

Principal's Message:



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Thank You! Thank you to Mrs. Lentz, Mrs. Braun and the middle school students for their successful production of “The Best Christmas Pageant Ever” that was performed last weekend. Thank you to all of the donors for the silent auction. A special thank you to Mary Jo Rebout, Barb Curtis and all of their helpers for the delicious dinner. The money earned from the silent auction and dinner profits will be used to purchase gifts for a needy family in our community.

B-R-R-R! As the weather turns colder, it is important to make sure the students are dressed for the weather. Students will be going outside for morning recess (K-4) and lunch recess everyday unless it is raining, or the temperature/wind chill is below zero. Please mark all hats, scarves, gloves, mitten, boots, snowpants, and coats with the child’s name. When we do get snow, students are not allowed to play in the snow unless they have snow pants and boots.

Camp Gray Retreats: Students in grades 4-8 will be having mini-retreats this week at school. These retreats are led by the staff of Camp Gray, our Diocesan camp located in Baraboo. On Monday, December 12, the 4th and 5th grades will spend the day with the counselors here at school. They will be learning about their faith through group activities. Then, Tuesday, December 13, the 6th-8th graders from all four Janesville Catholic Schools will come together at St. William for a mini-retreat focusing on Advent and prayer.

Christmas Band Concert: Catholic Saints Band Concert—December 12: Students from St. William, St. Patrick and St. John Vianney will perform their annual Christmas concert at 7:00 pm in the school gym. This a free event and a wonderful way to get yourself in the holiday spirit. The band is under the direction of Mrs. Catherine Mumma.

Grades Preschool-5th Christmas Sing: December 14: Students in grades preschool through 5th will be performing several Christmas songs at 1:30 pm in the church. Doors will open at 1:00 pm. Middle school students will be attending as part of the audience. Following the Sing, students will return to their classrooms for dismissal.

Scoopie Night—December 14: The second Scoopie Night of the year will be from 4-8 pm at Culvers on West Court Street. The school receives 10% of the sales during these hours. Take a night off from cooking during this busy season and join fellow parishioners for dinner, or drive through and take it home.

Progress Reports—Students in grades 3-8 will receive 2nd quarter progress reports in next week’s folder. Just a reminder, you can check your child’s grades anytime online by entering your user name and password at www.teacherease.com.

Christmas Service Project: Just a reminder that each class is playing Secret Santa for residents of Cozy Lil Acres. Please send the unwrapped items to your child’s classroom by next Friday, December 16.

Happy Birthday Jesus! On Wednesday, December 21, the entire school will hold a birthday party for Jesus. We will welcome the Parker High School choirs for a performance at 1:00 pm in the gym. Then, we will move the party downstairs and play games, wrap our Secret Santa presents, and enjoy special treats. School will be dismissed at the regular 3:00 pm dismissal time.

Class Tidbits

Computers:

The Computer Lab has been a pretty exciting place lately! The Kindergarteners have been working on Alphabet Books in KidPix since the beginning of the year, and they are getting pretty far. They also have been learning how to sign into the computers on their own (which was really confusing right away!), but almost of them can do it, even type out “student,” on their own. I’m really proud of them! The 3rd grade class is learning how to type and are getting really quick really fast! We also have been learning about all the parts of the computer and what they do. They really enjoy when we take a little break from keyboarding to play educational games on www.abcya.com! The 4th grade class has been working really hard this year. They have been practicing their keyboarding skills and also just finished a one page “magazine” style article titled “All About Me,” where they even got to insert pictures of themselves! They are hanging up outside the door to the lab; you should come check them out! The 5th graders just finished a group Power-Point presentation project where they researched an Art Movement of the 20th Century. They were introduced to many new styles of art and were introduced to creating bibliographies on www.noodletools.com. The 6th graders have been exploring their creativity in Computer Class recently! They wrote stories about what the world would be like if one day our computer systems stopped working! Now they are imagining that they discovered a new planet that humans could live on. They have created a resort on this planet and would like it to be the newest, most popular tourist spot! They are creating brochures on Microsoft Publisher to promote their planet and resort. The 7th and 8th graders have started a new unit in Computers exploring Cyber Safety and Digital Citizenship. They are learning how to be citizens in our digital world and learning how to keep themselves and their identities safe! I really enjoy the learning atmosphere in the lab; the students have even been teaching me some fun tricks! It is a true example as to how complex our technology is, it is near to impossible to know it all. Mrs. Braun

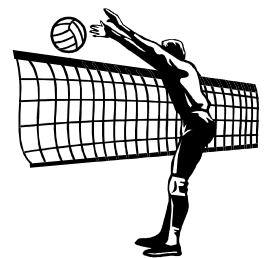


Gym:

All classes recently worked on volleyball skills. The younger grades learned how to serve underhand and played **Clean up your Kitchen** which involves throwing and striking balls over the net. Third and Fourth graders played a game called **The Serving Game**. All hits are serves and the ball must be caught by the other team. Then it is served back from the spot it was caught. This game goes to 10 points. The middle school played regulation volleyball as well as a game called **The Volley Game**. Two separate games are played at once, each game using a quarter of the court with the end line being very short. All hits are sets. There is no serving or bumping and we use a practice ball. This is a very fast moving, active game.

Basketball is the current area of concentration for all grades. Fifth and sixth grade will be taking a trip to the Blackhawk Curling Club. Thank you to all the parents that volunteered to drive!

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas and a great winter vacation. Mrs. Zaccard



A Visit From St. Nicholas



Christmas Concert

St. William's annual Christmas concert for Pre-K-5th grade will be on Wednesday, December 14th at 1:30 in the church. Please have your child dressed in nice Christmas clothing. No jeans, sweatshirts or t-shirts are allowed! Doors will open at 1:00. I look forward to seeing all of you there!

Also, I want to say that I am extremely proud of our 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in their production of "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever," this past weekend! The students performed the play on Friday and Saturday night, with a dinner and concert before the play on Saturday, so it was a very busy weekend for all involved! We had a lot of parent volunteers who helped make everything run smoothly. Thank you to all who came out to support our older students!

Peace and Harmony, Mrs. Lentz

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!



Altar Server Schedule



Dec. 13, 14, 15
Mary Rebout
Jacqueline Polglaze

Calendar of Events!!

Dec. 9 & 11—Volleyball A-team at SJV & St. Patrick schedule to be determined

Dec. 10 & 11—Volleyball B-team at SJV & St. Patrick schedule to be determined

Dec. 12—Camp Gray @ St. William 4th & 5th

Dec. 13—Camp Gray @ St. William 6-8th Cluster; Curling 5th

Dec. 14—Christmas Sing 1:30 pm PreK-5th in the church; Scoopie Night 4-8:00 pm Culvers on Court Street

Dec. 15—Curling 5th

Dec. 16—Nutcracker Ballet 5th-8th

Dec. 21—Mass-1st; BASC is available

Dec. 22-Jan. 2—Christmas Break NO SCHOOL

Jan. 3—School Resumes

Jan. 6—Mass-8th

Jan. 10—Catholic School Advisory 7:30 am

Jan. 11—First Reconciliation Retreat 6:15 pm

Jan. 15—Children's Mass 10:30 am; Basketball boys and girls vs St. Mary

Cookie Walk

Don't Forget! Family Ministry's Holiday Cookie Walk is taking place Saturday, Dec. 10th from 8:00-11:00 AM. We hope you'll join us for a morning of fellowship and to fill your cupboards with scrumptious holiday cookies, too! Cookie donations should be brought to the Parish Hall (cafeteria) on Friday, December 9 from 3:00-7:00 PM. We look forward to seeing you there!

Script News:

Remember our local vendors K & W, Natale Photography, Rainbow Rays, Super Wash and our list of Special Order vendors.

Christmas orders are due Dec. 19th in order to get here before Christmas.

Please place large orders by Monday morning.

Script will be available Dec. 22 and until noon Dec. 23 at the Rectory.

Script will NOT be sold at the Christmas Masses or New Year Masses.

Script will be available at the Rectory from Dec. 26- 30th and January 2nd.

Raffle Calendar Winners

Nov. 28, 2011—Charlene Welch \$50.00

Sold by the Welch Family

Nov. 30, 2011—Dave Hawkins \$50.00

Sold by Maddie Nelson

Dec. 2, 2011—John Dummer \$50.00

Sold by Alissa & Katelyn Anderson

The Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe is celebrated on December 12th.



In 1531 a "Lady from Heaven" appeared to a humble Native American at Tepeyac, a hill northwest of what is now Mexico City.

She identified herself as the ever virgin Holy Mary, Mother of the True God for whom we live, of the Creator of all things, Lord of heaven and the earth.

She made a request for a church to be built on the site, and submitted her wish to the local Bishop. When the Bishop hesitated, and requested her for a sign, the Mother of God obeyed without delay or question to the Church's local Bishop, and sent her native messenger to the top of the hill in mid-December to gather an assortment of roses for the Bishop.

After complying to the Bishop's request for a sign, She also left for us an image of herself imprinted miraculously on the native's *tilma*, a poor quality cactus-cloth, which should have deteriorated in 20 years but shows no sign of decay 479 years later and still defies all scientific explanations of its origin.

Her message of love and compassion, and her universal promise of help and protection to all mankind, as well as the story of the apparitions, are described in the "Nican Mopohua", a 16th century document written in the native Nahuatl language. An incredible list of miracles, cures and interventions are attributed to Her. Yearly, between 18 - 20 million pilgrims visit the Basilica, making it Christianity's most visited sanctuary.