

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL

GOOD NEWS BULLETIN

DECEMBER 2009

*May the newborn Jesus
find room in your home
this Christmas and bless you with
His peace and joy.
Have a Blessed Christmas!*



FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK – One tremendous benefit of Catholic schooling that is so much a part of the fabric of the Catholic school and often overlooked is the strength and support of the school community. In a Catholic school, members who share a common belief in Christian values are brought together for the common purpose of educating children in a Christ-filled environment. Members of this unique community include not only the students and teachers, but also the parents, alumni, friends, and in many cases parishioners who support the school.

Parenting is an awesome responsibility. It is comforting to know that there are others who are willing to be true partners with you in the growth and education of your children. Parents who choose a Catholic school for the education of their children also choose to be part of a powerful network of people who share common Christian beliefs and values. Social researchers call this value-added benefit of community “social capital.” They have found that social capital adds real value to the overall school experience for children and their families. Children achieve greater academic and social gains when they spend their school days in an environment where they are supported by the greater Catholic school community.

Having selected a Catholic school for the education of your children, you have also selected this added benefit of community support that will strengthen your child's school experience. Make the most of this benefit by being an active member of the school community yourself. If you already do all that you can, great. If you could contribute just a little more time and energy to the school community, please consider it. Your child, you, and the entire school community will benefit!

Today's Catholic Teacher-November/December 2009

EARLY DISMISSALS

Pre-K - 12 - Friday, December 4, 2009 at 2:00 p.m. for faculty meeting.
Grades 9-12 –Wednesday, December 16, 2009 at 12:00 noon
Pre-K - 12- Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 2:00 p.m.
Pre-K - 12 – Friday, December 18, 2009 at 12:00 noon
for Christmas holidays.
Monday, January 4, 2010 - Classes resume.

**FRIDAY,
DECEMBER 18TH**

**There will be
NO EXTENDED
DAY CARE**

REMINDER: ALL TUITION AND FEES MUST BE CURRENT AS OF DECEMBER IN ORDER FOR SEMESTER EXAMS TO BE ADMINISTERED TO STUDENTS. THIS INCLUDES BAND FEES, ATHLETIC FEES, LUNCHESES, ETC.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION- on the Roman Catholic Church calendar of holy days, December 8th is celebrated as a holy day of obligation, commemorating the Immaculate Conception of Mary, which means Mary was born without original sin. The observance of this feast began with a Papal encyclical by Pope Pius IX, when he formally defined the dogma of the Immaculate Conception, *Ineffabilis Deus*, on December 8, 1854.

To the Roman Catholic, December 8th is a significant date, not to be treated lightly. As a holy day of obligation, the Catholic is *required* by the first Precept of the Church to attend Mass.

2010 EXTRAVAGANZA -The Annual 2010 Extravaganza is coming up on February 6, 2010. If you have any creative ideas for a silent auction item or would like to donate an item, please contact Amy Machicek at 361-798-1208. See enclosed flyer and get your tickets early.

SPECIAL NOTICE: ELEMENTARY LIBRARY AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION – The after school supervision of children in the Elementary Library is **only** for those who have older brothers and sisters in grades 9-12. This service is to assist parents in making only one trip to school and for those children riding home with older siblings. All other children must be picked up at 3:15 p.m. Personnel and space are limited and we cannot supervise extra children.

Students who are staying in the library must sit quietly, do homework, read a book, and/or read a magazine.

Students participating in a sporting event after school may report to the library immediately at 3:15 p.m. They are not allowed to go to the gym or leave campus until 3:45 p.m.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation concerning this matter.

NOTIFICATION OF SCHOOL CLOSING, LATE START, OR EARLY DISMISSAL- Sacred Heart Catholic School will follow the Hallettsville Independent School District's decision regarding emergency school closing, emergency late start, or emergency early dismissal. Please tune in to Texas Thunder Radio 99.9 FM for information regarding these matters. It comes on the air at 6:00 a.m. each morning.

ANNUAL NOTIFICATION OF THE ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT PLAN – In compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA), enacted in 1986, all schools, public or private, are required to have an inspection of all buildings, for asbestos-containing building materials (ACBM), by accredited asbestos-trained personnel. All Catholic School facilities of the Diocese of Victoria were inspected in October 2005, including Sacred Heart Catholic School in Hallettsville, Texas. Sacred Heart Catholic School was inspected for ACBM by personnel from EFI Global (EFI), an environmental consulting firm located in Houston, Texas. EFI is accredited and licensed by the Texas Department of Health (TDH) to perform asbestos condition assessments of all suspect and identified ACBM. Building materials at Sacred Heart were observed to be in undamaged condition and/or present minimal hazards, if any, to building occupants. Periodic surveillance is also conducted semi-annually by Sacred Heart personnel.

AHERA requires that this annual notification be posted or distributed to parents, staff, faculty, HSA, etc. indicating the AHERA asbestos Management Plan will be available for review upon request. The 2005 AHERA Re-inspection report and the AHERA asbestos Management Plan are on file in the administrative offices. Under federal law, the documents are considered permanent “archives” and may not be removed from the premises at any time. However, these records are available for review, upon request, at any time during normal school hours.

HIGH SCHOOL SEMESTER EXAMS - High school semester exams will be administered to all high school students on Wednesday, December 16; Thursday, December 17; and Friday, December 18. On Wednesday, December 16th high school students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon; Thursday, December 17th high school students will be dismissed at 2:00 p.m. and on Friday, December 18th at 12:00 p.m.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR-Thank you to everyone who supported the elementary library Book Fair, especially to the teachers, students, and parents who purchased books at the fair. We profited \$176.40 in cash and \$782.84 in books. Thank you to the following ladies that helped during the book fair: Nanci Hadash, Angela McConnell, Tanya Sitka, and Karen Wysocki. Thank you all once again for your support and we look forward to seeing you at the next book fair during Catholic Schools Week in January 2010.

RECONCILIATION SERVICES -The Reconciliation service for the high school students will be held on Thursday, December 17, 2009, from 12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

KINDERGARTEN DEPUTY SANTA BAKE SALE - On Thursday, December 3rd, the kindergarten class will have a Deputy Santa Bake Sale during lunch beginning at 11:00 a.m.– 12:00 p.m. by the SHCS cafeteria. Proceeds will be used to purchase gifts for needy children.

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL CELEBRATES ALL SAINTS' DAY-Each year on November 1, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast of All Saints. It is a day to remember all the ordinary people like ourselves who lived their lives according to God's commandments and the Beatitudes that Jesus taught. True to His promise of raising the faithful to new life with Him, these people now enjoy the happiness of heaven. They are models for us and can be our heroes.

Students at Sacred Heart Catholic School honored the saints before their school Mass on Friday, November 6. This was also the birthday of Venerable Jeanne De Matel, the Foundress of the Sisters of the Incarnate Word and Blessed Sacrament, whose Sisters started Sacred Heart Catholic School 127 years ago.

The following saints were portrayed by 33 students in grades 2-5: Mary-Heidi Smith; St. Joseph-Joseph McConnell; St. Anne-Shelby Haas, Briana Haas, and Macy Henke; St. Paul-Jared Brown; St. Catherine of Siena-Hailey Steffek; St. Therese the Little Flower-Sadie Bludau; St. Bernadette Soubiroux-Karlye Bujnoch; St. Anthony-Kellen Opela; St. Elizabeth Ann Seton-Kelsey Bohuslav; St. Patrick-Carson Brewer; St. Kateri Tekakwitha-Briana Jirkovsky; St. Clare-Savana Koerth, Tori Dornak, Sabrina Bludau, and Madison Kutac; St. Louis-Samuel Brown; St. Lucy-Lyndsey Allen, Brett Hermes, and Karley Pilat; St. Francis of Assisi-Derrick Janak and Emily Krus; St. Rose of Lima-Carley Haas and Savannah Mullen; St. George-Reagan Hicks; Blessed Teresa of Calcutta-Tess Horan; St. Sebastian-Nolan Steffek; St. Thomas Aquinas-Travis Malaer; St. William-William Watson; St. Luke-Luke Scherer; St. Maria Goretti-Miranda Shimek; Venerable Jeanne de Matel-McKenzie Bludau.

They processed into Church before Mass as the Congregation prayed the Litany of Saints. A student led the litany by naming each saint as they came forward. This helped all to recall many different saints and to picture how they looked. It was a profound reminder that we all belong to the Communion of Saints. Right now we are saints in the making so that one day, when God calls us home, we will be ready to join them in glorifying God.

TUTORING AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR ALL STUDENTS-Please remember that tutoring and assistance for students who need academic help is available on a regular basis. Most teachers are available on a daily basis from 3:15 - 3:45 p.m. We also have high school students who tutor the younger children.

Please remind your child to inform the teacher if he/she needs additional assistance outside the regular classroom setting. You may also call the principal's office at 798-4251 for more information regarding academic tutoring.

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.H.C.S.</u> <u>GRADES K - 2</u> <u>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</u></p> <p>The Sacred Heart Catholic School K – 2 will be having their Christmas Program on Wednesday, December 16, at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. The K – 2 is entitled “Favorite Christmas Stories.” Everyone is invited to attend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.H.C.S.</u> <u>GRADES 3 & 4</u> <u>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</u></p> <p>The annual Christmas Program, Entitled “Three Wee Kings,” is scheduled for Thursday, December 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in the gymnasium. Participants in the program will include grades 3 & 4. Everyone is invited to attend.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>S.H.C.S.</u> <u>PRE-K CHRISTMAS PROGRAM</u></p> <p>The Sacred Heart Catholic School Pre-K will be having their Christmas Program on Monday, December 7, at 6:30 p.m. in the gymnasium. The Pre-K Program is entitled “Christmas Show n’ Tell.” Everyone is invited to attend.</p>
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SACRED HEART BAND
ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERT
BEGINNERS, INTERMEDIATE, HIGH SCHOOL
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13
6:00 P.M. AT SACRED HEART GYM



The Sacred Heart Band Booster officers would like to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a safe, healthy, happy and peace-filled holiday. We thank each and every one of you for all of your hard work and support you have given the band this year. It is truly appreciated.

The Sacred Heart Band will be holding its annual Christmas concert on Sunday, December 13, 2009 in the Sacred Heart Gymnasium at 6:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served following the concert. **Everyone is asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the LAMB ministry.**

DREAM STUDENTS –Dream Students display the following characteristics: have good Discipline, are Responsible, give lots of Effort, work hard in their Academics, and show good Manners. The students were recognized with a picture in the local paper and received a special prize for their outstanding achievement.

The October DREAM students are
Kindergarten Quade Henneke 1st grade Hayden Grahmann 2nd grade Ella Harper

Congratulations goes out to these students for being DREAM students!!

DYNAMITE STUDENT – The 3rd and 4th grade are looking for Dynamite Students. The student must exhibit these qualities: a positive attitude, good sportsmanship, be a team player, and be very enthusiastic.

The October DYNAMITE students are 3rd grade Emily Krus 4th grade Jordan Janak

HOMECOMING 2009 – Homecoming 2009 was a wonderful experience for everyone involved. We want to commend especially our high school students for their cooperation and enthusiasm throughout the week. Their school spirit and creativeness was awesome. We want to thank Debi Bludau, and the high school cheerleaders for coordinating the week-long events. A special thank you to Linda Pavliska for organizing the beautiful Alumni Memorial Mass on Saturday and making it such a special event.

Congratulations to the following 2009 Homecoming activity winners:

- Homecoming Queen Katelyn Besetzny and King Stephen Jansky
- Ms. Spirit - Tessa Stoner and Mr. Spirit – Dillon Hollas
- Most Spirited Teachers – Mrs. Ruth Barton and Mrs. Sharon Timm
- First Place Decorative Wall Sign – Senior Class
- Second Place Decorative Wall Sign - Freshman Class
- First Place Skit Contest – Junior Class
- Second Place Skit Contest – Senior Class
- Volleyball Tournament Results
 - 1st Place – Junior Class Boys
 - 2nd Place – Senior Class Boys

Congratulations also to the Indian football team, coaches, marching band, twirlers, flag corp., cheerleaders and band director on their outstanding performances at the game. A special thank you to all the Sacred Heart Catholic High School alumni for their attendance at the activities and the dance following the game. We want to thank the Knights of Columbus for the use of their hall and preparing that delicious chicken fried steak supper.

We want to thank everyone who made Sacred Heart Homecoming 2009 a memorable and heartwarming experience. It really makes a person feel proud to be a part of the Sacred Heart Catholic School Family. May God bless everyone and Sacred Heart Catholic School.

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

3 Sidney Migura	12 Quade Henneke	20 Hunter Janak
Leightin Pilat	13 Roger De La Rosa	21 Ryan Kubena
Ross Rother	15 Kenna Kubenka	23 Olivia Bohuslav
4 Dawson Belicek	Jayce Bludau	24 Kelsey Pilat
7 Kailyn Malaer	Reid Timm	25 Matthew Holub
Emily Harper	Mrs. GERALYN Klmitchek	26 Atley Pilat
Megan Harper	17 Brynn Webb	Ashley Zimmerman
8 Amaris Wick	Katelyn Besetzny	27 Grace Henneke
10 William Watson	18 Mrs. Christina Halata	28 Ariel Fojt
Mrs. Pickle Cash	19 Trent Malaer	30 Blake Hermes
11 Rhonda Hansel		

SACRED HEART CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS HELPING OTHERS NEAR AND

FAR – The students in kindergarten thru 4th grade at Sacred Heart Catholic School learned the importance of helping others. They did this through a hands-on project about fair trade. The students worked with the Catholic Relief Services Fair Trade project by selling Divine Chocolate made in Ghana. When the students purchased this chocolate (bars and baking cocoa), they allowed the cocoa farmers to receive a reasonable wage. This then allowed the farmers to better their community by building new schools and giving them better living conditions. The students sold the chocolate and made a profit of just over \$1,100. The money that they made from selling the chocolate was donated to the Gabriel Project and the Perpetual Help Home. The Gabriel Project is a nonprofit organization that assists women who are in a crisis pregnancy and the Perpetual Help Home assists woman and children in hardship circumstances. All of the students viewed videos about how the chocolate was grown, which in turn gave the students some insight about the culture and living conditions of the cocoa farmers. The elementary students were excited to be able to help others far away as well as those in our own community. There is still some chocolate available. If you are interested, please call the school at 7989-4251.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER-We have had a busy month!

Seniors – The seniors were given the results of their ASVAB exams and went through a career exploration exercise. Ask your seniors about this if they have not shared the information with you.

Juniors – A junior parent meeting was held on November 1st and students were given information about how to begin planning for senior year and what they want to do beyond high school. PSAT results should be available sometime in December.

Sophomores – I will be meeting individually with the sophomores throughout December to go over the results from the PLAN test. They will bring home their score sheet along with information on how to interpret their scores.

Freshman – I will also meet individually with the freshman to go over the results of the NEDT test. Their scores and information on how to interpret the scores will be sent home.

December 3rd – Blinn College, Schulenburg campus - presentations about admissions, testing, financial aid, scholarships, etc., 6:00 – 7:30 pm

December 4th – Cyber bullying program will be presented to high school and junior high students

December 5th - SAT test

December 12th – ACT test

December 15th – deadline to register for January 23rd SAT

PARENT PRAYER – I bring my children before You and ask that You would help them grow into a deep understanding of who You are. Open their hearts and bring them to full knowledge of the truth about You. Lord, You have said in Your Word, “If you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved” (Romans 10:9). I pray for that kind of faith for my child. May they call You their Savior, be filled with Your Holy Spirit, acknowledge You in every area of their lives, and choose always to follow You and Your ways. Help them to fully believe that Jesus laid down His life for them that they might have life eternally and abundantly now. Help them to comprehend the fullness of Your forgiveness so that they will not live guilt and condemnation.

I pray that they will live a fruitful life, ever increasing in the knowledge of You. May they always know Your will, have spiritual understanding, and walk in a manner that is pleasing in Your sight. You have said in Your Word that You will pour out Your Spirit on my offspring (Isaiah 44:3). I pray that You would pour out Your Spirit upon my children this day.

Thank you, Lord, that You care about their eternal future even more than I do and that it is secure in You. In Jesus' name I pray that they will not doubt or stray from the path You have for them all the days of their lives. Amen.

2009-2010 FIRST NINE WEEKS HONOR ROLL

Grade 5

High Honor Roll: McKenzie Bludau, Ryan Hadash, William Pettus

Honor Roll: Kaylin Dworsky, Angela Ivey, Brett Jacobs, Jacob Janak, Joseph McConnell, Kyle Pettus, Braden Popp, Ameer Rivers, Arik Shimek, Brock Sitka

Grade 6

High Honor Roll: Lee Koerth, Ellen Machicek

Honor Roll: Jenna Allen, Callie Bludau, Madison Etzler, Bailey Grahmann, Luke Harper, Drayton Henneke, Blake Hermes, Caleb Krischke, Cadie Perez, Jami Shimek, Cullen Wick

Grade 7

Honor Roll: Dylan Grahmann, Nicholas Hadash, Emily Harper, Michael Herndon, Scott Huser, Braden Jansky, Kelton Koehne, Taylor Opela, Kristin Popp

Grade 8

High Honor Roll: Joshua Blaschke, Colton Bludau, Danson Bludau, Macey Jacobs, Trent Janak, Sabrina Koerth, Jonathan Vanek, Elizabeth Wysocki, Michael Zaruba

Honor Roll: Jacob Barton, Megan Harper, Megan Janak, Jaycie Orsak, Kelsey Pilat, Angel Soto, Evan Wick

Grade 9

High Honor Roll: Kristen Henke, Marianne Herndon, Lauren Huser, Adrienne Klimitchek, Mary Kossa, Ariane Kubena, Christopher Kunz, Amber Labay, Anna Reardon, Brady Sitka

Honor Roll: Sandra Adams, Jenna Brown, Kirsten Heger, Matthew Mason, Robyn Pavlicek, Hailey Smith, Katelyn Snider

Grade 10

High Honor Roll: Emily Kossa, Jared Krischke, Caitlin Orsak, Emily Seyl

Honor Roll: Madison Allen, Colton Brown, Jordyn Hicks, Hannah Hines, Sterling Hrcir, Freeman James, Shelby McElroy, Casey Mueller, Nickolas Patalik, Shelby Rivers, Shyanne Schlauch, Amber Smolik, Cole Wick

Grade 11

High Honor Roll: Katelynd Allen, Alexandra Bludau, Collin Brewer, Cody Dornak, Ariel Fojt, Haylee Grahmann, Daniel Halata, Landon Hatfield, James Hemmi,

Morgan Meyer, Colby Mikes, Jordan Pettus, Sarah Romine, Hannah Smith, Jamie Vanek

Honor Roll: Makayla Geistman, Cameron Heger, Ryan Kubena, Olivia Raphael, Kyle Rother, Destiny Ruthart, Jacklyn Saulnier, Charles Steffek, Jeffery Tuttle

Grade 12

High Honor Roll: Clay Bludau, Ricky Fenner, Emma Gray, Kelsey Hartensteiner, Joey Janak, Stephan Jansky, Rebekah Krischke, Megan Pavlicek, Amanda Shimek, Whitney Snider, Tessa Stoner, Ethan Svetlik, Amaris Wick

Honor Roll: Katelyn Besetzny, Justin Brown, Brady Etzler, Gunnar Janak, Amy Klimitchek, Sarah Michalcik, Carly Osina, Trentin Pilat, Chance Rath

*Merry Christmas to the
Sacred Heart Catholic School Family*