrad Dorsey, Emily Foltz, Luke Foltz, Lucy Furiak, Damon Lux, Sebastian Sandman**

**Second Grade—A. J. Phelps, D. J. Kramer, Sarah Houpt, Jake Coomes, Mary Alice Furgeson, Camille Woods**

**First Grade—Daniel Duffy, Mimi Kobayashi, Logan Cord, Joseph Lux, Mitchell Smith**

**Kindergarten—Grace Coomes, Nolen Kincade, Beth Forville, Audrey Reinhart**

Students who received perfect attendance during the first grading period will receive a ribbon for this accomplishment. The students are: **Jack Baker, Beth Forville, Adeline Haacker, Nolen Kincade, Emma Messer, Brock Pitman, Jillian Roell, Dakota Sosbe, Evan VanWye, Mitchell Yeend, Jaeden Carter, Logan Cord, Elizabeth Furgeson, Trevor File, Andrew Walke, Cameron Rodgers, Nicholas Robinson, Mason Lasure, Clarice Fischer, Mimi Kobayashi, Hannah Lux, Julia Prickett, Reid Schene, Jake Wingo, Nick Amos, Eric Beyer, Hanna Bills, Jacob Coomes, Nick Duffy, Garret Freeman, Mary Alice Furgeson, Sarah Houpt, D. J. Kramer, Joseph McQueen, Jade Roell, Camille Woods, Konrad Dorsey, Luke Foltz, Katie Lux, Nate Reuter, Billy Blocher, Brendan Brown, Colleen Davis, Jared Gilles, Drew Mathies, Cora Reinhart, Josie Roell, Nick Walke, Jennah Foltz, Michael Hornsby, Evita Koth, and Katie Settles.**

### **Professional Development Half-Day—December 2**

Tuesday, December 2, we will be having a half-day of school due to professional development training for our faculty and staff. Dismissal will be at 11:40 a.m. Lunch will be served and our After School Care program will be open until 6:00 p.m. as usual.

### **Second Grade First Reconciliation**

Please remember our second graders in your prayers on Wednesday, December 3, as they will be receiving the sacrament of First Reconciliation.

### **VIRTUS Training**

Preventing child abuse is the goal of a program selected by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis. The name of the program is VIRTUS—Protecting God’s Children. This program educates clergy, staff, volunteers, and other parish adults about child sexual abuse and the ways to create safe environments for children. The 3-hour session includes videos and facilitates discussions that focus on the prevention of abuse and the protection of children. Adults learn how to recognize the signs and symptoms that are a potential risk of harm to children and how to know that a child is being abused or exploited in some way. You will learn about steps that the faith community can take to create a safe environment for all God’s children and how to respond when adults behave in a way that raises concerns.

Clergy, staff, and volunteer adults are required to attend training. All other adults are invited and encouraged to participate as part of the Church’s committeemen to make the world a safe place for all our children.

**If you are a regular volunteer in the classrooms, plan to accompany students on field trips, and/or plan on going on the fifth grade overnight field trip to Spring Mill, you are required to attend this training.**

Training is being scheduled at St. Vincent’s Parish on January 25, from 1-4 p.m. The trainer is Linda Robertson, the DRE at St. Vincent.

### **PTO Santa Shoppe**

Each year our PTO sponsors a Santa Shoppe for the children. The shoppe enables the children to make purchases for their family and friends for Christmas. Christmas is right around the corner, and the PTO is looking for new or gently used gift items for the shoppe. If you would like to donate items, please bring them to the school office by Tuesday, December 9. The Santa Shoppe will be on Wednesday, December 17.

Currently the PTO is looking for a few individuals to help co-chair this event. The work is always easier and more fun when it is shared, don’t you think? Please contact the office or a PTO officer if you would like to lend a hand.

### **Holiday Parade**

The Shelby County Reads Committee has invited students to participate in this year’s Holiday Parade, which is Friday, November 21. The theme of the Shelby County Reads entry will be “Reading is the gift you give yourself”. St. Joseph students who will be participating include: **Katie Lux, Hannah Lux, Megan Thoman, Adeline Haacker, and Mikey Lay.**

### **Shelby Arts Guild**

The Shelby Arts Guild has recently relocated to a building on South Harrison (next to Sanders Jewelry). Each school was invited to submit a few pieces of student art to display in the new offices. The school office chose art done by the following students: **Hannah Dwenger, Hannah File, Sophia Sandman, and Makayla Schacht.**

### **Market Day/Choice of Dress Day**

Our December Market Day pick-up date is Thursday, December 4. Market Day products may be picked up in the cafeteria between 4:30-5:30 p.m. This is also a Choice of Dress Day for students and staff.

### **Basketball Season—Coming Soon!**

Our basketball season will begin on Thursday, December 4, at 5:00 p.m. The girls will play at 5:00 p.m. and the boys play at 6:00 p.m. at Girls Inc. Our home games will be played at Girls Inc. this year. Admission is \$2.00 per adult and \$1.00 for school-age children.

Our coaches this year are: Craig Laker (girls) and Don Lux (boys). Our cheerleading sponsor is Jennifer Haehl. Thanks to these parents for volunteering and good luck to our teams.

### **Shelbyville High School Cheerleading Clinic**

SHS Cheerleaders are hosting a youth cheerleading clinic at Shelbyville High School on December 20 from 11:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. You will need to be there at 11:15 a.m. to sign in. Those who attend the clinic are invited to showcase what they learned at the boys' basketball game that evening (free of charge)! Registration forms were distributed this week. **Please return the form to the address on the form.**

### **“Be the Hands, the Heart of God.”**

Congratulations to the students who recently were caught doing something nice! **Cora Reinhart, Addyson Miller, Logan Young, Mason Lasure, Cameron Rodgers, Lukas Harley, Katie Settles, Hannah O'Connor, Ben Reuter, Josie Roell, Hannah File, The Third Grade Class, Audrey Reinhart, Drew Mathies, Zoe Laker, Billy Blocher, Mitchell Smith, Brock Pitman, Beth Forville, Randy Hubbell, Lucy Furiak, Nicholas Robinson, Evita Koth, Makayla Schacht, Megan Thoman, The Fourth Grade Boys, Jennah Foltz, Jared Gilles, Hannah File, Trace Holt, Michael Hornsby, Joseph McQueen, Joe Lux, Braiden Kincade, Trevor File, Sam Watson, Alex Watson, Clarice Fischer, Cole Lux, Jake Wingo, Heath McIntire, Elizabeth Clark, Matt Kenkel, Sophia Sandman, Hank Johnson, Nick Walke, Mimi Kobayashi, Hannah Lux, Jillian Linville, Mrs. Simpson, Mikey Lay, and Kayleigh Kieninger.**

### **Tae Kwon Do Classes**

Mr. & Mrs. Tom O'Connor, members of our parish, offer Tae Kwon Do classes at the school on Thursday and Friday evenings. The revenues that are received are donated to the school for tuition assistance. They are presently looking for new students. Please call them at 398-7739 for details.

**Menus for the weeks of November 24 and December 1**

Monday, 11/24—Cheesy Coney Dog

Tuesday, 11/25—Turkey and Noodles

Wednesday, 11/26—Pepperoni Pizza

Thursday & Friday, November 27 and 28—Happy Thanksgiving!!

Monday, 12/1—Corndog

Tuesday, 12/2—Tenderloin Sandwich

Dismissal at 11:40 a.m. Lunch will be served and After School Care  
will be open.

Wednesday, 12/3—Ham & Cheese Sandwich

Thursday, 12/4—Chicken Nuggets

Friday, 12/5—Pizza Pocket