



the MESSENGER

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Friends of St. Michael School,

We are excited to share the Messenger newsletter with all of our families, parish community, and friends.

This has been a very exciting and busy school year! We had our Welcome Back Social at the St. Basil Campus, Circus Theme Open House, Lunch With a Loved One, St. Michael Day, pep rallies, Jump Rope for Heart, concerts, 1st ever Art Show, Spa Day, Jr. High Dance, Pastries for Parents, and Field Day. Along with this, we had COSI and the Fire Trailer visit our school. We experienced Verb Ballet-Peter Pan for grades K-8, Violins of Hope, and the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Museum. We visited and learned about the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist and participated in the City of Independence Arbor Day. Let us not forget our students who performed in our Drama Club and the ones that participated and did very well in Science Olympiad and our Power of the Pen. We ask that you keep a few of our students in your prayers as they go to States to compete in Power of the Pen at the end of the school year!

We are a school that is here to provide the best possible academic education and we do, particularly as we grow in the use of our technology and other creative teaching methods. However, our main purpose is to help our students grow in their faith. We do this not only through our weekly Masses, but also through our various student led prayer services, various service projects (making cookies for community workers, raking leaves, singing Christmas Carols at Emerald Village, collecting Toys for Tots, making blankets for Akron Children Hospital, collecting for Honduras, just to name a few), May Crowning, and all-school retreats. Thirty-nine students prepared for and received the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion. Thirty-six eighth grade students received the Sacrament of Confirmation. These are just highlights of what we have done this year as a school.

We want to wish our eighth graders the very best as they begin a new journey as Freshmen in high school. We are proud to announce that 27 out of 36 students will be attending Catholic high schools – Holy Name, Magnificat, Padua Franciscan, St. Ignatius, St. Joseph, Trinity, and Walsh Jesuit. Congratulations and best wishes to all of our graduates! We ask that you keep them in your prayers that God will guide and protect them.

I want to thank all of our parent volunteers, SMILES volunteers, and all of the St. Michael and St. Basil the Great parishioners, and both communities for all of your help and support this school year. It is with your help and support that we are able to help our student grow and develop into well-educated, productive individuals that can and will improve this world with the help of Our Lord.

On behalf of Fr. Pete, Fr. Walt, and the St. Michael School faculty and staff, I wish you a fun-filled summer and look forward to seeing you in August!

God's Peace and Blessings,
Mrs. Margaret Campisi, Principal

We would like to congratulate and welcome the following students to the Holy Name Class of 2020!

Anthony Carter

Evan Csuhran

Austin Hojdar

Claire Krisinski

Zachary Lepkowski

Anthony Marchetta

Caroline Oebker

- Holy Name is one of few Catholic high schools in Northeast Ohio to offer a **College Credit Plus (CCP)** program on campus during the academic day.
- Our completely renovated Medical Mutual Patton Physics Lab was opened in 2015.
- Students have the opportunity to earn over 50 semester hours of college credit at Holy Name.
- 99% of Holy Name graduates pursue a college degree.
- Graduating seniors have earned \$20.1 million in total **academic** scholarships over the last two years.
- HN offers a variety of books in both print and online format.

Calendar

- Wednesday, August 3
School Office Opens (9 a.m.-Noon)
- Monday, August 8
Meet the Teacher (Grades 2-8)
- Tuesday, August 9
Parent Orientation (Pre-JrK) parents only
Meet the Teacher (Kdg-1) parents & students
- Wednesday, August 17
Grades 1-8 First Day of School
Kindergarten Orientation
(Boys 9-11 a.m./Girls Noon-2p.m.)
- Thursday, August 18
Kindergarten First Day of School
Meet the Teacher (JrK Girls 9-10:30 a.m.)
- Friday, August 19
Meet the Teacher (JrK Boys 9-10:30 a.m.)
- Monday, August 22
Hot Lunch Begins
Jr. Kindergarten First Day of School
New Band Parent Meeting
- Tuesday, August 23
Opening Mass - Main Campus
- Friday, August 26
Opening Mass - St. Basil Campus
Welcome Back Night - St. Basil Campus
- Monday, Aug. 29 - Pre-4 First Day of School
- Tuesday, Aug. 30 - Pre-3 First Day of School
- Monday, Sept. 5 - No School - Labor Day

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WE ARE HN

SECOND GRADERS CELEBRATE SPECIAL MOMENTS WITH GOD



First Holy Communion

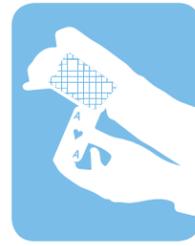
On a picturesque day, May 7, 2016, the second grade students at St. Michael School and Saint Michael PSR made their First Holy Communion. They walked two-by-two in procession, eagerly anticipating their new connection with Jesus. The morning Mass was celebrated by Fr. Pete Colletti and Fr. Walt Jenne, and the afternoon Mass was celebrated by Fr. Pete. In Fr. Pete's homily, he shared his own memories of his First Holy Communion. He talked to the children about their favorite food, and how food nourishes their bodies like the "bread of life" nourishes their souls. The children participated in reading scriptures and led prayer intentions, rang bells for songs, and brought up the offertory gifts. The children wore their excitement on their faces as they offered peace to one another, and then received Jesus in the Eucharist.

A special thank you goes out to everyone who helped prepare the children for their First Communion: Mrs. Campisi, Mrs. Wisnieski, Miss Lasecki, Miss Paolucci, Miss Scott, and Mrs. Zygmunt.



Jesus Day

On Monday May 2, 2016, the second grade students of St. Michael School celebrated Jesus Day with one another, helping to prepare them for their First Holy Communion. They started the morning creating their own unique communion banners to help them remember their special day, and spent the day together celebrating their relationship with Jesus. They made prayer bead necklaces, participated in a bread ceremony, decorated crosses, and watched 'Rainbow Fish', helping them learn what it means to give unselfishly and be a true friend, just as Jesus did.



Fundraiser Magic

St. Michael's biggest fundraiser was a Magical success! The event was held at St. Basil Family Life Center on March 19, 2016. The event raised almost \$17,000 which was the same amount of money raised in 2015 with double the attendees. The event was a huge success! Some of the money raised will be used for school wide special speakers and events for parents and students.

Guests were treated to a catered dinner, cocktails, casino tables, jugglers, strolling magicians, a green machine, a caricature artist, side boards, raffles and silent auctions. The highlight of the night was a magical performance from TV Star and Guinness Book of World Records holder Rick Smith Jr. Rick wowed the crowd with jaw dropping magic, card tricks, and amazing illusions. The DJ played great music and the lights and special effects made the Family Life Center look amazing! The energy in the room was exhilarating and buzzing with activity, fun, and lots of game playing. It was great to see our school families, friends, and parish communities come together to enjoy an evening of fun - laughing, relaxing, and enjoying each other's company.

Congratulations to Dave and Kcey Anthony for winning the free tuition next year!



RICK SMITH JR.
MAGICIAN • ILLUSIONIST • ENTERTAINER

Special thanks to the committee that stepped up, made a commitment, and worked so hard to help this evening be a success. The Co-Chairs, Mr. and Mrs. Delmore, and committee members Mrs. Anthony, Mrs. Schuster, Mrs. Calabretta, Mrs. Gutfranski, Mrs. So, put in many hours of dedicated hard work. Thank you, also, to all of the many loyal volunteers who gave of their time, talent, and helped, in various capacities to help make the evening a great success. Thank you to our many sponsors and donating families that generously supported the event. Thank you to the classroom parents that gave generously to the classroom projects. These projects were beautiful!

Many thanks to Fr. Pete, Fr. Walt, and Mrs. Campisi for their committed support to the school and for always looking for ways to help keep our school moving forward in a positive direction.

"All of the people involved in this event have touched the lives of St. Michael students," said Campisi. Our students are the future and we hold their future in our hands."

2nd Annual GOLF OUTING to benefit



Monday June 13, 2016

Sleepy Hollow Golf Course / Brecksville

Shotgun start @ 9:00am

Registration Form coming home next week!



May Crowning

St. Michael School held its annual May Crowning on May 11 at St. Michael Church. It was a special day for the school, as they honored the blessed Virgin Mary. It was also a special day for the second graders who had just received their First Holy Communion the weekend before, as well as the eighth graders who were looking forward to receiving the Holy Spirit in Confirmation a few days later. Both the second and eighth graders led everyone in the rosary.

There were also personalized reflections on Mary written and read by Caroline Oebker and Austin Hodjar. They also crowned Mary.

Kindergarten and first grade held their May Crowning on May 6.



EIGHTH GRADERS ARE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT



Confirmation

The Holy Spirit filled the hearts of students from the school and the PSR program at St. Michael Church through the Rite of Confirmation celebrated by Abbot Gary A. Hoover, O.S.B. on May 13, the Feast of Our Lady of Fatima. The name Abbot in Latin, Abba, means "Father". Abbot Hoover is the Father of a Monastic Community founded by St. Benedict. One adult was also confirmed on this special evening and she, in turn, then became a sponsor for one of our 8th graders!

Abbot Hoover asked that the confirmandi prepare skits for each of the gifts of the Holy Spirit: Wisdom, Understanding, Right Judgment, Knowledge, Courage (Fortitude), Reverence (Piety), and Wonder and Awe (Fear of the Lord). After the skits were performed, Abbot Hoover introduced himself and asked the students, "Who has made the most impact in your life?" In his homily, he shared a story of an American soldier who was imprisoned in a Japanese camp during WWII. One of his fellow prisoners was a Japanese soldier. All the prisoners were tortured but the American soldier believed the Japanese soldier bore the most brutal beatings because he was considered a traitor. The American soldier showed kindness and mercy to the Japanese soldier by giving him his meals and caring for him as much as he could. One night, the Japanese soldier told the American that he wouldn't live through the night. The



American asked him if he wanted to accept the Lord as his Savior. The man said, "Yes, because if this Jesus is anything like you, I'd like to spend eternity with Him!" Abbot Hoover challenged the students and those in attendance to live the Gospel so people know Jesus through us. After the homily and the renewal of our Baptismal Promises, each student came up with his/her sponsor to be confirmed. The Abbot stayed in the church after Mass for pictures.

Please continue to pray for our recently confirmed students as they continue their faith journey as fully initiated members of the Catholic Church.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE ST. MICHAEL SCHOOL CLASS OF 2016

God Bless You and Best Wishes!

St. Michael School is proud to congratulate its graduating eighth graders as they move on to their chosen high schools this fall. We will miss you and we wish you much success in high school and beyond!

Mr. Bob Clark's Homeroom



Maria Adams
Independence H.S.



Alyssa Gallagher
St. Joseph Academy



Evan Kapinski
Trinity High School



Julia Kovesdi
Walsh Jesuit H.S.



Josie Lee
Independence H.S.



Mahlaina Lechlitter
Independence H.S.



Madelyn Bilinovic
Independence H.S.



Vincent Bucci
Holy Name H.S.



Anthony Carter
Holy Name H.S.



Emily Cervenka
Brecksville H.S.



Evan Csuhran
Holy Name H.S.



Michael Delsanter
Padua Franciscan H.S.

Mrs. Susan Mackovjak's Homeroom



Margaret Leneghan
Hathaway Brown



Gabriella Malz
Magificat H.S.



Anthony Marchetta
Holy Name H.S.



Emma Guritza
Walsh Jesuit H.S.



Austin Hojdar
Holy Name H.S.



Abigail Knetig
Laurel School



Emma Mazzola
Padua Franciscan H.S.



Makarios McCune
Walsh Jesuit H.S.



Nathan Mitchell



Claire Krisinski
Holy Name H.S.



Zachary Lepkowski
Holy Name H.S.



Kate Luciano
St. Joseph Academy



Jacob Mitrisin
Independence H.S.



Emily Niezgoda
Padua Franciscan H.S.



Jaret Priemer
Walsh Jesuit H.S.



Antigone Tschetter
Independence H.S.



Madeline Wojtala
Brecksville H.S.



Hannah Zenczak
Trinity H.S.



John Mackert
Walsh Jesuit H.S.



Cara Mather
Laurel School



Caroline Oebker
Holy Name H.S.



Isabella Shumay
Independence H.S.



Aaron Thompson
St. Ignatius H.S.



Jessica Veres
Padua Franciscan H.S.