



School Days News!

~March 2021~



Saint Michael, an accredited Catholic Elementary School, partners with families in the education of the mind, body, and soul of each child.

Thank you for a wonderful
Catholic Schools Week
2021!



MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Mar 1-5: Read Across America Spirit Week
- Mar 4: Jeans Day - No Charge
- Mar 5: First Friday and Eucharistic Adoration
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 8: **Snow Make-Up Day!**
No Subs - please pack a lunch
- Mar 9: 6:00pm Zoom Meeting about Financial Aid
- Mar 11: Jeans Day - No Charge
PTO Hot Lunch
- Mar 12: 3rd, 7th, and 8th Grade Confessions
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 14: Daylight Savings Time Begins - Spring ahead
- Mar 17: St. Patrick's Day
- Mar 18: Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation
- Mar 19: 6th Grade Confessions
End of Quarter 3
St. Joseph's Day
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 24: Lunch Forms and Payment Due
- Mar 25: Jeans Day - No Charge
Daffins Pickup 2:30-6pm
- Mar 26: 4th Grade Confessions
7pm Stations of the Cross
- Mar 28: Palm Sunday
- Mar 28 - Apr 3: Holy Week
- Mar 30: Last Day for Help for Homeless Collection
- Mar 31 - Apr 5: No School - Easter Break

APRIL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Apr 1: Holy Thursday
- Apr 2: Good Friday
- Apr 3: Holy Saturday
- Apr 4: Easter Sunday
- Apr 8: Jeans Day - No Charge
PTO Hot Lunch
- Apr 11: Divine Mercy Sunday

- Apr 13: Primary Health Network Applications + \$15 postmarked to Primary Health Network
- Apr 15: Catholic Diocese of Erie Financial Aid Applications + \$20 due to the Diocese
Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation
- Apr 22: Jeans Day - No Charge
- Apr 26: Quarter 4 Interim
- Apr 29: Jeans Day - No Charge
- Apr 30: **Scholarship Letters + W2s + Tuition Assistance Application due to the school**
Act 80 Day - No school for students

Read Across America Spirit Week

Join us as we celebrate Read Across America Week Monday, March 1 - Friday, March 5! Reading to your children is one of the best things you can do for their academic and emotional growth! Story is ingrained in us a human race. Jesus Himself knew this and used stories as a primary teaching tool!



Read Across America Week coincides with the birthday of favorite children's author, Dr. Seuss. To celebrate reading, we will have a spirit week in his honor.

- 📖 **Monday, March 1: If I Ran the Zoo**
Bring in a stuffed animal to class or wear an animal print top with your uniform bottoms!
- 📖 **Tuesday, March 2: Cat in the Hat Day**
Wear a red or striped shirt with your uniform bottoms. You may also wear a hat!
- 📖 **Wednesday, March 3: Wacky Socks Day**
Wear your wackiest socks with your uniform!
- 📖 **Thursday, March 4: Green Eggs and Ham Day**
Wear a green shirt with your jeans or uniform bottoms!
- 📖 **Friday, March 5: Oh, the Places You'll Go!**
Dress for success! Wear your nicest clothes! It's a Mass day and First Friday!



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Financial Aid Packet Important Deadlines



Financial Aid Packets were sent home with families on Friday, February 19. They included a letter from our Business Manager, Susan Swartzbeck and Miss Zgonc, a letter of intent for next school year, 2021-2022 tuition rates, a Tuition Assistance Application, Scholarship List, and the application for the Bishop's Tuition Assistance Program and the STAR Foundation Program.

Primary Health Network Applications, a cover letter, all required documentation, and a non-refundable \$15.00 fee for this program must be **postmarked by April 13, 2021 and received by the Primary Health Network by April 15** to be accepted. **DO NOT SEND TO THE SCHOOL!**

The Catholic Diocese of Erie Financial Aid Application along with a \$20 non-refundable processing fee (made out to **Tuition Assistance Program**), W-2s and Tax Returns **must be postmarked or received by the Diocese no later than Thursday, April 15. DO NOT SEND TO THE SCHOOL!** Please send to the following address:

Diocese of Erie
Tuition Assistance Program
P.O. Box 8070
Erie, PA 16505-0070

Scholarship Letters and financial need letters are **due to the school office or Miss Zgonc on or before April 30th at 3:00pm**. Only ONE letter is needed this year. We will make copies here to send to the different named scholarships to which your child is applying. Just be sure to check on the Scholarship

List all of the scholarships for which you'd like your child to be considered for. *Students in Grades 4-7 are expected to type their own letters.* Parents may help younger students by typing their letters for them and having them sign them.

No exceptions can be made to deadlines!

FEE MUST BE ATTACHED TO BE CONSIDERED!

Susan Swartzbeck and Emily Zgonc will be hosting a Zoom meeting to go over financial aid on Tuesday, March 9 at 6:00pm. A Zoom link will be sent in an Option C email closer to the date.

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We want to send out some very heart-felt thank yous:

- Thank you to Fr. Christopher for being such a presence in and support to our school! Your visible and behind-the-scenes leadership means a lot to us!
- Thank you to the members of the PTO and School Advisory Council for all of their help with lunches and fundraisers!
- Thank you to Mr. Mike Varga who continues to help with IT.
- Our teachers and staff who have been tirelessly working through the pandemic to offer the best education for our children: mind, body, and soul!
- Our parents and guardians for fighting the good fight! For nurturing your children! For getting up each day to do it all over again!
- Our students for trying, trying, and trying each day to be the best versions of themselves and look for the good in others!



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All About LENT

Lent 2021 Confession Schedule

From the Desk of Fr. Christopher:

Confessions will be offered at both churches this Lenten season, so please take careful note as to the date, time, and location. Face masks, social distancing, and all other protocols will be followed. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

-Father Christopher M. Barnes



All locations are Saint Michael Church with the exception of Sunday, March 7.

- † Saturday, February 27 - 3:00-4:00pm
- † Saturday, March 6 - 3:00-4:00pm
- † Sunday, March 7 - 2:00-4:00pm
 - o at Saint **Margaret** Church
- † Saturday, March 13 - 3:00-4:00pm
- † Sunday, March 14 - 2:00-4:00pm
- † Saturday, March 20 - 3:00-4:00pm
- † Sunday, March 21 - 2:00-4:00pm
- † Saturday, March 27 - 3:00-4:00pm
- † Tuesday, March 30 - 5:00-7:00pm
- † Wednesday, March 31 - 5:00-7:00pm

40 Cans for 40 Days and Lenten Offerings

The Knights of Columbus are hosting 40 Cans for 40 Days of Lent. Classes are challenged to collect 40 canned goods by the end of Lent.

Each class will also have an almsgiving box in their room to collect money for the duration of the Lenten season. Both the cans and the money will be distributed to The Good Shepherd Center and the Jamestown Food Pantry.

LENTEN FISH FRY



St. Michael Parish will again have their Fish Fry during Lent; however it will be take out ONLY due to the COVID restrictions. The menu is limited to fried fish, french fries, cole slaw, bread and butter all for the price of \$10. Dinners begin on February 19 through April 2, (Good Friday) from 4:30-7:00pm at the Knights of Columbus on Clarksville St, Greenville.

Lenten Inspiration

Lent is here! Pray with your children about what the Lord is asking you to do this Lent to make it a fruitful time for you and your family!



If you're looking for ideas or inspiration, check out Blessed Is She's podcast: *The Gathering Place* from January 26, 2021 entitled: [teachable tuesday//What should I *do* for Lent?](#)

A "2021 Living Lent" calendar also went home with students in February, giving fun ideas for families to do each day during Lent.



Looking for fun crafts, recipes, games, activities, and more to do with your children throughout the year? Start with www.catholicicing.com! This blog is chalk-full of amazing, innovative content for Catholic families! Start with the plethora of ideas blog writer Lucy has for kids during the season of Lent!



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SIGN UP FOR THE BEST LENT EVER!

Which do you think will help you become a-better-version-of-yourself:

- A. Stop eating chocolate for 40 days
- B. Praying every day for 40 days

Giving up chocolate could be helpful. Learning how to pray will be life changing!

Join Matthew Kelly for BEST LENT EVER this year as we take a 40-day journey through his new book *I Heard God Laugh: A Practical Guide to Life's Essential Daily Habit*. Sign up at www.dynamiccatholic.com

Calling All Men!



It's not too late to sign up! St. Michael Parish will be the host of a satellite location for the 22:32 Men 2021 Conference on Saturday, February 27, 2021 from 9:00am-noon. Look for additional information in the church bulletin. Registration information can be found at: <https://www.2232men.com/event-registration/>.

Calling All Women!



St. Michael Parish will be the host of a satellite location for the 1:38 Women's 2021 Conference on Saturday, March 20, 2021 from 9:00am-noon. Look for additional information in the church bulletin. Registration information can be found at: <https://www.138women.com/>.

HELP FOR THE HOMELESS

Catholic Schools Week "Celebrating Our Community" day inspired Ms. G to suggest we collect items to give to homeless families and homeless shelters in our area.

We would like to welcome you to bring in items that could make life a little easier for families and individuals in need. This could include canned goods, toiletries, or other hygiene products you feel they could use. The number one item asked for in shelters is socks. We will take donations from now until March 30th.

LUNCHES

March's subs will be turkey subs from Hometown Subs. March's PTO Hot Lunch will be on Thursday, March 11th for those who ordered. It will come from Taco Bell and include 2 tacos, chips, and a fruit cup. Pizza on Fridays will still be purchased from Fox's Pizza Den and pepperoni rolls on Wednesdays will come from Pizza Joe's. Due to circumstances beyond the control of St. Michael School and PTO, the price of pepperoni rolls has increased to \$3 per roll.

Lunch orders for April will be due by Wednesday, March 24th.

DRESS DOWN DAY

Dress Down Days are usually held once a month, on the third Thursday. Students and teachers pay \$1.00. Proceeds are donated to various service projects.

On February 18th we collected donations for the Children's Aid Society for Dress Down Day. We collected a total of \$66.

March 18th is our next Dress Down Day. Proceeds will be given to the Greenville Area Library!

If you know of a local organization that we can donate future Dress Down Day funds to, please call or email the school and let us know! We are always open to learning about new places and people who are doing beautiful things in our community.



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JEANS DAY

Jeans Days will be held every Thursday during the school year that we do not attend Mass. There is no charge to wear jeans on Jeans Day.

Let Us Introduce.....

We will be highlighting two staff or faculty members every month!! It is our chance to let you know a little bit about each of us!

Mrs. Emily Maloney - Second/Third Grade



I currently teach 2nd and 3rd grades. I have a degree from Mercyhurst University in Early Childhood and Special Education. I received my master last year from Gannon University in Curriculum and Instruction.

I have been married to my wonderful husband, Patrick, for 4 years now and we just welcomed a new baby boy, Lachlan, in addition to our 2 year old son, Auldrain. At home, if I am not running around with the boys, I love to bake any and all treats!

Mrs. Natalie Endicott - Fourth Grade



This is my second year in fourth grade at St. Michael School with previous experience teaching first and fifth grades and Title 1 math.

I earned my Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education, Bachelor of Arts in Dance, and my M. Ed in Special Education from Slippery Rock University.

My twin girls, whom I love spending all of my time with, are currently enrolled in our Prek program. I enjoy the beach, spinning, swimming, yoga, kayaking, and reading.

RECONCILIATION CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to our 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Graders who made their First Reconciliation on Saturday, February 15! May it be the first of many!

- Dominic McCloskey
- Nolan McCloskey
- Clarke Giardina
- Logan Scott
- Cece Sensesak

BAPTISM CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to 1st Grader, Titan Rothschild, for being Baptized this past month! Baptism is the first step on our faith journey! We are so happy to welcome you into the family: the Church!

SNOW MAKE-UP DAY

Monday, March 8 will be used as a SNOW MAKE-UP day. School will be in session on that day to make up for the snow day we took on Tuesday, February 16. There will not be subs offered this day. Please pack a lunch with your child(ren).

INCLEMENT WEATHER

With weather delays and cancellations coming, please be advised that St. Michael School will make an independent decision on whether to delay or cancel school. This decision is not decided by our surrounding public schools. Parents will be notified through our Option C alert system, KDKA TV, Youngstown TV Channels, and Erie TV.

DRESS FOR THE WEATHER

Please dress your child for outdoor recess and gym class. Unless it is raining or below freezing, teachers and students like to go outside for the fresh air. Remember boots and snow-pants when the snow arrives. Snow boots may not be worn in the school during the school day, only when going outside. Please send a change of shoes if your child is wearing snow boots.



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Come to Our School!

Do you have a child who will be between the ages of 3 and 14 for the 2021-2022 school year? We want them at our school! You and your children are the biggest billboards and marketing gurus we have! Spread the word about the good things happening at SMS!

Here is what some of our students have to say about why they love SMS: "It is fun! I love Jesus!" "We are like one big family!" "Everyone is nice, happy, caring. We help people that don't have things by donating." "The teachers are the best!" "I like praying." "Chromebooks and Prodigy Math!" "Getting pizza on Friday!" "I like my school because I love to pray to God!" "I love school because of all my friends!" "I have friends at SMS!" "We have the church and the school." "Everybody is nice!" "Church!" "I like Science!" "I love my school because of the very kind nature." "I have a lot of friends and I love them!" "Lunchtime!" "We have a church and Math and Reading. I love Mary, God, Joseph, and Jesus." "I get to see all my friends and my teacher!" "I love my school because of my classmates who challenge me to do better and teachers who want me to succeed." "Mass! I learn about God and other stuff to learn a lot. I love God and He loves me too!"

Registration is always open, and we are planning for the 2021-2022 school year! Please direct your friends, family members, neighbors, and random people you run into at Walmart to visit our website,

www.saintmichael1.org, and call the school office for more information! We look forward to welcoming many more to the SMS Family!

Option C

Parents, please remember to log in daily to the Option C Homework/Gradebook/Alert System. If you are not receiving the alert messages by phone, email, or text, please contact the school office.



Shamrock SHOUT-OUTS!



Thank you to Mrs. Bates for starting this initiative! Students and staff are encouraged to be on the lookout for exemplary behavior or character in fellow students and staff and "shout them out" by telling the school why on a shamrock cut-out which is added to our bulletin board. We are growing an amazing crop this year!

SCRIP Gift Card Program Easy way to earn tuition credit!

Contact school office or the SCRIP Coordinator, Shannon Thomas, at 724-456-1279 for more information about the program or placing orders.

Christmas is upon us! Now a great time to purchase gift cards for Christmas gifts: either to give or to use! Visit www.shopwithscrip.com to see all the cards you can order from over 750 retailers. Order online or contact Shannon Thomas.

2020-2021 Tuition & FACTS Management

Any questions regarding tuition or FACTS should be directed to Mrs. Susan Swartzbeck in the St. Michael Church Business Office at 724-588-9800 or saintmichaelbiz@gmail.com.



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The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products, and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.

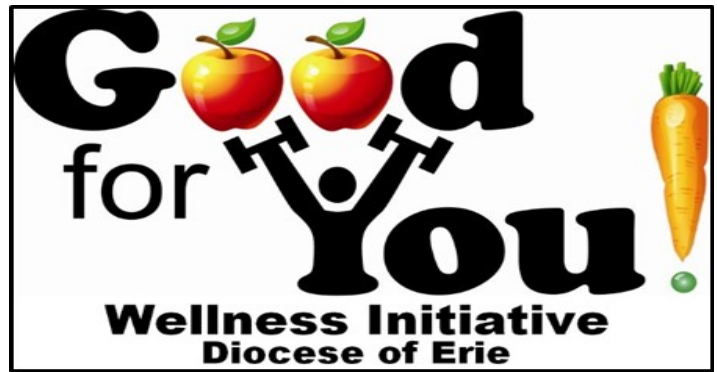
Handbook Information

Parents, please look on the school website: www.saintmichael1.org for the updated Handbook. It includes information about the dress code and COVID-19.

Girls Uniform Exchange

SMS will be offering a uniform exchange of girls **PLAID** jumpers, skirts, or skorts. Please call the school office to ask about our inventory.

Elementary Winter Edition 2021



Dear God,

You have given me a wonderful body. You gave me ears, so I might hear and eyes that I might see. I can move and sing and play. The best part of it is that you planned for me to have this body. Help me to take care of it the very best that I can. May only kind words come from me as I speak to classmates, family and friends. Amen.



LIST OF 10 OUTDOOR SNOW GAMES AND ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Take a look at these fun outdoor games and activities involving snow!

- 1 Snow Baseball
- 2 Footprint Tag
- 3 Snow Golf
- 4 Rope Snow Tug
- 5 Snowball Target Practice
- 6 Winter Tag
- 7 Snowman Building Race
- 8 Snow Treasure Hunt
- 9 Freeze Bubbles
- 10 Outdoor Winter Picnic

[HTTPS://KIDACTIVITIES.NET/GAMES-PLAY-SNOW/](https://kidactivities.net/games-play-snow/)

KID Activities



Rudolph Apple Snacks

Ingredients:

An Apple

Wowbutter or Sunbutter (or any nut butter if no allergies)

Raspberries

Pretzels

Daily Fitness Challenge for Kids

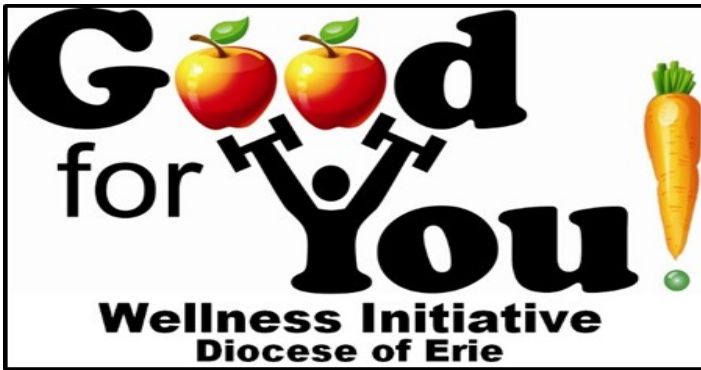
- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------|
| A: 10 Jumping Jacks | N: 4 Lunges |
| B: 30 Second Plank | O: 3 Burpees |
| C: Crab Walk | P: 10 Second Butterfly |
| D: 10 Push Ups | Q: Run in Place 1 Min |
| E: 10 Sit Ups | R: 7 Jumping Jacks |
| F: 5 Cartwheels | S: 4 Leg Kicks |
| G: Headstand | T: 5 Sit Ups |
| H: 4 Somersaults | U: 15 Second Plank |
| I: Duck Walk | V: 3 Cartwheels |
| J: Jump in Air 5 Times | W: Crab Walk |
| K: Touch Toes 6 Times | X: 2 Somersaults |
| L: Spin Around 3 Times | Y: 5 Lunges |
| M: 10 Leg Kicks | Z: Duck Walk |

Spell each day of the week for a daily workout!

HOW TO KEEP YOUR KIDS HEALTHY DURING WINTER

- Feed Vitamin C in the form of oranges or celery
- Feed raw or slightly cooked vegetables like cauliflower
- Winter foods like carrot and eggplant should be fed to kids
- Soups are a great way to give kids a winter health boost
- Feed Vitamin D through oily fish, dairy products and eggs

Middle/ High Winter Edition 2021



Lord, more than anything, help me be at peace with my body. Please release me from envy of the hair, face, skin, abs, arms, legs, thinness, tanness, physical “perfection” of others. You stitched me together in my mother’s womb. You chose my shape, my DNA, knew how I would develop and age through every stage. Please help me to be at peace with this body. Amen



6 WAYS TO BURN OFF THE CALORIES

Slow seasonal weight gain with 30 minutes’ worth of these cold-weather exercises:

Shovelling snow	burns 180 calories
Ice skating	burns 210 calories
Tobogganing	burns 216 calories
Skiing	burns 180 calories
Walking in snow	burns 104 calories
Christmas shopping	burns 89 calories

10 BEST WINTER FRUIT & VEG

- Spinach:** Iron, Vitamin K, Calcium
- Kiwi:** Potassium, Vitamin C, Fiber
- Orange:** Folic Acid, B Vitamins, Carotenes
- Strawberry:** Vitamin E, Vitamin C, Fiber
- Broccoli:** Fiber, Vitamin C, Folic Acid
- Walnut:** Folate, Antioxidant, Vitamin E
- Purple Onion:** Vitamin C, Vitamin K, Folate
- Spinach:** Calcium, Vitamin A, C, D, E, K, B
- Orange:** Fiber, Vitamin A, Potassium
- Orange:** Potassium, Antioxidant, Folate

BECOME GORGEOUS



Froyo Fruit Cups

Ingredients for 12 cups

Blueberry







Raspberry

1 1/2 cups vanilla Greek yogurt



March 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Read Across America Week ---></p>	<p>1 Subs Bring stuffed animal or wear animal print top</p>	<p>2 Wear red or striped shirt. Wear a hat.</p>	<p>3 Pepperoni Rolls Wear wacky socks Staff Meeting</p>	<p>4 Wear green shirt Jeans Day</p>	<p>5 Pizza Wear nice clothes First Friday Eucharistic Adoration Stations of the Cross at 7pm</p>	<p>6 </p>
<p>7 </p>	<p>8 NO SUBS School in Session - Snow Make-up Day</p>	<p>9 Zoom Meeting About Financial Aid at 6pm</p>	<p>10 Pepperoni Rolls Staff Meeting</p>	<p>11 PTO Hot Lunch Jeans Day</p>	<p>12 Pizza 3rd, 7th, & 8th Grade Confessions Stations of the Cross at 7pm</p>	<p>13</p>
<p>14 Daylight Savings Time Begins - Turn Clocks Ahead</p>	<p>15 Subs</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17 Pepperoni Rolls Wear green shirt Staff Meeting </p>	<p>18 Dress Down Day - \$1</p>	<p>19 Pizza 6th Grade Confessions End of Quarter 3 St. Joseph's Day Stations of Cross 7pm</p>	<p>20 </p>
<p>21</p>	<p>22 Subs</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 Pepperoni Rolls Staff Meeting Lunch Orders Due</p>	<p>25 Jeans Day</p>	<p>26 Pizza</p>	<p>27 </p>
<p>28 Palm Sunday Holy Week --></p>	<p>29 Subs</p>	<p>30 Last Day for Help for Homeless Collection</p>	<p>31 NO SCHOOL - EASTER BREAK</p>			<p></p>