

April 5, 2007

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

We had such lovely spring weather last week, and this week we are reminded yet again about how quickly things can change. We hope that the roads stay clear so all our families who are traveling this weekend can travel safely.

As students continue to work hard on their academic work, we take time to reflect on the meaning of Lent and prepare for our Easter celebration. During the Lenten season, our students participated in a number of activities including praying the Sorrowful Mysteries of the Rosary, Stations of the Cross, and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation. We encourage you and your families to continue your prayerful meditation on our Lord's Passion and Death as the week comes to a close with Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday. These are the Holy Week ceremonies offered at St. Francis Xavier Parish:

Holy Thursday, April 5: Mass and procession at 7 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until Midnight.

Good Friday, April 6: No morning Mass. Celebration of the Lord's Passion, Veneration of the Cross and Communion at 3 p.m. Stations of the Cross at 7 p.m.

Holy Saturday, April 7: No morning Mass. Easter Vigil Mass at 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 8: 7:30, 9:00, and 11:00 Masses.

Please note that there is **no school** on **Good Friday** or **Easter Monday**. Classes resume on Tuesday, April 10.

On Tuesday our Middle School students attended the **Chrism Mass** at St. Joseph Co-Cathedral. This very solemn Mass was celebrated by Bishop Matano and concelebrated by Bishop Angell and most of the priests in Vermont. Also present were deacons and seminarians. Following the Mass, students were present at the dedication ceremony of the Bishop Kenneth Angell Park.

Congratulations to all the 7th and 8th grade students who participated in the **Vermont State Science Fair** at Norwich University. Special congratulations go to **Meghan Plant** and **Dan Bolger** who each won **silver medals**. Our students are competing against middle and high school students from around the state. Great job, everyone.

The girl's softball team will have their **first full practice this Saturday, from 1 PM to 3 PM in the gym**. Regular practices will begin shortly.

Our yearbook volunteers are hard at work putting together the **2006-2007 yearbook** and they **need your help**. If you have **pictures**, either standard or digital, please get them to us by **April 13**.

Due to scheduling conflicts, our **Spring Pageant has been postponed**. The new date will be announced shortly.

Our Lady of Ephesus House of Prayer invites you to celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy, Sunday, April 15 in Jamaica, Vermont. Religious activities include Confession, Rosary, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, and Mass (4:30 pm). For the schedule and information call Mary Tarinelli at 802-896-6573.

We are truly blessed here at St. Francis, and we are grateful to all who work so hard to make our school and our school community such a special place. Thank you all, and have a blessed Easter break.

Mrs. Maria Horton

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne

Mr. Simeon Lewis