



Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School Alumni Newsletter

Vol. 12 No 1
Fall 2008

A Word from Our Pastoral Associate Debbie Hamm

A number of weeks ago, I attended the wedding reception of a young woman who attended one of our local Catholic grade schools as a child. A lot of her friends were present. I've known this young woman since she was very young, and so I also know a lot of her closest friends.



During the celebration, I was privileged to be a part of a conversation with her friends about Catholic schools.

One of the young men commented about how he just couldn't wait to get out of that little school into a larger community and meet more friends. He went on to say, "It didn't take me long to realize how great we had it at the little school."

The conversation lasted for quite some time with a lot of sharing of their favorite memories of Catholic school. They spoke about teachers, classes, projects, recess, their priest, Christmas programs and so many other memories.

One of them remarked, "I'd go back in a heartbeat!"

I was so excited to hear recent college graduates speak with such fondness for the experiences and lessons of Catholic school. And I sincerely hope that they will all remember that fondness when they begin to raise children of their own.

Each one of these young people have grown into talented, intelligent men and women of integrity, faith and hope. I know they don't attend Mass *every* week, but they still make their faith a priority in their lives.

It was easy for me to relate to their conversation because I have so many of the same feelings about my Catholic school years. My parents sent all nine of us through Catholic Schools, including the Tri-Catholic Schools in Random Lake and Fredonia and, later, exclusively in Rosemary School in Fredonia. It was often a struggle for my parents, but they made the commitment, and as adults, my siblings and I appreciate it. All but one of my 16 (soon to be 17) nieces and nephews have – or will – attend Catholic Schools.

As I listened to my young friends at the wedding reception, I was reminded of so many of the values of Christian education. Where else can a child receive a faith-based education with strong Christian values?

I know that I wouldn't be the person I am today without the strong Catholic school background that I received.

I want to congratulate all parents who see the value in making the financial commitment to enroll their children in Catholic education.

I encourage new parents to really think about the value of Catholic schools when deciding where to enroll their children.

And I pray that all of our children, no matter where we enroll them, will grow strong in their faith and take their Catholic values out into the world to make the world a better place for all human beings.

God bless all of you.

Deb Hamm, Pastoral Associate

From the Principal's Desk

Catherine Pohl

Since this in an alumni newsletter and it may have been some time since you've been in the school, please allow me to take you on a tour of Our Lady of the



Lakes Catholic School! Let us enter the school from the parking lot where you parked your car. As we enter, a very charming hallway displaying flags that promote a cheerful atmosphere greets us. Each classroom hangs a flag outside its door that represents the season of the year. The walls and doors are decorated with spiritual projects that distinctly reveal the Catholic identity of the school.

Walking down the halls (there still are two halls), the heavenly quietness whispers that the children are busy learning. Go ahead, peak in the doors! The children are quietly interacting in the lesson of the day in one classroom, praying the rosary in the next, and ---what's this? The children are planning the weekly Mass! We are so blessed to be able to participate in weekly Mass giving the children an extra boost in their faith development! This is only available in Catholic schools!

Look out! Here come the 5th graders as they head toward the pre-school room. It's a one way lane through the office as Mrs. Schmid greets each child with a "good morning" or a smile. Back up again! Here come the 5th graders again, each with a pre-school student by the hand. They read to the pre-school children, take them to Mass, and do other special projects with them. It truly is a wonderful way for them to learn kindness, compassion, and how to be good role models. Of course, Jesus is our ultimate role model and He holds us in the palm of His hand, doesn't He?

It's now safe to travel through the office and past the Principal's office. The Principal's office is a very lonely place. Very few children ever grace me with their presence. It's a very nice kind of loneliness. Do you hear the beautiful music? This is the Music room. The children are singing Christmas carols for the holiday program. Enchanting, isn't it? It's wonderful that our Christmas program is centered on Jesus' birth, not Santa and material gifts. Through this door is the Computer Lab. There are 18 computers in the lab for the children. Technology is such a big part of education these days and a huge expense! We are fortunate to have a technology teacher, Mr. Holden, who keeps us up and running while providing top-notch computer skills.

Let us now go back through the office to the main hall. There is quite a bit of noise going on. As we peak in the gym, we see a class of students engaging in a game of basketball. I am so proud that we can even pray in gym class! Listen for the prayer at the free throw line!

Well, I hope you enjoyed your tour of our wonderful Catholic school. God is truly present here. Now, let me show you back to the parking lot. Please come again at any time. Our doors are always open to you!

Blessings on all of you.

Cathy Pohl

Needed: Aluminum Cans

It is time to clean out the garage and donate all your aluminum cans to Our Lady of the Lakes! Jeff and Tracy Hiller volunteered to coordinate this fundraiser year-round. It's a great opportunity to make money for the school! No need to stack them in the garage until you can take them somewhere – drop them off at the Cedar Valley Cheese Store any time!

Teachers in the Spotlight New Faces for 2008-09

Ms. Brown

Hi. My name is Heather Brown and I am the new 5th grade teacher at O.L.L. I am originally from Farmington and am now living here in Random Lake. I spent my college years at UW-Oshkosh where I received my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with a minor in Social Studies. I am licensed to teach grades 1-8. Since graduating, I have substitute taught in many districts including Random Lake. I have also taught summer school at Ozaukee Elementary and for Camp Invention.



Mrs. Rengers

My name is Katharine Rengers and I am new to Our Lady of the Lakes this year. I am teaching the wonderful students in the fourth grade. My husband and I have just moved to Sheboygan this past summer, so we are new to the area and are enjoying all of the things it has to offer. Along with teaching, I have just started my Master's Degree in Special Education at Cardinal Stritch. I am very excited to be continuing my education in such an important field. I look forward to having a fantastic year with the students, parents, faculty, and other members of the community!



Mrs. Post

My name is Julie Post, and I'm excited about this year as the Grade 1 teacher at O.L.L. I live in Sheboygan with my husband, daughter, son, and cat. Mark, my husband, likes to take long walks and is an avid deer hunter. He has been happily filling my shoes as I prepared my classroom! Olivia is 11 and just began sixth grade in middle school. She plays oboe and loves animals, dolls, and music. Derek will be 10 in October and is a fourth grader. He is taking violin lessons. He likes to read and draw, especially pirates. Our family enjoys living in Wisconsin ~going "up north", hiking, canoeing, fishing, bicycling, sledding, and ice skating. We like to visit zoos. We are an active 4-H family. Mark & I are living a second childhood learning about llamas, horses, and the art of blacksmithing! Two of my favorite things are reading, especially to children, and playing board games. I also enjoy gardening and baking. I also take too many photographs.



I graduated from UWM with a major in anthropology. I returned to school at Cardinal Stritch University and am certified to teach pre-K through sixth grade. I've dabbled in all grades ~ I student taught in kindergarten and fifth; long-term subbed in kindergarten, third, and fourth; and short-term subbed in first and second. There is something special in each grade. One of my goals is to earn a license as an English Language Learner and Literacy teacher. Learning never ends!



Home and School Update

Curt Blaszczyk, Home & School President

As your new Home and School Association President, I can assure you that I will use all my skills and energy to maintain our tradition of working together to ensure our children continue to have the best education possible. We have a very exciting and challenging year ahead and I know that together we can, and will, accomplish our goals.

Over the summer we sold our Football Raffle tickets. Thank you to everyone who helped out selling and / or buying tickets. We also had our annual rummage sale at the school and coordinated some children's games at the Random Lake picnic. Please remember that it is not too early to begin putting items aside for donating to next year's rummage sale.

Just before school started, we had our 3rd Annual Golf Outing which was a huge success. The weather was fantastic and everyone had a great time. Now is a good time to start putting together your group(s) for next year's event.

This year we started off the school year with our annual Registration and followed that up with a Meet the Faculty night. This was a great opportunity to introduce our new teachers and for our students, families and staff to spend some time getting acquainted. A picnic style dinner was served along with some raffle prizes resulting in everyone having a great time.

We have a few large events in the upcoming months that we encourage you to attend. So please mark these events on your calendars. If you would also like to volunteer to help us plan or execute these events, please let us know.

- 20th Annual Holidays in the Heartland Craft Fair & Market Place – Nov. 8, 2008
- Shake the Flakes – Feb. 7, 2009
- 12th Annual Endowment Fund Dinner Auction – April 18, 2009
- 4th Annual Golf Outing – Aug. 29, 2009

As part of our 2008-2009 school year the Home and School Association is working on a number of other exciting fundraisers and events that will be

brought to you in the upcoming months. In order to meet our objectives, we strongly encourage everyone to participate in these events.

We also have a few continuous fundraising activities that are easy to participate in, do not cost you anything and return significant dollars to our school. The two that I would like to touch on in this edition are SCRIP and GoodSearch.

SCRIP is an easy way to generate dollars for our school. All it takes is a little planning ahead by ordering your cards through us and then shopping with the gift cards you get. The contributing funds come from the merchants. If you are not participating in SCRIP, please consider doing so. It is really quite easy. If you are participating, thank you and please keep up the support. Keep in mind that with Christmas coming, this is a great way to pay for your shopping or simply to purchase gift cards for others.

GoodSearch is another easy way to generate dollars for our school. If you are not familiar with Good Search, it is a search engine powered by Yahoo that contributes money to our school for every search. They also have partnered with various merchants that pay a percentage to our school for purchases made through their websites if you enter their site from GoodSearch (www.goodsearch.com).

Please remember that we have our Five Pillars nights year round, which are typically the 4th Monday of each month. This is an opportunity to partake in some great food and great company and support our school in the progress.

We appreciate any input or feedback you may have and one way to share it is by attending and participating in our Home & School meetings. The remaining meetings this year will be held on December 3, 2008, March 4, 2009 and May 6, 2009 at 6:30 PM at the school. You should also feel free to contact me anytime if you have questions or want to share your thoughts, concerns or feedback.

Thank you all for your support!

OLL School Wish List

Thank you for your interest in donating money or items to Our Lady of the Lakes School. Please know that any money donated may be used towards any item if the price exceeds your gift. Just specify how you would like it to be used. If you would like to make a donation toward one of the items on the wish list, please contact the school office at 920-994-9962 or Marilyn in the parish office at 920-994-4380.

Computer Wishes

- Type for Fun software – network version only
- 512 MB jump drive
- SDRAM 128 MB or better
- HP Scanner
- Surge protector power strips
- Carts for classroom computers
- Pentium III or 4 with 196 MB or more of RAM memory
- 16 adjustable chairs for computer room
- Music software to hear notes for composing
- Physical Science Video-Sound

Classroom Wishes

- Book Shelf / Cart (4th grade)
- Painting easel
- Assorted size Rubber Maid containers (5th grade)
- Venn diagram pocket chart
- 4 Bean Bag Chairs (2nd grade, 1st grade – 2 ea.)
- Teacher's Easel
- Classroom computer for children's use (K)
- Plastic Kitchen set for the Preschool
- Paperback swivel bookcase (4)
- Mailbox cubbies
- Bookshelves
- USB flash drive
- Novels with teacher's guides (5th)

School Wishes

- TV for classroom (3rd grade)
- Carpet for classrooms
- Paper cutter
- General fund for textbooks, supplies, first aide items, classroom supplies
- Sensory Table (Pre 4)
- Rug for Reading Center (Pre 4)
- Dramatic Play Items: thermos, cell phones, lunch box, brief case, dress up clothes for boys and girls (pre 4)
- Gears, Bristle blocks, Lego Duplo blocks (Pre 4)
- Play Doh: rolling pins, cutters, cookie cutters (Pre 4)
- Cash Register (Pre 4)
- Religious puzzles & coloring books (Pre 4)

Day Care Center Wishes

- ◆ Step Ladder
- ◆ Play dough
- ◆ Board Puzzles (more than 12 pieces)
- ◆ Floor Puzzles (12 – 48 pieces)
- ◆ Paper cutter
- ◆ Kitchen center play food, dishes, dress-up clothes for boys and girls etc.
- ◆ Lincoln Logs
- ◆ Play phones
- ◆ Playground balls
- ◆ Books
- ◆ Ethnic baby dolls
- ◆ Ethnic foods for play
- ◆ Girls' and Boys' dress-up clothes
- ◆ Religious story books
- ◆ Religious posters and figurines
- ◆ Veggie Tale movies
- ◆ Lego people
- ◆ Play toy animals
- ◆ Double stroller
- ◆ Sensory water table

Golf Outing 2008



Our Lady of the Lakes Grade School hosted their 3rd Annual Best Ball Golf Outing on August 23rd at West Bend Lakes Golf Club. The winners of the 2008 Our Lady of the Lakes Golf Champ Green Jackets was the team (from left to right) of Dave Schneider, Rich Weiss, Terry Evraets and Dan Schneider (not pictured) with a score of 12 under par 60.

Thank you to everyone who attended and to all of our Sponsors.

Major Sponsors:

Wisconsin State Bank
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Cedar Valley Cheese
Tri Par
Lynn's Creekside Inn
Times Custom Graphics

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Prize Sponsors:

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Pick 'N Save – West Bend South
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Jack Spaeth
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Piggly Wiggly – Plymouth
Jason Eippert – Times Custom Graphics
Commerce State Bank
Allen Edmonds Shoes

**See you next year for the
4th Annual Our Lady of the Lakes School Golf
Outing – Saturday, August 29th, 2009!**

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School

2008-2009 Enrollment

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| Kindergarten | 11 |
| 1 st Grade | 10 |
| 2 nd Grade | 7 |
| 3 rd Grade | 12 |
| 4 th Grade | 8 |
| 5 th Grade | 11 |
| | |
| K-5 Total | 59 |
| | |
| 3yr old Preschool | 9 |
| 4yr old Preschool | 3 |
| | |
| Preschool Total | 12 |
| | |
| Grand Total | 71 |

PB & J Challenge

September 22 through
October 22, 2008



Who can collect the most plastic jars of
Peanut Butter & Jelly?

Final totals based on percentage of enrollment of the school of each parish. Participating schools are: Rosemary School, Fredonia; Our Lady of the Lakes, Random Lake; Saint Mary – Lake Church; Port Catholic, Port Washington.



Traveling trophy (*Mr. Peanut*) will be displayed at the winning parish/school for one (1) year. It is currently housed at Our Lady of the Lakes. Will we be able to keep it for another year?

Alumni Search

We continue to work on putting all of our alumni into a computer database. If you know any alumni of our school who are not currently receiving our newsletter, please share this with them, or send us their address and we will make sure they receive a copy of our newsletter. It is really great to hear from past students, especially when they share some of their favorite memories and interesting stories of St. Mary's in years past. Also we love to hear about what you are doing and about your families. Please send us a note!

We've made it easy for you to contact us, just mail in the Alumni Update Form found on the back page of our newsletter. You may return it in the envelope we've included. Feel free to attach a separate piece of paper with any additional comments or stories you might have.

You can also reach us by e-mail at ourladyrls@archmil.org.

Current information is available on our website: www.ourladylakes.org

School Address:

Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Grade School
306 Butler Street
Random Lake, WI 53075
920-994-9962

Parish Address:

Our Lady of the Lakes Congregation
230 Butler Street
Random Lake, WI 53075
920-994-4380

**Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School Alumni Update
(formerly St. Mary's Catholic School)**

Name: _____ Attended from 19__ to 19__

Maiden Name: _____ Spouse: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

Date: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Here's my update: _____

Can we use this information in our school newsletter? Yes _____ No _____

Alumni Approval

OUR LADY OF THE LAKES
CATHOLIC CONGREGATION
230 Butler Street
Random Lake, WI 53075

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