



## Superintendent's Bulletin Office of Catholic Education

The Office of Catholic Education is committed to the educational mission of the Catholic Church in the schools of the Diocese of Cleveland. Therefore, our mission is to lead, assist, and support Catholic school communities in providing quality education infused with Gospel values.

### **Volume 10 Issue 7 October 31, 2011**

*Tomorrow, November 1, is the Feast of All Saints*

What makes this feast so important that the Church celebrates both the night *before* All Saints and the day *after* it?

The Church has always honored those early witnesses to the Christian faith who have died in the Lord. (The Greek word for "witness" is martyr.) During the first three hundred years Christians were severely persecuted, often suffering torture and bloody death -- *because they were faithful*. They refused to deny Christ, even when this denial might have saved their own lives, or the lives of their children and families. The early history of the Church is filled with stories of the heroic faith of these witnesses to Christ's truth. The stories of these saints -- these baptized Christians of all ages and all states in life, whose fidelity and courage led to their sanctity or holiness -- have provided models for every other Christian throughout history. Many of those especially holy people whose names and stories were known, the Church later canonized (that is, the Church formally recognized that the life of that person was without any doubt holy, or sanctified, a "saint" who is an example for us.) The Church's calendar contains many saints' days, which Catholics observe at Mass, some with special festivities. But there were thousands and thousands of early Christian martyrs, the majority of whose names are known only to God, and throughout the history of the Church there have been countless others who really are saints, who are with God in heaven, even if their names are not on the list of canonized saints.

In order to honor the memory, and our own debt to these unnamed saints, and to recall their example, the Church dedicated a special feast day, a sort of "memorial day" so that all living Christians would celebrate at a special Mass the lives and witness of those "who have died and gone before us into the presence of the Lord." This feast, that we know as All Saint's Day originated as a feast of All Martyrs, sometime in the 4th century. At first it was celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost. It came to be observed on May 13 when Pope St. Boniface IV (608-615) restored and rebuilt for use as a Christian church an ancient Roman temple which pagan Rome had dedicated to "all gods," the Pantheon. The pope re-buried the bones of many martyrs there, and dedicated this Church to the Mother of God and all the Holy Martyrs on May 13, 610.

About a hundred years later, Pope Gregory III (731-741) consecrated a new chapel in the basilica of St. Peter to all saints (not just to the martyrs) on November 1, and he fixed the anniversary of this dedication as the date of the feast. A century after that, Pope Gregory IV (827-844) extended the celebration of All Saints to November 1 for the entire Church.

The vigil of this important feast, All Saint's Eve, Hallowe'en, was apparently observed as early as the feast itself. Ever since then, for more than a millennium, the entire Church has celebrated the feast of All Saints on November 1st, and, of course, Hallowe'en on October 31.

Take from: <http://www.wf-f.org/AllSaints.html>.

### **Message from the Secretary for Education/Superintendent**

November is a month of Thanksgiving. Living in a free country we have so much for which to give thanks. The nightly news brings that reality to us every day. November is a month of elections in our country, a right and duty we have as free people, and we remember those who have sacrificed their time and many their lives on Veterans' Day.

We also celebrate All Saints, All Souls and, as we will celebrate and reflect upon at the Principal Leadership Conference, the Real Presence of Jesus, God's Son in the Eucharist. I look forward to seeing you at Sawmill and entering into this time with you. How fortunate we are, also to have

Father Fragomeni with us to help us in our reflection. Let's hope for good weather so you can enjoy the beauty of Sawmill as well as the conference.

### **NCEA Convention 2012**

It's not too early to think about the annual NCEA Convention and Expo with the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors (NPCD) Convocation and Catholic Library Association (CLA) Convention. From April 11-13, 2012 it will take place in Boston, MA at John B. Hynes Veterans Memorial Convention Center. Registering now and by making hotel reservations now, you can take advantage of Early Bird Hotel Specials. Go to [www.ncea.org/convention](http://www.ncea.org/convention).

### **Call to Action Alert on HB 136**

**WHAT:** **Call to Action Alert** in which as supporters of Catholic schools throughout the state you ask your state-elected representatives to support the PACT scholarship legislation, HB 136.

**WHEN:** As soon as possible. HB 136 is expected to be considered by the full State House of Representatives in the coming weeks. It is essential that your legislator hear from you.

**WHY:** This legislation is beneficial for Catholic schools and students:

- It creates ways for parents' tax dollars to follow the education of their children, regardless whether they have attended public or chartered nonpublic schools;
- It reaches out to working poor and lower-middle income families;
- It provides for Catholic school families to be phased into the program if their families meet the bill's household income levels;
- It complements Ohio's other school-choice programs.

To identify the names and contact information of the legislators within your Catholic schools, please access the Catholic Conference of Ohio Web site legislative contact page at: <http://www.ohiocathconf.org//Legcontact/Legislatorsweb2011.htm>. After accessing the contact information and name of your school's State House Representative or Senator, please forward this information to all OACS supporters within your school community. Thank you.

### **Private School Aid Service (PSAS) Forms**

Many Catholic High Schools in the Diocese of Cleveland require in-coming freshmen to complete the PSAS "early application" for tuition assistance, with a deadline of November/December. Please remember that for the *Diocesan Tuition Assistance Program*:

1. *In-coming freshman* may include younger and older siblings on the early application so that families *will not have to re-apply* for the March 1 or the June 1 deadlines. One fee of \$24 (new amount) and the family's 2010 tax documents are acceptable to OCE for the families of "*in-coming freshman*."
2. *Four things* for bookkeepers, secretaries, business managers, to keep in mind as they speak with parents, please:
  - As always Diocesan Tuition Assistance program information is distributed to principals at the January Principals' meetings.
  - An interactive pdf version of the (regular) PSAS form will be posted on the OCE website in early January. Families can complete the form electronically but will still need to print the form and mail it along with the required tax docs and check to PSAS.
  - Deadlines: Round 1: March 1, 2012. Round 2: June 1, 2012.
  - Notification letters to families; award lists to schools: Round 1: May 2012. Round 2: July 2012. Award checks mailed to schools: October 2012.

### **Cleveland Scholarship and Tutoring Program Application Period**

Application and renewal period begins February 1, 2012

Application period ends May 31, 2012.

ODE website re: CSTP: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/> SCHOOL OPTIONS pull down.

### **Ohio EdChoice Scholarship Program Application Period**

EdChoice eligible public school list is set to be updated on Tuesday, October 11, 2011. Check the ODE website: <http://www.ode.state.oh.us/> SCHOOL OPTIONS pull down.

Application Period begins February 1, 2012.

Application Period ends April 13, 2012.

### **Jon Peterson Special Education Scholarship Program**

As this scholarship program is being defined, the Catholic Conference is again representing the Catholic School parent and student. Mike Voinovich will keep schools informed about the outcomes and next steps for parents.

Please note that in July 2011 the Catholic Conference posted a Q&A document based on special education law in Ohio that is informative background for the Jon Peterson Special Education Scholarship Program. Please see

<http://www.ohiocathconf.org/ED/1q&adocspecialneeds%20.pdf>

### **Catholic Conference of Ohio**

The Catholic Conference of Ohio is the official representative of the Catholic Church in public matters affecting the Church and the general welfare of the citizens of Ohio.

### **New Service from Catholic News Service**

CNS will now provide reviews of video games. Video and online gaming is a growing part of the entertainment media, so much so that it has become a driving force of modern culture along with radio, film, television and the Internet.

As young people spend more time playing video games alone and with others, parents are seeking guidance in determining whether the content of the games is appropriate for consumption. At the same time, many gamers of all ages are concerned about the levels of gratuitous violence and sexual content and their effect on players.

CNS introduced the new gaming review service with a number of overview stories on the industry itself, how to detect differences among the offerings of the major companies in the business, challenges for parents in supervising their children's gaming, and whether one can be both a hard-core gamer and a faithful Catholic.

CNS will post one to three reviews a week, depending upon the schedule of game releases in the market. Games will be reviewed with attention to the ethical and moral content of the games. The classification system is the same as the long-standing film classification system. Images from the game will accompany each review. For more information, contact [cns@catholicnews.com](mailto:cns@catholicnews.com).

### **Catholic School Management Letter**

This newsletter is written by Catholic School Professionals for Catholic School Professionals. The 2011-2012 subscription to CSML includes six issues dedicated to critical developments regarding:

- The New Normal: Key Planning Assumptions and Best Practices;
- Essential Communication Strategies for Parents, Alums, Alumni Parents;
- Ensuring and Measuring Parent Satisfaction;
- Best Practices in Satisfaction Surveys, Exit Interviews, and Graduate Interviews;
- Middle School Guidance and Counseling Program Considerations;
- Building and Keeping Relationships: Communication Strategies for Database Growth.

To subscribe to Volume XXXIII, send a check for \$29 to Catholic School Management, P.O. Box 4071, Madison, CT 06443 with your name, title, name of school, address, city, state, and zip, phone, email, and diocese.

## **Teaching Kids about Money - their\$, their family'\$, their government'\$**

NO COST and AMAZING RESOURCES!

Looking for resources to teach kids about how to handle money or how this crazy economy works? Check out the website of *Nightly Business Report*, the financial program seen M-F on WVIZ/PBS. The site, <http://www.pbs.org/nbr>, has a wealth (pardon the pun!) of information, resources and tools for you to use in the classroom:

- Profiles of teen entrepreneurs
- Tips on how to save, how to invest
- Tips for calculating the cost of college and how to save for it
- Build a watch list of stocks
- Watch stocks of Ohio companies
- Financial calculator and worksheet
- Kids & Cash – an archive of the on-air series full of information to help develop financially savvy children
- Resource of age-appropriate novels with economic themes for kids and teens

For more information, please contact [Nancy.Burce@ideastream.org](mailto:Nancy.Burce@ideastream.org).

## **Great Books**

Great Books Roundtable™ will transform the way your students learn. Click here to download a free sample unit: [http://www.greatbooks.org/index.php?id=1865&utm\\_source=marketing\\_k-12&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=oct2011&utm\\_campaign=roundtable](http://www.greatbooks.org/index.php?id=1865&utm_source=marketing_k-12&utm_medium=email&utm_content=oct2011&utm_campaign=roundtable)

This is a comprehensive language arts program consisting of:

- Engaging literature
- Critical thinking activities
- Inquiry-based discussion
- A creative teacher
- **All of the above**

Great Books Roundtable puts all these elements together to transform the way your middle school students learn. Great Books Roundtable, like all Great Books K-12 classroom programs, meets the goals of the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts. Why don't you consider getting started today!

## **Manners Assembly for Schools**

Dick Blake, long time ballroom dancer and etiquette expert, offers an assembly to schools who would like to improve students' good manners. In an hour, Blake instructs the assembly in a variety of niceties. He shows them how to applaud properly, and how to say please and thank you to all the important people in their lives. He also teaches dancing, something near and dear to his heart. Blake is in demand by companies and various groups of professionals and volunteers whose livelihood depends upon the impression they make on their customers. Two schools that have used Blake's services are Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, West and Julie Billiart School.

To contact Dick Blake, call 1.216.831.5463 or go to [www.DickBlake.com](http://www.DickBlake.com).

## **Free Concert at St. John Cathedral, November 9, 7:30 pm – Free Secure Parking!**

Singers Companye will present works by Eberlin, Kocsar, Saint-Saëns, Gounod, Fauré, Aquilanti, and Carnahan under the direction of Dr. Samuel Gordon. Founded in 2000 by director Samuel Gordon, Singers Companye is a chamber choir of choral directors and music teachers from Northeast Ohio, which offers singers the opportunity to perform great choral works from every era of musical composition. The ensemble's choral scholars program offers advanced conducting students the opportunity to learn repertoire and rehearsal techniques, and the choral associates program allows young conductors to work with a group of experienced musicians.

Singers Companye has mounted three highly successful international concert tours in Italy and Spain. Performances at Coroest Umbria in Assisi, Italy drew rave reviews as well as invitations to appear as part of future concert series in Poland, Canada, Hungary, Greece, Montana, and Italy. In November 2008, the choir performed a unique program, entitled *Where Earth Meets Sky: The Native American Experience*, for the William Nelson Cromwell and F. Lammont Belin Concert Season at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC. During the 2011-2012 season, the ensemble will perform there again and present a repertoire of late 19<sup>th</sup>-century French Romantic

works. Recent performance highlights include the Kulas Series at The University of Akron, St. John's Cathedral Concert Series in Cleveland, and Music at the Farmstead at the Cuyahoga Valley National Park where, in December 2011, the ensemble will inaugurate the new winter concert series, one of the first of its kind in America. For more information go to <http://singerscompany.com/>

**FROM OCS** .....

**January Thaw**

The fourteenth annual "January Thaw: Fire Up" Conference is scheduled for Saturday, 21 January 2012, at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. This catechetical conference is sponsored by the Southern Area Catechetical Leaders of the Diocese of Cleveland in association with the Diocesan Office of Catechetical Services. Fr. Richard Fragomeni will keynote on the topic, "What's the "This" in Remembrance of Me?: Being and Doing the Eucharistic Gift." The conference offers over 20 sessions for Parish and School Catechetical Leaders, Youth Ministers, Catechists, Teachers, RCIA Teams, and interested adult Catholics, plus a 2 session retreat option.

A brochure with registration information will be available in November online at [www.oce-ocs.org/ocs](http://www.oce-ocs.org/ocs) and included in the December Diocesan Memorandum. Please note that registration is limited and will be processed on a first-come first-served basis.

For additional information, call the Southern Area Office of Catechetical Services at 330-773-7621 or contact [apolack@neo.rr.com](mailto:apolack@neo.rr.com).

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**Enter a Statewide School Safety Contest**

The Ohio Department of Transportation is sponsoring a School Safety Contest. This contest is part of ODOT's new Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program launched in October 2011 as part of its "Every Move You Make, Keep It Safe" comprehensive statewide safety campaign.

Have students use their talents and skills to draw a poster, invent a computer game or new safety device, conduct a science experiment, or write a safety rap or poem.

Projects are due February 29, 2012 and must be developed between now and 2/29/12.

Submit them via email or U.S. Postal service to:

Every Move School Safety Contest  
c/o Murphy Epton  
152 East Nationwide Blvd.  
Columbus, OH 43215

For more information go to:

<http://www.dot.state.oh.us/groups/EveryMove/SRTS/Pages/SchoolSafetyContest.aspx>

Questions? Email Julie Walcoff, SRTS Program Manager at [Julie.Walcoff@dot.state.oh.us](mailto:Julie.Walcoff@dot.state.oh.us).

Please include your phone number.

**Two NASA Programs for Private School Students and Teachers**

*Become a NASA Explorer School!*

Private schools are invited to become NASA Explorer Schools (NES) through this innovative program. NES invests in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) educators to inspire and engage future scientists, engineers, and technicians that NASA needs to continue their ongoing journey. NES gives educators of grades 4-12 free access to NASA's people, missions, research, and facilities, takes the work out of searching through thousands of materials on the NASA website, and provides a comprehensive set of teaching materials for dozens of STEM concepts.

NES focuses on student opportunities and permits multiple pathways for teachers and schools to participate. A Virtual Campus website provides professional development support for educators and allows students to participate in NASA's mission of discovery and exploration. NES also features cross-cutting NASA STEM lessons for middle and high school teachers to implement into their classrooms. For additional information, visit: <http://explorerschools.nasa.gov>.

*International Space Station EarthKAM Fall 2011 Mission*

Middle school educators are invited to join NASA for the International Space Station EarthKAM Fall 2011 Mission from Nov. 1-4, 2011. This exciting opportunity will allow students to take pictures of Earth from a digital camera aboard the International Space Station.  
International Space Station.

International Space Station EarthKAM is a NASA-sponsored project that provides stunning, high-quality photographs of Earth taken from the space shuttle and the space station. Since 1996, EarthKAM students have taken thousands of photographs of Earth by using the World Wide Web to direct a digital camera on select spaceflights and, currently, on the space station.

For additional project information, and to register for the upcoming mission, visit the EarthKAM home page [www.EarthKAM.ucsd.edu](http://www.EarthKAM.ucsd.edu).

If you have questions about the EarthKAM project, please email [ek-help@earthkam.ucsd.edu](mailto:ek-help@earthkam.ucsd.edu).