



Grandparent News

2016 SPRING ISSUE

www.AllSaintsCS.com

Dear Grandparents,

Lent is an annual opportunity to bring new life to our families as we try to live as Jesus taught us. Experiencing this season within our elementary school community is a precious gift. Our students have been participating in weekly Stations of the Cross, school-wide Lenten projects of almsgiving, and we again have the opportunity to watch and reflect on the last steps of Jesus' journey to Calvary during our upcoming Living Stations of the Cross performances. As we turn our hearts to our Lord, we rejoice in the hope and promise of the resurrection that Easter brings.

Throughout our first semester of school, your grandchildren have been busy learning, playing, and growing. This newsletter highlights the amazing accomplishments and activities happening at All Saints Catholic School, and I hope you enjoy seeing our mission in action. Our teachers and staff provide an incredibly loving and nurturing environment where your grandchildren spend each day!

I invite you to connect with us by signing up to receive our weekly newsletter, visiting us online at our new website, or following us on social media at www.facebook.com/allsaintscs and www.twitter.com/allsaintscsmi.

Through your support, prayers, and investments in your children, your grandchildren, and our school, we are able to help each All Saints student reach his/her personal potential. You are truly witnesses to our Catholic faith. I am humbly grateful for all you do for All Saints.

May God bless you and your family,

Kristen Strausbaugh

Kristen Strausbaugh
Principal



TECHNOLOGY GROWS WITH GRANT WRITING, "RAISE THE PADDLE"

At All Saints, we understand the importance of preparing students to live and thrive in the world infused with technology. All classrooms are equipped with interactive white boards, students attend weekly computer classes, an additional mobile lab is available for online research and classroom activities, and we continue to increase technology throughout the building each academic year.

All Saints received the Archdiocesan School Outreach Grant, and along with a generous donation from the Ken Birecki Technology Fund, we were able to purchase iPad technology for our junior high classrooms. A mobile cart with 30 iPads for student use is active in our 7th and 8th grade classrooms providing technology-based instruction and learning.

This past November, during our 16th Annual "Growing Our Future" Auction & Gala, we introduced "Raise the Paddle" as a new tradition, asking families to support technology expansion. All Saints raised almost \$15,000 for iPad technology, allowing us to purchase a number of Apple TVs, teacher iPads, and iPad stations for center-based learning in grades K, 1, and 2 and a mobile cart for math and science in grades 4-6.



COMMUNITY GIVES BACK TO FOOD PANTRY

During our Advent Giving Tree project, our All Saints community had the opportunity to brighten the Christmas holiday for needy children by partnering with the All Saints Food Pantry in southwest Detroit. Each grade "adopted" families, and the generosity our community was absolutely incredible. More than 900 gifts poured in, including bicycles, scooters, winter coats, board games, dolls, books, and much more. Watching All Saints students wrap gifts in the hallways and classrooms was wonderful to see, and the All Saints Food Pantry had to make three trips to our school to transport gifts.



NEW YEAR, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

With more than 20 student activities to choose from, All Saints added a variety of new programs and extracurricular activities for our students to participate in this year.

Our Blue Thunder athletics program successfully established two new sports: cross country in the fall and bowling in the winter, both sports experienced very successful seasons. Our basketball season saw record numbers, fielding 12 teams starting at fourth grade, and we continued to excel on the hardwood, sending four teams to playoff division games and many more to post-season tournaments.

We also introduced three new extra-curricular clubs for students this year. The Healthy Kids Club for students in grades 3-5 focuses on staying active and making healthy choices. Over 15 students are participating in the club and spread the message of health and nutrition to the entire student body through daily announcements.

We were also able to offer Beginning Band for those students interested in playing an instrument as an ensemble. 19 students in grades 5-8 have been practicing the flute, clarinet, trumpet, and trombone and gave their first performance during our Christmas concert.

The Thunder Store had its grand opening on January 11, 2016. This after school club, opened to students in grades 5-8, focuses on developing small business skills such as inventory, budgets, accounting, and marketing. The Thunder Store is open during lunch periods so all students (K-8) can make purchases.



STUDENTS PREPARE FOR ANNUAL RETREATS

All Saints encourages an environment that fosters love, compassion, and inquiry of spirit and faith. One of the faith-based experiences provided for students is a grade level retreat.

Kindergarten

Theme: New Beginnings
Experience: Our kindergarten students were led through a “new beginnings” prayer service in our school chapel and decorated bookmarks and brown paper lunch bags for the less fortunate. Students also met new students from the other classrooms and learned different things about each other.



First Grade

Theme: Friendship
Experience: One very special gift God has given us is the gift of friends. During this retreat, our first grade students read from scripture, sang songs, and shared a snack with their classmates. Each child created a friendship bracelet kit for Children’s Hospital of Michigan, as well as decorated a prayer card, to extend friendship to other children struggling with illness.



Second Grade

Theme: First Communion
Experience: As our second grade students prepare to make their First Holy Communion, they will rotate through five different stations to gain a better understanding of the various parts of Mass. Students will also spend time working in the Resurrection Parish garden, creating banners and bread tags, and practicing to receive communion with unleavened bread.



Third Grade

Theme: Being Children of Light
Experience: Students will focus on becoming the Light of Jesus during their retreat. They will participate in a prayer service and reflection and share their light by donating new light bulbs and light fixtures to Habitat for Humanity.

Fourth Grade

Theme: God’s Mercy
Experience: Fourth graders will travel to an off-campus retreat center to learn to pray and walk with a labyrinth. Bible readings, songs, and reflections will occur throughout the day and students will create a labyrinth craft and participate in a service activity.

Fifth Grade

Theme: Father Solanus Casey
Experience: Students in 5th grade will visit the Father Solanus Casey Center in Detroit for a tour, prayer reflection, and Mass. During the day students will volunteer their time serving the center. Upon returning to school, students will teach our first grade students about Father Casey.

Sixth Grade

Theme: The Jubilee Year of Mercy
Experience: Our 6th grade students will visit the Cathedral of the Most Blessed Sacrament and will participate in Mass and confession. Students will create care packages for homeless shelters in downtown Detroit.

Seventh, Eighth Grade

Theme: Tested
Experience: The junior high students’ retreat focused on recognizing the gift of faith in their lives and how to use that faith to strengthen and prepare themselves for the trials that lay ahead.

FUND FOR ALL SAINTS, ENDOWMENT...

As a family, we are all partners in the success of All Saints, and we continue to thrive because of the blessings of a gracious God and the actions of a generous community.

The Fund for All Saints was established in 2013, and all donations go directly to bridge the “gap” between paid tuition and the actual cost of educating each student; approximately \$900 per student. Families who donate to the Fund for All Saints are able to select specific areas to support including academics, athletics, technology, Catholic identity, or greatest need.

New this year, families can also designate support to the All Saints Catholic School Endowment Fund. The purpose of the endowment is to strengthen and sustain All Saints. Gifts to our endowment fund are never spent but are invested to produce distributions to the school forever. Supporting the All Saints Catholic School Endowment Fund leaves a legacy to ensure Catholic traditions and values are provided for future generations of students.

Financially supporting our school in any area ensures we can continue to lay the foundation for an excellent academic education, as well as for the spiritual and moral growth and development of each child entering All Saints’ doors. Your support also allows us to continue to build and sustain a team of dedicated faculty and staff and encourage Catholic education to flourish.



GRANDPARENTS DAY RETURNS MAY 6TH

We are excited to be hosting our 11th Annual Grandparent and Special Person Day on Friday, May 6, 2016, from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Come spend quality time touring our school, learning about classroom routines and activities, and making memories with your special student(s)!

A continental breakfast will be served by our 8th grade students, followed by spirit wear giveaways, a 50/50 raffle, and photo opportunities for you and your special student(s). Please register today for this very special tradition at www.allsaintscs.com/grand. Doors will open at 8:45 a.m., and our program will start at 9:00 a.m.



NOTE: This event is for grandparents/special people with students in K-8 grades only.



RSVP AT WWW.ALLSAINTSCS.COM/GRAND



All Saints Catholic School
48735 Warren Rd.
Canton, MI 48187
www.allsaintscs.com

JOIN US MAY 6, 2016 FOR GRANDPARENTS DAY (FOR K-8TH STUDENTS ONLY)

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 18

Living Stations of the Cross &
Lenten Soup Dinner
6:00 p.m. dinner, 7:00 p.m. Stations
RSVP at www.allsaintscs.com/living

April 13

Spring Concert (Grades 3-5)
7:00 p.m.

April 16

Patron Saint Recognition Event
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (*Invite Only*)

April 18-21

8th Grade Class Trip to Washington, DC

April 20

Career Night
6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

April 28

Variety Show at All Saints
See www.allsaintscs.com for details

May 6

Grandparents Day
9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.
Kindergarten through 8th Grade only
RSVP at www.allsaintscs.com/grand

Bottle Biography Night (Grade 4)
7:00 p.m.

May 10

Ribbon Mass (Grade 8)
10:00 a.m.

May 17

Communion Mass (Grade 2)
10:00 a.m.

May 20

Fun Fair
6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

May 25

8th Grade Graduation
7:00 p.m.
St. Kenneth Parish
14951 N. Haggerty, Plymouth, MI 48170

May 27

Kindergarten Promotion
10:00 a.m.

June 10

Last Day of School

August 20

All Saints Golf Classic
The Inn at St. John's
44045 5 Mile, Plymouth, MI 48170

All Saints Catholic School

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