

# ST. GERARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

January 12, 2017

## Look for Detailed Catholic Schools Week plans in this week's communicator!

**What's Brewin'** Our school will celebrate Peace and Justice at our next All School Mass on Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 8:10 AM. After this Mass our PTO sponsors a program called "What's Brewin'". "What's Brewin'" is simply an opportunity for parents and/or friends of St. Gerard School to stop in the adult education room (just outside of the parish offices) to enjoy coffee and a bagel, chat with other parents and talk about news from the school. Many of our parents have the day off due to MLK Day and might be able to stop in!

**"Compute 15 "Minute(s) to Win It"** Beginning this Monday, January 16<sup>th</sup> - Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>, students are invited to join in our contest to participate in our Catholic Schools Week "Minute To Win It" School Assembly. Similar to our pumpkin contest in October, students are welcome to fill out a "coupon" for every 15 minutes that they read except this time it will be **any** activity having to do with math. It could be as simple as a math game on the iPad, helping make dinner or baking using measurements, counting, doing flash cards. Teachers will give the students ideas, as well as we will provide a number of website/apps at the bottom of the Catholic Schools Week flyer. Once a parent has signed the coupons, students are asked to turn them in to the bins outside of the office. The more coupons in the grade level bins, the more chances to win! Students whose names are pulled from the bins will be able to participate in our Catholic Schools Week Assembly "Minute To Win It" on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. All parents are welcome to join us! See this week's flyer on Catholic Schools Week for further information. In the meantime have your students compute 15 "Minute(s) to Win It".

### **Band News**

**Instrumental Solo & Ensemble Festival:** Congratulations to St. Gerard School band members for earning honors at the District 8 Middle School Solo & Ensemble Festival, held at Charlotte Middle School on November 12<sup>th</sup>:

**Division 1 (superior rating, blue ribbon):** Olivia Brodin, flute solo; Emily Cook, alto sax solo; Kristi Rathbun, flute solo; Mixed Duo: Sarah Schmitz and Emma Welch; and a flute duet featuring Olivia Brodin and Kristi Rathbun.

**Division 2 (excellent rating, red ribbon)** Mixed Duo: Hagan Hamel and Emily Cook  
Clarinet Duet: Sofia Gonzalez and Abby Morris

**News From Religious Education** Michelle Phillips, our Religious Education Secretary, recently resigned her position to more actively pursue her business degree. We wish her well and appreciate the hard work and devotion she gave to the Religious Education program over the past three years. We have hired Theresa Bosman to assume Michelle's duties in addition to continuing her roles with the youth ministry program. Thank you to Michelle and congratulations to Theresa.

**Save the Date: 2017 Vacation Bible School will run from June 19<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

**End of the Year Child Care Statements** This is the time of the year that all of us are gathering our year-end statements for a variety of our accounts. Parents that utilize our child-care program can find their year end statement right on Smart Tuition. Go to "Review My Bill". Make sure you have the correct session (year) in the dialog box. Look on the lower right hand side for the button "Family Year End Statement". If you have any questions about this process, feel free to call our Child Care Director, Mr. Gutierrez, at 517-853-0744, email [dgutierrez@stgerard.org](mailto:dgutierrez@stgerard.org) or call the school office.

~ January ~

Loving Father ~

We **PRAISE** you  
for our school.

Like St. Gerard,

We pray to do

Your will as

we work with

the children,

families and

each other

at St. Gerard

Catholic School.

Amen.

*"Let every thing that  
has breath,*

*PRAISE the Lord."*

*Psalms 150:6*

## **Christmas Program**

**DVD** Don't forget that you may still order a DVD of our Christmas Program "Christmas in the Country". The cost is \$15.00. Please make checks out to St. Gerard School. We will accept orders through Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup>. Heads up to 6<sup>th</sup> grade parents: Due to a technical problem during filming, there may be a slight issue with a few seconds of tape during your student's performance.

## **Love and Logic Tip: Balancing Busy Families**

Many parents ask, "Is it really possible to raise well-adjusted kids while at the same time trying to manage an incredibly hectic and stressful work and family life?" One mom described their situation:

We try to live a simple, frugal lifestyle. Even with keeping our spending as low as possible, both of us still have to work full schedules just to provide for the basics. With three young children things get crazy. The house almost always feels like a mess, and we have very little time and energy left over to spend with the kids. Both of us feel horribly guilty about this much of the time.

Some parents spend almost no time with their kids because they are addicted to work, addicted to buying extra stuff, addicted to selfish activities or all three. Many others, however, find themselves having to work their fingers to the bone because they simply don't have a choice. Here are some words of encouragement... and some tips... for this second type:

- **Many well-adjusted adults grew up with exceptionally busy parents.**

The key seems to be this: As children, they were not shielded from their family's economic struggles. Their parents were honest about the challenges and consistently modeled hopeful, positive attitudes. As such, they internalized the truth that they were deeply loved even though their parents weren't able to spend as much time with them as they wanted.

- **Remember that guilt often interferes with good parenting.**

When we allow guilt to interfere with our ability to set and enforce loving limits and expectations, our kids suffer.

- **Don't be afraid to ask for help with supervision.**

Kids of all ages need good supervision. Without it, even very good kids often get involved in drugs, alcohol, early sex, and other high-risk behaviors.

- **You are doing a good and noble thing by taking care of the needs of your family.**

This is wonderful modeling, and it sends a powerful message of love to your kids.



# ST. GERARD CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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January 12, 2017

## Upcoming Events

- Friday, Jan. 13<sup>th</sup>: Junior High Exams/Dismiss at 11:00 (junior high only)  
Monday, Jan. 16<sup>th</sup>: All School Peace and Justice Mass at 8:10 am/Dismiss at 12:00 (junior high only)  
What's Brewin' in parish meeting rooms at the conclusion of Mass  
Mid-Year NWEA Testing to begin/No AM or PM Waverly Buses  
Girls Basketball Skills Testing-5<sup>th</sup> grade @ 5:00 PM/6<sup>th</sup> grade @ 6:15 PM  
Girls Basketball Skills Testing-7<sup>th</sup> grade @ 5:00 PM/8<sup>th</sup> grade @ 6:15 PM
- Tuesday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>:  
Wednesday, Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>: First Day to Order Hot Lunch for February  
No Waverly AM Buses
- Friday, Jan. 20<sup>th</sup>: End of 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter/No Waverly PM Buses/Drama Play at 9:00, 12:45 & 7:00  
Saturday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup>: First Reconciliation for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders at 10:00 AM in the Church  
Monday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup>: Bullying Assembly (4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade)/Water Safety Assembly (K-3<sup>rd</sup> grade)  
Wednesday, Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>: Last Day to Order Hot Lunch for February!  
Thursday, Jan. 26<sup>th</sup>: 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Report Card Go Home Today!  
Saturday, Jan. 28<sup>th</sup>-  
Sunday, Jan. 29<sup>th</sup>: Catholic Schools Week Officially Begins! Students that wear their uniforms to Mass this weekend may have a Jeans Day on Monday. Students must bring a signed slip from their parents on Monday morning to participate.
- Monday, Jan. 30<sup>th</sup>: DARE Graduation at 6:30 PM in Fr. Weber Hall  
Tuesday, Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat at LCHS (sack lunch)  
Wednesday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup>: No Waverly AM Buses/7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Royal Scot (no hot lunch)  
Teacher Appreciation Lunch
- Thursday, Feb. 2<sup>nd</sup>: Fun Day Grades K-5/6<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to The Summit  
Talent Show at 6:30 PM in the Parish Hall
- Friday, Feb. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Catholic Schools Week All School Mass at 8:10 AM (Feast of St. Blasé)  
Parent Open House from 9-10:30 AM/Juice & Muffins after Mass in classrooms  
Minute It to Win It/Alumni Assembly at 1:00 in the School Gym  
Hearing (Grades K, 2, 4) and Vision (Grades 1, 3, 5, 7) Testing
- Monday, Feb. 6<sup>th</sup>: Hearing and Vision Testing to Continue  
Tuesday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>: Dental Program (K-3<sup>rd</sup>)  
Friday, Feb. 10<sup>th</sup>: Come to the Table Mass at 2:00 in the Church  
Sunday, Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>: 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Field Trip to the Capitol  
Monday, Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>: PTO Board Meeting at 6:30 PM in the Library  
Tuesday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup>: Daddy/Daughter Dance at 6:30 in Fr. Weber Hall
- Wednesday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>: Preschool Conferences/No Preschool/No Waverly AM Buses  
Thursday, Feb. 16<sup>th</sup>: No Preschool/K-8 to Dismiss at 11:00/K-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Conferences 12-2:30 & 5-7:30  
Extended Child Care Open/No Waverly PM Bus
- Friday, Feb. 17<sup>th</sup>: No School Pre-8<sup>th</sup>/Extended Child Care Open **\*SEE BACK FOR LUNCH CALENDAR**

# FEBRUARY

			Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>NO A.M BUS 1</b> Bosco Sticks w/ marinara sauce Salad Fruit Milk Gr. 7 <sup>th</sup> & 8 <sup>th</sup> Field Trip	<b>Ground Hog Day 2</b> French Toast Sticks Yogurt Fruit Milk Fun Day K-5 <sup>th</sup> Gr. 6 <sup>th</sup> Field Trip Talent Show	<b>All School Mass 3</b> Cheese Pizza Salad Carrot Sticks Fruit Milk	<b>4</b>
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday				
<b>5</b>	<b>6 in. Jersey Giant Ham &amp; Cheese Chex Mix Fruit Milk ALPHA 6:30 pm Hearing/Vision Testing 6</b>	<b>Soft Shell Taco Refried Beans Fruit Milk Hearing/Vision Testing 7</b>	<b>Pepperoni Calzone Salad Fruit Milk Hearing/Vision Testing 8</b>	<b>Macaroni &amp; Cheese Green Beans Fruit Milk 9</b>	<b>Cheese Pizza Salad Carrot Sticks Fruit Milk Dental Program K-3<sup>rd</sup> Gr. 10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Lincoln's Birthday 12</b> 2 <sup>nd</sup> Grade Come to the Table Mass 1:00 pm	<b>6 in. Jersey Giant Turkey &amp; Cheese Chex Mix Fruit Milk Gr. 3 Field Trip ALPHA 6:30 pm 13</b>	<b>St. Valentine's Day 14</b> Popcorn Chicken Mashed Potatoes w/gravy Fruit Milk Daddy/Daughter Dance 6:30-8:30 pm PTO mtg 6:30 pm	<b>NO A.M. BUS 15</b> Cheese Pizza Salad Carrot Sticks Fruit Milk Preschool Conferences-No Preschool	<b>NO P.M. BUS 16</b> Dismiss at 11:00 No Preschool Parent/ Teacher Conferences Extended Child Care Open	<b>NO SCHOOL 17</b> Preschool- 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Extended Child Care Open	<b>ORDER MARCH HOT LUNCH 18<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> 18</b>
<b>ORDER MARCH HOT LUNCH 19</b>	<b>President's Day 20</b> NO SCHOOL Preschool- 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Child Care Closed ALPHA 6:30 pm	<b>6 in. Jersey Giant Ham &amp; Cheese Chex Mix Fruit Milk 21</b>	<b>Washington's Birthday 22</b> Pancakes Hash Browns Pork Sausage Fruit Milk	<b>23</b> All Beef Hot Dog w/ bun Hash Browns Fruit Milk 4 <sup>th</sup> Gr. Parent Camp meeting	<b>24</b> Cheese Pizza Salad Carrot Sticks Fruit Milk	<b>LAST DAY TO ORDER MARCH HOT LUNCH Euchre Tournament Fr. Weber Hall 25</b>
<b>26</b>	<b>6 in. Jersey Giant Turkey &amp; Cheese Chex Mix Fruit Milk ALPHA 6:30 pm 27</b>	<b>Beef Nachos Refried Beans Fruit Milk Gr. 5<sup>th</sup> Field Trip and Cultural Food Festival 28</b>	<b>SPRING IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER</b> 			

# Fun Day

Thursday, February 2, 2017

TO BE RETURNED TO SCHOOL BY:

Friday, January 27, 2017

**\*Still in need of workers and decorations. Our theme is travel, we are looking for labeled items to display at each station for the following countries: Netherlands, Japan, Italy, Zimbabwe, Australia, Mexico and China**

**Items needed:**

- \_\_\_ 8 oz mini water bottles
- \_\_\_ Large bags of tortilla chips
- \_\_\_ Plastic jugs of salsa
- \_\_\_ Cash donation (\$2-\$3)
- \_\_\_ Fortune cookie treat - will be provided through the cash donation

**\*Please send above items to the school office as soon as possible**

**Parent Participation:** (it is every family's responsibility to participate in some form)

I am available for:

- \_\_\_ Set up (Day before- Wednesday, February 1st - 5:30pm-completed)
- \_\_\_ Clean up (Thursday, Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> 2:10-completed)
- \_\_\_ Can work when my child is participating on Fun Day (arrival and departure times will be emailed)
- \_\_\_ Can work the entire day for Fun Day 7:45am -2:20pm on Feb 2<sup>nd</sup>

**CLASS SCHEDULE FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2017**

<b>Time</b>	<b>Grade</b>
8:15-9:00	Fourth
9:10-9:55	Kindergarten
10:05-10:50	Third
11:35-12:20	Second
12:30-1:15	First
1:25-2:10	Fifth

Parent(s) Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Children's Name & Grade \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**  
**Theme: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, & Service**  
**January 30<sup>th</sup> – Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017**

**Weekend Masses of January 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>**

Student representatives at Masses to kick off Catholic Schools Week

**Jeans Day** – Students who wear their **COMPLETE** school uniform (No tennis shoes or T-shirts) to mass on the weekend of Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> – Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, can wear jeans and St. Gerard Spirit wear on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> to school. Student Mass Attendance Slip to be signed by a parent and **MUST** be returned on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. No attendance slip, no jeans day.

**Children's Choir** – 9:00 a.m. – Mass

**Monday: January 30<sup>th</sup>**

**All School Morning & Evening Prayer**– Monday–Friday – Read by a student at 8:05 a.m. & 2:25 p.m.

**Valentine's for Vets** – Make valentine cards for our Veterans. Address: Grand Rapids Home for Veterans, 3000 Monroe Ave. N.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49505–or–Marquette Home for Veterans, 425 Fisher St. Marquette, MI 49855.

**Minute To Win It Contest** – Students will earn coupons to be entered in the Minute To Win It Contest for every 15 minutes they spend at home working on any strategies to sharpen their math skills. Completed/signed coupons will be placed in containers located outside the school office. Drawing for the contestants will take place at the Gym Assembly on Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Minute To Win It Contest will begin on January 16<sup>th</sup>. Please see below for some excellent websites students may want to use.

**Door Decorating** – Display Catholic Schools Week theme in a creative way by students or teacher. Decorated door needs to be on display by Friday, January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Student Poster Contest** – Drawings that symbolize our Catholic Schools Week Theme. Judging will take place on Thursday, February 2<sup>nd</sup>. Gift cards to each winner per classroom.

**D.A.R.E. Graduation** – 6:30 p.m. – Weber Hall

**Traveling Prayer** – Each classroom will create one prayer line that will be joined together to form a school wide prayer.

**Tuesday: January 31<sup>st</sup>**

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat** – Lansing Catholic – (School Uniform)

**Crazy Slipper Day** – Students will be able to wear slippers with their school uniform through the school day. They must wear their school shoes to and from school.

**Student Appreciation Day** – A treat will be provided to students at lunch in appreciation for them.

**Wednesday: February 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Teacher Appreciation Luncheon** – Provided by PTO. This is also a great opportunity for students to write a little note of appreciation to a teacher, staff member or coach.

**Teacher Switch Day** – 9:30 – 10:00 a.m.

**Crazy Hat Day** – Students may wear their favorite or crazy hat to school with their **school uniform**.

**Exercise Day** – A CD will be provided for each classroom to exercise to. Time: 12:45 - 1:00 p.m.

**Bowling** - 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> – Royal Scot – (Out of Uniform)

**Thursday: February 4<sup>th</sup>**

**Fun Day** – K-5<sup>th</sup> - Travel Around The World – (Out of Uniform - K – 6<sup>th</sup>) – Travel attire if possible.

**Summit Ice Rink** – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

**School Service** – Students will participate in Spring Cleaning of their classroom & make cards for shut-ins/veterans.

**Talent Show** - 6:30 p.m. – Parish Hall

**Friday: February 5<sup>th</sup>**

**All School Liturgy** – St. Blase – Blessing of Throats – Fr. Weber Award - Muffins & juice will be provided to each classroom from our PTO.

**Open House** – 9:00 – 10:30 – Parents may visit their students classrooms.

**Gym Assembly** – 12:45 p.m. – St. Gerard Alumni Guest – Rachel Curtis – Musical Performance

**Minute To Win It Games** – Participants will be chosen for the Minute To Win It Games through a math contest. Participants will receive a t-shirt. Overall winner will receive a trophy for their classroom for the rest of the school year.

**Minute To Win It Suggested Math websites:**

**Cool Math 4 Kids** – [coolmath4kids.com](http://coolmath4kids.com) - Elementary

**A+Math** – [aplusmath.com](http://aplusmath.com) - All grade levels

**AAA Math** – [aaamath.com](http://aaamath.com) - All grade levels

**Brain Bashers** – [brainbashers.com](http://brainbashers.com) - Middle School

**Chili Math** – [chilimath.com/games/index.html](http://chilimath.com/games/index.html) - All grade levels

**Math.Com** – [math.com](http://math.com) - All grade levels

**Math Goodies** – [mathgoodies.com/games](http://mathgoodies.com/games) - Intermediate/Middle School

**IXL Learning** – [IXL.com](http://IXL.com) – All grade levels

### Weekend Mass Attendance Slip

In an effort to promote Catholic Schools Week in our parish and as well as neighboring parishes, we are inviting our students to attend mass the weekend of January 28<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> in their full school uniform. (No tennis shoes or t-shirts) This not only promotes our Catholic Schools across the country, but St. Gerard in particular.

**Note:** Students **MUST** return their signed slip to their homeroom teacher on Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup> in order to be out of uniform.

Parent Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## ST. GERARD SCHOOL HEALTH POLICY

In order to protect your child and all children attending St. Gerard School, please be mindful of the following health guidelines. These policies have attempted to address the most common illnesses. It is not all-inclusive.

SYMPTOM	POLICY
temperature of 100 degrees or above	Child must be picked up immediately. Child may return after 24 hours of normal temperature without medication. (i.e. Children's Tylenol, etc.)
untreated eye infection (pink eye)	Child may return after 24 hours with medication.
rashes	Unidentified rashes need a doctor's written confirmation that it is not contagious. If treatment is needed, child may return after 12 hours.
scabies/lice	Child may return after 24 hours of treatment. Classroom parents will be notified.
recurring diarrhea	Child may return after 24 hours without a repeat incident or with doctor's confirmation that the condition is not contagious.
vomiting	Child may return after 24 hours without an incident.
contagious diseases (chicken pox, measles, mumps, roseola)	Child may return after sores have scabbed over. Classroom parents will be notified.
strep throat/tonsillitis	Child may return after 24 hours of treatment with medication.





## St. Gerard Daddy/Daughter Dance 2017

Fundraiser for the 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington D.C trip

Tuesday, February 14, 2017

6:30p.m-8:30pm

Father Weber Hall

Cost is \$15 per couple and \$7.50 for each additional guest  
Dancing! (Dj will supply music) Refreshments! Pictures! Flowers! Fun!

By Friday February 10, 2017:

Please return the bottom half of the form to school with payment in envelope marked:2017  
Daddy/Daughter Dance.

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Make checks payable to: St Gerard School

Father/Escort: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

Daughter: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Daughter: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Daughter: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Daughter: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Each girl will receive a carnation and each group will receive 1 4X6 photo.

Photos will be taken by Marcie Kay Photography and will be delivered at a later date. Forms will be available to purchase additional photos the night of the dance.

January 12, 2017

Mr. Rick Peiffer will make copies (DVD Format) of the Christmas Program available to any who may be interested. If you would like a copy, please complete the following information and return to school by Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

The cost is \$15.00 and due when you place your order. Please make checks payable to ST. GERARD SCHOOL. Return your check and this form in an envelope marked "VIDEO".

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

STUDENT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

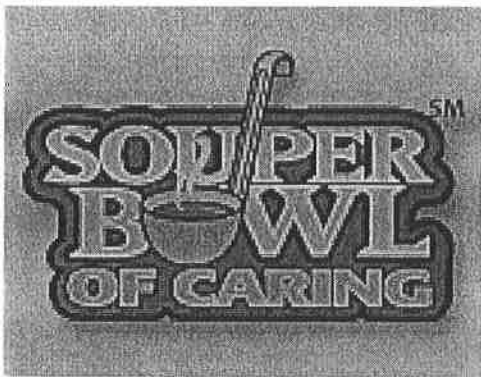
TEACHER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DAYTIME TELEPHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

# **!Service Opportunity!**

Did you know Super Bowl Sunday is the biggest junk food day of the year?!

This makes it the perfect day to help feed the hungry!



After all Saturday and Sunday Masses on Super Bowl weekend (Feb 4th and Feb 5th), teens will be standing at the doors collecting money donations for St. Vincent de Paul.

***We are always looking for more teens to help,  
to make the event as successful as possible.***

It's really very simple:

- 1. Come to Mass—check in with adult supervisor**
- 2. Head to the Gathering Space after Communion**
- 3. Grab your soup pot**
- 4. Collect donations at one of the doors as people leave**
- 5. Take your soup pot back to the Gathering Space.**
- 6. You've made a difference!**

E-mail Theresa Bosman to sign up for a shift: [tbosman@stgerard.org](mailto:tbosman@stgerard.org)

**Shift 1:** After 4:30p & 6:30p Sat Masses

**Shift 2:** After 7:30a Sun Mass

**Shift 3:** After 9:00a & 11:00a Sun Masses

If you are not attending the Mass you sign up for, please arrive 30 min after Mass starts.