



Established 1897

SCHOOL NEWS

"You can be sure that the American spirit will prevail over this tragedy."
--Colin Powell (after 9/11)

Events Calendar

**September 18
Parish Picnic**

(1-4 pm, Sonneborn Shelter)



**September 21
School Mass**

(8:30 am, 6th Gr Leaders)



**September 28
Last Day to Buy Double Blessings Florida Vacation Get-Away Raffle Tickets!**



**September 29
Feast of St. Michael
Noon Mass
and**

**Double Blessings FL Vacation
Get-Away Raffle Drawing!!**



**September 30
Noon Dismissal**



**October 2
SPIRIT WEEK Begins!**



**October 4
School Pictures**



**October 7
SMPS Angel Walk
(9-11:30 am, WJU Track)**



**October 11-14
R.E.A.P. for 6th Graders
(Camp Russell, Oglebay)**

Learn More about SMPS!

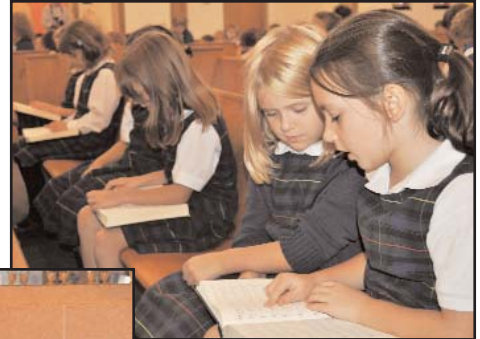
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Students, staff remember 9/11 victims

The tragic events of September 11 when well over 3,000 innocent people lost their lives at the World Trade Center, at the Pentagon and in the Flight 93 crash in Shanksville, PA will long be etched into our minds and souls. It was one of the darkest days in our nation's history. Our older students were just toddlers on that fateful day but all came together (preschoolers through 8th graders) on Sept. 9 at a prayer service to honor the tenth anniversary of 9/11 and to remember the victims, their families, and the heroes.



Above, second graders Sara Gruber and Leah Coleman sing a hymn during the 9/11 Tenth Anniversary Prayer Service held on Sept. 9. At left, a sign that read "We Remember" was hung in front of the altar as students presented three roses and lit three candles for each of the locations where victims were lost: World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and Shanksville, PA.



During the service, students took an active role serving as readers, singing, participating in a candle-lighting ceremony, and even two 8th graders read their English essays on 9/11 Heroes. For the Opening Prayer, Principal Sis Richardson read the following:

"Loving God, we gather today to recall the events of September 11. We lift up to you all those people affected by 9/11 -- those who died in the attacks, those who responded, those who now fight in wars as a result of that dark day, those we know who were personally impacted, and all those who still mourn the loss of loved ones. We lift up our prayers and our concerns and our desire to bring your love to a broken world. Send your Holy Spirit among us now, O God, to open our hearts and minds to your presence. We know you are a God of life, not death; you are a God of mercy, not vengeance. Lead us into holy actions that will glorify you and honor those who died."

After the service, more than 200 students in grades 3-8 also participated in a silent prayer chain along National Road in remembrance of those who died.



More than 200 students in grades 3-8 stood along National Road to participate in a silent prayer chain in remembrance of those lost on 9/11.

STUDENT NEWS

8th Graders learn about sacrament of matrimony, parenthood responsibilities in 'Life Skills' Class



It's "egg baby" twins for students Reva Fristick and Aric Varlas in the Life Skills class taught by Mrs. Jones. In the class, Mrs. Jones stresses the sacrament of matrimony and the compromises that go along with marriage. Students get careers, monthly incomes, spouses and children as part of this 9-week program.

"Our goals this year with Life Skills is to teach students about budget planning and how to make choices *together*," said Jones. "They learn some parenthood responsibilities and about budget choices based on their careers and monthly incomes." As part of the class, students also searched for a house and car from newspaper ads and made household budget decisions on cable and internet service, as well as cell phone plans. "The class is an extension of what these students learned last year as 7th graders when Life Skills focused on money and banking," Jones said. "Last year, they made *individual* decisions about apartments, cars, and utilities. They also learned how to write checks and balance checkbooks."

Kosanovic named 'Pre-Teen West Virginia 2011'

Congratulations to seventh grader Lexie Kosanovic who was named *Pre-Teen West Virginia 2011* over this past Labor Day Weekend in Morgantown! Lexie competed in the senior division (10-12 year olds) of the state competition that is part of the national Pre-Teen America Program. She was recognized as a semi-finalist, the winner of the optional speech competition, the runner-up of the optional talent competition, and winner of the volunteer service award. As the event concluded, Lexie received top honors and the "Pre-Teen West Virginia 2011" title, along with various trophies and multiple savings bonds.

Lexie says she enjoyed the competition and meeting girls from all over the state. "I would recommend this competition to anyone," she said. "It's a very nice opportunity for academic and scholarship recognition." This summer, she plans to visit other Pre-Teen competitions in Kentucky, North Carolina and Louisiana as a visiting title holder. The Pre-Teen America Program is an event designed to recognize the nation's outstanding pre-teens, as well as to provide an avenue to promote high morals, standards of excellence, fellowship, family values and social development.



Student Council Elections

Congratulations to our newly elected SMPS Student Council representatives: (from left) Secretary Luke Fahey, Vice President Isaac Rine, Treasurer Lucy Hartzell and President Lindsey Baker!



LIL' CHERUBS TWO-YEAR-OLDS



St. Michael Parish School's new Lil' Cherubs Two-Year-Olds program kicked off this past week with a full class of eight students and their adult partners. Mrs. Heather Rine is the coordinator of the program and looks forward to introducing her new students to some basic instructional activities, circle time, arts and crafts, and much more!

The next Lil' Cherubs session will be held Jan. 9-Feb. 22. Space is filling up fast so register today! Two class times will be offered in January: 8:15 to 9:30 a.m. and 10:15 to 11:30 a.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays. If interested, please register your child by contacting the school office (304.242.3966) or emailing Mrs. Heather directly at hline@stmikesparish.org. Each 7-week session costs \$225 per student. Lil' Cherubs is a great way to introduce your two-year-old to a classroom environment in a caring, nurturing way!

ST. MICHAEL PARISH SCHOOL

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For shadowing information, please contact
Principal Marilyn Richardson.
Welcoming children of all faiths.