



Established 1897

SCHOOL NEWS

"Faith furnishes prayer with wings, without which it cannot soar to Heaven."

Events Calendar

November 23
Pie Sale Contest Pizza Party
for Grades 2, 4 & 7
(11 am in Homerooms)



November 23
Noon Dismissal
(Thanksgiving Break)



November 28
School Resumes



November 29
Parent Association Meeting
(6:00 pm, School Hall)



December 1
HaPpY BiRtHdAy
Fr. Bill!



December 2
\$1 Dress Down Day for
Juvenile Diabetes



December 3
SMPS Christmas Craft Fair
(9 am -3pm, Angelus Center)



December 5
Forensics Competition
(3:30 pm, St. Vincent's)



December 8
Mass of the Immaculate
Conception
(8:45 am)

Learn More about SMPS!

Bookmark our school website:
stmikesparishschool.org

Become a Fan of our Facebook Page:
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Get all Mustang Athletic Information:
leaguelineup.com/stmikesmustangs

Veterans honored at Prayer Service

Service pays tribute to Tomb of the Unknown Soldier



Lt. Col. Raymond Blust, an SMPS alumnus, served as our master of ceremonies for this year's Veterans Day Prayer Service.

Freedom is not free...said Lt. Col. Raymond Blust, U.S. Air Force retiree and St. Michael's alumnus. In his 18th consecutive year serving as emcee for our Veterans Day Prayer Service, Blust reminded the audience of students, teachers, parents and parishioners how important it is to honor those who have fought for our country's freedom on Veterans Day and not to think of it as just another holiday off from school or work.

It was an especially reverent service this year with a moment of silence held for the 10th anniversary of 9/11 and a tribute to the Tomb of the Unknown soldier. Fourth grade teacher Warren Lenz opened the service with the following remarks: "We can never fully repay our debt of gratitude to the more than 650,000 American service members who died in battle, or the 1.4 million who were wounded and whose lives were changed forever. Today we gather not only to remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom, but also to thank and show appreciation to the 25 million veterans still living today. For you, we will be forever grateful."

We were also blessed with the beautiful harmonies of singers Rosie and Connie Pitts, as well as the student chorus. Other participants included student readers and student assistants for a Veterans Day wreath

recognition ceremony, the Honor Guard from the Benwood American Legion Post #42, and bugler Bob Lawrence.

A special thanks to Jim Altmeyer and Altmeyer Funeral Homes for underwriting the cost of our Veterans Day service and handling many of the logistic details for us.



STEWARDSHIP

Fourth graders donate to Appalachian Outreach

Mrs. Cecil and Mr. Lenz spearheaded the Kids 4 Kids stewardship project again this year, encouraging their students to donate children's clothing and books for families in need living in the poorest areas of the Mountain State. Working with Rose Hart, executive director of



Above Rose Hart, executive director of Appalachian Outreach, Inc., thanks SMPS teacher Corinne Cecil and fourth graders for their kindness and generosity in helping children in the Appalachian region in the Kids 4 Kids project. Left, 6th and 7th graders help to load the boxes of donated apparel.

Appalachian Outreach, Inc., students collected more than 18 boxes of clothing. "Be very proud of what you have done today," Hart told the children when she arrived to pick up the donations. "Your generosity and love will immediately go to help 300 West Virginia families." To learn more about AOI, please visit their website at appalachianoutreaching.org.

POEM OF THANKS

To all of our parent, alumni and parishioner volunteers who continue to support SMPS and its mission for "the educational formation of all students in the context of Gospel values," we say **THANK YOU!!**

*Jesus sees your acts of love
In everything you do
And as you carry out your work
The love of God shines through
No matter if the task is small
You're there to help us out
We thank you for your willingness
In all the ways you've helped.*

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SCRIP Customer Appreciation Raffle

Every \$100 purchase of scrip made between Nov. 1- Dec. 9 qualifies you for one entry in our raffle to win a **\$500 Walmart/Sam's Club gift card!!**

Four other winners will win restaurant gift cards! The lucky winner will be drawn on Dec. 12 -- **GOOD LUCK!!**

Thanks for your support of the **SMPS SCRIP Program!**



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Welcoming children of all faiths.

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS

St. Michael's 'Awesome Authors' recognized

Congratulations to the 2011 Ohio County Public Library's Awesome Author Fall Writing Contest finalists and winners from St. Michael's. Of the 164 story entries that were submitted this year (from nine different schools as well as homeschooled children), 41 were selected as contest finalists -- of that number, 13 were SMPS students.

We are also proud to announce that SMPS students were named overall winners in three of the contest's four grade divisions. Congratulations to Joey Carter (3rd grade winner), Jett Thomas (4th grade winner) and Riley Bennington (6th grade winner)! We are so proud of all our finalists: David Benson, Abby Doerr, Maggie Fahey, Emily Higgs, Sara Palmer, Cameron McCabe, Luke Rapp, Daniel O'Leary, Sarah Coleman, and Jack Stryker.



Three SMPS students were named division winners in the Awesome Author Fall Writing Contest: Jett Thomas (4th grade), Joey Carter (3rd grade) and (not shown) Riley Bennington (6th grade).