

# St. Ann School

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# Wednesday Memo



**Lunch supervision volunteers must arrive by 11:15 AM.**

**Total for 19 Lunches for March: \$55.10**

<b>Monday, March 23</b>	<b>Creamy Turkey Noodle Hotdish</b>
<b>Supervision</b>	<b>Schafer, Nelson</b>
<b>Tuesday, March 24</b>	<b>Popcorn Chicken</b>
<b>Supervision</b>	<b>Johnson, Davis</b>
<b>Wednesday, March 25</b>	<b>Beefy Italian Dunkers</b>
<b>Supervision</b>	<b>Wiese, Caravella</b>
<b>Thursday, March 26</b>	<b>Ham &amp; Turkey Subs</b>
<b>Supervision</b>	<b>Lang, Ellison</b>
<b>Friday, March 27</b>	<b>No School, In-Service</b>



Don't forget to place your order for Market Day! Today is the last day! March has a free 4-Pack of ChicNSteakes with an online purchase of \$90 or more with the promo code: MARBONUS. March is also Bonus Days! The more desserts purchased, the more profit our school earns. Don't forget to qualify as a FREEquent Buyer! Make two purchases of \$40 or more between February and April, then one more in May to receive a FREE Set of Collapsible Storage Bowls at your May sale pick-up. All orders are due on **Wednesday March 18**. Paper orders need to be turned in by 3pm in the Market Day box outside of the Teacher's Lounge and online orders need to be made by 11pm at [marketday.com](http://marketday.com). Pick-up is on Monday March 23 from 4 to 6pm. We have very little freezer space to store your orders so please plan to pick up your orders. If you need to make other arrangements or have any questions, please contact Koreen Kuhn at 712-4126 or at [jhkuhn@charter.net](mailto:jhkuhn@charter.net).

## Scholarship Challenge

St. Ann's School has received a wonderful opportunity to have up to \$10,000 in funds matched by The Prone Family Foundation, which will be earmarked for the Monsignor Healy St. Ann School Scholarship program. The scholarship program awards grants those who have a strong desire for a Catholic education, but limited financial means.

This Lent we hope you will consider contributing to the fund as a way to help others receive a solid Catholic Education at St. Ann's. **Your gift will double in size!** All donations are tax deductible. Check can be made *payable to the Monsignor Healy St. Ann School Scholarship Fund* and directed to either Virginia Carrano in the school office or to Shaun Kleitsch in the parish office.

The Prone Family Foundation was created by the late Attorney Joseph G. Prone, a Harvard Law School graduate and U.S. Army Reserves Colonel who believed passionately in the importance of a strong education. During his lifetime, Mr. Prone provided scholarships to hundreds of deserving students in his hometown of Lawrence, MA and in communities across the country.

### Beautiful quote found on BestLentEver.com

"Our Lord does not come down from Heaven every day to lie in a golden ciborium. He comes to find another heaven which is infinitely dearer to him—the heaven of our souls, created in His Image, the living temples of the Adorable Trinity."  
ST. THERÈSE OF LISIEUX

## 6, 7, 8th Grade Reminder

All forms and fees for Upham Woods Science trip are due on Monday, March 23. Please be sure to return these items on time. Thank you.

**3rd Quarter and Monthly Tuition was due on Monday. Please submit your payment if you have not already done so.**



SCRIP Orders are due by Monday, March 23, 3:00 PM. Submit order forms to the office or email Diane Neumeyer at [neumeyerdiane@yahoo.com](mailto:neumeyerdiane@yahoo.com)



# Principal's Corner

## Looking Toward 2015-2016

I know it's crazy to think that we've hardly had warm weather and are already planning for the fall. We do, however, have some important changes that we are excited to share with our St. Ann Family. First, after 25 years of dedicated service to St. Ann School, Cyndi McGuire has decided to retire and spend more time with her family. We can't thank her enough for the commitment she has given to our school and to her students over the years, and wish her the best of luck and joy as she begins this new chapter in her life. Of course, one thing leads to another, and with Mrs. McGuire's departure, our PK3 and 4K teacher, Carol Fields, has decided to accept the position as the new Kindergarten teacher for the fall of 2015. Mrs. Fields is looking forward to spending the entire day with her students and continuing her involvement with the rest of the school. Finally, our 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher, Mrs. Urven, will be switching from her classroom to the Pre-Kindergarten room and teaching the new 4 day PK3 as well as continuing Mrs. Fields' role of 4K teacher in the afternoon. This means that we will be hiring a new 1<sup>st</sup> Grade teacher for next year. We are confident that we will find someone to continue the excellent education our kids have been receiving.

Thanks to all of you for your continued enthusiasm and support of our school as we make these transitions. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to drop in or call.

*Kara Roisum*

## Holy Week Schedule at St. Ann Parish

Sunday, March 29 - Palm Sunday Masses 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM,

3:30 PM Living Last Supper

Tuesday, March 31 - Chrism Mass at St. Maria Goretti in Madison, 7:30 PM

Wednesday, April 1 - Stations of the Cross, 6:15 PM

Thursday, April 2 - Mass of the Lord's Supper 7:00 PM with Vigil until 10:30 PM

Friday, April 3 - Celebration of the Lord's Passion 1:00 PM,

"Were You There" Reflections at the foot of the cross 6:30 PM

Saturday, April 4 - Easter Vigil of the Lord's Resurrection 8:00 PM

Sunday, April 5 - Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM

## Honor Roll Recipients

Congratulations to the following 6-8 graders who were on the Honor Roll this semester:

Anna Gille	Ava Cook
Connell McGee	Chloe Neumeyer
Henry Mehring	Gabriella Unitan
Angel Perez	Thomas Apel
Henry Mehring	Matthew Gille
Emma Mueller	Elizabeth Hammond
Shae Pigarelli	Carter Hellenbrand
Sydney Schipper	Jason Johnson
Jackson Talbert	Morgan McGee
Justin Teche	Margaret Ross
Shelby Wise	

## Reminders

### 2015-16 School Year Contracts

The St. Ann School contract, tuition rates, and parish verification packet was sent home in your family envelope.

**Please return the signed contract and the parish verification form by the end of this week**, if your child is returning to school at St. Ann's for the 2015-16 school year.



All Yearbook orders should be turned in to the office no later than Friday, March 20. We will be placing our order to the company of that day.

## Our Faith Stories

Please join us on Thursday, March 26 at 6:30 PM in Healy Hall for Our Faith Stories. Father Randy will be sharing his faith story with us and will relate the experiences of his retreat while following in the footsteps of the martyrs of Guatemala and El Salvador.



## Stations of the Cross & Benediction

Our students will be participating in Stations of the Cross and Benediction on Thursday, March 26 at 2:00 PM. Parents are welcome to join us.

## St. Ann School Registration in Progress

Registration for all new students, PK3 and Kindergarten is currently underway. We have expanded our PK3 program to include a 4 day/week (M-Th) as well as a 2 day/week (T/Th) option. Please call the school office for more information or to register your child.



## IT'S ST. ANN'S NIGHT AT CULVERS!!

Monday, April 6th, 4 – 8 PM

10% of all sales will be donated to St Ann School!

Also, the classroom in each grade with the highest number of students visiting, wins a classroom custard party! Drop off this form with your student's name, grade and teacher at Culver's in the collection container you will find there.

Your Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Student's Grade and Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

# Musings from the Family Corner

## St. Ann's Middle School - An Experiential Success

By Tonya Talbert

Five years ago this month, I was in full-on panic mode. I had received a letter from River Bluff Middle School regarding our upcoming transfer, and I wasn't sure whether St. Ann's would be able to add the new seventh grade class in time for my oldest daughter Josie to attend. I knew that if St. Ann's didn't add seventh and eighth grade that it wouldn't be the end of the world. She would have attended River Bluff and, because of the solid foundation she had received at St. Ann's, she would have been *fine*. But when it comes to my children, *fine* just doesn't cut it. I know how hard it is to focus on academics when peer pressure gets in the way – I remember. And I just didn't want that sort of “normal” experience for my own kids. I wanted a choice.

Fast forward to that May after meetings and letters and incredible amounts of time put in by the St. Ann's administration and faculty in an attempt to figure out staffing and space issues, and it all fell into place. Ms. Leonard and the parish's finance council gave us the good news: We could give middle school a try.

Josie and 11 other students were the first to attend our St. Ann's combined seventh and eighth grade class four and a half years ago. Granted, the initial class size was a bit smaller than parents had originally hoped for, but that worked out okay. Today, we are still limited by space. Lit groups are held in the teacher's lounge; study halls may be found on the stage. But since that first class began, St. Ann's has added several new faculty, a student council, an official Spanish curriculum, a robotics fair, and many upper-grade extra activities. Each year, middle school students venture to Camp Gray for day-long retreats to help with the combined class adjustment; they make a pilgrimage to either the Shrine of Our Lady of Guadalupe or to the Holy Hill National Shrine of Mary near Milwaukee; they head to Upham Woods for a three-day overnight science camp; and they are invited to participate in an overnight school lock-in. I think it's safe to say, we're here to stay.

Although I have always known all three of my kids were receiving a state-of-the-art education at St. Ann's, it really hit home when I looked at this year's Iowa Assessment scores. As a whole, St. Ann's students scored well above the national norm and placed 1-2 years ahead of grade level. In an attempt to maintain this level of academic intensity, our school and diocese are constantly reevaluating curriculum standards. Already next year we will implement a new religion program for K-8 and a standards-based writing program for grades 3-8.

Our technology education curriculum is the envy of many area schools as our kids are creating lively interactive reports with programs such as Hyperstudio, Google presentations, and Prezi. The younger grades take advantage of our Asus tablets and the mobile laptop labs, while the 7/8 students each receive a Windows Surface 2 tablet for personal use. Our science program has kids doing lab experiments by first grade, and with Saxon Math, they start learning algebraic thought processes around that time, as well. To our faculty, each child is truly a gift from God, and they are nurtured as such. As a teacher and as a parent, I have seen this many times.

While I understand that test scores alone aren't a measure of future academic success or classroom competence, I do believe they show the positive outcome of our safe and child-centered learning environment. Every year we receive more and more positive feedback from the high school regarding how well our students are progressing both academically and emotionally. The overwhelming majority of our students appear on the honor roll and they are all *nice* kids. By the time they graduate St. Ann's, they have little tolerance for “drama” (and I don't mean the theater) and they choose their friends wisely. Their existing friendships are healthy, formed over the course of many years and guided by outstanding role models.

I believe I speak for the majority when I say that the St. Ann's middle school experience has been all that we had hoped for as parents. By giving our children the gift of smaller class sizes with loving, approachable adults, we ensure they become well-rounded Christian adolescents who are ready and able to make good choices at the high school level. These kids have a strong sense of morality and social responsibility; they are articulate in their beliefs and self-disciplined in their work; and they are confident in their abilities. Honestly, what more could we ask?