



ST. MARY'S

Elementary School

March 15, 2018

Virtue of the Month: Love & Sacrifice

Regis Catholic Schools pick a virtue every month to study and highlight in all subject matters. We learn all about the virtue and do our best to employ in our everyday lives.

March's virtue is Love & Sacrifice.

- ◆ For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. John 3:16
- ◆ Sacrifice is an outward sign of an inward gift of God.
- ◆ Sacrifice allows us to live and grow in the faith.
- ◆ The offering of the Mass fulfills the understanding of sacrifice and, though presented differently, is identical with Christ's sacrifice on the cross.
- ◆ Sacrifice is an act of self surrender to God, whereby we render to Him praise and reverence.
- ◆ Love is doing charity works of good deeds and serving others.
- ◆ Love is doing acts of kindness when no one is looking.
- ◆ Love one another as I have loved you. John 13:34
- ◆ Love Your enemies, pray for those who mistreat you. Luke 6:27

PUPIL SERVICES WITH MRS. FOEGEN

This month our virtue of the month is love and sacrifice. We need to sacrifice out of love for Jesus. This is fitting with the seasons of Lent as we prepare for the risen Christ. For me, March is also the time when I follow up with teachers on concerns expressed during parent conferences that may need my involvement. I hope your conferences went well and you got the information you were looking for. In case that didn't happen don't hesitate to contact us.

A much needed spring break is coming up the week of March 19. Just like holidays, it leaves some students uncertain on what they will do with the time away from school. It may help to start discussing with your students what your expectations for them will be. I know it will relieve the stress that we have begun to see already.



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Pupil Services	1
Preschool & 4K	2
Kindergarten.....	2
First Grade	2
Second Grade.....	3
Third Grade	3
Fourth Grade	3
Fifth Grade.....	4
Spanish	4
Art	4
Music.....	4
Library	5
Guidance	5
Physical Education	5
Computer Science.....	6
Halos	6



FABULOUS FIRST GRADE

The first graders are continuing to research about Penguins and American Symbols. Our next science unit will be about Weather.

During Writer's Workshop, the boys and girls are utilizing their writing skills to write their first fiction story. In math, we are exploring tens and ones. Our Lenten fundraiser is off and running. You may continue to purchase raffle basket tickets up to Friday morning. The drawing will be after Mass on Friday. You don't need to be present to win!!!

PRESCHOOL & 4K WITH MS. WENDY

I look forward to meeting with preschool parents at conferences. Please watch for an envelope coming home this week with your child. In it there is a progress report and a pre-conference sheet to return before we meet. It has been such a blessing to be able to watch the growth and personality of each individual child shine!

That's not fair!! How many times have you heard that? This week in 4K we are introducing a "fair ways to play" poster and song to go with the lesson. Play together, trade, or take turns. We'll keep practicing... The children have also been enjoying our construction site as we conclude our building study and move onto roads.

4K WITH MRS. CHRISTIANSON

Mrs. Christianson's 4K classroom has started their "Roads Unit". We are going to be exploring the characteristics of roads, how roads help people, how roads are made, who builds and repairs the roads, and how do we stay safe on the road. Within this unit we will also be taking some field trips to help us in our understanding of roads. We have been spending a lot of time working on how to be a kind friend and how to make good choices.

*Greater love has no one than this:
to lay down one's life for one's friends.*

John 15:13

KINDERGARTEN KAPERS

Lent is a time to change and grow. The kindergartners are learning all about Jesus as we attend "Stations of the Cross". We will be making "Resurrection Eggs" that tell the story of Jesus as he prepares to die on the cross and then rises again in glory. The students are making nice progress in reading and math. We are learning so much about animals and their habitats, including those animals who have colors that help them hide from hungry predators.

St. Patrick's Day is always a fun day packed with surprises. We are ready to hunt for a leprechaun with our leprechaun look-alike masks.

Spring will be here soon! It's a time to remember to celebrate the life of nature all around us.

Have a wonderful spring break with your family!

THIRD GRADE THOUGHTS

For reading and social studies, 3rd graders have finished reading their biography of a historical figure. We will now begin the biography book project in class. Students will wear costumes to school on March 27th for our "Biography Breakfast" where they share important life events and facts.

First and third grade classes collected raffle basket items for our Lenten service project. From March 12-16th students may purchase raffle tickets for the items of their choice. The raffle drawing will take place after our 3rd grade Mass on Friday, March 16th. During the season of Lent we will be focusing on Catholic prayer, service, and alms giving. We will be reading Mrs. Mechelke's book Love of Lent and the ABC's of Lent, and writing acrostic poems about this season. Our virtues of the month are love and sacrifice. We are discussing ways we can joyfully sacrifice during the season of Lent. Third graders are preparing to lead Stations of the Cross on March 27th.

In science, we are prepping for the science fair on April 17th. Third graders will be learning about inventions, innovations, and influential inventors from the past. Each third grader will be in charge of researching a famous inventor, creating their own model of an invention or innovation, and writing a persuasive speech for the 3rd grade version of "Shark Tank". Students will present their projects at the 3-5 science fair as well.

FANTASTIC FOURTH GRADE

We are well in to the Season of Lent. Students did a wonderful job leading their Living Stations with reverence. I truly believe they grew in their faith from this experience. During the remainder of Lent, we will continue reading from the 4 Gospels about Jesus for our class Jesus Tree. We will also participate in many faith filled activities during Holy Week. One of them is making an **Easter Candle**. *You may want to consider using it as part of your Easter Celebration. Remember Easter lasts for 50 days all the way through the Ascension of our Lord and Pentecost. Maybe you'll want to light it nightly for dinner or night prayers to help you family remember that the Season of Easter is the pinnacle of our faith!*

In math, students are working on long division now. Knowing those multiplication and division facts helps tremendously with this skill. Thanks for your efforts at home.

In social studies, students are learning about the history of Wisconsin as a territory and about how it became a state.

In science, students are beginning to transfer their knowledge about force and motion to simple machines. Watch for information about the Science Fair. It will be held on Tuesday, April 17.

In reading and language arts the students cheered when I told them we would be beginning our literature study on **Charlie and the Chocolate Factory** after vacation. Students typically love this, especially when they get opportunities to win a Golden Ticket.

I pray you will all have a restful vacation and enjoy celebrating our faith with our children during the remainder of Lent, Holy Week, and into the Easter Season.

SECOND GRADE SCOOP

We are now in the 4th week of Lent, and our journey is half over.

The theme in our classroom this week is, "We are the Eyes of Christ." Our sense of sight allows us to bear witness to the wonders of the world. You can use your eyes to make positive changes in the World.

Our class is reading the story, DEX, The Heart of a Hero. We discussed who they thought of as a hero. Many of the children responded that it was their parents and best of all was the answer-GOD. We are almost finished with our Penguin project and soon you will see them displayed in the hallway.

Just a reminder that First Communion Banners are due the night of practice.

Have a safe and enjoyable break.

SPANISH WITH MRS. LARABEE

A favorite song in February for Kindergarten was "My Mother is a Baker" in Spanish by Dr. Jean. They also enjoyed learning family vocabulary. First grade finished family vocabulary and focused on calendar vocabulary. In March the focus will be on animals for first-third grades. In the upper grades we diverted our attention mid-February to some sports vocabulary to match up with the Winter Olympics. A review of how to say the date, how to count the medals, and for fifth grade, some nations names and their flags in Spanish was a focus. At the end of the month second-fifth grades were learning or reviewing the Spanish alphabet. "The Alphabet Song" by Twin Sisters is currently being enjoyed. In March, fourth and fifth grades will work on various vocabulary review. After Spring Break fourth grade will start their Food and Restaurant Skit projects and fifth grade will start working on Spanish music videos. Remember to check my Spanish website on your school's website for further information and song lyrics.

FIFTH GRADE FUN

During this season of Lent we have participated in the Stations of the Cross, worked on our Weekly Resolutions, participated in our Lenten project (Penny Wars), created our Lenten Crosses, and served our weekly Masses.

We are currently reading Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry by Mildred Taylor. This is a story set in 1933, in Mississippi – during the Great Depression, when many people were very poor. Having land gives the Logan children an emotional foundation, as they begin to notice the difference between how black children and white children are treated in the South during the Great Depression.

Students have been completing their experiments and displays for the Science Fair coming up in April. Does temperature effect how we react to cutting an onion? What brand of gum can blow the biggest bubble? Join us at the Science Fair to find the answer to these questions and many more!

The fifth grade class would like to wish everyone a Blessed Easter and a restful spring break!

ART WITH MS. LAROSE

Kindergarten: Spring Caterpillars

1st Grade: Sea Turtle Sculpture

2nd Grade: Bowl Project and Chalice Project

3rd Grade: Glazing and Collaborative Art

4th Grade: Graphic Lettering and Painting Masks

5th Grade: Athlete Drawings and Painting Bobble Heads



MUSIC WITH MRS. MECIKALSKI

In March we are reviewing what we learned in February and learning about Irish music, instruments, rhythms and dances.

Kindergarten: Singing Games and Activities

1st Grade: Around the World songs and dances-Africa and Ireland

2nd Grade: Square Dances and Folk Dances

3rd Grade: Learning BAG on Recorders

4th & 5th Grade: Bucket Drumming/Rhythms

Band Students: Keep practicing Recess Rock and work on your practice goal!

GUIDANCE WITH MRS. ESLINGER, SCHOOL COUNSELOR

During the first week of March our Energy Bus lessons focused on Principle #6: Love Your Passengers, “Sacrifice out of Love for Jesus.”

- ~Focus on seeing the true gift in every person we meet.
- ~Find ways to serve our school and community.

The students really enjoyed creating kindness notes for their classmates!

For the rest of March we will have small groups for grades 1-5. The topics include: making and keeping friends, respecting others, bucket filling, impulse control, and sportsmanship. Small groups provide a great opportunity for students to build stronger relationship skills and learn a variety of strategies to apply in their daily life.

The Kindergarteners are learning about cooperation in March. Guidance activities will include: defining cooperation, listening to the book Rattletrap Car by Phyllis Root, and activities where the students will practice cooperation.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for partnering in your child’s education!

PHYSICAL EDUCATION WITH MRS. HOESCHEN

Happy Spring! We are springing into tumbling skills in kindergarten-fifth grade. They will be learning tumbling skills, which is basically body management. Throughout the unit the students will learn to control their bodies while moving in many different ways. I believe that strength, flexibility and balance are skills that will transfer easily to every other sport that they want to pursue.

During the season of Lent, I have incorporated Stations of the Cross workout. We perform the exercises on Fridays before Good Friday. Each station is assigned a set amount of exercises to complete as I read about what Jesus experienced. My hope is to help the children grow closer to Jesus as they perform the exercises.

Congratulations to second and fifth grades...Our Golden Sneaker Award winners! The two classes tied so the fifth graders will have the award for the first half of the month and the second graders will take the trophy the last part of the month. All the classes are working hard to earn the trophy in their classroom. To help their class earn the trophy, please help your child remember to bring gym shoes and change of clothes for 5th graders.

Here’s the PE schedule:

K-2: Monday and Thursday
3-5: Wednesday and Friday

LIBRARY WITH MS. HOFFMAN

As we look forward to spring, the kindergartners have learned about the Frog Prince and will be exploring Cinderella stories from various cultures. First grade is finishing tall tales and folktales. Second grade has been exploring indexes. Third, fourth, and fifth grades are having discussions on intellectual property, plagiarism, and online safety.

Energy Bus Principle #6

Love Your Passengers

*“Sacrifice out of
Love for Jesus.”*

- ◆ Focus on seeing the true gift in every person we meet.
- ◆ Find ways to serve our school and community.



HALO Awards

HALO stands for
Helping And
Loving Others.

The following
students in
Kindergarten through
5th grade have
received HALOs since
our last newsletter.

Hadley Anderson
Piper Anderson
Dylan Bilda
Jane Black
Vaughn Brogelman
Tanner Chilson
Adam Eaton
Bernie Falbo
Isabelle Goss
Ryder Hadt
AnaLyn Kostka
Sydney Marx
Joseph McMenomy
Ben Olson
Micah Olson
Ally Roers
Braden Smiskey
Liam Strahm
Ethan Straw
George Wolterstorff

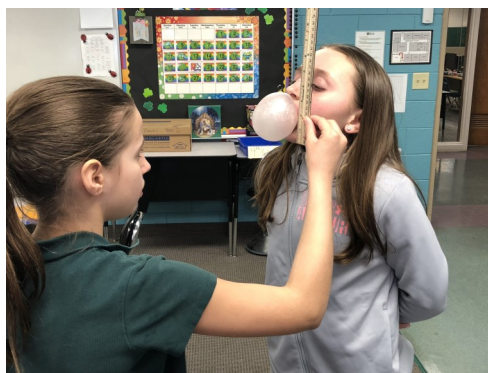


6

COMPUTER SCIENCE WITH MR. HARDY

It's Lent! Happy spring break!

- Kindergarten - We are typing in Word, students are learning how a word processing program works and key keys (see what I did there?) that they will use all the time.
- First Grade - Keyboard shortcuts and navigation of windows and the internet.
- Second Grade - Fictional story about spring break.
- Third Grade - Internet scavenger hunts and working on a presentation after spring break using PowerPoint.
- Fourth Grade - Code.org video series as well as their Lentflections.
- Fifth Grade - 3D printing! We will also be learning about Google Forms.



Fifth Grade Science Experiments



All aboard the Energy Bus...this month "Sacrifice out of Love for Jesus".

