

# Holy Name Catholic School

April 2006

Volume 1, Issue 8



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## Upcoming Events

- State Assessments continue through the middle of April.
- April 2 - First Sunday 8:00 & 10:00 AM.
- April 4 - Religion Formation Meeting at 3:15 PM
- April 7 - First Friday
- April 7 - Stations of the Cross at 2:15 PM
- April 13 - Holy Thursday
- April 14 - Good Friday - No School

Pastor: Father Jerome Spexarth

Principal: Mrs. Holly Goodwin

Lead Teacher: Mrs. Lisa Payne

We are approaching the most important time of our church calendar, Holy Week. For 40 days we've been preparing for Jesus' death and resurrection by retreating from the material world and focusing stronger on the spiritual. Sometimes we aren't perfect in our resolve to spend time in prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charity), but we try and never give up. Adults who work at this give superb, in fact make-or-break, examples to their children for this. A parental figure who has hang-ups with the faith or church, that lurk beneath gestures, failed expressions of faith, and absence in church is almost always mimicked by children. Let us do all we can to not be obstacles for our children!

Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday where we pick up blessed palms—recalling how Jesus was welcomed into Jerusalem as a king entering the city. These are often blessed and folded in beautiful patterns for display around the house, illustrating our willingness to open our homes for Christ to enter where we dwell. I will travel with a representative from the parish to the Cathedral in Wichita to receive the 3 holy oils freshly consecrated by Bishop Jackels at the Chrism Mass on Holy Tuesday. These then are carried up to the altar on Holy Thursday at Holy Name, the day when we celebrate the Last Supper where Jesus offered His Body and Blood to his disciples and told us to "do this in memory of" Him. Throughout the whole world these same liturgies are taking place. The sanctuary is then stripped bare, the Eucharist is taken away—symbolizing how Jesus is taken away and put in

prison through Judas' betrayal. Friday is a day to commemorate Jesus' agony and passion on the cross. With over 1000 years of tradition, we reverence the cross by kissing it and recalling through Scripture the event of the Passion of Christ. We do not kiss the cross to worship an image or object, but as a sign of our respect and affection toward Jesus through the medium of the cross held by mass servers. Still, more dryness and waiting for resurrection, when the Easter Vigil comes on Sat. night, April 15! This is the granddaddy of all Masses and other Christian celebrations. Traditionally celebrated all night, or at least before dawn (ending with sunrise—or SONrise), the vigil recalls the history of salvation, starting off with a light ceremony that is always powerful and memorable. Sunday morning, Easter continues this Triduum (tri—deum, 3 days) season with more music, joy, lilies, and water sprinkled for new life.

These days are actually far too much to recap in a short article, so come and participate in a life-giving few days of worship and see/experience for yourself with your children! God bless you and blessed Easter!

**Father Jerome**

Dear Parents and Students,

When you read this letter it will be the last two weeks of Lent and just a short time to Holy Week and then Easter. We have all been reading about this time as a time to of repentance and alms giving. Many of the children have shared that they have given up something and all the older children were challenged to do something that would make their classroom a more faith-filled place to learn. They were not supposed to share what they were doing, they are just supposed to be doing it. We will reflect on their efforts at the end of Lent.

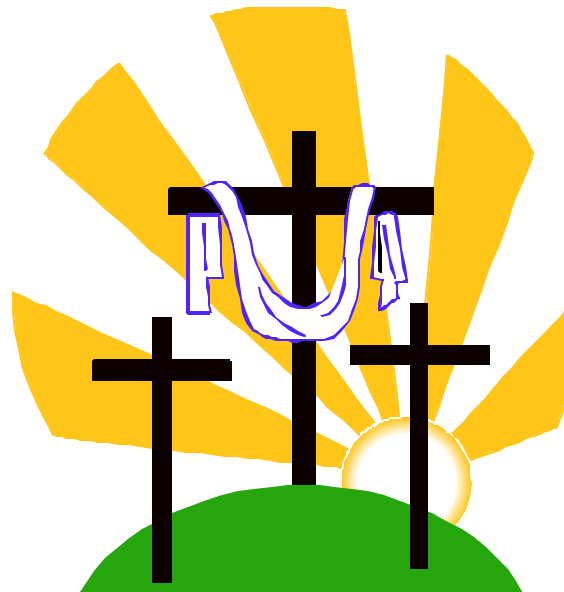
As Catholics we believe in the importance of the family unit and Lent is a perfect time for your family to grow closer to God. I remember when our youngest son was about five years old. I took him to the Stations of the Cross one Friday. Since he was just learning to read, I got a children's version of the Stations. We set together in the pew and I read to him from the book. When we got to the station where Jesus was stripped of his clothes and nailed to the cross, my five year old, all boy, looked at me with tears in his eyes and said, "Mommy, why would anybody be mean like that?" During the time our children attended Catholic schools we were often challenged to grow in faith as a family by sharing and celebrating different seasons of the Church. I look back now at the memories of the times we turned off the television and gathered around the

table to pray as a family and share our day, or did a "one-ringer" telephone tree that had the majority of the school praying for a particular cause. One of my children's friends had a family tradition of praying the rosary together every evening. When he would spend the night at Jason's house it was just an accepted fact that after dinner they gathered in the front room and said the rosary. As they grew older, even in high school, the boys would say the rosary with the family before they went out for the evening. Lent is the perfect season to come together in prayer and reflection to humbly thank Jesus for what he was willing to sacrifice for us.

Another Lenten season is coming to a close and Easter will soon be here. Time passes. When your children are older and sit around reminiscing about family traditions, will any of them be faith-based? We take seriously the trust you have placed in us to help you educate your child in faith and academics. Let us pray that God continues to bless our efforts.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Holly Goodwin



## Upcoming Events

- April 15 - Holy Saturday
- April 16 - Easter
- April 17 - Easter Monday - No School.
- April 18 - 26 Iowa Basic Test will be given
- April 18 - HSA 7:00 PM
- April 21 - Kindergarten Roundup at 12:30 PM
- April 22 - Young Authors Conference (PSU)
- April 23 - First Communion
- April 28 - AR Assembly after 8:15 AM Mass.
- May 5 - First Friday
- May 5 - Carnival
- May 7 - May Crowning
- May 7 - First Sunday at 8:00 & 10:00 AM
- May 9 - Spring Concert 7:00 PM
- May 12 - Field/Swim Day
- May 24 - Promotion Mass (6<sup>th</sup>)

### Faculty & Staff

*Pastor - Fr. Jerome Spexarth*  
*Principal - Holly Goodwin*  
*Secretary - Jeanie Unruh*  
*Pre-school - Leslie Herkelman*  
*Kindergarten - Jonna Roberds*  
*1<sup>st</sup> Grade - Marilyn Reese*  
*2<sup>nd</sup> Grade - Patty Vacca*  
*3<sup>rd</sup> Grade - Jennifer O'Neill*  
*4<sup>th</sup> Grade - Deana Hills*  
*5<sup>th</sup> Grade - Marie Banowetz*  
*6<sup>th</sup> Grade - Lisa Payne*  
*Music Teacher - John Redfern*  
*Teacher Aide - Tina Gilfillan*  
*Custodian - David Jaimez*

## Pre-School News

March madness has come and gone and spring is in full bloom. In our preschool classes we will spend April working on themes involving gardens and water. We will be involved in hands-on activities with our seed plantings and water experiments. We have covered each letter in the alphabet so the next few months will be spent on review and phonemic awareness. We will begin to put letters together to form short words and we will also begin concentrating on listening for the syllables in words. Look for more math activities going on in the classroom also. In religion, we will begin to discuss more of the bible stories and spend time on the Easter celebration. The 3-day class has been working on the "Our Father" prayer and are doing really well.

## Kindergarten News

Since April begins the Easter season, Kindergarten will be studying and celebrating the Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. As we have throughout the year, we will continue focusing on letter/sound relationships, and sight words. Decodable books

are sent home weekly for the students to read and enjoy at home. Math time will be spent working on subtraction, as well as addition review. Math folders will continue to be sent home for addition and subtraction practice. We will be

## First Grade News

It's difficult to believe that the school year has gone by so fast. Encourage your child to continue to put forth their best effort in all that they do. In Social Science, we will learn about Economics. We will identify our needs and wants. The importance of saving will be stressed. We will learn about good and services. The students are improving on their Math facts. The homework folders have helped a lot. We will continue working on clocks

and calendars. Addition and subtraction facts, up to 20, will follow. Earth science will be continued, with physical science following. Earth Day is coming. Help your child to do something to celebrate, and become a good steward of creation. The students will continue working on their good deeds during Lent, as well as the Sacraments. Easter is a time of celebrating that Jesus rose to new life. Celebrate the new life he gives to us!! Have a joyous Easter.

## Second Grade News

Lent is coming to an end. In Religion, the children will learn that we celebrate the death and Resurrection of Jesus during the Easter Triduum. The Three Days are the Church's greatest celebration. The children are also very excited about their First Communion at the end of the month. They're ready to receive Jesus in the Eucharist! In Math, we'll be working on measurement and then follow with multiplication. Students need to continue to work on having automatic recall of their addition and subtraction facts. We have a few more uppercase cursive letters to learn in Handwriting. The students will do the majority of their assignments in cursive after that. We'll continue our study of the solar system in Science. We'll focus on our community and its characteristics in Soc. Science.



## Third Grade News

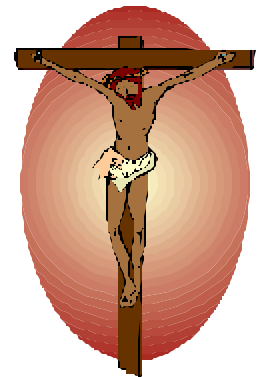
Throughout the month of April, we will be discussing saints and angels, rosaries, Holy Water, palms, holy medals, and relics of the church, in Religion. We will be reviewing the parts of speech in English. In Math, the third grade will be learning how to divide, and in Reading, we will be finishing up our theme "Celebrate Our World". In Social Studies, we will be learning about urban and suburban areas, and in Science, we will be study the solar system.



Received the 3 Catholic R's Award during March; Victoria Froelich, Kendall Blaich, Stacy Colbert, Kelli Bromley, Ethan Wadkins, Abbie Herkelman and Austin Gordon.

## Fourth Grade News

It is hard to believe that April is already here. Spring Break is over. Testing is in full swing. The end of school is just around the corner. I want to thank you for all the hard work you and your student have done to make this testing year successful. Now we are down to the hard part of school. I bet you thought that the hard part was already over! What makes it the hardest part is that it is nice and pretty outside. The students are getting anxious for the end of school. However, there is still a lot of learning going on. We have this month the Iowa Basic Skills Test. In Math we are going to learn more Division, along with Fractions, and Decimals. In Religion we are going to finish up the Ten Commandments and start focusing on the Stewardship Test in May. In Science we will start learning about weather and all its fun facts. Then of course this month is Easter. I know you will remember to keep Christ and his sacrifices for us in your hearts and minds.



## Fifth Grade News

April will find us busy taking State tests in reading and math along with the ITBS. Please remember that it is important for your student to get plenty of rest and support during these days. It is also important that students eat a healthy breakfast of they will have energy to do their very best. Our unit of study in science is matter. We will be working on elements and how they are classified. We will also experiment with water and investigate how electric current can split it into its elements. Students will also be making compounds, mixtures and solutions. In social science we are focusing on the early history of the United States during the time of the colonies. We will study how they grew and what challenges they faced. Students continue to work hard in math. Each Monday students take their math folder home and complete the activities, returning the folders on Friday. We are working on reading different types of graphs, prime numbers, and fractions. In religion we are studying the parts of the mass and learning more about the sacraments.

## Sixth Grade News

This month will be busy for the 6<sup>th</sup> graders, as they will spend most of the month testing. This month the students will take the Kansas Math & Reading Assessments as well as Iowa Basics toward the middle of the month. PLEASE make sure that your child is getting plenty of rest and is eating BREAKFAST. We all know the importance of eating a good breakfast.

We are now starting to review all the objectives in RELIGION to get ready for the STEWARD test. Please continue to review the OLD TESTAMENT stories with your

child. Once the EASTER season starts we will be saying the Queen of Heaven at NOON. We are now working with RATIOS and percents in Math. There will be lots of practical application that can be applied to percents. Please continue to work with your child on BASIC facts in Math. Social Studies we have been learning about Japan and then we will begin our study of the Aztecs and Mayas.

Holy Week begins April 10<sup>th</sup>. As we prepare for the Resurrection of Our Lord on Easter Sunday. I hope each of you have a very joyous Easter.

6<sup>th</sup> Grade class  
placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the  
Vocation Banner  
Contest in  
Southeast  
Kansas!!!

Congratulations!

## Music News

Early next school year, we will be starting band for next year's fifth grade. This is a wonderful educational opportunity that we offer your child. It is not too early to think about allowing your child to take band, and what instrument they might play. Take your child to spring band concerts at the high school and college, and to summer band concerts in Coffeyville or Independence. Go to a music store and have your child try out instruments. The basic beginning band instruments are flute, clarinet, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, snare drum, and bells. New or excellent used band instruments can be acquired reasonably on a rental-purchase plan from reputable music dealers in Tulsa, Wichita, Pittsburg, Joplin, and Chanute. Unfortunately, there are no local music stores in Coffeyville or Independence. It is important to stay with instruments that are of good quality. Don't buy them from discount stores or large chain stores. We can provide you with a list of quality brand names from several manufacturers. If you already own an instrument, bring it in for a checkup.



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Enter to Learn +  
Leave to Lead

We're on the Web!  
[www.holynamecoffeyville.com](http://www.holynamecoffeyville.com)



## **The Catholic School Mission:**

United with the family, the parish, and each other,  
Catholic schools in the Diocese of Wichita  
**FORM DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST**  
who seek the Truth, grow to love It,  
and learn to live it.

### **United with the family, the parish, and each other...**

The Catholic school can be successful only if it works with the parents (the Child's primary educator), in the context of the parish (the basic unit of the Church family) united as one system under the Bishop.

### **form...**

Catholic Schools must go beyond instruction to shape the total person and foster a mature adult faith capable of living our one's baptismal promises.

### **Disciples of Jesus Christ...**

The definitive aim of Catholic education is to form Disciples of Christ. Christ is the foundation of the entire Catholic educational process. Jesus is the Master Teacher, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

### **Seek the Truth, grow to love It, and learn to live it...**

The Catholic school reaches beyond religion class to emphasize the application of Gospel values to all subject areas at every stage of life. Lifelong faith, not mere memorization, is the ultimate goal of the Catholic educational process. To seek Truth demands teacher and learner alike to think critically, creatively, and deeply. To learn to live Truth requires a commitment to apply moral principles to the changing and challenging issues of everyday life.

### **Holy Name Catholic School Mission Statement**

Holy Name Catholic School  
unites with parish and parents  
to provide a quality Catholic education.  
Students will be challenged and supported  
to become faith-filled, responsible  
parish and civic leaders.

# Enter to Learn - Leave to Lead