



Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter March 10, 2011

Messages from the Principal:

The sixth virtue from the program “Understanding and Living the Virtues” is Fortitude. “Fortitude or courage is the moral virtue that ensures firmness in difficulties and constancy in the pursuit of the good. It strengthens the resolve to resist temptations and to overcome obstacles in the moral life.” (CCC, 1808) Fortitude can be as impressive as using faith to overcome a life threatening illness or as minor as wearing ashes on your forehead all day without worrying about the looks you receive from those who do not understand. Fortitude encourages us to display our pride in our faith and allows us to fight for what we believe in. It also helps us resist fear, foolhardiness and selfishness, three traits that we avoid during this time of Lent.

News Items:

- Beginning March 1, 2011, the school can no longer provide over the counter medication at school. If a student may need any OTC medications throughout the school year, such as: Tylenol, Ibuprofen, Tums, antacid, triple antibiotic ointment, cough medicine, etc.; it needs to be provided by a parent. These medications must be in the properly labeled container with the students’ name on it. A medication permission form must be on file. As always; any prescription medication that is to be administered by school personnel, we must have proper forms filled out by parent and physician and medication in properly labeled container. If this is not provided; medication will not be administered at school.
- The Student Council lead “Penny Conflict” is ending on Friday the 11th at 8:05am. Students will need to make their final contributions before class. Please remember that the money will be donated to the Second Freedom Flight on May 14th. Remember that pennies count toward your class’s total and nickels, dimes, quarters and dollars count against a class’s total.
- We had a fantastic Family Day and Mardi Gras celebration on Tuesday. It was great to see all of our grandparents who traveled into town from far away. I would like to thank the Seventh Grade for organizing Mardi Gras. There were many games and the seventh grade parents put in a ton of time to make the event special for the students.
- The Seventh and Eighth graders will be taking a trip to Madison on March 17th. The students will visit historical Wisconsin sites. The other students at St. John’s will have a normal day of classes.
- Pre-Kindergarten Registration Packets can be picked up at St. Gabriel’s during school hours from March 28th through April 1st.
- If your son or daughter is absent from school due to illness the school must be notified by 9:00 am. If a student has a doctor or dental appointment written notification (no phone calls) must be submitted one day prior to the appointment. Either of the above may be entered on Skyward. Following are directions if you would like to use Skyward. Sign into Skyward, under General Information find attendance, click on attendance, this will open your child’s attendance page. Select the Absent Notification tab. On the upper right hand click on Add Notification. Here you can enter date/time/reason and any comment you would like. Click the save button when done. This then can be approved by the school office. If you have any questions or concerns please contact the school office.

- Prairie Catholic has scheduled Kindergarten Screening for Monday, March 14th. Parents can call St. Gabriel's School to set up a time if you have not done so already. Please remember that on that day we will not have Pre-K classes.
- Mission Boxes went home last week. The money collected from these boxes will be sent to the Holy Cross Parish in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. You may remember that Fr. Bob Flock is their pastor. Fr. Bob is Mrs. Wachuta's brother and he visited St. Gabriel's school earlier this year.
- Prairie Catholic will again be participating in the Stations of the Cross at both St. Gabriel's and St. John's churches. The students will be participating at St. Gabe's following Mass on Friday mornings during Lent. The students will be participating at St. John's on Fridays during Lent at 3:05. The St. John's students will be dismissing from church on these Fridays.
- Congratulations to the following students who will represent our school at the area Middle School Forensics Competition to be held at Bluff View, on Monday, March 14th at 6:30 p.m. (Due to the limited space and the many schools attending, only participants and their parents may attend.)

Category:	Participants:
Farrago	Jessica Steger
Poetry	Mara Gerhards, Zach Neisius and Courtney Pattison
Prose	Courtney Pattison, Mariah Slaght and Mallory Fulcher
Storytelling	Mariah Schwager and Ethan Swiggum
Demonstration	Dominic Manganiello, Paige Rickleff and Jessica Steger
Group Interpretive Reading	Laura DuCharme and Brook Moret; Makayla Gerhards and Zach Neisius;
Play Acting	Emily Steger, Hailee Lynn, Madeline Peterson and Mariah Slaght; Michael Steiner, Ryan Schickert, Ryan Garrity and Jacob Linder; Courtney Pattison, Mariah Schwager, Erin Morovits and Laura DuCharme; Jonathan Dyer, Wesley Schwager, Nathan Specht and Jack Stoeffler;
Solo Acting	Brooke Moret, Evan Teynor and Ethan Cummuta
Four Minute Speaking	Mara Gerhards and Jena Swiggum

Prayer: *Lord God, in this Lenten season of growth teach us humility and help our love grow. May our faith grow stronger and our selfishness weaker.*

Mark Your Calendars

- March 14th – Forensics at Bluffview Cafetorium, 6:30pm
- March 14th – Kindergarten Screening, No Pre-K, More to come
- March 16th – K-2 Play in La Crosse, Bus 9:30am
- March 17th – Seventh and Eighth Grades to Madison. Student check in 7:50am, bus leaves 8:00am
- March 18th – No School
- March 20th – St. Patrick's Dinner at St. Gabriel's
- March 25th – End of Third Quarter
- April 7th – No School – Teacher Regionals, La Crosse

Important Dates for this Spring

- April 2nd – Confirmation Retreat – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am Registration 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 – 10:00am

