

St. Louis School Cardinal Post

Volume 3 Issue 2

September 2011

Important Dates

- Sept. 15** – School Picture
Day PK and JK/5
Home and School
Meeting
- Sept. 16** – School
Pictures JK/3, K-8
- Sept. 19** – ITBS Testing
Begins
- Oct. 3-8th** Grade
Parent Meeting
- Oct. 5** –Cookie Dough
Pick Up
- Oct. 7 – 10** Fall Break
- Oct. 14** – End of the
First Nine Weeks
- Oct. 20** – Home and
School Meeting
- Oct. 22** – First Penance
Meeting
- Oct. 23** – School Open
House
- Oct. 28** – Parent –
Teacher Conferences
Dismiss 11:30am
- Nov. 1** – All Saint's Day,
No School

Please refer to the school website for other important dates.

A Message from Mrs. Niedzwiedz:

Dear St. Louis Family and Friends,

I am truly enjoying this school year! The students are so full of excitement and joy. There are new families that we have welcomed to St. Louis, and I am still studying my church directory and yearbook to try to learn student and family names. The teachers are working so hard to make the learning interesting, challenging, and fun. Each day I try to visit with the children and ask them questions. Do you like your teacher? What was interesting in class today? How are things going? So far I have received so much positive feedback. I love it when my students are happy!

We will be administering our ITBS Achievement tests the week of the 19th through the 23rd. The next week we will be giving the Cognitive Ability Test to 2nd, 4th, and 7th grade. It is very important that students attend school these two weeks. Make sure that they have lots of rest and breakfast before they come to school. We want them be at optimum thinking speed. Do not stress your child about the testing, but make sure they know that it is an important time to do their best.

Midterm grades will go out in September. This is a very important time to celebrate academic success and to consult with teachers if your child is having difficulty. Teachers can give you great insight into strategies that can help your child improve. Please know that Mrs. Shaw and I are always here to help. Do not hesitate to call.

Special thanks to all those parents who are working on the Sally Foster Giftwrap and Entertainment Book fundraiser. We have seen many orders coming into the office. All the proceeds from this sale will help to provide the supplies that we need to continue our commitment to expanding technology and providing the teachers the tools that they need to make the learning fun and challenging. I also want to thank those families who are supporting our Capital Campaign. Please continue to pray and support this needed campaign so that our campus will meet the needs of students in the 21st Century and beyond.

Peace & Blessings,

Mrs. Teddi Niedzwiedz

St. Louis School Mission Statement

St. Louis Catholic School is committed to quality education in the spirit of Christ in accordance with the teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Working in partnership with parents and the community, we are dedicated to preparing our students for the future through faith formation and academic excellence utilizing progressive technology while enhancing students' emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being.



St. Louis Students Elect School Leaders

Elections for Student Council officers were held at St. Louis this week. Seventh and eighth grade students campaigned throughout the week by placing posters in the hallway, handing out election stickers and speaking with their peers. The races culminated Friday as the candidates gave speeches to the fifth through eighth grade. The speeches, as in any campaign told about the candidates background and offered campaign promises.

The Student Council at St. Louis is a very active organization. This group is in charge of many school assemblies and community service projects. This year the group will again lead the Cardinal Christmas Basketball game, Veterans Day Assembly, and school talent show, as well as, help coordinate the Thanksgiving Food Drive and Christmas Angel Tree. Officers elected this year are President David Moran, Vice President Christian Locastro, Treasurer Mary Katherine Werner, Secretary Michael Montegut, Sergeant at Arms Andrew Mosteller, and Chaplain Megan Bryant. Congratulations to all who ran for office, they are all true leaders in the school.



Pictured L to R:Bottom Row Student Council Candidates: David Moran, Lanie Trotter, Reid Lanigan, Christian Locastro, Kevin Shea and Mary Katherine Werner

Second Row: Mrs. Teddi Niedzwiedz, Kate Baker, Michael Montegut, Andrew Mosteller, Megan Bryant, Hudson Cunningham, Liz Holliday and Mrs. Vickie Shaw

Third Row: Monsignor John McArthur and Father Adam Rust

Thanks to everyone who supported the Home and School Fall Fundraiser. We greatly appreciate your fundraising. Thank you also for the time and commitment of all of our volunteers. Your coaching, work with our scouts, and with the drama production, help in the lunchroom, library, and art room are invaluable resources for the faculty, staff and students. Thank you!!



7th and 8th graders act as ministers of music at the school Mass in the Clunan Center.

Spreading Our Wings

What an exciting time to be a part of the St. Louis family! The success of the Spreading Our Wings campaign will bring to fruition the dreams of many as we continue our embarkment into the renovations of the church and school. The first school day Mass was held in the Clunan Center and as Monsignor McArthur stated “I feel like we moved from our church home into an apartment.” While the renovation and building process may cause a few inconveniences, imagine the finished product! To date over 4.5 million dollars have been pledged to the capital campaign, but more is needed. Many of our parishioners have volunteered to help with this effort. Please respond generously when asked about your contribution. Remember, we are investing in the future of the church and school. The new Junior High wing, elementary Spanish classroom, art room, and music room will benefit all of our students.



Sixth graders listen attentively as “Ruth” explains passages from the Old Testament.

Father Rust, Our New Associate Pastor

I was asked to write a little introduction of myself for the school newsletter. I was asked to have it in by a certain day, but little has changed since I was in school and I'm turning my assignment in late. Please don't tell my parents. They always got so upset when I did that.



My name is Father Rust. I was born in Mobile, AL. I went to Catholic school down there from K thru 6th grade and then my dad was transferred to Memphis to work in the IP towers. We moved to Germantown, and I

attended Houston Middle and then Houston High School from 7th to 12th grade. It was a major transition from a small Catholic school of about the same size as St. Louis School to a school as large as Houston Middle. I went from sixty students per grade to about 300.

I then attended Mississippi State University. I was there for only three years before applying and being accepted as a seminarian for the Diocese of Memphis. I loved my time at State.

The Diocese sent me to a small Catholic university known for its charismatic spirituality and Catholic orthodoxy, Franciscan University of Steubenville, OH. I loved my two years at Franciscan.

After graduating with a BA in Philosophy, I was sent to the Pontifical North American College in Rome, Italy. I studied at a Dominican university known as the Angelicum. While in Rome, I earned an STB (Bachelors in Sacred Theology) and a JCL (Licentiate in Canon Law). I am now very happy to be home, with eleven years of university studies behind me, and the rest of my life in parochial ministry in front of me.

I am thrilled to be assigned to St. Louis Catholic Church and School. Everyone has been so welcoming of me and I already feel right at home.

I love sports. I love to play them (though I've never been really good at them) and I love to watch them. I am a runner. I love the outdoors. I was very involved with Boy

Scouts when I was in school and I am very pleased to have been assigned the Chaplain to the Scouts here at St. Louis. I love camping and especially backpacking.

Teachers Participate in Professional Development

The St. Louis faculty is continuing their education through professional development workshops. Contrary to popular belief, the teachers never really stop attending classes. In order for St. Louis to maintain our SACS/CASI accreditation faculty members must attend twenty hours of professional development each year in addition to maintaining licensure.

Already this school year teachers have attended SMART Board 101 and Interactive Classroom seminars. The faculty is currently studying the text *Differentiating Instruction Through Technology*.

Kindergarteners Begin a New Adventure

Things have gotten off to a fun and exciting start in Kindergarten! The children are so vibrant and eager to learn as they embark on this new journey in school. They have been working very hard and are learning what Kindergarten is all about, all while making many new friends! This class is also the first to enjoy the new technology that St. Louis has to offer this year. With the SMART Board becoming a part of our everyday curriculum, these children are truly the beginning of a new and exciting approach to education. The SMART Board not only makes the learning fun and innovative, but it literally puts a whole new world of education at their fingertips! The children are actively engaged in their lessons throughout the day and are becoming true scholars as a result. This quarter we are studying the alphabet, patterns, numbers, and shapes, and we are beginning to write. As always, we are coloring, writing, drawing, and painting our way through each day and are looking forward to all of the excitement that this year has to offer!





Monsignor McArthur hands out holy cards of St. Louis to celebrate the Feast of St. Louis.

Junior High Adds Activity Period

The Junior High students rotate through an intense academic curriculum each day. Students attend seven classes per day. On Mondays, instead of the special classes, the students alternate between the Advisor/Advisee program and the Activity Period.

Each student listed the top three choices for which group to join during the activity period. The junior high faculty members each moderate one activity. The groups include Yearbook Staff, Board Games Club, study hall, Robotics Club, Knowledge Bowl, Mathcounts, Knitting/Crocheting Club, Art Club, Fitness Club, and Show Choir.

Seventh grader Tucker Andreini says “I like the activities, they are really cool.” Tucker is in the Art Club. Her first project is making wooden earrings out of candy wrappers. Angel Benson agrees, “The activities are great!” Angel is in Knowledge Bowl; these students are preparing to compete in the diocesan Academics Day.

SAVE the DATE



Feed My Flock
A St. Louis Parish-wide event
Saturday, October 15, 2011

1 day
600 volunteers
2 hour shifts
108,000 meals for the hungry

A day reserved at St. Louis Parish for everyone—individuals and families—to take part in this extraordinary day of outreach and fellowship.

Visit www.feedmyflock.net to volunteer or to donate funds to cover costs.

Feed my FLOCK
2011

Saturday, October 15, 2011

Alumni Update

Congratulations to the following St. Louis Alumni for being elected to leadership positions at Christian Brothers High School:

Student Government: Vice President-Chad Steward; Treasurer-Luke Franklin; Committee at Large-Joe Krebs

Senior Class Officers: President-Joel Cox; Vice-President-Matthew Orians; Treasurer-Nash Lanigan

Sophomore Class Officers: President-Paul Posey; Treasurer-McKenzie Waxler; Sergeant-at-Arms-Chris Skretkowicz

Sports Update...

Did you know that there are currently

- ◆ 2 football teams
- ◆ 4 cross country teams
- ◆ 2 golf teams
- ◆ 13 soccer teams
- ◆ 5 volleyball teams
- ◆ 1 cheerleading squad

Come support our teams. Please visit the school website www.stlouismemphis.org to view the team schedules and come watch our athletes!



Meghan O'Donnell dribbles the ball past the Hutchison defenders.