

~February 2021~



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

Catholic Schools Week 2021

January 31 - February 6

Sunday, January 31: Celebrating Our Parish

- Because of COVID restrictions this year, we will not be able to have our traditional Opening Mass for Catholic Schools Week, however, you are ALWAYS welcome to come to Mass! Masses at St. Michael Church are on Saturday at 4:30pm, and Sunday at 7:00 and 11:00am. There is also a Mass at St. Margaret in Jamestown at 9:00am.
- Students will be making THANK YOU cards in school during the week for the parishioners that have been praying daily for their family!

Monday, February 1: Celebrating Our Community

- 9:00am Virtual Mass with Bishop Persico! All are welcome!
 - o https://youtu.be/xANHR2M0GnI
- Classes will begin to design their classroom doors.
 Doors will reflect SMS and Catholic Schools Week pride.
- Students will be creating signs for local businesses to hang in their windows, showing them our SMS support.
- Students will create cards for healthcare and essential workers in our community.

<u>DRESS:</u> Dress as Someone in the Community (ex: Police Officer, Nurse, Librarian, Car Mechanic, etc.)

Tuesday, February 2: Celebrating Our Students

- 100th Day of School! Students will be challenged to collect 100 things from home
- Students will complete 100 exercises with Mrs. Boughner via Google Meet!
- Students will create All About Me Posters (with pictures from home) to hang around the school
- Padrone's Pizza Lunch (donated!)
- All school movie with popcorn from PTO

<u>DRESS:</u> Dress as a 100-Year-Old - OR - Wacky, Mismatched Dress Day

Wednesday, February 3: Celebrating the Nation

- Modified Veterans Day Program: Video Honoring Veterans
- Students will make cards for our legislators, lawmakers, and soldiers
- Buddy Day Lunch with Games/Activities (via Google Meet)
- Students will watch I'm Just a Bill by Schoolhouse Rock!
- Students will create flag and patriotic crafts
 <u>DRESS:</u> Patriotically Red, White, and Blue

Thursday, February 4: Celebrating Vocations

- Fr. Christopher, Dn. Frank, and Dn. Marty will visit for "Ask a Priest/Deacon"
- Students will watch <u>The Chosen</u>: Episode 3 about Jesus and the Children
- Students will play All School Saints Bingo (via Google Meet)
- Students will read <u>Becoming Fr. Bob</u> and <u>Becoming</u>
 Sister Mary Grace
- PTO will provide Ice Cream Sandwiches

DRESS: Dress as a Priest or Religious Sister or Brother

Friday, February 5: Celebrating Our Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers

- 9:00am Closing Mass for Catholic Schools Week
- Students will enjoy First Friday Doughnuts
- Students will visit Jesus at Eucharistic Adoration
- Door Decorating Contest Judged
- Noon Dismissal

DRESS: Dress as an SMS Teacher

Saturday, February 6: Celebrating Families

We wish we could have a huge shindig to celebrate with you all, but due to COVID, stay at home and enjoy spending the day together as a family! We look forward to hearing your family story on Monday, February 8!



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Prayer to Saint Valentine

Amen.

O glorious advocate and protector, St. Valentine,
Look with pity upon our wants, hear our prayers, relieve by your intercession the miseries under which we labor, and obtain for us the divine blessing, that we may be found worthy to join you in praising the Almighty for all eternity: through the merits of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

Share Catholic

JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 28: Jeans Day - No charge Jan 31: CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK BEGINS!

FEBRUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 31-Feb 5: Catholic Schools Week!!!!

Feb 5: NOON DISMISSAL

Last Day for Mitten Tree Donations

Feb 11: PTO Hot Lunch - McDonalds Jeans Day - No Charge

Daffin's PTO Fundraiser Starts

Valentine's Day Parties

Feb 12: Act 80 Day - NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

Feb 15:NO SCHOOL - President's Day

Feb 17: Ash Wednesday

No Pepperoni Rolls

March Lunch Order Forms Due

Feb 18: Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation

Feb 22: Daffin's PTO Fundraiser Due

Feb 23: Quarter 3 Interim

Feb 25: Jeans Day - No Charge

MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar 4: Jeans Day - No Charge

Mar 8: No School

Mar 11: Jeans Day - No Charge

PTO Hot Lunch

Mar 17: St. Patrick's Day

Mar 18: Dress Down Day - \$1 Donation

Mar 19: End of Quarter 3

Mar 24: Lunch Forms and Payment Due

Mar 25: Jeans Day - No Charge

Daffins Pickup After School

Mar 31 - Apr 5: No School - Easter Break



Celebrate St. Valentine!



Valentine's Day parties will be on Thursday, February 11, 2021, starting at noon. Students may bring in Valentine's Day cards and store bought, pre-packaged candy if they would like.



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 for all of their help with lunches and fundraisers!
- Thank you to Mr. Mike Varga who continues to help with IT.
- Thank you to Mrs. Anna Boughner for taking the lead on creating the Veterans Day video.

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 February 8^{th} to March 30^{th} .



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Mitten Tree Donations

From now until February 5th, we will be collecting mittens, gloves, and winter hats for infants, children, and adults in need.

We have already distributed some of our collected items to agencies in the area. We will be distributing to the following agencies:

Joshua's Haven - Sharon, PA
Boyd's Kinsman Home - Kinsman, OH
Children's Aid Society - Mercer, PA
Prince of Peace - Farrell, PA
Alpha & Omega Pregnancy Center - Slippery Rock, PA
City Rescue Mission - New Castle, PA

If you know of an organization or agency that could benefit from the donation of mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats, please contact Mrs. Bates at the school office at 724-588-7050 or by email at stmikes@neo.rr.com.

Donations for the Good Shepherd Center

The Good Shepherd Center is asking for donations of pancake mix, pancake syrup, cereal, and toilet paper for the month of January. They are asking for canned fruit and toilet paper for the month of February.

Donations may be taken directly to the Food Pantry at 35 South Water Street in Greenville, Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 3:30pm. You can also send donations to school with your child and we will transport them to The Good Shepherd Center. Please do not take items to St. Michael Church, as they do not have a way to store them.

IT Position Filled!

We are excited to announce that Jessica Sorg, from Kennedy Catholic School System, is filling our part time IT position! Sam Lambert, a student from Thiel College, will also be working as an IT intern for our school!

LUNCHES

February's subs will be turkey subs from Hometown Subs. February's PTO Hot Lunch will be on Thursday, February 11th for those who ordered. It will come from McDonalds and include a 6-piece McNugget box, french fries, apple slices, and a small treat. 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. There are no pepperoni rolls on Wednesday, February 17th because it is Ash Wednesday.

Lunch orders for February are due to the school by January 20th. Lunch orders for March will be due by February 17th.

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 January 21st we collected donations for the Knights of Columbus in Greenville for Dress Down Day. We collected a total of \$80.

February 18th is our next Dress Down Day. Proceeds will be given to the Children's Aid Society.

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.

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.



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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!

Miss Haley Germano - Kindergarten

I am the Kindergarten teacher for this year. I have been working at St. Michael School for two years as part of the teaching staff while also serving as the



Pepper and Competition Cheerleading Coach. I also help with the SAFE program, which is our after school care program.

I received my undergraduate degree from Thiel College in Elementary Education where I also minored in Coaching and Psychology. Currently, I am continuing my education at Edinboro University to attain my Master's degree in PreK through Grade 4 Education.

Some fun facts about me are that I love to play softball in the summer, I love to travel, especially to tropical and European countries, and I enjoy reading at night. I am also a huge Disney fan.

I consider teaching children to be a passion of mine and I love to create magical moments in my classroom.

Mrs. Andrea Bable - First Grade

This is my fifth year teaching at St.
Michael School. I grew up in Ridgway, PA
and graduated from Elk County Catholic
High School. I received my Bachelor of
Science in Early Childhood Education from Clarion
University and my M. Ed in Special Education from
Slippery Rock University.

I reside in Sharpsville with my husband, our son, and our dog. We are expecting another little boy this summer!

In my spare time, I enjoy spending time with my family and being outdoors.

Financial Aid Applications

More information about Financial Aid Applications will be coming home throughout the next two months. Please watch for applications to come home in February. A Parent Alert will be sent out each time an application is sent home. Please remember, these applications require tax information for the 2020 year to be sent with the application.

Calling All Men!

St. Michael Parish will be the host of a satellite location for the 22:32 Men 2021 Conference on February 27, 2021. Details are being finalized. Deacon Marty Aubel and Deacon Frank Luciani will be the contacts for the event at St. Michael Church. Look for additional information in the church bulletin. Registration information can be found at: https://www.2232men.com/event-registration/.

From the Faith Formation Office

The Faith Formation Office is asking everyone to keep the second graders both at St. Michael School and in Faith Formation in their prayers. The Retreat and Sacrament is schedule for Saturday, February 13, 2021 at 9:00am.

They would also like to thank everyone for their prayers for their Communion class. The Confirmation Retreat was held on Sunday, January 17, 2021.

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.



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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.

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.



Box Tops is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-theart 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.

Communication

We welcome communication with you! With so many platforms to choose from, the teachers have decided that the best way for you to communicate with them is through the message feature on Class Dojo. Communication may occur between 7:30am and 3:00pm at the teacher's discretion. Any time after 3:00pm, please know that your child(ren)'s teacher(s) may not get back to you until the following day.

Mrs. Bates may be reached either by phone at 724-588-7050 or email at stmike@neo.rr.com or bates@smike1.org.

If you wish to communicate with Miss Zgonc during the same hours (7:30am - 3:00pm), you may use the Class Dojo message feature or her email address: ezgonc@smike1.org. If school is in session, she may also be reached via phone at 724-588-7050. Miss Zgonc will continue to utilize the Option C parent alert system for school-wide updates.



February 2021



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Catholic Schools Week>	1 Sub Celebrating Our Community - Dress as someone in the com- munity	2 100th Day of School Celebrating Our Students - Dress as a 100-year-old person or dress mix-matched	3 Pepperoni Roll Staff Meeting Celebrating Our Nation - Dress Patriotic	4 Celebrating Vocations - Dress as a Priest or Religious Sister or Brother	5 NOON DISMISSAL Last Day for Mitten Tree Donations NO SAFE NO LUNCH	6 <(Friday: Celebrat- ing Our Staff and Vol- unteers - Dress as a Teacher) Sat Celebrate Family
7	8 Sub Helping the Homeless Donations Begin	9	10 Pepperoni Roll Staff Meeting	Jeans Day - No Charge PTO Hot Lunch Daffin's Fundraiser Starts Valentine's Day Party	ACT 80 Day - No School for Students	13
14 Salentine's	15 NO SCHOOL President's Day	16	17 Staff Meeting Ash Wednesday No Pepperoni Rolls March Lunch Forms Due	18 Dress Down Day - \$1	19 Pizza	20
21	22 Sub Daffin's PTO Fundraiser Due	23 Quarter 3 Interim	24 Pepperoni Roll Staff Meeting	25 Jeans Day - No Charge	26 Pizza	27
28						