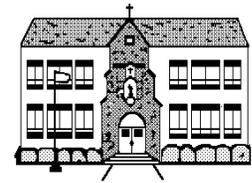


Blessed Sacrament

Faith. Excellence. Service.

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MARCH 2021

NEWSLETTER

LENT

Lent offers us a chance for transformation - a time to radically open ourselves to the power of God. During the season of Lent, we have the chance to re-center our lives, to check and see if we are living according to God's will or simply following our own wants and desires. These holy days are our new year - here is the time for resolutions - ones that will be kept, not only during Lent but throughout our entire lives.

We have been given three ways of re-centering our lives - fasting, prayer and alms giving. *Fasting* means letting go of the unnecessary to better concentrate on the necessary. Perhaps we need not just to fast from food, but perhaps from buying things, perhaps from television or the Internet! Perhaps we need to fast from some of the things we have chosen to do that are less necessary than the basics: prayer, family, sleep, play, work, and friendship. What should we let go of that we "want" to do, so that the things we "need" to do get done? This is our chance to re-order our life so that our day-to-day existence reflects what we say is important. This is the time to see what activities we can cut back on, as individuals and families, to have more time for God, for each other and for service.

Alms giving is giving out of our riches to those who need enough just to live. And this giving isn't giving from our surplus but giving until it "hurts" so others have enough clothing, food, shelter, education, work. We have been given so much - it's our privilege to share the riches. And alms giving is more than simply giving to those in need - it is also being responsible for their welfare. Alms giving is a lot more than reaching into our pockets for spare change. **Each family** received an **Operation Rice Bowl Bank** in which sacrificial offerings can be made for the missions. All banks should be returned to school by **Monday, April 12th**.

Prayer, of course, is the center of every Christians' life - communal prayer and individual prayer. During Lent, we take extra time to pray, to sit in God's presence and be still. Here's our chance to deepen and strengthen our prayer life: Lent is also a time to experience new communal prayer experiences which will deepen our relationship with God and with one another, for as Christians we are a community of believers, not just one believer on our own.

The season of Lent is a wonderful time for families to reflect on their relationship with God. Before the season begins, it would be ideal for family members to talk about actions they wish to undertake, both individually and as a family, to strengthen their relationship with God. It certainly is not too early to begin thinking about your Lenten journey.



WELCOME!

Welcome to our new school nurse, Mrs. Cheryl Ladouceur. Mrs. Ladouceur started on Feb. 22nd. We are so pleased to have her here at Blessed Sacrament School. Mrs. Nicoletti accepted a new position at another school, we wish her well at her new school.

"READING COLORS YOUR WORLD"

During Catholic Schools' Week, we had a special reading announcement to see how well we were doing as a school to reach Mrs. Coppola's Reading Challenge. Each class has read the following number of books:

TE	134	3rd	460
PK	686	4A	180
KA	330	4B	160
KB	820	5A	100
1st	120	5B	240
2nd	970	6th	126

Last Year: 8200

Students have read a grand total of 4326 books added to last year's count of 8200 brings the total to **12,526** books read! We are so close to our goal of reading **15,000** books!!! Mrs. Coppola promised that if students reach this goal, she will rainbow color her hair! If students can read **20,000** books, she will also Make a Splash in the Dunk Tank to complete last years challenge. So...**READ! READ! READ!**

PTA MEETING

The **Parent Teacher Association** will hold its regularly scheduled virtual bimonthly meeting, on **Thursday, March 11, 2021**. Two \$500 scholarship winners will be chosen at this meeting. Everyone who re-applied online by Monday, February 15th is eligible for these drawings.

MARCH YEAR OF SERVICE



Regan's Act of Kindness is our March theme for our Year of Service Project. We are having a \$1 Tag Day on Regan's birthday, March 3rd and will be donating those funds to the Regan's Act of Kindness Foundation. We are asking all our students, faculty, and staff to share random acts of kindness throughout the month of March. *A Regan's Act of Kindness is anything that you would normally consider a random act of kindness; something that would put a smile on another person's face.*