

Holy Cross Catholic School

+ Teaching as Jesus did, since 1868 +

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April 2, 2014

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Lenten Prayer:

Saving God, we know that it is in and through Jesus' death that we have the promise of eternal life. It is in his words and works that your love and the love of your Son for us is made known. It is a love so great that we want to respond by saying yes to Jesus. It is a love so great that it affects who we are, and how we live. It is a love so great that we recognize the gift of eternal life as a gift beyond measure. May each of us live by saying yes to your love for us in the hope of one day being united with you. Amen.

Smart Cow Fundraiser:

Next Tuesday, April 8th, Holy Cross will participate in a fundraiser at Smart Cow. They will donate part of an entire day's sale to our school. Please plan to attend the East Mason location to help raise funds for the school. Plus, you and/or your class could win raffle prizes!



How To Enter Raffle:

1. You must be present at Smart Cow on April 8.
2. Sign your name AND grade on your raffle form.
3. Put the form in the container provided.

Raffle Winners:

- Class winners
 - i. Five (5) Incentive Points will be awarded to the class with the highest percentage of students/teachers attending.
 - ii. Five (5) Incentive Points will be awarded to the class with the highest number of non-school people (aunts, uncles, cousins, godparents, neighbors, etc.) entering the raffle and selecting your grade. So tell Auntie Betty to enter her name and your grade. It's not too early to call them now!
- Individual winners:
 - i. \$10 Smart Cow gift card
 - ii. Cosmic Bowling at Ashwaubenon Lanes, one free game (\$10 value)
 - iii. Jean Pass

We hope to see you all at Smart Cow on East Mason on Tuesday, April 8!



www.gracesystem.org
Find us on Facebook!

1087 Kellogg St.
Green Bay, WI, 54303
920.499.7330

Growth & Development:

Just a reminder to parents that Michelle Cullen will be giving presentations to 4th-8th grade on Thursday, April 10th in regards to Growth and Development. Please remember to return your permission slips if you want your child to attend. Anyone with questions or wanting more details can contact Michelle directly at (920) 676-0386 or via e-mail tmcullen@sbcglobal.net

Technology Upgrade:

Over Spring Break, our school received a new server and an upgrade to our infrastructure to improve our internet. These upgrades were made possible through the GRACE capital campaign that allocated funds for technology. Also, the upgrades made are part of the GRACE technology plan. With these improvements, it is our hope that the technology in our school will be working more smoothly now. A special thank you to Mrs. Sato for dedicating many of her hours over break to assist with the process!

Seder Meal:

Our students, faculty and staff will be taking part in a **Seder Meal on Holy Thursday, April 17th**. The meal is lead by our eighth grade class. All students (4K-8) participate. Traditionally the entire school partakes in the meal, and we highly encourage our families to continue that tradition, thank you! We are appreciative of our school nutrition staff for putting together the menu for the Seder meal. This is just another example of how our school integrates our Catholic faith in the education of our students.

In Jewish tradition, the Seder Meal begins the eight day Passover Festival. The Seder Meal is a highly symbolic ritual that commemorates and passes on the story of the Israelites' flight from slavery in Egypt. Celebratory themes of the Seder include: Jewish identity, faith in the future and the right of all people to be free.

As Christians, the Passover has powerful additional layers significance in that the Last Supper -- commemorated on Holy Thursday--was a Passover Seder. We believe that Jesus celebrated and instituted the Eucharist at this celebration. At our Seder meal, as a school family we retell the story of the Exodus through this ritual, ever mindful of its connection to the Last Supper.

In addition to being a spiritual expression, the meal is delicious! Our Seder meal includes:

- Baked chicken: symbolizes the sacrificial lamb offered by the Israelites and was eaten on the eve of their departure from Egypt. Whether we actually eat lamb at this meal or not, Christians have retained the symbolism of the Lamb of God.
- Charoset* (grated apples and dates, cinnamon, honey, grape juice), stirred together...yummy! This symbolizes the mortar which the Hebrew slaves used in their servitude.
- Pita bread (or matzah): in memory of the unleavened bread which the Jews ate when they were freed from Egypt.

- Hard boiled egg: The roasted egg (baytsah) is a symbol in many different cultures, usually signifying springtime and renewal. Here it stands in place of one of the sacrificial offerings which was performed in the days of the Second Temple. Another popular interpretation is that the egg is like the Jewish people: the hotter you make it for them, the tougher they get.
- Fresh parsley: Bitter herbs, symbolizes the bitterness of slavery.
- Shredded lettuce (with a very light oil, vinegar, herb type dressing): used as a token of gratitude to God for the products of the earth.
- A glass of grape juice in place of wine (no milk with this meal): Everyone at the Seder has a cup from which they drink four cups of grape juice. Traditionally, the four cups represent the four biblical promises of redemption. Others say the four cups represent the four letters in the unspeakable Name of God.

* We will offer samples of Charoset in the lunchroom prior to our Seder meal.

SOURCES

Catholic Recipe: Holy Thursday Meal Menu: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/recipes/view.cfm?id=349>

Catholic Activity: The Seder Meal as a Christian Home Celebration: Preparing and Celebrating the

Holy ThursdayMeal: <http://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/activities/view.cfm?id=544>

The Symbolic Foods at a Passover Seder: <http://www.dummies.com/how-to/content/the-symbolic-foods-at-a-passover-seder.html>

Homework Help Tips for Parent & Child:

Practical suggestions for reading, writing, and recitation

A free Resurrection Presentation by Therese Waldkirch MS, CCC-SLP will be held at the Resurrection Parish Gathering Area on Tuesday, April 8, from 6:30-7:30pm. Today's students require more advanced communication and organizational skills than any past generation. Elementary school years are more critical periods for forming confident, independent learners. Come explore strategies to help you and your child build effective, healthy study habits and skills. Learn how an organized approach to learning reduces time and increases student success and confidence. Examples of organizational guides and student work will be shared. Specific questions may be sent before the presentation by going to www.waldkircheducationalconsulting.com and following the e-mail link.

RSVP's are appreciated, but walk-ins are welcome. Child care available by request. Please RSVP to the parish center at 336-7768. The presentation is sponsored by the Health and Wellness at Resurrection Catholic Parish.

Talent Opportunity:

Since our Talent Show was cancelled due to weather and scheduling conflicts, our students have the opportunity to perform during the parish picnic weekend. The picnic will be hosting Open Mic/DJ/Talent Show from 5-10pm on Saturday, June 28th. Saturday night is open for everyone, not just adults. It would be a terrific opportunity to see some of our students perform. The sound equipment is provided, and if there is enough interest a schedule will be setup.

Pope to Green Bay:

Visit www.popetogreenbay.com to sign the petition and add your voice inviting Pope Francis to visit the Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help near our school during his visit to the US in 2015. The Shrine of Our Lady of Good Help is the only approved Marian Shrine in the United States.

Enrollment/Registration:

With Spring Break in the rear view mirror, we have approximately 155 students registered for the 2014-2015 school year at Holy Cross. We have space available in all our classrooms, with kindergarten having the most availability. At this time there is also ample space available in our preschool program. Holy Cross is an excellent opportunity for any child to receive a solid Catholic education. Please continue to spread the word about our terrific school community.

Bookmobile:

The Brown County Library Bookmobile will be at Holy Cross next Wednesday, April 9th. Students are reminded to bring their library cards and any books that need to be returned at that time.

Wisconsin Parental Choice:

The open application period to apply for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program continues to be open through 4/20/2014.

- Families of students with a voucher are directed to go online at <http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/wpcp-statewide> to reapply for the 2014-2015 school year. You will need to provide proof of residency to the GRACE office at 1087 Kellogg St.
- New families applying for a voucher are directed to go online at <http://sms.dpi.wi.gov/wpcp-statewide> and will need to provide proof of income and residency to the GRACE office at 1087 Kellogg St.

All documents need to be verified at the GRACE Office by Wednesday, April 16th before 3:30 pm. If you have any questions, please contact the GRACE Office at 499-7330.

Kelly's Korner:

Kelly's Korner is off today; look for it to return next week.

Catholic Fun Fact:

Today's the birthday of Hans Christian Andersen, a wonderful storyteller who wrote lots of stories for children. Turn off the TV tonight and read a fairy tale or a fun book! OR there's another book where you can find lots of exciting stories – the Bible! Why don't you ask your folks to read a Bible story with you tonight?

We hope everyone had a restful and safe Spring Break!

God bless,

M. VanEffen

Matt VanEffen

Principal