



Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter January 20, 2011

Messages from the Principal:

The fourth Virtue from the series “Understanding and Living the Virtues” is Prudence. “Prudence is the virtue that disposes practical reason to discern our true good in every circumstance and to choose the right means of achieving it. (CCC 1806) Prudence can be natural or supernatural. Natural prudence is common sense regarding practical matters. Supernatural prudence can make people order their activities in accordance with the Gospel. Martyrs are examples of the virtue of supernatural prudence.

As you consider ways to develop your prudence, consider starting small. Supernatural prudence is a lofty goal, good luck. I think that it may be a more realistic goal to hone your common sense decision making. It will benefit you in the short term and it will teach a lesson to your children.

Prairie Catholic Sweepstakes Calendars are on Sale!

First drawing will be held on February 6th.

This is our second fundraiser for the school year. Please do your best to support our school through this sale.

More calendars are available at either school office.

Many thanks to John Fischer for coordinating the project!

News Items:

- Alice Heinzen from the Diocese of La Crosse will be in Prairie du Chien on February 7th to give a presentation regarding family life. Her focus will be teaching parents to be the primary educators of their children in matters of human development. This is a fantastic opportunity for parents of middle school students to empower themselves on a subject that may be hard to approach. More information regarding Mrs. Heinzen’s visit will be in the next newsletter.
- We would like to thank Christine Lindner the reigning “Alice in Dairyland” for visiting Prairie Catholic on Tuesday. Mrs. Lindner spoke to the students at St. Gabriel’s about the products of Wisconsin agriculture. She also encouraged the students at St. John’s to “Think Your Drink.” You can read about “Alice’s” travels on her blog <http://www.wisconsinagconnection.com/alice/>. She will be updating her journal to include her visit to Prairie Catholic. We would also like to thank Tammy Nolan for all of her work scheduling this unique event for our students.
- Congratulations to all the young ladies who participated in the basketball tournament over the weekend. Prairie Catholic students in 6th grade that played with Bluffview finished third. The Prairie Catholic 7th grade team finished 2nd. For the fourth year in a row, the 8th grade girls finished 1st. While we are pleased with their results, we are proud of their display of Christian values. Great job girls!
- **Knights of Columbus Contest** – Grades 5-8 – Monday, January 31st at 4:00p.m. – St. John’s Middle School - Students sign in when they arrive and may choose to compete in Spelling or Math. Testing will run from 4:00-4:30p.m. Students may wait in the cafeteria while results are tallied and then announced after tests have been corrected. Snacks will be available for purchase while students wait for their results. The first place winners are eligible to compete at the Diocesan level.

- Catholic Schools Week is just around the corner. We have a full week of events planned. The week starts with a student's Mass on Sunday, January 30th. On Monday we will host the Knights of Columbus Contest. Then we will welcome "Opera for the Young" on Tuesday after our all school Mass. Next, family night will be on Wednesday the 2nd. Finally, the middle school students will go on a ski trip on Friday. We will also have "theme" days scattered throughout the week. Look for more information to come!
- I am challenging the elementary students at St. Gabriel's to read 10,000 minutes during Catholic Schools Week. My calculator tells me that each student would need to read for 17 minutes each day to reach the goal. If the students accomplish the objective, I will dress up as the ultimate Badgers fan! That's right, this will be the only time you see me wear red and white.
- A Quick reminder – we only have a half day of school tomorrow! Students will be dismissed at 1:00pm. It is the end of first semester; we are half way through the school year!
- Please remember the Calendar feature on the Prairie Catholic website. All of the events happening in and around our school (including basketball) are visible in an easy to read format. If you have any questions regarding a date, time or location check the website with confidence.
- The Prairie Catholic 6th grade class would like to thank everyone for supporting their Soup Supper and Raffle. It was a huge success. Here are a list of winners: Youth shotgun- Betty Nolan, Americinn stay- Tom Peterson, Deer Valley stay- Angie Halton, Sundae a Month (from Culver's)- Jan Kozelka, Scrip Winners- Josh Dyer, Eric Nolan, Spencer Pedretti, Paula Shedivy, Chas Sagedahl and Laura Stuckey.

Prayer: *God our Father, may we never sadden you by being selfish and uncaring. Heal us from all unkindness and pride. Let us rejoice not only in the gifts we receive but also when others are blessed, knowing that your great love is given for the healing of all people. Amen.*

Mark Your Calendars

January 21st – End of Second Quarter – 1:00pm Dismissal
 January 22nd & 23rd – Prairie Catholic Boys Tournament
 January 24th – 7B & 8B @ Clayton Ridge, 4:00 & 5:00
 January 25th – 8G @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 5:00
 January 27th – 6B @ Bloomington St. Mary's, 5:30
 January 29th – 5B @ Wauzeka, 1:30
 January 30th – February 4th - Catholic Schools Week
 February 7th – Family Life Presenters, St. John's
 February 9th – Math Counts at Huckleberrys
 February 12th & 13th – 7G & 8G @ Wauzeka Tournament



Important Dates for this Spring ** Note change of date for Confirmation Retreat and First Communion Retreat**

April 2nd – Confirmation Retreat – St. John's – Will start mid-morning and conclude with 4:00pm Mass

April 6th – Confirmation – St. John's Church – 6:00pm

April 9th – First Communion Retreat – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am through Lunch

May 8th – First Communion – St. Gabriel's – 1:00pm

Fundraisers

Sweepstakes Calendars – On sale now – First drawing February 6th.

February 27th – 6th grade Washington DC fundraiser, Breakfast 8-11am, St. Gabriel's

