

# St. Michael's School News

September 11, 2009

www.stmichaels-cuero.org

## ***Iowa Test of Basic Skills***

Students in Grades K-6 will be administered the Iowa Test of Basic Skills (ITBS) standardized testing during the week of **September 21<sup>st</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>**. The ITBS will cover the areas of reading, language, mathematics, science, social studies, and sources of information. The ITBS is a norm-referenced test based on substantial field research with large numbers of students. This allows us to describe your child's achievement in comparison to the national norm group, diocesan norms, and class norms. Results should arrive by the middle of October.

In addition to the regular testing, students in Grades 2 and 6 will also be given the Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT). This test measures students' verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning abilities.

Testing will be administered each morning of that week. Please schedule any doctor's appointments for the afternoon. If your child is sick, please notify us in the school office as early as possible so that the teachers can begin the testing. We do have two days the following week to make up any testing that is missed due to illness.

Students will be administered a "practice test" next week to help them feel more comfortable. Be sure your child gets plenty of rest each night before the testing and eats a healthy breakfast before coming to school.

*The mission of  
St. Michael's Catholic School is  
to know as Jesus knew,  
to love as Jesus loved,  
and to serve as Jesus served.*

## ***School Spirit Jackets***

Enclosed is information regarding the School Spirit Jacket Offer. Yes, we do expect cooler weather to reach us soon. These jackets are of a high quality and look great in our school colors. There are samples on display in our hallway for you to see and try on to ensure the proper fit. Be sure to order big so they can be worn for years to come.

A deposit of \$20 is due by Monday, **September 21<sup>st</sup>**. Anyone ordering a jacket will be obligated to pay the remaining balance when the jackets arrive. Checks should be payable to St. Michael's School.

***Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> is the  
end of the first four-and-a-half  
week grading cycle.***

***Progress Reports will be issued on  
September 22<sup>nd</sup>.***

***St. Michael's School is going  
green! See the enclosed  
information.***



## ***Fall Festival***

There's great excitement about this year's Fall Festival which will be held on Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. It will be a day-long event rather than just the afternoon as it has been in the past so we are asking everyone to do a little extra this year. You can sign up now to choose where you want to work, or wait and be assigned. The work list will be sent home on September 25<sup>th</sup> along with the dinner and raffle tickets.

## ***Changes in Liturgy***

Please make the following adjustments to the schedule of liturgies:

Sept. 18 – Grades 3 and 4

Sept. 25 – Grade 2

Oct. 2 – Grades 5 and 6

October 4<sup>th</sup> is the Feast of St. Francis. It is custom to bless our pets on this day. However, October 4<sup>th</sup> this year is on a Sunday. So Fr. Kirby will bless the animals on **Friday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:30 a.m.** More information will follow soon.

## ***Generations of Faith***

The subject for this year's Generations of Faith is "Responding in Prayer" and the schedule is as follows:

Oct 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> – We are Called to Pray

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> – Pray Always

Dec 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Advent & Christmas

Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> – Catholic Prayers

Feb 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – Lent & Easter

Mar 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – The Lord's Prayer

March 28<sup>th</sup> – Praying Holy Week

May 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> – Meditative Rosary

June 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> – Different Cultures

Registration will take place at masses on September 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

## ***Conference for Catechesis and Ministry***

The Diocese of Victoria XXII Annual Conference for Catechesis and Ministry is being held at Holy Family Parish in Victoria on Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>. The Rev. Stanley DeBoe, O.S.S.T will present "Proclaiming the Word in Acts of Justice" as the morning keynote presentation. All adults are welcome to attend. For more information, contact the school or parish office.

## ***Prayer to Commemorate 9-11***

*Dear Heavenly Father,*

*Today is a difficult day. The memories are painful and some of the wounds I fear may never heal. Yet I pray you will help me to go on living for truth, firm in my hope of your salvation. May I live for you, Lord, and by doing so, be an example to my friends and family. I pray, just like Jesus, I may learn obedience through these things that I have suffered. Help me not to question why, yet even if I do, give me courage to continue to trust you. Help me take the comfort and strength you've poured into my life and use it to comfort and strengthen others who need hope.*

*I pray I might become a better person and help make the world a better place because of this terrible event. Thank you for the heroes that gave so sacrificially on September 11. Help me to remember their courage and learn from them. I want my life to be worthy of you Lord, so make of it what you desire, and use me to fulfill your purposes. May the evil of that day cause me and my family to work harder to do good on this Earth and to bring your light into the dark places. Help me to never stop believing in you and living my life for you.*

*Lord, heal all those who were crushed and broken on that day. May they come to experience your presence and know your peace. Amen.*

*Amen.*

