

The Principals' Page

St. Hilary School
February 2017

In this month when love fills the air, we are reminded of the love Jesus asks us to share with one another each and every day. As we move further into the second half of our school year, we continue to live out our theme, Do Small Things With Great Love. Every student in every class has taken or will take an active role in being a living example of this theme by reaching out into the community to serve others. Our students have been and will be helping organizations that provide food and basic supplies for those in need, assisting organizations that support families with new babies and ill children, tending to our environment, and assisting with services for the homeless.

Some of our students were recently recognized in a special way for doing small things with great love, as inspired by Mother Teresa. Nominated by their teachers, our Mother Teresa Award recipients for the second quarter were announced at the January 13 school Mass. Congratulations to: Natalie Warmus (Room 101), Katherine Eldred (Room 102), Selene Alnemr (Room 104), Oliver Nonno (Room 105), Stella Eppink (Room 106), Katherine Heller (Room 103), Bridget Steiner (Room 107), Luca Manera (Room 108), Anna Wenzlik (Room 204),

Benjamin Tompkins (Room 208), Paige Smith (Room 209), Owen Jackson (Room 205), Alexa Kuy (Room 206), Alexandra Musson (Room 207), Jacob Buntura (Room 201), Kate Wenzlik (Room 202), Katherine Mostoller (Room 203), Christopher Steurer (Room 111), Parker Smith (Room 113), Nathan Korwin (Room 114), Annie McCarron (Room 118), Reagan Jackson (Room 119), Mae Isada (Room 120), Maximilian Savula (Room 115), Clara Krohn (Room 116), Angela Peterson (Room 117), and Sophia Kim (Art). These students received a Saint Mother Teresa medal at our January 13 school Mass. They also participated in a field trip to



*Love is a fruit in season at
all times, and within reach
of every hand.*

~ Mother Teresa

the St. Bernard Hunger Center where they made lunches for the homeless, followed by lunch and a manners lesson at Crave.

As January ended, we hosted eight students and eleven educators who traveled all the way from China to learn more about our school, the American education system and American culture. After their week-long visit ended, we celebrated Catholic Schools Week. It was wonderful to see

so many of our school families, as well as quite a few new faces, at our Catholic Schools Week Open House and Faith, Hope & Love Café! Thank you for embracing Catholic education and partnering with us to provide the very best for your children.

Next week, we will begin registering new students and conclude re-registration of current students for the 2017-2018 school year. Registration for new students entering grades K-8 will be held February 6, 7 and 8 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the school office. Re-registration forms and fees for returning students are due by February 10. Instructions for applying to receive tuition assistance were emailed on January 6 and can also be found on the school website. Applications must be submitted online through Smart Aid by March 1.

IOWA testing for grades 1-7 and CAT testing for grades 3, 5 and 7 will begin February 27 and is slated to continue through March 16. 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.

The last few weeks have been busy and exciting. Our eighth graders have completed the process of choosing their high schools and will know later this month where they will be headed in the fall. Our school Geography Bee and Spelling Bee had us on the edges of our seats! We congratulate sixth grader Christian Parker, winner of our school Geography Bee, and fifth grader James Bauman who was runner-up in the competition. As the winner of the bee, Christian also received a \$500 scholarship in memory of St. Hilary School graduate Jimmy Lyons, who won the school bee for four consecutive years between 2003 and 2006, was a state bee competitor, and passed away in 2011. Christian will next take a written test in hopes of qualifying to compete in the state Geography Bee this spring. In addition to Christian and James, contestants in the bee included eighth graders Zachary Brown, Bryce Hayden and Sam Truong; seventh graders Charlie Earley, Brooke Masaro and Michael Whalen; sixth graders Giana Mutersbaugh and Lauren Tonsing; and fifth graders Grace Iero and Harrison Pumphrey. Congratulations also to eighth grader Gia Abucejo, who was our school Spelling Bee champion for the second year in a row, and to our runner-up, sixth grader Vivian Brown. Contestants joining Gia and Vivian in the bee were fifth graders James Bauman, Sebastian Hahn, Grace Iero, Hunter Kupusamy, Ava Petrarca, and Ava Stein; sixth graders Vivian Brown, Augustine Leung, Carla Nemer, Andrew Siefker, Parker Smith, and Daniel Welty; seventh graders Julia Cheney, Charles Durkin, Charles Earley, Alianna Huston, Caroline Richardson, and Clarissa Snyder; and eighth graders Giovanna Abucejo, Katherine Krismanth, Anneliese Lamm, Luke Monteleone, Meghan Resweber, and Connor Thomas. St. Hilary School will be represented by Gia and Vivian at the Summit County Spelling Bee on February 11 at the Akron Public Library.

At the Power of the Pen competition on January 7 at Our Lady of the Elms, our seventh and eighth grade teams each took first place! Individually, for their grade levels, eighth grader Isabelle Hahn took first place, eighth grader Annie Hart placed fourth, eighth grader Eva Janigian placed eleventh, eighth grader Gia Abucejo took twelfth place, seventh grader Clara Hoffert placed first, seventh grader Clarissa Snyder took second place, and seventh grader Alianna Huston placed eleventh. Other team members include Emma Harrell, Aly Misenhelter, Meg Resweber, and Gina Roman. Our top finishers will advance to the Regional Tournament at Kent State University on February 25. We are proud of the efforts of *all* of our students who have competed, will compete, or serve as alternates, in these academic contests.

As planning for our Parents' Association Celebration fundraiser on March 11 is in high gear, we encourage all of you to try to attend the event or support it in some way. We are truly excited about the wonderful opportunities we hope to bring to your children in the months and years ahead through the funds raised at this annual event. One of the most exciting projects we hope to earmark proceeds for is the incorporation of STEM concepts into our curriculum! Check out the State of the School address on our school website for more on this topic. Also, we would like to ask for your input on the initiatives proposed in the State of the School address. We are blessed to have a variety of skillsets represented among our parents, and we would love to tap into your ideas as we move forward with our planning. After viewing the presentation, please contact Mrs. Arnone at tarnone@st-hilary.org with your ideas. We are so grateful for all of your continued support of our school and all that we do together.

Please remember to send your children to school with winter gear as the weather warrants. Please also remember to call the school office by 9:30 a.m. if your child will be absent or late. This semester, unexcused tardies and absences will be closely monitored. Students should be symptom-free for 24 hours before returning to school after an illness. We appreciate your cooperation.

We look forward to working with you to make this a successful second semester. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of assistance.

Mrs. Arnone and Mrs. Woodman