

Jan. 22, 2010

Dear St. Francis Xavier Families,

This has been a very busy week for all of our teachers and students. Thank you for all the prayers for Mr. Gaudette's family this week. Having the support of a loving and prayerful community makes a huge difference.

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on Thursday and Friday afternoon (Jan. 28 and Jan. 29). Please call Ms. Nancy in the main office to schedule a time (655-2600).

We will have half days on Thursday Jan. 28 and Friday Jan. 29 for Parent/Teacher Conferences. The Extension Program will be open both of those days until 5:30pm.

### **Catholic School's Week**

Beginning on Jan. 30 our school will be celebrating Catholic School's Week. Middle School students will be speaking at the weekend Masses to discuss the School's initiative for the local food shelves. The students have set a goal of 2000 lbs (1 ton) of food.

**Monday Feb. 1:** Opening Prayer Service in the gym at 8:45am

**Tuesday Feb. 2:** Mass at Rice High School at 9am (grades 5-8)

**Wednesday Feb. 3:** School Open House

**Thursday Feb. 4:** Church Buddy Activity

**Friday Feb. 5:** Catholic School's Week Closing Assembly

### **School Cancellations and School Reach**

Prior to Christmas Break we tested the School Reach notification system. This automated phone system allows us to call all St. Francis Families and Staff in the event of a Snow Day or Special Event. The system will call your number, and re-try if the call does not go through. It is even able to leave a message on your voice mail if the call is not answered.

We plan on using this system for school cancellations in the future. We will also be posting the cancellations or delays on our website, as well as announcing them on the local TV and radio stations.

### **Catholic Relief Services**

Our prayers and heartfelt considerations go out to the people of Haiti. The school will be collecting aid to send to Catholic Relief Services, which is currently delivering aid to Haiti. Catholic Relief Services is a world wide relief organization that delivers aid to many countries around the world. Please visit their website at: <http://crs.org/> to learn more about their services. If you are interested in making a donation you can do so at their website, or speak to Ms. Nancy in the main office.

### **Development News**

We've Gone Over the Top . . . Again!

For the second year in a row, Saint Francis Xavier School has exceeded its fundraising goal for a Challenge Grant established by Monsignor Richard Lavalley and L'Union St. Jean Baptiste.

In November, Monsignor Lavalley donated \$10,000 from his retirement funds for a Matching Grant. L'Union St. Jean Baptiste added \$2,000 to that amount and donors were asked to match these wonderful gifts, dollar for dollar, by December 31, 2009. George and Jacqueline Bouffard, Co-Chairs of the 2009-2010 Annual Fund and members of L'Union St. Jean Baptiste, and Honorary Co-Chair, Monsignor Wendell

Searles, welcomed the opportunity to generate much needed funds for St. Francis.

More than \$30,000 was raised for the challenge grants. In announcing the success of the campaigns, George and Jacqueline Bouffard said, “We are so humbled and grateful for the support given to St. Francis Xavier School. Monsignor Searles and Monsignor Lavalley join us in thanking each of you for this enormous response to benefit our school. The success of the Challenge Grants provides us with the momentum to reach our Annual Fund goals for this year.” The 2009-2010 Annual Fund Campaign has a \$70,000 goal.

Please contact Mrs. Kathleen Conlin in the Development Office (655-7690) if you are interested in making a donation.

### **A Special Thank You**

Thank you to **Wendy Daniels and the Home and School Association** for sponsoring Marko the Magician at St. Michael’s College tonight. These folks have gone above and beyond to make this event possible. We look forward to a wonderful time!

Thank you also to **Mrs. Jane McCormick** for helping to substitute this week. Mrs. McCormick is always willing to lend a hand when the need arises. Thanks!

Jesse Gaudette

Mr. Eric Becker

Mrs. Kathryn LaVigne