

Religious Education Newsletter



The news is so exciting at religious education that we wanted to share the first semester of happenings with everyone

- The first graders have settled in nicely and are learning their way around the school with the help from the teachers and older students. They loved being part of the All Saints mass with grade two on October 30th. The Saints that came were spectacular! Check out some of the costumes on the website photo gallery. (www.staroftheseamarblehead.org)
- All classes are attentively learning the recent changes to the Roman Missal and there biblical reference.
- Grade 2 parent meetings were a great success! With all parents attending one of the sessions offered. This is an important step in preparing your child for their upcoming sacraments.
- Grades 1-5 have been very diligently making Thanksgiving and Christmas cards for the nursing homes and shut-ins that Father Steele visits. They absolutely love them and look forward to receiving them every year.
- Grade 5 On Wednesday afternoon completed a beautiful Christmas quilt of red and green squares with holiday cheer written on each one. Father Steele brought it to the nursing home when he celebrated mass.
- Grade 7 completed their Chastity talk under the direction of Deacon and Mrs. Robert Breen. They did a wonderful job, and all were attentive and respectful.
- The Wednesday afternoon 7th graders had a fantastic project to help the Mass Coalition for the Homeless. The project entitled "A Bed for every Child" is not for homeless children, but for children who do not have any furniture or beds. The class collected blankets, slightly used or new to deliver before Christmas. They also had a DVD drive for the troops to send over to them. Great corporal works of mercy here!
- Grade 7 on Sunday mornings are studying the Gospels. They are learning not only the text...but also the stylish differences between the gospels and the history and cultural conditions surrounding the time after Jesus' death and resurrection.
- 9th and 10th graders annual Christmas visit to Devereux and Lafayette Nursing homes was again, a fantastic afternoon of delivering Christmas gifts to 130 residents and singing Christmas carols. The residents enjoy their visit every year for the past 5 years.
- We have fantastic high school students who give of their time and talent and grace the corridors and classrooms every Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesday to help students with special projects or teach a class. This is great experience for them as they prepare for their journey to college

- We had 71 children in the Christmas pageant and it was enjoyed by all at the standing room only 4:00 mass. The costumes were beautifully made by our gospel team parents along with props and spotlight. It was like being in Bethlehem.

LOOKING AHEAD

- ❖ Jen Schaffner has completed two of three sessions of safety talks for grades one, two and three. These will be completed after the Christmas Holiday. Grades 4, 5, 6 & 8 will take place also after the Christmas vacation.
- ❖ After the Christmas Holidays we will be preparing for some special projects for Lent, Holy Week and Easter, along with Christian service projects. Some of the ventures classes have participated in are "Birthday Bags" for the food pantry. This is a project that a class executes by bringing in a box of cake mix, candles, can of frosting, and a boy or girl present with a card that the class has made. They put the items in a pretty gift bag and donate it to the food pantry. No child will be without a birthday cake or gift.
- ❖ The Operation Rice Bowl project is a yearly happening that the classes participate and raise money for Catholic Relief Services, who in turn helps fund developmental programs to increase food security around the world. 25% of Operation Rice Bowl donations support hunger and poverty alleviation efforts in dioceses within the United States
- ❖ Second graders will be journeying forth to receive their Sacraments of First Reconciliation and First Eucharist in May. The May procession, when we crown the Blessed Mother, takes place the very next day on Mother's Day. It an exciting time for our second grade families.

Watch and listen for news about our vacation bible school.

Registration forms will be available soon; it will be the last week of June 25-28, 2012

.....SO MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!!

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL