

The Principals' Page

St. Hilary School
March 2019

With March underway, our observance of the season of Lent is just around the corner. We look forward to seeing many of you at our Ash Wednesday Mass on March 6. During this special season, our school theme, "Many Gifts, One Spirit" continues to remind us of the many ways we can joyfully give to our community, spend time with God, and sacrifice for others. We are so proud of all of our students and their stewardship efforts over the past several weeks. We kicked off our service to the community during Catholic Schools Week, and it was refreshing that the focus during this week, and beyond, has been not on the students, but on serving others. Our students have been giving of themselves in a meaningful way by serving individuals in need of care and comfort and organizations such as Haven of Rest, Ronald McDonald House, the St. Bernard Hunger Center, the Barberton Pregnancy Center, Project



RISE, and more. We can't think of a better way to live out the selflessness of the Lenten season. As Lent continues, please plan to join us on March 14 at 2:00 p.m. for Stations of the Cross, on April 15 at 10:30 a.m. as our eighth graders present their moving portrayal of the Mime of the Passion, and on April 18 at 2:00 p.m. for our Holy Thursday Prayer Service. All of these events will be held in the church. Additional Lenten observances have been announced in the St. Hilary Parish bulletin and school mass emails.

Back by popular demand at St. Hilary School during Lent this year is our Breakfast of Champions series, offered for our junior high students. Seventh and eighth graders are invited to attend 7:00 a.m. Mass on a series of three dates. After Mass, the students are treated to breakfast while they hear an inspirational speaker. The series dates are March 19, April 2 and April 16. The Breakfast of Champions series is just one of many programs designed to help our students become future leaders and responsible world citizens.

Congratulations to the following St. Hilary School students who have qualified to advance to the Western Reserve District 5 Science Day on March 16 at the University of Akron: Aidan Spoerndle and Matthew Gomez (motion tracking game controller), Luke Shenigo and Breyden Zupsansky (effect of air pressure on football throw distance), Ryleigh Renz (toe pads for ballet shoes), Andrew Siefker, Jacob Bonus and Thomas Angle (durability of dental fillings), Morgan Graham and Emma Rasmussen (bacteria resistance of shin guards), Evan Ray (effect of cold on hunting accuracy), Kevin Holland and Jimmy Pier (effect of superfoods on vital signs), Peyton Castonguay (air pressure hoverboard), Kristine Cassidy and Haley Grucella (effect of moisturizer on skin), Katie Cavanaugh and Ava Hirsch (effect of fish food on turbidity of water), Augustine Leung and AJ Chiera (effectiveness of disinfectant wipes on bacteria), Ben Thoman and Brad Bisesi (collection of chicken eggs without entering coop), Lydia Peterson and Lillian Pszonowski (ice melting ability of salt mixed into concrete), Grace Iero and Mia Winkelmann (effect of wood type on stain saturation), Chris Paterakis (hail shield to protect car dealership inventory), Alex Reinhardt and Ethan Mark (effect of battery on distance and speed of Nerf gun), Michael Yarcheck and Joseph Reese (environmentally friendly solid fire extinguishing compound), Regan Houser (effect of sound waves on liquids), James Bauman (home landscaping as erosion barrier), Minjun Kim, Andrew Brooks and Caleb Schlater (elasticity of rubber bands in different temperatures), Freddie Nemr and Luke Khalil (bacteria levels in yogurt), Kate Wenzlik and Stela Nonno (correction device for ice skates), and James Collins (beverage cooling). The students qualified by receiving Superior ratings at the St. Hilary School Science Fair held February 6. A total of 23 projects qualified to advance.

Students in grades K-8 completed MAP testing in January, which is the second round of this progress-based testing for the school year. The final MAP testing session will take place in April and May. CAT testing for grades 3, 5 and 7 will begin March 11 and is slated to continue through March 22. Please be sure your child has a good night's rest each night and a wholesome breakfast each morning during testing. Students will also need to have several sharpened #2 pencils - please ask your child if his or her supplies need to be replenished. Thank you for avoiding scheduling appointments during testing.



Third quarter interim reports were issued on February 8, and the quarter ends on March 15. Students should be working on achieving goals set for the remainder of the quarter and the year. Third quarter report cards will be available on Gradelink on March 21. When the fourth quarter begins on March 18, students will again be permitted to wear uniform shorts but turtle-necks will no longer be permitted. As a reminder, there is no school on March 8 due to a teacher inservice day. Spring Break will begin on April 19 and school will resume on April 29.

Planning is in progress for the 2019-2020 school year, and re-registration is a critical part of that process. We appreciate that so many of you have promptly completed your online re-registration for next year. *If you have not yet done so, please help us plan appropriately for next year's classes and staffing by logging in to Gradelink and completing your child's re-registration as soon as possible. Teachers will soon begin assigning placement for students for next year, and students can be considered in this important planning only if they are registered.*

We look forward to seeing everyone at the annual St. Hilary Celebration auction fundraiser on March 16, and enjoying the fun Lights, Camera, Auction-themed atmosphere Co-Chairs Lisa Crane and Lindsey Yoder and their team of volunteers are creating for this year's event. Celebration is our largest Parents' Association fundraiser, and we are grateful for your support of our school through this event. In addition to funding ongoing needs, we would like to apply proceeds from this year's event toward making improvements to our school technology, in the form of new interactive boards in classrooms, updated teacher computers, and enhanced technology infrastructure. Please watch for your Parents' Association funding ballot later this spring! See you at Celebration!

We wish you and your families continued blessings in your Lenten journeys and during the upcoming Easter season!

Mrs. Woodman

Mrs. Alexander