

THURSDAY NOTES

February 18, 2010

• Issue #19

This Week's Calendar

TODAY	Girls' B-Ball @ McCleary - 3:30 PM
FRIDAY	Lenten All-School Mass - 9:00 AM
MONDAY	Stations of the Cross - 8:25 AM
	Girls' B-Ball vs Hood Canal - Home - 3:30 PM
	School Commission Mtg. - 6:00 PM
TUESDAY	Girls' B-Ball JV ONLY @ Cornerstone - 3:30 PM
WEDNESDAY	Olympia Jr. Programs - Grades 4 - 6 Bus Leaves @ 9:30 PM
THURSDAY	Girls' B-Ball vs Evergreen - Home - 3:30 PM
NEXT FRIDAY	Lenten All-School Mass 9:00 AM
	Passport Club Check Day



Dear St. Michael School Parents:

Yesterday was Ash Wednesday. On this day many Christians receive a cross of ashes on their forehead. God has used this powerful sign for many years. The cross of ashes reminds us to turn away from sin and be faithful to the Gospel.

In the book *A Path to Wholeness: Meditations for Lent*, Robert R. Bimonte states, "Throughout our lives, we follow many paths. Some take us exactly where we want to go; others bring us to surprising and unexpected places." Some days we take steps in complete confidence that we are moving in the right direction. At other times we find ourselves going in another direction but then something inside tells us we are going the wrong way.

Lent is a time to listen to that questioning voice - to look at the paths we are traveling and ask ourselves if we are really going the right way. If I continue on this path, will it bring me to where God wants me to be?

Perhaps it is a feeling of lifelessness or restlessness, or the sense that the happiness you seek is elusive. Maybe you find yourself holding on to past hurts and unable to move forward. Do you sense that there is more to life than what you are currently experiencing? If so, it is time to take a new path. The heart of the Gospel message is repentance and forgiveness. Each year the Church gives us the gift of Lent - filled with rich and vibrant Scripture readings - to help us learn once again how necessary it is to forgive others and ourselves.

We will never experience the new life of Easter until we let go of our pride, selfishness, and whatever else it may be that is keeping us from living fully.

Lent is an invitation to look at ourselves and our choices, our attitudes and behaviors, and to seek new ways of living that will bring us the peace and integrity for which we all yearn.

May each of your families find a way to "live" the forty days of Lent by following the compassionate footsteps of Christ. May the Lord bless all us on this Lenten journey.

Jack Nelson



**Please Join
Us for the
Winter PTSA
Meeting**

**Tuesday, February
23rd @ 7:00 PM
Multi-Purpose Room
See Attached Flyer**



2010-2011 Current Family Enrollment is Now!

Enrollment forms for the upcoming school year are in today's **Thursday Notes** packets. We need the completed registration form and the registration fee returned no later than **March 4th**. If necessary, arrangements for delayed or partial payment of the registration fee can be made by calling Lynn in the school office. **Please highlight any additions or changes that may have occurred over the last year.**

Please turn in the forms on time, we don't want to miss you! We will begin open enrollment to new students on March 14th.

Also, please remember to start your kindergartener's and 5th graders immunization shots now so that she/he will be eligible to enter school in September. Immunization information on Washington State required shots is available in the school office. In addition, we will need a copy of your kindergartener's birth and baptismal certificates.

Tuition Assistance 2010/11 Reminder!



Tuition assistance applications are due to the Fulcrum Foundation & school office no later than this **Tuesday, February 23rd**. All applications must be filed online at the Fulcrum Foundation before being printed off and submitted to St. Michael. To file, please go to: <http://www.fulcrumfoundation.org/tuition>.

Box Tops!



Thanks to all you faithful Box Tops For Education collectors. Every label we submit is worth 10 cents. This may sound insignificant but it adds up quickly. Next week we'll submit labels that will return over \$250 to St. Michael's PTSA. If you have labels ready to turn in please do so by Monday. There's a collection box in the school office. Otherwise labels can be turned in anytime. We'll do another submittal just before the end of the school year. Thanks again!

Barnes & Noble Book Fair Reminder

Next week, February 22 - 28th. Special St. Mike's school family event on Sunday, Feb 28th. See attached flyer for more info.



Canned Food Drive

This year's Lenten Service Project is a canned food drive to aid the Thurston County Food Bank. We are asking students to bring in at least one can of food each week of Lent on their class's designated day. More than one can of food each week is greatly encouraged!



- Monday – K, 5th, 8th grades
- Tuesday – 2nd, 7th grades
- Wednesday – 3rd, 6th grades
- Thursday – 1st, 4th grades
- Friday – Teachers, Staff, Parents

Stewardship Update!



Thank you to all of our school families for "Placing God First." During 2009, school families contributed \$394,979 in Sacrificial Giving to St. Michael Parish. We are grateful for your support and commitment to building God's kingdom here on earth. Because of your support the parish grant to St. Michael School will be \$420,649 for the 2010-11 school year!!

For 2010, school families have committed \$456,506 in sacrificial giving. If every family fulfills their pledge during 2010 our grant will increase by \$31,000 for the 2011-12 school year! We are truly blessed!

Matching Formula: For every \$1.00 given during calendar year by a St. Michael School family to the regular Sunday offertory collection at St. Michael Parish (Sacrificial Giving), the parish will give St. Michael School \$1.90. There is no limit to the amount of gifts the parish will match. Should the grant reach a level of \$302,860, all further contributions will be matched at a rate of 50%.

Are You Interested in getting a FREE H1N1 Flu Immunization Sunday, Feb 28th ?



If you, your friends, and /or family members are planning on getting an H1N1 flu shot at the church on February 28th, between 8:30-1:00, please call the school office @ 754-5131 to let us know how many. No names needed - just a count, as the Health Dept. wants to know how much vaccine to provide for the day. We will add the school's tally to those who call in to the church. Thank you.