

# Ascension School Family Newsletter

Vol. 10, Issue 29

April 23, 2010

"For God gives those who please Him wisdom, knowledge, and joy."

*Ecclesiastes 2:26*

[www.ascensionkettering.org/ascension-school/](http://www.ascensionkettering.org/ascension-school/) Ph: 254-5411

## Ascension Educators to be Honored

Ascension School is pleased to announce that **Carolyn Frantz** (35 yrs), **Tony Bower**, **Stephanie Klein & Corrina Campos** (all 5 yrs), will be recognized by the Miami Valley Catholic Education Council for years of service in Catholic Education. Our educators will be recognized along with honorees from other Catholic schools in the Miami Valley at the Council's 21<sup>st</sup> annual Recognition Banquet held on Tues. evening, May 4, at the Presidential Banquet Center, in Kettering.

**Mrs. Frantz** will be awarded honorarium of \$100 by the sponsors of this Educator Recognition program - the Miami Valley Catholic Education Council, a group of business and civic leaders from throughout the Miami Valley who serve as advocates and advisors for Catholic Schools. Since 1990 the Council's program has recognized educators and honors them for their service to the young people in our community and the teaching mission of the church.

**With this milestone in her career Mrs. Frantz is announcing her retirement from teaching.** We appreciate the many years Carolyn has given to the school and wish her the best in her retirement beginning this summer.

## Gr. 4 Teaching Position open for 2010-11

With Mrs. Frantz's retirement there will be an opening in our Gr. 4 classroom. We appreciate the work Mrs. Whelan has done this spring in Mrs. Schaefer's recent medical leave. Miss Whelan will be among candidates for the open position. The job is being advertised and we are accepting applications for the position. There have been rumors of other teachers at Ascension retiring this year, however they are not true. At present Ascension school is looking to fill just the 4<sup>th</sup> grade position.

## Request for Volunteers – Grandparents Day & Walkathon

In January there was a volunteer sign-up form that outlined the need for volunteers for our Grandparents day however there was no line to indicate preference to volunteer. Some just filled in their names but we are in need of more volunteers particularly since we are serving lunch this year and also because we have a portable stage that will need to be set up in about 30 minutes time.

Potential Committee Leaders and overall team leaders for the Walkathon activity will join together on May 20 for a meeting to plan next fall's Walkathon.

## PTO Vote

Over the next few weeks parents of our PTO will have the opportunity to vote for special project "dream list" expenditures for the school of approximately \$10,000 in value. Students were given the opportunity with the Walkathon proceeds to vote on \$1,000 of those expenditures. The students voted on Thursday and have decided that 2 additional new gymnasium mats, 2 Listening Centers and wet and dry hand vacs for the primary and art classrooms would be wise purchases for the school. We thank the students for their participation in the voting.

## Volunteer Appreciation Week

Today culminates volunteer appreciation week. **We wish to thank all the volunteers!** We thank our volunteers in various ways throughout the year, typically directly after any event or activity. Some have ongoing work that needs to be recognized. For instance our Ascension Academic Team has given innumerable hours to individual students. A little thank you card is enclosed for them today.

## Catholic Sexuality

On May 14 in the morning prior to our Grandparents Day Program our Gr. 8 students have been invited to St. Albert School to hear Pam Stenzel, an outstanding speaker on abstinence. She is an internationally renowned speaker who combines her personal story and extensive pregnancy counseling experience in a hard hitting look at the consequences of sexual activity outside of marriage. Pam is a Catholic and has spoken live at Ascension before and our parish has used her video materials in the past.

For parents on the evening of that day - **Parents: Sex has a price tag. Do you want your kids to pay the price?** Friday, May 14 at *The Vineyard* in Beaver Creek at 4051 Indian Ripple Rd. from 7-9pm. See flyer enclosed.

## JOOI Support

Our JOOI club has 5 years of leadership and service experience in the school and would like the ability to give even more back to the community with its projects. So they have partnered with the newly formed Ascension Parish Knights of Columbus Council to have a very small fundraising effort. Students have all been given just one raffle ticket to sell. Half the \$5 proceeds will go back to the JOOI group. JOOI members and their parents are asked to solicit only family members and close friends. There will be no door to door sales as we are concerned for their safety. If there are any questions or the need for more tickets you may call the JOOI moderators for Ascension Wanda Wist, Tony Bower or Judy Schaefer at school at 254-5411.

## Fitness Challenge

Ascension School was honored as the host school for the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Elementary School Day Fitness Challenge. The following students represented Ascension School as part of the Catholic East Team with St. Helen School in the Gr. 4 Fitness Challenge. **Jacob Hosford, Sam Janson, Marina Stevens, Cassidy Bereda, Brandon Bowling, Nikki Gazzero, Marissa Pellegrino, Sunait Sarfino & Mateus Tracy.** We thank **Myrna Gazzero** for organizing and supervising as the team parent and assisting Mrs. Parker & Mr. Devitt in this event.

Catholic East finished 4<sup>th</sup> in the Small District division, just one point behind Valley View. It was Catholic East's first plaque for finishing in the top 5 schools. Ascension had two Challenge Champions with the best marks of the day for either small or big schools. Congratulations to **Brandon Bowling** - steeple star and **Marina Stevens** - 100m Challenge Champion and new record holder (13.62 seconds)

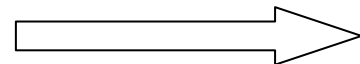
We thank all the Ascension volunteers who made the event happen - **Joe Nelson, Gary & Tyler Snider, Zac & Jane Fortener, Tyler Pavliga, Nick Clarkson, Joe Saurine, Morgan Nash, Tyler Thompson, Darren Nash, Nick Hemmert and Mike & Maureen Bereda.**

## BINGO Volunteers

We thank our volunteers from last week: **Debbie Clary, John Shultz.** Our volunteer for Thurs, April 29 is **Laura Bistrek.** **Karen Walker** is our school coordinator for BINGO volunteers. Please call her at 293-3976 to make plans for the one night of BINGO service that all parents of school families have been encouraged and challenged to pledge.



*Over please....*



## Confirmation Practice

This is a reminder that confirmation practice for this year's 8<sup>th</sup> graders is Sat, April 24 at 6:30. Students are to bring their Baptismal candle. If they don't have one, \$2 is requested to purchase a candle. For those students who have a confirmation sponsor involved in the Carroll HS from the same night as practice it is best if an adult proxy is present with the student for practice if the sponsor is unable to attend. The proxy does not have to be a parent or sponsor, just a responsible adult who can be sure to relay info to the sponsor.

## \$CRIP Supports Ascension

As most of you know, the Women's Guild sells "scrip" as one of its two fundraisers. It is used like cash and costs you nothing extra. A new addition to our list of available cards is Meijer and they come in denominations of \$100 and \$25. They are good anywhere in the United States or online and provide a profit of 3%.

There are many events at this time of year such as Mother's Day, Father's Day, graduations and end-of-school events that may call for a gift. Of course, scrip is also for everyday use. Some cards are always kept on hand and others can be ordered and received in about one week. Check out the list at "glscrip.com". Kroger cards can be reloaded using your credit card or cash and Kohl's cards can be used to pay your account.

Call Judy McManus (299-0997) or Phyllis Hildebrand (435-7114). We can answer any questions or take an order. Order forms are also available on the table in the narthex. Our profits go back to the parish for needed projects.

## New Piano!

One very recent benefit of the \$scrip program has been the purchase of a new electronic keyboard for our Parish choir and school music program. The old keyboard is literally on its last legs. Funds for the new piano were pieced together from a \$500 Education Ascension Grant, \$825 from the purchase of older pianos in the parish and \$1370 from the Women's Guild. The new keyboard should be arriving just in time for the Grandparent's Day performances.

We thank the Ascension Education Fund, the Women's Guild and the Minardi family for helping us sell the older unused pianos in the parish.

## Altar Servers - Return the 3 X 5 Information Card

Server schedules for May and June were mailed to homes this week. The mailing included a 3 X 5 card on which all servers need to specify the time(s) they wish to serve when new Mass times go into effect on July 3, 2010. Please complete the information on the 3 x 5 card and return it to the School, RE or Parish office no later than May 24, 2010. **Failure to return the card by May 23, will result in your name being removed from the Altar Server schedule.** Contact Deacon Vic if you have questions (253-5171 ext. 110)

## Extracurricular News

In a future edition of the Family Newsletter will be included an Extracurricular News feature. The editor and publisher for this newsletter (Mr. D.) relies on parent reporters to supply the news and would appreciate any reports about students' accomplishments in extracurricular activities of any sort. We have had great success in the fall parish CYO sports so we'd like to hear about those accomplishments, but also about any other extracurricular activities of students - including piano competitions, art and essay contests, drama, and choir to name a few. We have had students involved in such varied athletic sports as rowing, trampoline, diving, ice hockey, martial arts, even drag racing. Submissions should be word processed and e-mailed to the school at [devittb@ascensionket.org](mailto:devittb@ascensionket.org).



## Fr. Rudy Award

Nominations for the Fr. Rudy Award are now being accepted. The nominee must be an eighth grade student attending Ascension School or enrolled in the Religious Education Program. Recipients of this award should exemplify the aspects of the Ascension athletic philosophy. To nominate an 8<sup>th</sup> grader, please submit the answers to the 4 questions found in the Ascension Athletic Handbook (p 19 - available online as well.) Nominations may be turned in to any Athletic Board member or turned in to the school office. Nominations must be received by May 1.

## Educational Outings

More Educational Outing permission forms are enclosed! Students must have these permissions signed and fees paid (when requested) in order to participate. We thank Carroll High School for offering educational outing transportation at no cost for the past year.

Last year the PTO approved funding to defray the admission costs of our Fine Arts philharmonic program fees each year and make a contribution of \$200 at each grade level to support admission costs of spring educational outings. This initiative was designed to help families better afford these valuable learning experiences for students.

This is also a timely point to review our Ascension philosophy regarding educational outings. The emphasis on these trips of course is education. Teachers carefully look at their grade level curriculum and how these trips can complement what is learned in the classroom. Gr. 7 & 8 have had safe and successful trips already this past week to Columbus and Cincinnati. The trips stay in state and do not extend overnight to reduce our liability and cost.

## Calendar Update

April	23	F	1 <sup>st</sup> Eucharist Practice Families, Church, 6:30pm
	24	SA	First Communion option, 5pm Confirmation Practice, 6:30-8pm
	25	SU	First Communion options, 9am, 12pm
	27	TU	Faculty Mtg, Rm202, 2:45-4pm, Goals Confirmation Mass, 7pm
	28	W	Grandparents Day Practice, PAC 1pm IAT Mtg., Rm106, 3-4pm Parish Council, WC114, 7:30-9pm
	30	F	Mass, 9am

## Enclosures

Summer Programs in Kettering w/Miami U.  
Sex Has A Price Tag flyer  
Gr. 8 Ed Outing for Abstinence Presentation  
Gr. 6 Ed Outing Permission

## Return Date

See Details  
None  
Mon. April 26  
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## Quotation

*"Better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher."*

Japanese Proverb

## *A Proud Partner in the ...*

