

## **Saint Mary's Pastoral Council**

Education Mission Report

January 31, 2012

**Respectfully Submitted by Allan Pawlikowski**

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### **ADULT CATHOLIC FAITH FORMATION (Andrew Odell)**

Adult Ed is continuing to encourage parishioners to read the Catechism and follow the Questions of the Week. We're also continuing our book club – the current book is "Rediscover Catholicism," St. Mary's gift book during the Christmas season. We will have an opportunity to discuss this book in the near future, TBD. Our next meeting is February 21st, 6pm in the library.

### **LANCASTER CATHOLIC (Dr. Richard Stratchko)**

Thursday Jan. 19th was the school board meeting for LCHS. Unfortunately I was ill and unable to attend. I can give you a summary of the presidents & principals reports which I received prior to the meeting.

- Saturday Jan. 14th was the dedication of the renovated Berger Gym. Bishop McFadden celebrated Mass for the occasion.
- 50/50 raffles are illegal. One raffle was conducted during the carnival which the Dist. Attorney chose not to prosecute due to corrective action taken by LCHS.
- LCHS open house is Jan 29th
- The cashless cafeteria will be launched this month
- The dance teacher, Miss Beatman and Mrs. Laird's husband have died this month which has been difficult for the school community.
- Catholic feeder schools will be at LCHS for their Challenge Day on Jan. 30th.
- Catholic schools week will be celebrated Jan 29th - Feb 5th.
- Alex Ringler, from Sacred Heart has been selected for the All-State Band Festival.

### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (Anne Barnes)**

Our teachers continue to do a fabulous job helping our students come closer to the Lord!

Just an informative note: Our teachers are all volunteer, several do not even have children in the program. However, our volunteer catechists are not members of the Confraternity of Christian Doctrine, which is why we do not refer to our program as CCD, but as Religious Education.

First Reconciliation will be held for our Second Grade students on Feb. 4, 2012. The Eighth Grade Confirmation class will have their class retreat at an enclosed pavilion at

Lancaster County Park on February 12, 2012. There will be no Religious Education classes on February 19 because so many of the school districts have four day weekends and attendance is very low. This allows the teachers to have a break between Christmas and Easter.

Confirmation will be held on MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2012 at 5:30 PM at Sacred Heart Church with both St. Joe's and Sacred Heart. We have been told that next year we will have Confirmation here at St. Mary's and it will only be our students.

Fr. Leo did a wonderful presentation of Magical Revelations, using it to catechize the children and their parents at the meeting prior to First Reconciliation on January 22, 2012.

The boilers have been repaired and we should consistently have heat for the building during class time for the rest of the winter.

### **RESURRECTION CATHOLIC SCHOOLS (Steven Deibert)**

No report submitted.

### **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS) (Marissa Schwartz)**

We are in the process of picking dates for Vacation Bible School as well as our theme. We should have those things finalized by next month. As of now, we are looking at Group's program, "Sky" --"With God all things are possible." This program emphasizes the importance of trusting in God in all situations. If we proceed with the program we will be adding our own Saints station and are looking at teaching the children about St. Faustina, the Divine Mercy image and the message "Jesus, I trust in You!"

### **LIBRARY (Peg McGuinness)**

There is nothing new to report.