



Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic School Alumni Newsletter

Vol. 13 No 2
Winter 2010

A Word from Our Pastoral Associate Deb Hamm

If you have been to Mass in our cluster recently, you probably know that one of our co-pastors, Fr. Guy, has been handing out posters of “The Three Faces of Christ.”



The poster, sketched by the late George Pollard, depicts three different images of Christ: an African American, a Euro-American and a Hispanic depiction of Christ. I really like this poster, by my favorite image of Christ hangs in my dining room. From across the room, you see the face of the suffering Christ. As you move closer, you can easily notice that the image of Christ is made up of tiny faces of human beings. The artist used some famous faces in the portrait: JFK, Robert Kennedy, Martin Luther King, Jr., and some of the popes, to name a few. Many of the faces are of unfamous people he knew.

Both of these images are good for me, and all of us, to reflect upon this Lent. They remind us that that every human being created in the image and likeness of God.

We don't have any historical depictions of what Christ *really* looked like, and that is a good thing. And I suppose it is quite natural for human beings to portray Christ in an image that looks like themselves. I never realized how many blond, blue-eyed depictions of Jesus there were, until it was pointed out to me while I was studying in the seminary. It never used to bother me, either. This is probably because I grew up in an all-white community.

However, I now have three biracial nephews and two biracial nieces (and several very close

African American friends) and I now often wonder what they think when *all* the images of Jesus or the risen Christ that they see are white. I also often wonder what it does to people of color when we constantly talk about the images of white and black. For example, sin makes us “black” and we are “white” when we are washed clean.

The two images I pray with this Lent – “The Three Faces of Christ” and the mosaic image of Christ made up of countless human faces – remind me that Christ embodies *all* of our images. Christ isn't white. He isn't black. He isn't Hispanic, Chinese, or any other nationality. Christ is all of us. Christ is a compilation of the best in each of us.

Praying over these images of Christ helps me better meet Christ in every human being I meet in this journey of life. I sometimes meet people in whom it is more difficult to meet Christ. I have to look a little harder. Truthfully, sometimes I'm the person in whom people have to look a little harder to find Christ. But Christ is there...in each one of us.

This Lent, I encourage all of us to spend a little more time reflecting upon the Christ in all people we meet, not just in those that look like us, think like us or believe the same things we do. If we can pause to see Christ in all we meet we will all be better people.

A blessed Lent to all of you,
Deb Hamm, Pastoral Associate

From the Principal's Desk
Dr. Rick Erickson

Greetings Alumni,

As I write this I have come to the conclusion I have seen enough of the snow, I ready for spring!



I'd like to do a little, very unscientific survey with you. It'll be only 8 questions long. I invite your responses via email (< dre@archmil.com>) or if you do not have access to email, old fashion mail would be great. My little survey is about your recollections about your education here at Our Lady's School. Please use the following for your responses about your level of satisfaction as you look back.

- #5 Very satisfied
- #3 Somewhat satisfied
- #1 Not satisfied at all

- How well do you feel you were academically prepared for your next school when left Our Lady's School?
- Regardless of your overall feelings about your education, what academic area do you remember being *most* prepared?
- Regardless of your overall feelings about your education, what academic area do you remember being *least* prepared?
- Remembering when you moved on to your new school, how prepared do you remember feeling 'fitting in' socially?
- How strong do you feel your training was in our Catholic faith?
- How strong do you feel your Social Justice awareness was developed at Our Lady's School?
- Of all the areas here at Our Lady's School which did you *like the best*?
- Of all the areas here at Our Lady's School which did you *like the least*?

For demographics purposes only, I'd appreciate if you would tell me in your response what *decade* did you leave Our Lady's School (1970's, 1940's, etc.)? Are you male or female? Do you still live in or near Random Lake?

My rationale for this is I am trying to get a deeper understanding about this school, and its history, in my efforts to keep it strong and viable.

On a different subject (*contribution warning!!*) I am trying to build a religious grotto in front of the school, near the office entrance. I am not looking to build anything like the Grotto at the University of Notre Dame, just something appropriate for this school and its tradition.

Please stop in and visit your old school anytime you are in the area.

Your Servant in Catholic Education,
Rick Erickson, PhD
Principal/Administrator



Bucky came to visit during the Bucks Tickets Fundraising Event

Teacher in the Spotlight

Mrs. Chipman

Kids, kids, kids! I have been involved with kids for the majority of my life. My inspiration for being a teacher began in third grade in New Berlin with Mrs. Karr. She was pretty with blonde hair and had a good smile. A little later, my family moved to Schofield, Wisconsin where I became the neighborhood babysitter. There weren't too many weekends that I wasn't babysitting and getting to know different ages of kids. After finishing high school, I went on to graduate from La Crosse. I moved to Milwaukee, taught 6th and 4th grade at a Catholic school for a few years, got married to Todd, had six kids, stopped teaching and became a full time mom. We had started our married life in Milwaukee, but decided to move "up north" to West Bend to raise our children. The kids are doing wonderful, with the baby being a freshman in high school. I have three grandchildren with another one coming this next August. About 8 years ago, I decided it was time to return to teaching full time. Lucky for me, Our Lady of the Lakes School had a second grade teaching position open and I was hired. I especially enjoy working with elementary aged children. They certainly can be entertaining and full of energy.

When I am not working at school, or not working on school work, I like to read, garden, be outdoors, and do different activities with my family. I work part time at Kohl's in West Bend. That job is a great way to get some exercise, get a discount on clothing, meet fun people and get paid doing it.

I enjoy teaching at OLL and hope to continue doing it for many more years.



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. Feel free to attach a separate piece of paper with any additional 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 Catholic Congregation
230 Butler Street, Random Lake, WI 53075
920-994-4380

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!

Home and School News

This year has moved really fast and it is hard to believe that we have less than half of the school year remaining. It has been a very exciting and busy school year for the Home and School since we introduced a number of new events this year.

Our school held our annual Christmas program on Sunday December 13th. The kids and their teachers really did an amazing job again this year and we even made *the Sounder*.



Our first annual Ice Bowling event was held on Saturday January 6th and it was very well received. Since this was our first year we had to start from scratch on everything from our plan to the execution of the event. We did encounter a slight “collapsing of the ice” but it all turned out well in the end. We are looking forward to next year’s event and hope you will stay tuned for details and come out for a great time.



Shake the Flakes was held on Saturday February 6th at the Five Pillars. The food and entertainment was fantastic again this year and was attended by over 200 people. Stay tuned for details on next year’s event.

Please be sure to mark your calendars for April 17th for our Annual Endowment Dinner Auction. The food is always delicious, the company is fantastic and it all goes towards a great cause.

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. See the school website calendar for specific dates and details.

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 meeting this year will be held on May 5th at 6:30 PM at the school. You should also feel free to contact me anytime at 262.692.3521 if you have questions or want to share your thoughts, concerns or feedback.

Thank you all for your support,

Curt Blaszczyk
Home & School President

Think Spring and Summer!

Save the date on your calendar:

Our Lady of the Lakes School
5th Annual Golf Outing

Saturday, August 28, 2010



OLL School Wish List

Thank you for your interest in donating money or items to Our Lady of the Lakes School. 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. The following is some of the items on the list:

Computer wishes:

- SmartBoards for 4 more classrooms
- “Hot Wiring” the school (or campus) for wireless computer access
- Netbooks for grades 3 and up.
- New computer for school office

Classroom wishes:

- Textbooks for grades 7 & 8
- Painting easel
- USB flash drives

School wishes

- A Grotto outside the school office entrance
- Ability to hire our Technology & Music Teachers one more day each week
- Improvements to our outside play area
- Added storage area
- A paper cutter that actually cuts paper
- A school mascot to go along with our nickname
- Financial security

Child Care Center wishes

- An age appropriate playground
- ‘Coupe’ Cars (those little pedal cars)
- P.E equipment – age appropriate
- ‘Oodles’, & ‘oodles’ of washable markers
- Glue sticks/bottles
- An entrance security/communication system – mostly needed during non-school hours.
- Ethnic dolls and other ethnic toys
- Double stroller
- New microwave
- Computer & printer
- Wal-Mart gift cards
- ‘Toddler’ dinnerware
- New mop
- Financial security

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

Nonprofit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Random Lake, WI
Permit No. 23

Return Service Requested

**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