

Mission Statement: We partner with parents providing a Catholic school rooted in the gospel teachings of Jesus Christ, modeled by Mary our mother, encouraging a virtuous life following the Catholic faith and pursuing academic excellence.



MARIAN MESSENGER

February 18, 2021

Week –At – A - Glance

Friday, February 19, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 8:30 All School Mass; gr. 4 ❖ 2:50 Stations of the Cross; gr. 8 ❖ Fish Dinner Carry out only; \$10
Monday, February 22, 2021	❖ Morning Prayer; Mrs. Kinsey
Tuesday, February 23, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Spirit Wear Day ❖ 7:30 Band grs. 6-8 ❖ 4:30 JV Boys' Basketball at Washtenaw Christian ❖ 5:30 Varsity Boys' Basketball at Washtenaw Christian ❖ 6:30 2021-2022 Kindergarten Parent Meeting/Zoom
Wednesday, February 24, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 8:30 Primary Mass; gr. 5 ❖ 6:00 Middle School Youth Group
Thursday, February 25, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 7:30 Band grs. 6-8 ❖ 4:30 JV and 5:30 Varsity Boys' Basketball @ St. Thomas ❖ 9:00 Fish Dinner Preorders w/\$ due
Friday, February 26, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ 8:30 All School Mass; gr. 6 ❖ 2:50 Stations of the Cross; gr. 7

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">❖ 3:15 Preschool Tour: Carroll Family❖ Fish Dinner Carry out only \$10 |
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LUNCH INFORMATION

Grades 6-8 Lunch 11:30-12:00

Grades 3-5 Lunch 12:05

Grades K-2 Lunch 12:25

Please provide your students with everything they need to eat their lunch; plate, eating utensil, napkin, drink, condiments

Principal Notes

Don't forget to sign up to help at the Fish Fry Dinners!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4caeaf2baaf4c07-fish>



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Fish Dinners: Thank you to all who have already signed up to help. The February sign up looks great, but we need more hands to help in March! Please consider helping our school earn this much need scholarship money. Bring a friend and have fun while helping out!

Please see the sign up genius today below to see where you can help!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c4caeaf2baaf4c07-fish>

IF we can get 75% of our school families to volunteer, the school students will have a most coveted PJ Day!

FACTS REGISTRATION IS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR!

You still have time to enroll:

- Sign up for a payment plan by visiting:

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3YJ8Z>

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This is an updated link from FACTS and will take you directly to the sign in! ****Please list your student(s) in the grade they will be in for the **FALL** session and not their current grade. Students who are currently in 8th grade do not need to be re-enrolled.**



Preschool Enrollment for 2021-2022 is open to all current Preschool families. It will open to the public Monday, March 1st. Please sign up at FACTS to register and fill out the paperwork later! We will send you the paperwork once we see that you are signed up!

<https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3YJ8Z>



SAVE THE DATE! 2021-2022 Kindergarten Parent Meeting: will take place on Tuesday, **February 23, 2021 at 6:30**. This is an informational meeting for parents. Parents will have the opportunity to sign up for

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Kindergarten Screen which will take place on Monday, March 8 during the day. Parents will have the opportunity to meet with Mrs. Long on Thursday, March 11th to learn the results of the screening. Please call the school office if you have questions at 734-878-5616. This will be a zoom meeting:
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82658380029?pwd=eFh1QlprK0EyR1hoWWR5UHh4enpMZz09&fbclid=IwAR2aBaLA4v_ebQj9YqdJuEqSpeXqyo4GKU7Wwxily5Jl0sSB0AAsrueq740#success or **Meeting ID: 826 5838 0029 Passcode: XXA3Xh**

St. Mary School Scholarship is now available. If you are in need of financial assistance, please email Mrs. Kinsey, mrskinsey@stmarypinckney.org, for an application. Please note that all applications will be kept in strict confidence. The deadline for this application is Friday, March 19, 2021. You will need a copy of your latest W2 along with the application. All paperwork must be turned in for the application to be considered.



Diocesan Scholarship Application is now available. When you apply, please be sure that your need is greater than the \$750 per child and that your child is Catholic. Please see the information at the end of the Messenger for greater detail! Note deadlines!!



<https://www.boxtops4education.com/How-To-Earn>

Click on the link to find out how you can help our school earn easy money through Box Tops for Education. You no longer need to cut them out but just scan them to your phone from your store receipt! How easy is that.

CLASSROOM NEWS

MRS. STODARD'S PRESCHOOL

It is hard to believe we have entered the second half of the school year. Winter has proven to be an exciting time for the preschool students so far!

In honor of Catholic School's Week, the preschool class participated in the themed days planned for the school. We really enjoyed Fitness Day! This is always a favorite-thank you to the middle school students and teachers for making this a special day!

We continue to explore our Catholic faith daily with books, prayers, conversations and in naturally occurring situations. Each week, we focus on a new religion topic. In December our topics were "We Get Ready for Jesus", "We

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Wait for Jesus”, “An Angel Speaks to Joseph” and “Jesus is Born”. After Christmas vacation our topics have been “Baptism of the Lord”, “Jesus Loves God’s World”, “Simeon and Anna Welcome Jesus” and “Jesus Wants us to Shine”. Each day, we have special prayer book that teaches a small lesson and helps us recite a short prayer. Each morning, we draw names and one student is the Prayer Leader for the day. This student comes to the front of the class and leads our prayers throughout the day. This has proven to be a favorite job in our classroom! Currently, we are entering the Lenten Season by practicing different ways we can become closer to God, and learning ways we can participate in acts of kindness.



The Preschool Valentine Party took place on February 10th. The students brought Valentine “mailboxes” they made at home to hold their special cards from their friends at school. We played games, passed out Valentine cards to our friends, made cards for our parents and had some special treats, including a birthday treat for one of the students in our class. We had so much fun on this busy day!



Valentines for parents



Preschoolers passing their Valentine's out

The older students continue to work hard on writing uppercase and lowercase letters, practicing letter sounds and have even started to identify beginning sounds in words. The younger students are working also practicing letter sounds and identification and continue to work on fine motor skills and writing their names!



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In honor of Children's Dental Hygiene Month, we are learning all about teeth! Not only will we be learning about our own teeth, we will also be studying different types of animal teeth and what purpose they serve.



We are so thankful to continue to learn in person, five days a week! Thank you Preschool Families for following the COVID guidelines and helping to keep our preschool family safe!

Preschool registration opens March 1st for new families. Please spread the word!

Winter Blessings! Beth Stodart, Pamela Prosniewski, and Kathy Peavyhouse

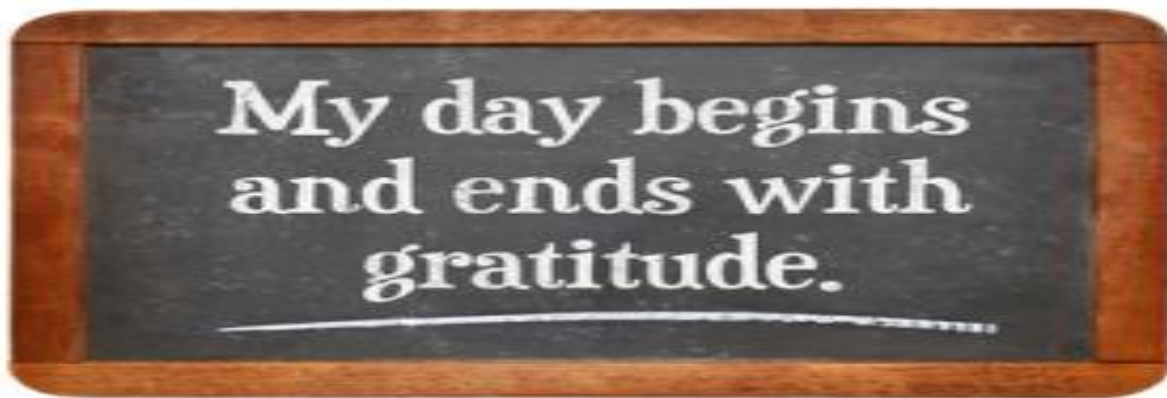
MRS. LONG'S KINDERGARTEN

It's hard to believe we are halfway through February! This has been a busy month in kindergarten! We started the month off with Catholic Schools Week. We enjoyed all of the fun activities while celebrating our school with our friends. Random fitness day was so much fun and we had a blast sledding. We also celebrated the 100th day of kindergarten last Monday, February 8th.

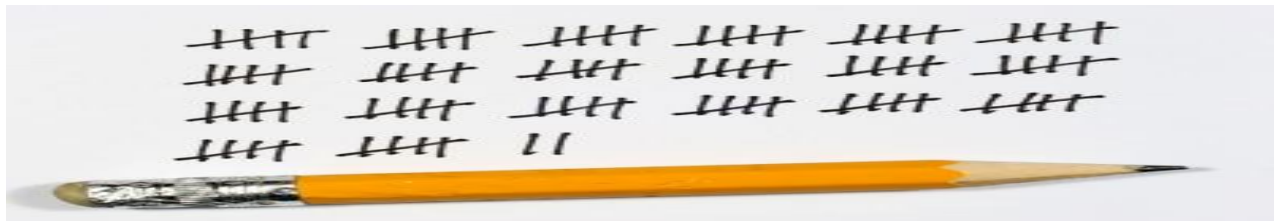
The 100th Day of School

We had so much fun doing activities with 100. We drew pictures of us as 100 year olds, wrote about what we would do with \$100 and counted to 100!

We have been learning about various stories of Jesus and his followers. We also recently read the story of Jesus curing the blind man. We learned about showing gratitude to others and also showing gratitude to God. We will also be learning about growing and changing during Lent.



In math we are learning about addition and just finished up a chapter on graphing. We have learned that when we add we join together two groups and figure out how much we have in all. We learned how to make tally charts, bar graphs, picture graphs, and pictographs. We graphed things like favorite rides at the fair and if the groundhog would see his shadow.

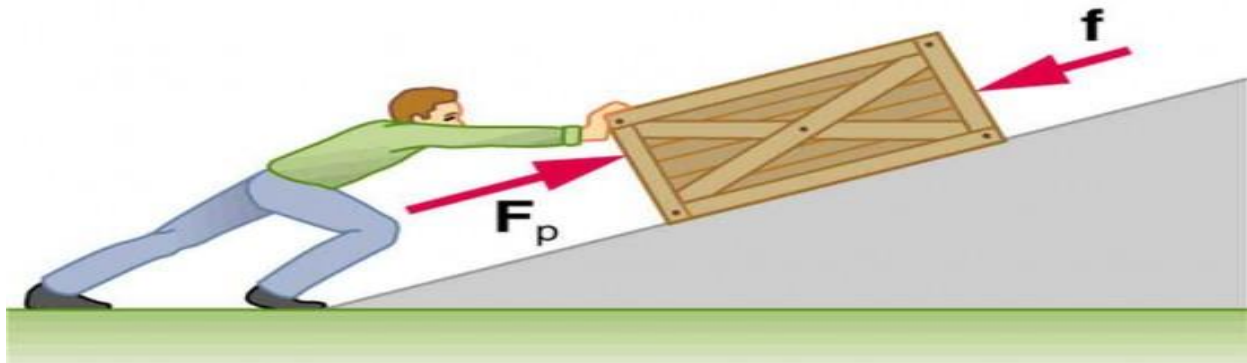


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In reading we are continuing to learn sight words and are becoming very good at sounding out words. We are becoming fantastic readers! We have also been learning about force and motion. We have been experimenting to see what happens when we apply force (and different amounts of force) to an object. We have also been experimenting with what happens when two objects collide. We discovered that when objects collide they either stop, change direction, or change speed.



Our next unit in science will be about weather. We will learn about different types of severe weather including blizzards, floods, hurricanes, and tornados. We will learn about how to prepare for different types of weather as well as how to stay safe during these types of severe weather.



Next week is the Kindergarten Informational meeting for next year's kindergarteners. The meeting is Tuesday, February 23rd at 6:30pm on Zoom. Please spread the word to any and all families with incoming kindergarteners!

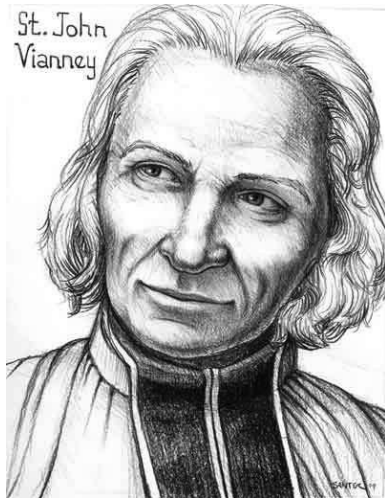
FYI

Virtue of the Month:

Mercy: meaning: caring for those who suffer.

“Blessed are the merciful, they shall obtain mercy” (Matthew 5:7). Whenever we are hurting—either through our own fault or because something bad has happened to us—we want relief...we want MERCY! Jesus has told us that we must show mercy in two ways: physically (for the body) and spiritually (for the soul). When we feed someone who is hungry, we show mercy; when we forgive someone who has hurt us, we show mercy. Jesus showed us this mercy when He forgave sins (spiritual) and cured the sick (physical). As Jesus did, so we must do. Blessed are the MERCIFUL!

Saint of the Month for Preschool to grade 2: Saint John Vianney. Feast day is August 4th



Saint John Vianney spent hours and hours hearing peoples' Confessions so they could receive the mercy of Jesus and be happy.

Saint of the Month for grades 3-5: Saint Faustina. Feast Day is October 5th



Saint Faustina grew up in a big family in Poland and joined the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy when she was a young woman. She was always mindful of how others suffered and wanted to help them. She offered many sacrifices, sufferings, and prayers for souls who needed God's mercy. Many times she did not know the souls for whom she was suffering. On February 22, 1931, Our Lord appeared to St. Faustina in a vision and instructed her to paint Him as He appeared to her and include the motto, "Jesus, I trust in you." He wanted her to proclaim the message of His mercy—Divine Mercy—to the whole world, which she faithfully did until her death.

Saint of the Month for Middle School: Saint Teresa of Calcutta. Feast Day is September 5th.



"At the end of our lives, we will not be judged by...how many great things we have done. We will be judged by 'I was hungry and you gave me to eat. I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless and you took me in.'" Agnes Gonxha Bojaxhiu was born in the country of Albania and left home at the age of 18 to join the Sisters of Loreto as a missionary. By 1929, she was assigned to a girls' school in Calcutta, India, where she spent many happy years teaching. It was in 1946 that she experienced an encounter with Christ that led her to dedicate her life to serving the poorest of the poor in imitation of the mercy of Jesus. With permission, she left her religious community, trading the habit of the Sisters of Loreto for a plain white sari

bordered with blue. Very soon, young Indian women came to join her—including some of her former students—and her new community became known as the Missionaries of Charity. Throughout the remainder of her life, Mother Teresa and her Missionaries of Charity would spread the mercy of Christ throughout the world, attending to the needs of the most abandoned and neglected of our brothers and sisters.



Project Healthy Schools: Wash your hands before eating! Germs, which can make you sick, are spread more easily from your hands, than say, your lips. When you have a cold, keep your hands clean!

Constitutional Convention with the 7th and 8th graders:



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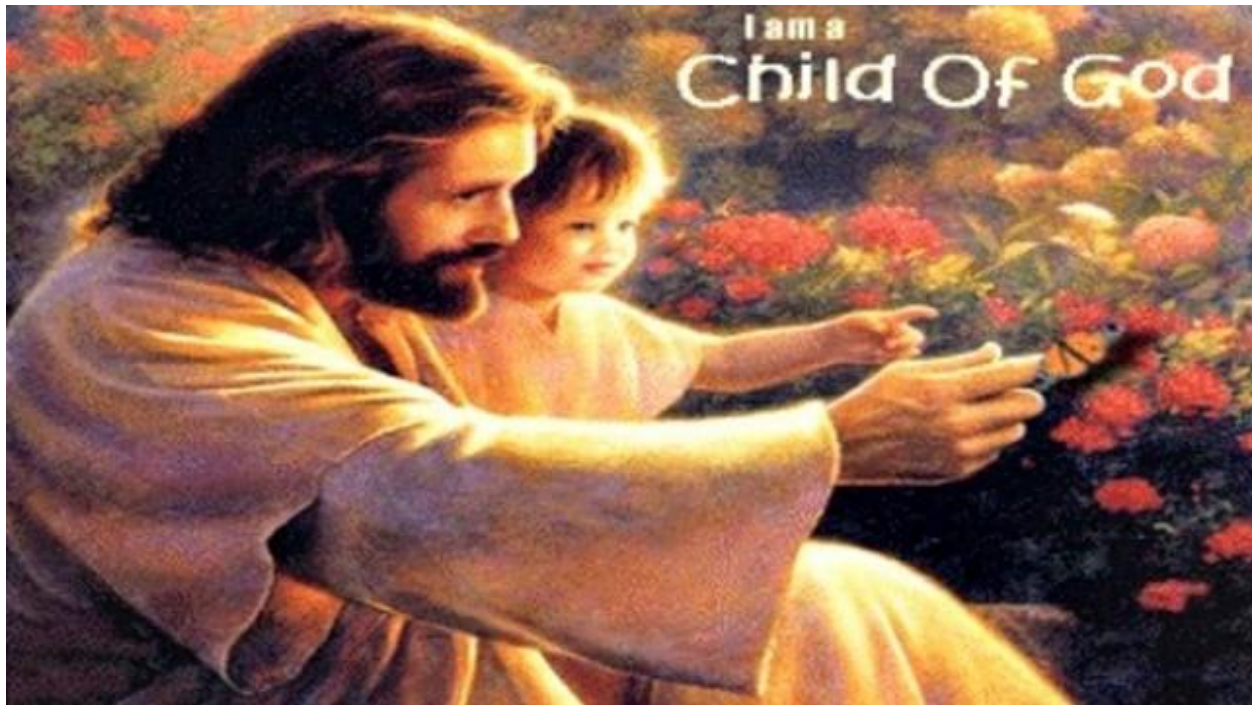
Speak the Truth



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10 Things to Teach Your Child About God

Whatever your hopes and dreams are for your child, the more connected they are to the wisdom of God, the better chance your child has of growing into the amazing person you and God want him/her to be. When is the right time to teach your child about God? Now and always.

1. **God's Dream.** God has a dream for you. God created you to become the-best-version-of-yourself! As your father/mother, that's my dream for you too. When you ask me if you can do something or have something, I ask myself if it will help you become a-better-version-of-yourself.

2. **The Wisdom of God.** The more you adopt the wisdom of God the happier you will be. When we reject God's wisdom, in a mysterious way we reject ourselves. Alienation from God is alienation from self. If you are ever unhappy, begin by asking, if there an obstacle between myself and God?

3. **God Answers Our Prayers.** God answers every prayer. Sometimes with a yes, sometimes with a no, sometimes with a maybe, and sometimes with not now. God's answer is always in your best interests. Always. God reasons may not always be apparent, but God always has a reason for what he does.

4. **Decision Making.** When you have a big decision to make, turn to God for advice and wisdom. Constantly seek the answer to this question: God, what do you think I should do?

5. **The Voice of God.** Learn to listen to God's voice. God is always speaking to us in more ways than we can imagine. The question is, are we listening?

6. **Talk to God.** Throughout your day, keep a conversation going with God. Talk to him about what brings you joy and what makes you sad, talk to him about school and work, talk to him about decisions you are making. Just talk to him. When you talk to me, it brings me great joy. When you talk to God it brings him great joy.

7. **God Loves You.** God is your Father. You are a child of God not an orphan of the world. He created you and he loves you no matter what. There are many things in life that change, but not this. Nothing you can do can change God's love for you, or cause him to stop loving you or love you less. When you love someone you want good things for that person, and God wants good things for you even more than you want them for yourself. God values love above everything else. When we are at our best, so do we.

8. **The Spirit of God.** The Spirit of God is tender, caring, courageous, generous, and loving. The spirit of the world is harsh, impersonal, uncaring, fearful, stingy, and selfish. You get to decide which spirit guides and rules your life. One leads to clarity and happiness and the other leads to confusion and misery.

9. **Goodness.** God cherishes goodness and there is a tremendous capacity for good in you. Nurture the goodness that God has placed within you, share it with the people who cross your path, and never stop looking for ways to do the most good for the most people with your life.

10. **Knowing God.** Learning about God fills our souls with joy, and brings clarity to our hearts and minds. Never stop learning about God. And yet, for everything we know about God, it is still just a drop in the ocean compared to what we don't know about God. God is a mystery to be enjoyed and revered.

Wisdom is the key to all we hope and dream for our children. By teaching them about God we are teaching them how to connect with the source of wisdom. Teaching your child about God is one of the greatest gifts you can ever give him/her. Next time your child asks for something, rather than saying, "Let me

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think about that” say “Let me pray about that.” Something this simple teaches your child that you consult God in your decisions and will encourage him/her to do the same. ~Matthew Kelly

The Promises of God Storybook Bible: The Story of God's Unstoppable Love
Hardcover – October 1, 2019 by Jennifer Lyell (Author)

Reading age: 4 - 8 years; Print length: 320 pages Grade level: Preschool - 3

Carry this thought in your heart as a guide for your faith journey this week.

Genesis 9:8-15 Mark 1:12-15

In this reading God’s people are given a glorious sign of God’s unending love. The story of Noah and the flood shows the sinfulness of all of creation. God’s judgment comes upon everyone and everything. Like the forty days of Lent, forty days of flooding rains are needed to purify the earth. In this passage, Noah, his family, and every living creature leave the ark and experience a wondrous sign of God’s faithful love. The rainbow is a sign of the covenant that God makes between Noah, every living creature, and all future generations. God promises that a flood shall never again destroy the earth.



This gospel gives us a short account of Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness. Mark’s account of the temptation of Jesus is brief because in Mark’s gospel the temptation of Jesus and his struggle against Satan continue throughout his public ministry. The forty days that Jesus spends in the wilderness with the

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wild beasts is transformed by God's blessing. The Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness and the angels are sent to help him. Jesus comes back from the desert ready to start his public ministry. He urgently proclaims his message to the people, repent and believe in the good news.



- How can you show respect and care for God's creation?
- When are you tempted to turn away from God's ways?
- What helps you to do the right thing?

Baptismal Covenant

The covenant between God and his people is everlasting. Throughout sacred history God has kept the promise of unending love for us. God first reaches out to us in love. We believe that God invites people into a relationship, again and again saving them, no matter how many times they turn away or forget.

In response to God's invitation, we are called to love God in return. Christians enter into a committed relationship with God in Christ, through the sacrament of baptism. Through baptism we become part of the people of God and are called to live a life "worthy of the gospel," rejecting sin and living by faith. Baptism joins us to Christ and his Church, calling us into mission. Baptism calls us to live as children of God. Our baptism challenges us to live lives of witness and service. We are called to be Christ for one another, to forgive and be peacemakers.



Sacrament Connection

Through the sacrament of Baptism we are reborn. This rebirth takes place in water. The believer is plunged into Christ's death. Rising from baptismal waters, the Spirit claims for us a share in the resurrection and we are made a new creation.



The Gospel in Life

How can you be a peacemaker at home and in school this week?

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Affording Catholic Education

The Diocese of Lansing awarded more than \$523,000 in scholarships to help families afford Catholic school for the 2020/21 school year.

Many families need and receive financial assistance for Catholic school tuition. Diocese of Lansing Catholic schools believe that a Catholic education should be available, accessible and affordable to any family that wants to provide their children with an authentically Catholic, academically rigorous education.

Our Scholarship program is a need-based assistance program. Need is determined by an independent, third-party service, F.A.C.T.S., which makes its assessment based on income and tax information. However, the FACTS application does have a section that offers the family to list any changes in their financial situation, and these are taken into consideration by the individual schools.

Eligibility Criteria for All Scholarships

- **Family must complete a [FACTS financial aid application online](#) on or before **March 1, 2021**.**
- Student must show a financial need of at least \$750

- The Student must be Catholic, attend a Diocese of Lansing school, and belong to a parish in the Diocese of Lansing.
-

Scholarships for the 2021-22 School Year

Diocese of Lansing Grants

- Grades K-8: \$750 per student
- Grades 9-12: \$1000 per student

The Venerable Augustus Tolton Scholarship

- Grades K-12: \$500

The Venerable Augustus Tolton Scholarship is aimed at increasing the number of Catholic African American students in the Diocese of Lansing's Catholic schools. It will operate under the patronage of Venerable Augustus Tolton (1854–97), a former slave who became the first African American priest in the United States. This grant is \$500 per student. In addition to the Grant Criteria for all grants, student must be African-American or Black and show a need of at least \$500.

Applying for Financial Aid

- **The deadline for applications is March 1, 2021.**
- By completing the FACTS application, you are applying for all grants available through the Diocese of Lansing. No need to complete an application for each grant.
- Applicants can complete the online form by clicking the FACTS link: <https://online.factsmgt.com/aid>

About the FACTS application: The link will be available December 1, 2020 and **will close March 1, 2021**. After March 1, 2021 please contact your school directly. There is a \$35.00 fee payable to FACTS through their online application process.

Once the FACTS online form has been completed, the following information will need to be submitted to FACTS:

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- Copies of your most recent Federal tax forms including all supporting tax schedules and W2's.
- Copies of supporting documentation for Social Security Income, Welfare, Child Support, Food Stamps, Workers' Compensation, and TANF.

All supporting documentation must be uploaded online through the FACTS online form. You will receive a determination letter by May 30th. If you received a grant, your school will be notified and the grant will be sent directly to your school in October of 2021.

If you have questions about the financial assistance process through FACTS, you may speak with a FACTS Customer Care Representative at 1-866-441-4637 or Diocese of Lansing, Financial Aid Advisor, Renee Fischman at 517-267-2107 or by email: renee.fischman@lansingcatholic.org.

Frequently Asked Questions About the Financial Aid Process

- **What if my application is submitted after March 1 2021, am I eligible for financial aid?**
 - You must have your application completed by March 1st and *all required documents* to FACTS by April 1, 2021. Applications received after that date are not eligible for the Diocese of Lansing grants, but you may still be eligible for financial assistance from your school. Contact your school directly for more information.
- **Do I have to complete separate applications for my children if they attend different schools?**
 - No, you submit one application per family. You list each student and the school they attend on one application. The Diocese of Lansing and each school will receive your determination.
- **Do I have to complete separate applications for each grant available?**
 - You do not have to complete separate applications for each grant for the Diocese of Lansing. Please contact your school directly for information on their financial assistance available.
- **What if I do not have access to a computer, and cannot complete the form online?**
 - Many schools will let you use a computer in their library; please contact your school directly for more information.
- **I can complete the form online but I cannot upload or scan the documents, what do I do?**

- Many schools can help you upload the document. Contact your school office for more information.
- **When will I know if I qualified for any financial assistance?**
- You will receive letters by May 30 from the Diocese of Lansing, notifying you of your determination and amount of financial assistance. If you qualified for a grant, your school will also be notified of the grant and the amount.
- **I did not qualify for any financial assistance from the Diocese of Lansing, is there anything I can do to receive financial assistance.**
- If it was determined that you did not show a financial need, and you still require financial assistance. You can contact your school directly for assistance. *There is no appeal process for the Diocese of Lansing grants.*
- **I have other questions regarding tuition and financial aid, who do I contact?** If you have questions about the Diocese of Lansing grants, please contact:

Kathy Ruddock

Diocese of Lansing

Financial aid Advisor

kruddock@dioceseoflansing.org

(517) 342-2482

If you have, questions on the FACTS application please contact FACTS customer care at 1-866-441-4637. If you have questions regarding tuition and financial aid from your school, please contact them directly.



**Drive thru and carry out a sensational,
fish dinner any Friday during Lent!**

Two Menu Options:

1. Bated & Baked

Baked fish,
au gratin potatoes (GF),
mac & cheese,
coleslaw, dessert

2. Fried on Friday

Fried fish,
french fries,
mac & cheese,
coleslaw, dessert

**4-7pm Fridays
During Lent
February 19 & 26
March 5, 12, 19, 26**



**10601 Dexter Pinckney Road
734-878-3161**

Cash, check or credit card accepted – Visa, MasterCard, American Express

Fish Fry 2021 Order Form

After School Pick UP

Family Name _____

_____ **Baked Fish** Includes Au Gratin potatoes (Gluten Free), Mac n'Cheese, Coleslaw and Snickerdoodle

_____ **Fried Fish** Includes French fries, Mac n'Cheese, Coleslaw and Snickerdoodle

_____ X \$10.00 = _____

Please have Order and Payment turned into office NO LATER than THURSDAY (9:00 a.m.)

No Substitutions/Deletions are permitted as meals will be packaged according to the latest health and safety standards.

Pick-Up will be at the gym door at 3:30 p.m. You will pick your children up in usual fashion and then pull around to the gym entrance. There you will be greeted and handed your order; without having to get out of your car.

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