

RAMOPAGE

St. Luke Catholic School Newsletter

Steve Weber, Principal

317-255-3912

March 3, 2010

Fruit of the Holy Spirit for March: Faithfulness

“...A faithful man shall abound with blessings...” Proverbs 28:20

Mr. Weber Says: Our focus for March is “**Faithfulness**”. Being faithful and full of faith are really two related but different things. It is important that we are faithful in the way we live our lives. Sometimes it is important to be faithful in “small things” to be able to stand up and be faithful in big things. If we pray regularly,



worship as a community, and serve each other, then we have strength to stand together in hard times.

It takes prayer, worship and community to keep us full of faith when so many things try to tear us apart. The challenge of Lent is to give us the strength to keep our faith and trust in God and His church strong. If we do not make a change in specific behavior during Lent, then it is doubtful that we will be able to gain the true benefit and peace of this holy season.

If we are not faithful as parents and teachers, we will not be able to truly meet the real needs of our children and students. They are very good at reading phony people, and then they lose faith in us. Our actions do speak louder than our words. Can we be like St. Francis and “preach the Gospel always and use words when necessary?” Have a holy Lenten season!

Deposit for 2010-2011 Due: The Book and Supply Fee, which serves as your deposit for next school year is now due. This fee covers the cost of textbooks, workbooks, materials and other supplies used by each child. The fee is \$225 per child and remains the same as the past several years.

This year the deposit is payable on the school link to the parish web site. Simply go to

www.stluke.org and click on “School”, then click on “Book and Supply Fee for 2010-2011”. You may pay by credit card on this site. You must pay the deposit for each child. This deposit is due by March 18.

Note that if you have a new child entering St. Luke next fall, you have already paid the deposit for that child. If you need to make a special payment arrangement please contact Julie Simpkins in the church business office. (259-4373 x 246)

Hearts for Haiti: Today is technically the last day for our collection to help the quake victims in Haiti. Our student council and Imagine group has challenged each child in the school to work to earn \$5 plus collecting specific items for health kits. We will be organizing the health kits in the next week or so. It is fine to drop off items later this week if you have not had time to help.

Concert Notes: If you haven’t noted it, March is national “Music in Our Schools” month. Here is the concert schedule for the rest of the month. Please note that due to several conflicts, we had to reschedule the string concert to Monday, March 15.

Monday, March 15: String Concert 6:30 PM in the south gym

Tuesday, March 16: Choir Concert 6:30 PM

Tuesday, March 16: Band Concert 7:00 PM

First Eucharist Retreat: Those parents with students preparing for First Communion are invited and encouraged to participate in a retreat this Saturday, March 6 from 9-11:30AM. Contact Diane Schafer (259-4373 x 256) if you have not yet registered

Parishioner Status Letters: The School Commission policy regarding receiving the parishioner tuition rate requires that each family claiming that rate does worship at St. Luke, does financially contribute to St. Luke and is active in the parish. This meets the call to stewardship with time, talent and treasure. The pastor must review these factors and determine if a family meets this status each January. The simple way that this is measured is through the use of envelopes to show that the family does come to Mass at St. Luke. The amount of money is not the issue.

Letters for families who did not currently meet the standard were sent with acceptances or will be sent to current families from the parish office. The means

that, if you receive one of these letters, you do not currently qualify for parish tuition rate for next year. However, if between now and June 30, 2010 you do attend Mass and put an envelope in to verify this, the status can be changed. If you do not do this, your tuition will be at the non-parish rate. If you did not receive such a letter, then you do qualify for the parish rate.

This is not an unreasonable expectation, since the parish invests over \$500,000 in the school. This amount works out to about a \$1,000 per parish child to lower tuition for parish families. Please take careful stock of your stewardship and response to your parish with your worship and your stewardship.



Survey X2:

Please take time to complete the two "survey monkey" requests. The School Commission sent out its annual parent survey and the Math Review Committee sent out a math survey. Check your Teacher-ease announcements for the links to these online surveys. The surveys will be open until March 20.

Can You Help?

We need to take donations down to Anna's House on a fairly regular basis. If you can help pick up items at school and deliver to Anna's House, please contact Mrs. Prater at school. Anna's House is located on the near west side, just off of Belmont and 16th Street.

Spirit Day:

Spirit Day is Thursday, March 11 with a 2PM dismissal.

Grade 8 to Washington

DC: Our eighth grade class leaves for Washington, DC early Wednesday morning, March 10 and returns later on March 12. They will present their preparation research on Monday, March 8. It is a powerful trip with visits to Mount Vernon, the Capitol, the White House, the Supreme Court, the Holocaust Museum, laying a wreath at Arlington Cemetery, the Smithsonian museums and more. Please keep them in your prayers.

Promise to Keep:

Grade 6 participates in the "promise to keep" chastity program on March 11 and March 16. The program is sponsored by the Archdiocese and presented by students from area Catholic high schools. Contact Mrs. Wallace for details.



Daylight Savings Time:

Don't forget that we "spring forward" one hour on Sunday, March 14 at 2AM. Set your clocks up one hour on Saturday evening, March 13.

Youth hosted Mass:

School and parish youth ministry groups will provide lectors, music and more at 5:30 Mass on Saturday, March 13! Join them!

Grade 5 to Biz town:

Our fifth grade students will run "Biztown" at the Junior Achievement Center on Wednesday, March 17. The students learn how to run businesses in a small mock town.

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Be Involved:



Pastoral Council and School Commission elections will be taking place in early May 2010. These are important organizations to the well being of the parish and a great way of being involved in the parish. Please prayerfully consider nominating yourself or another qualified candidate.

Pastoral Council: The Pastoral Council is a consultative body that assists the pastor and pastoral staff in planning and overall decision-making in all areas of parish life. The Pastoral Council participates in policy-making and coordination of parish activities, and deliberates on matters of importance to the parish including the budget process. The overall focus of the Pastoral Council decisions are on the common good of the parish. The council is made up of the pastor and associate pastor; 9 elected members, three elected per year and serving 3 year terms; and liaisons from 5 parish councils and commissions and a parish-life representative. The Pastoral Council meets on a regular basis throughout the year.

School Commission: St. Luke School Commission serves as a consultative body to the Pastor of St. Luke Parish and the Principal of the school on matters concerning the school. The School Commission primarily focuses on policy-making issues, long term planning, and budgeting. The Commission consists of eight elected school-family representatives and three non-school-family representatives, and non-voting members including Fr. Noah, Mr. Weber, Mrs. Tillery, and the PTO president and a representative from Pastoral Council. The Commission meets at 7pm on the first Tuesday of every month. Each Commission member will also serve on one School Commission Committee and as a liaison to a parish commission or on two School Commission Committees. Contact Steve Berenyi at 722-0766 for School Commission information and contact Heather Garrison at 251-4512 for Pastoral Council information.

Election Schedule: Nomination Weekends

Nominations forms available after Masses March 13/14, March 20/12 and March 27/28

Nomination Deadline: March 28

Display of Candidate Information (bios and pictures): April 24 to May 16

Elections at Masses May 15/16

Community Notes:



Autism Fair: MSDWT is hosting a community wide information session covering resources and programs for people who work with or families who have someone on the autism spectrum. The fair will be held this Saturday, March 6 from 9-12:00 at Nora Elementary School.

Coaching for Christ: All coaches or those interested in coaching are invited to attend a special program at Bishop Chatard HS, on Wednesday, March 10 from 6-8PM. No reservation is necessary.

Team Wisken Tennis: Summer tennis lessons at University High School begin June 14 through July 29. Contact rick@teamwitksen.com or check www.teamwitkensen.com