

# Ascension School Family Newsletter

Vol. 9, Issue 23

Feb. 20, 2009

"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

## Write On! Ascension - Learning Fair Night

Next week is our annual PTO sponsored *Learning Fair* / Open House night scheduled for Tues., Feb. 24 at 7:00. Doors to the PAC open at 6:45. The theme this year is writing with a focus on activities that our school has to encourage and nurture good writing in our students. The books that students worked so hard to write and publish have arrived and will be shared with parents and the students for the first time on Tuesday night.

- ✓ Release of student authored books
- ✓ Hallway writing activities.
- ✓ Criterion Writing Demonstration
- ✓ Power of the Pen Presentations
- ✓ Save It! Program Parent night (Gr. 7 & 8 parents)
- ✓ Open House – for families inquiring about Ascension
- ✓ Art Display & Science Fair Exhibits
- ✓ Uniform Swap in cafeteria
- ✓ School Lunch Program samples in cafeteria.

The night will begin in the PAC with brief PTO meeting and then follow with an opportunity to see each classroom. Science Fair displays, artwork and *Power of the Pen* will also be on display. A flyer with more details is enclosed with a request for your family's tentative response for attending this important family event.

## Lent - Return to Me

Our parish theme this year is *Return to Me*. One Lenten practice popular with Ascensionites have been the little black books which serve as guides to 5 minute daily reflections. Students in all grades K-8 are getting the little purple activity books for Lent. These are being sent home separate from the family envelope. The Parish Lenten Family Activity titled *Return to Me* is on Sun. Feb. 22 with Greenmont Church. A flyer went home last week. The event is Sunday, at Ascension from 2-4 p.m. A simple Stations of the Cross will be presented by youth from Ascension and Greenmont Oak-Park churches. Outreach activities and King Cake will follow this impressive program. Free and open to all ages.

## Ascension School Science Fair

Seventh grade students presenting their science fair projects at our own Ascension Science Fair and receiving a Superior rating and or qualifying to go on to Montgomery County competition include the following:

Sarah Barbaro, Mattie Carter, Nick Clarkson, Kylie Crespo, David Eichner, Molly Johnson, Amanda Kackley, Elizabeth Knab, Rachel Magoto, Brianna Manfreda, Morgan Nash, Jacob Ollier, Analu Reckziegel, Anna Schlegel, Abby Schmidt, Emma Sobieski, Tyler Thompson, Stephanie Townsend, Alex Trimbach, Gabrielle Tunney.

## Lenten Rice Bowls

All families are encouraged to use the Rice Bowl Program this year to join in solidarity with those in need around the world. The Catholic Relief Services is the largest, most effective and most trusted Catholic relief agency in the world. They put out the Operation Rice Bowl materials each Lent to encourage families to support relief work around the world. A Lenten Rice Bowl is enclosed along with a calendar of daily prayers. Please consider doing this as a family activity. Money collected in the rice bowls should be brought to school or church during Holy Week.



Students will help guide some of our daily reflections during Lent with an emphasis on the Catholic Social Teaching principles. It is a tradition at Ascension that snacks are sacrificed on a school wide basis on Ash Wednesday and Fridays through Lent. Students are encouraged to offer up money that would otherwise be spent on snacks to the Rice Bowl collection. Students may elect to fast from snacks on any other days through Lent as well and contribute to the Rice Bowl at home or to a Rice Bowl that will be located at the Ascension Café snack table.

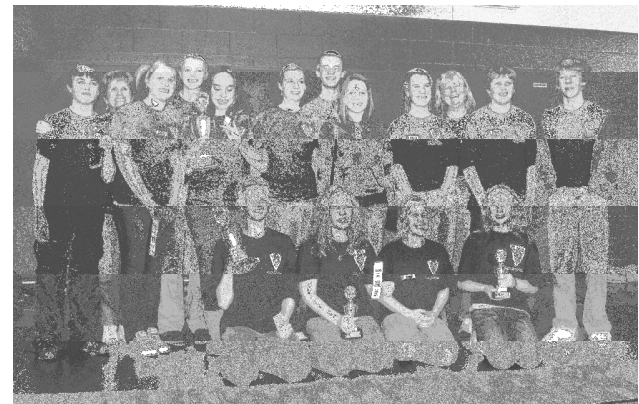
## Power of the Pen

Ascension's seventh and eighth grade Power of the Pen teams traveled to Mad River Middle School for the District Tournament last Saturday. The fourteen students wrote creative papers, in response to three prompts, over a two hour time frame. Fifteen local schools were competing. There were approximately 80 seventh graders and 80 eighth graders all vying for the top 15 trophies per grade.

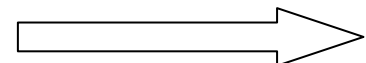


Our eighth grade team took home the third place District team trophy. **Billy Barbaro** received an honorable mention for a paper that he wrote. **Maria Bete** won fifth place and **Caitlyn Shiner** won first place! Caitlyn was also recognized for writing 3 papers with perfect scores of "1". Rounding out the eighth grade team were: **Olivia Anderson, Nicole Collins, Brian McLaughlin, Tori Petrie, Kaylee Via and Cory Wallace.**

Our seventh grade team had a very successful day also with **Anna Schlegel** winning the sixth place trophy and **Jacob Ollier** writing the very best paper in round one! He was awarded a Power of the Pen journal for his accomplishment. Other seventh grade team members competing were: **Sara Barbaro, Nick Clarkson, and Morgan Nash.** Our next tournament will be the Regional competition at Wittenberg University on March 14.



Over please....



## Mathcounts

MATHCOUNTS is a math enrichment program for 6-8 graders. It teaches kids about creative problem solving and encourages and guides them in critical thinking. Over the last 25 years, more than 7 million students from all 50 states and U.S. Territories compete in local and regional MATHCOUNTS Competitions each year. On Sat., Feb. 21, Ascension will be sending a 4-member team and 3 individual participants to the University of Dayton to compete in the Dayton competition. Congratulations and good luck to our competitors: Team - **Wesley Nash, Billy Barbaro, Jacob Ollier, and Cassidy Stevens.** Individuals - **Morgan Nash, Kevin Koesters, and Sarah Barbaro.**

These students were chosen from a very talented group that also included: **Tyler Pavliga, Shelby Springer, Styler Stevens, Richie Koesel, and Mattie Carter.** **Alex Trimbach** participated in the club as well and was chosen for competition, however another commitment will prevent him from competing.

## New Kindergarten Student Meeting for Parents

There will be a *New* incoming Kindergarten Student Meeting for Parents on Weds., March 4 at 7:00 in Witzman Center, to provide families with information about our kindergarten program. At this meeting parents will be introduced to a team of professionals who will be part of the screening process. Parents are informed about our kindergarten program and the philosophy of Ascension School. The first opportunity to register for kindergarten screening occurs that night. Kindergarten Screening will be conducted Mon.-Thurs., March 16-20 during the school day. The following forms necessary for registration may be brought to the meeting: students' birth certificate, baptismal certificate, social security card and custody papers if relevant.



## Registration for 08-09 Continues...

If you have completed your registration and tuition commitment form for 2009-10 we Thank You and you may stop reading now and skip on to the next newsletter article. If you have not completed the registration we encourage you to complete the registration as soon as possible. If families are not up to date on tuition payments please go ahead and turn in your registration paperwork, however, know that your registration is not finalized and accepted until tuition is up to date.

Please be careful to read all the materials regarding tuition. In a few weeks there will be instructions on how the FACTS invoice and ACH agreements will be processed online this year, unless families are new to the school or changing from one plan to another.

## ***Other tips and reminders about registration:***

- *Don't forget to attach the \$60 registration fee to your school registration forms.* The registration fee is required of families with Ohio Edchoice Scholarships as well.
- *Remember to check all the tuition acceptance statements.* Typically most (if not all) families will check both acceptance of this support from the parish along with making the commitment to paying tuition.
- *Remember to select a payment plan.*
- *We encourage families to request a Tuition Assistance Application if they anticipate need.* Any families requesting a form or who may have received tuition assistance this year will be sent a form. The form may also be accessed online directly from the Ascension school website.

## Save It! Program

The Save It! program will be conducted at Ascension School the week of March 9-13. Ascension School has invited a professional presenter from Elizabeth's New Life Center to address the Gr. 7 & 8 classes regarding the topic of abstinence from drugs, alcohol, and sexual behavior as an unmarried teen. All parents of Gr. 7 & 8 students are asked to attend the Parent Preview Night on Feb. 24 at 8:00 in the School Media Center. A permission form for students to participate in the program is enclosed.

## So Long To a Good Friend

Sr. Christine, former Ascension school art and instrumental music teacher at Ascension, passed away unexpectedly but peacefully on Friday.

The Funeral Arrangements for Sr. Christine Marie Stevens, FMI Sat. Feb. 21 - Visitation 9:30AM - 10:30 AM Mt. St. John, (4435 E. Patterson Rd., Dayton) followed by the Funeral Mass at 10:30 AM. Interment of remains will take place at a later date at Queen of Heaven Cemetery, also at Mt. St. John. Reception is following at Witzman Center, Ascension Church.

## Don't miss Carroll High School's Alumni Irish Fish Fry!

Meet in the Carroll cafeteria/gym on Fri., March 13 from 6 pm to midnight for plenty of food, beverages, games of chance, silent auction/raffle items, and live entertainment. New for 2009: Irish Dancers led by Colleen (Petersen) McCoart '74 from 7:00-8:30 p.m., keyboardist Eric Geise '03 from the group, Joosebox, and now serving only the best - the great-tasting Icelandic Cod! Cost: \$15 at the door and \$12 pre-sale in Carroll's main office. Come join fellow alumni, renew old friendships, and have lots of fun! Public are welcome (21 and over). For more information, call (937) 253-8188, ext. 339.

## Area Wide Catholic School Writing Contest

Congratulations are in order for the following Ascension students who participated and placed in the Chaminade Julienne area-wide Catholic schools writing contest: **Olivia Anderson, Brian McLaughlin, Jacob Ollier, Rachel Scheidler, Caitlyn Shiner, Kayla Via, Katie Wilhelm.** These students have won honorable mention, third place, second place or first place in their particular category of the contest. Awards will be announced at a ceremony at CJ on Thurs, Feb. 26 from 4-6 pm.

## Calendar

Feb. 24	TU	PTO Learning Fair Night, PAC, 7-8:30pm Parent Preview - Gr. 7/8 Save It! Program, Rm104, 8-8:30pm
25	W	Ash Wednesday Mass, Church, 9:00 IAT Mtg, Rm106, 3-4pm
26	TH	Gr. 7 NET Retreat, WC, 8am-2:30pm
26	TH	Child Protection Class, WC 119, 5:30-6:30pm
27	F	Gr. 8 NET Retreat, WC, 8am-2:30pm

## Enclosures

Gr. 7 & 8 Save It! Permission  
Lenten Rice Bowl & Calendar (inside)  
Prescription discounts cards  
Green-Oak Preschool Flyer  
Storytellers Presents:

## Return Date

Mon. March 2  
None  
See Details  
None  
None

## Quotation

*I have made this [letter] longer, because I have not had the time to make it shorter.*

**Blaise Pascal**