



# Prairie Catholic Weekly Newsletter March 17, 2011



## Messages from the Principal:

Last year at this time we were ending our fourth week of Lent. Even though this season of Lent is late in the calendar year we still lean on the three pillars of Lenten Practice: fasting, almsgiving and prayer.

The Holy Father has asked that we remember the poor and hungry this year while we **fast**. Remember that for some people in our community it's not a fast but the way they are forced to live.

Every year we make grand declarations about what we are giving up for Lent. Instead I want to ask, what are we doing for the greater good? Who are you helping during this time of **almsgiving**?

During Lent, we place special emphasis on **prayer** through expressions of popular piety such as the Stations of the Cross. The community is welcome to St. Gabriel's after Friday morning Mass or St. John's at 3:00pm on Fridays for our interpretation of the Stations.

## News Items:

- Effigy Mounds National Park Visitor Center will be displaying artwork from Prairie Catholic students March 19<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Along with pupil artwork the center will also display artwork from Paul Conrad's series "Drawing Fire."
- The Prairie Catholic Athletic Banquet will be held on Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup> in St. Gabriel's School cafeteria beginning at 6:00pm. We will recognize students and coaches for their hard work. Please see the enclosed flyer.
- The Student Council led a "Penny Conflict" ending on Friday the 11<sup>th</sup>. Students in fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grades raised over \$280 for the Second Freedom Flight scheduled for May 14<sup>th</sup>. The eighth grade won the contest by \$.78. They have won a surprise.
- Pre-Kindergarten Registration Packets can be picked up at St. Gabriel's during school hours from March 28<sup>th</sup> through April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 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.
- Mission Boxes went home two weeks ago. 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 3:00. The St. John's students will be dismissing from church on these Fridays.

- Last week we sold \$4775 worth of National Scrip and \$765 worth of local Scrip. We would like to thank everyone who supported our Scrip program this week. Especially those who supported our local partnerships.
- There will be a St. John's Men's Club Fish Fry on March 25<sup>th</sup> from 5:00-7:30pm and a St. Patrick's Day dinner at St. Gabriel's on March 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:45-am-1:30pm. These are good opportunities for families still looking for volunteer hours.
- \*\*\*The time for 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation has be moved to **1:00pm** from the original time of 3:00pm.\*\*\*
- Congratulations to the following students who placed at the Middle School Forensics Meet held this past Monday, at Bluff View. Participating schools were: Prairie Catholic, Bluff View and Bloomington St. Mary's.

Category:	Participants:
Farrago	Jessica Steger – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Poetry	Courtney Pattison – 1 <sup>st</sup>
Prose	Mallory Fulcher – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Storytelling	Brooke Moret – 1 <sup>st</sup> Mariah Schwager - 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Demonstration	Jessica Steger – 2 <sup>nd</sup> Paige Rickleff – 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Group Interpretive Reading	Emily Steger, Hailee Lynn, Madeline Peterson and Wesley Schwager – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Play Acting	Laura DuCharme and Brook Moret – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Michael Steiner, Ryan Schickert, Ryan Garrity and Jacob Linder – Tie – 1 <sup>st</sup> Jonathan Dyer, Wesley Schwager, Nathan Specht and Jack Stoeffler – Tie – 1 <sup>st</sup> Courtney Pattison, Mariah Schwager, Erin Morovits and Laura DuChame – 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Solo Acting	Evan Teynor – 1 <sup>st</sup>
Four Minute Speaking	Mara Gerhards - 2 <sup>nd</sup>

*Prayer: Merciful Lord, you call us to follow your wonderful ways, and to live in the light of your peace. May we always listen for the sound of your voice, and pay attention to the love you give. All that you make and do is good! May we live according to the nature you gave us and do the good you intend us to do. Amen.*

## Mark Your Calendars

- March 18<sup>th</sup> – No School
- March 20<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day Dinner – St. Gabriel's – 10:45am-1:30pm
- March 25<sup>th</sup> – End of Third Quarter
- March 25<sup>th</sup> – St. John's Men's Club Fish Fry - St. John's Hall – 5:00pm-7:30pm
- April 2<sup>nd</sup> – Confirmation Retreat – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am Registration and conclude with 4:00pm Mass
- April 6<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation – St. John's Church – 6:00pm
- April 7<sup>th</sup> – No School – Teacher Regionals, La Crosse
- April 9<sup>th</sup> – First Communion Retreat – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am through Lunch

## Important Dates for this Spring

- April 22<sup>nd</sup> – No School
- April 25<sup>th</sup> – No School
- May 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade - Washington DC Trip
- May 8<sup>th</sup> – First Communion – St. Gabriel's – 10:00am
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation – Mass at 11:00am and Graduation Ceremony at 1:00pm
- May 25<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Last Day of School
- May 27<sup>th</sup> – Last Day of School for Grades Pre-K - 7

