

Bear Blast

February 12 - 16, 2024



Our Mission - United by our core values of Faith, Family, Knowledge and Service, St. Anthony Catholic School is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and moral development. Preparing students to be good stewards of God's gifts.



Message from the Principal

Dear St. Anthony Families,

This week we will begin our season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. This journey is one of prayer, sacrifice, and charity. Throughout the season, we are asked to intentionally break away from our normal routine of daily life, to strip away life's trivialities, and to focus on our spiritual journey as we prepare ourselves for Easter.

Ash Wednesday is always the first Wednesday of the Lenten season and marks the beginning of Lent. It is done for two reasons: a personal act of remembrance and as a sign or a witness for others. We will also begin each school day with our Lenten Good Deed which will remind us to continue to walk in Jesus' footsteps.

The students will be building a Merciful Cross with the Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy as a school community. I invite you to share with us on our Lenten journey with the Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 2:15 p.m. and the Parish Fish Fry each Friday!

Our Parish will also be hosting a Lenten Mission February 17th-22nd; Renew our vision of who we are and what our purpose is with Fr. George Knab. More information is available at the church office.

Congratulations to our 2nd graders who received their Sacrament of Reconciliation on Friday. "Let the little children come to me, and do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."

*Blessings,
Mrs. Salemmo*

Upcoming Events

- February 5 - 23 - MAP Testing
- February 13 – Class Valentine Parties; Middle School Interim Reports; Blood Drive
- February 14 – Ash Wednesday; School Mass
- February 15 – House Meeting
- February 16 – Noon Dismissal; No School Mass
- February 19 – NO SCHOOL – Presidents' Day
- February 23 – Chorus sings at Mass
- February 27 – Bookmobile for 1st – 3rd grades
- February 29 – February Birthday NUT Card Day
- March 1 – NO SCHOOL; Diocesan PD
- March 11 - 2:00 Dismissal

TAKE NOTE

Students should wear **Mass Uniforms on Wednesday**. We will attend Mass. There will be no School Mass on Friday.

Noon Dismissal on Friday
After Care will be available
Normal Fees apply
Students should bring a bagged lunch.

INTERIM REPORTS
For Grades 5 - 8
Sent home in Tuesday Folder

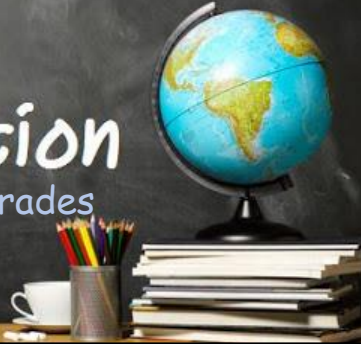

Happy Valentine's Day!

Students may wear valentine shirts with uniform bottoms on **Tuesday**. Pink or red hairbows are also acceptable.

Classroom parties will be at 2:15 unless the teacher has communicated a different schedule.

Testing Information

Students in 5K - 8th grades will be MAP testing February 5 - 23

Prayer to St. Valentine

O St. Valentine, lover of Christ and the Church, we ask your intercession that we may learn how to love God above all things, and to selflessly love one another.

O glorious St. Valentine, pray for us, that we too may have the steadfast faith of the martyrs.



Spirit Wear Store is Open!

Order Deadline: February 21, 2024

Online Ordering: [Spirit Wear Store](#)

We will continue to have spirit Mondays as well as other days throughout the year to show our school pride. The House shirt, which is mandatory for House meeting days, is also available to order for your convenience!

Please contact Ashley Stokes with any questions at astokes@saintanthonycatholic.com.



Merciful Cross

We are covering a cross in the media center with colorful flowers to represent our works of mercy and sacrifices. Offerings are written on the flowers and returned to the office.

We encourage all families to participate at home. Flowers will be sent home. When a flower is returned, we will send another.

Ash Wednesday

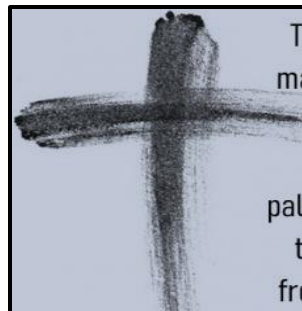
Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too.

Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes are a sign of penance and also a reminder that we will die a temporal death and thus should seek the kingdom of God, so that we may live with Jesus and the Church Triumphant forever in heaven.

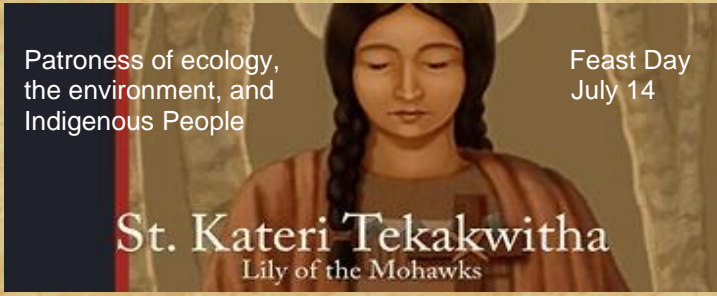
Ash Wednesday opens Lent, a season of fasting and prayer.

February Virtue: Honesty

St. Kateri Tekakwitha inspires us toward a truthful and honest life. St. Kateri unpopularity converted to Catholicism against the demands of her adoptive parents. She was always honest about her faith and stayed truthful in her devotion to God.



The ashes used on Ash Wednesday are made from the burning of palms blessed in the previous year's Palm Sunday celebration, when Christians carry palms to recognize the Gospels' reference to Jesus's path being covered in palm fronds on the day he entered Jerusalem.



St. Kateri Tekakwitha, affectionately called the 'Lily of the Mohawks', was born in New York in 1656 to a Mohawk chief father and an Algonquin mother. Her mother was converted to the Christian faith by Jesuit missionaries.

When Kateri was just four years old a smallpox epidemic swept through her village, killing her entire family. In addition to leaving her orphaned, the disease left her partially blind, disfigured, and crippled. She was then adopted and raised by her uncle, who detested the Christians.

As she grew older, Kateri longed for the faith of her mother, faintly remembering the prayers she was taught as a child. Tensions were high between herself and her tribe because she staunchly refused the pressure they put on her to marry.

At the age of twenty, Kateri was secretly baptized by the Jesuits with the name Catherine (which translates "Kateri") after St. Catherine of Siena. Her uncle did not approve of her conversion, and as a result Kateri was ostracized from her village, treated harshly, and bullied. When it became clear that her life was in danger, with the aid of a priest she fled for refuge at a French Jesuit mission in Montreal, Canada.

Kateri trekked over 200 miles through rough terrain to reach the Christian settlement, a daunting and dangerous two-month journey, undoubtedly made more difficult due to her poor eyesight. Once safe at the mission, she realized her desire to live a simple life of prayer and penance. She declined marriage again, and lived as a single woman of deep faith, offering her sufferings and her life to Christ.

Her great sanctity, virtue, mystical prayer life, and love for Jesus amazed the Jesuit priests and everyone who knew her. It is said that people loved to be around her and to listen to her speak, because her soul radiated the beauty and peace of God.

Kateri Tekakwitha died of an illness in 1680, during Holy Week, when she was just twenty-four years old.

Congratulation to our students who received the Sacrament of Reconciliation!



Disney **NEWSIES JR.**
Schedule February 12 - 16

Tuesday	3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	All Cast
Tuesday – Parent Meeting 5 PM		
Thursday	3:30 – 5:00 p.m.	Scenes 4, 6, 8, and 10

Newsies Jr. T-shirts can be purchased by using the link below. Cost \$20.00 (final price determined by size ordered). Store closes **FEBRUARY 27**. Shirts will be shipped to and distributed by Barbara Davis. Youth and adult sizes available

[T-shirt Ordering](#)



Middle School (Gr. 5 – 8) Coed Soccer

Spring Middle School Co-Ed Soccer will begin in March. Please see your child's Tuesday Folder for information. Permission forms and liability forms will be in the Folder and will need to be returned **NO LATER than Friday, February 16, 2024**.

BASKETBALL

Schedule for the Week of February 12 - 16

4th – 6th Team

Tuesday	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	Home Game vs. All Saints
Thursday**	4:00 – 5:00 p.m.	St. Anthony at King's Academy

** Please continue to follow the pickup for away games.

Middle School Team

Thursday	5:00 – 6:00 p.m.	Home Game vs LOL Steam School of the Arts, Hartsville
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[Link to Basketball Schedule](#)

**We NEED you.
Can you HELP?**

We need volunteers to work the Fish Fry. There are many different opportunities, and we will be glad to find the right match for you. If you are able to help with any of the Fish Fries, please call the school office. We will also need homemade desserts to sell.

This is a good opportunity for our 7th and 8th Graders to earn service hours. Because the Fish Fry is Drive-Through, we are not able to have younger children in the Family Center.

**Re-enrollment
for Next School Year**

The planning process for the 2024-2025 School Year has begun. Re-enrollment Packets were sent home in the Tuesday Folder. Please help us by completing your re-enrollment packet and returning it to the school office.



House Votes are in!

This includes online votes, votes at the Hoedown and points from paid tickets.

St. Joan of Arc	468
St. John Bosco	1,116
St. Jude	865
St. Paul	746

Thank you to our Auction/Gala Sponsors

Honky-Tonk Event Sponsor

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Dr. Manver and Mrs. Danagene Razick

Women's Guild of St. Anthony

Zapata's Grill

Supporting Sponsors

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Koppers - Horseshoe Toss

Micky Finn's - Barback Sponsor

QVC - Hats Up Hats Down

Dr. Tom and Celeste Spence - Dessert Bar

Stoudenmire Dowling Funeral Home

Syrenity Technologies - Music Sponsor

Thank you to everyone who made this happen! Thank you for loving our school, working for our school, supporting our school and most importantly, praying for our school.

We raised \$110, 804!



Fridays during Lent

4:30 - 7:00 p.m.

Family Center

Drive-Through Only

Adult Plate \$12 Child's Plate \$8

Includes Fried Flounder, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Hush Puppies and the Knight's Famous Tartar Sauce

Desserts available for \$1.00

Your Lenten alms in the Rice Bowl makes a difference. Rice Bowls will come home in the Tuesday Folder.



75% of your CRS Rice Bowl donation supports our work around the world.



25% of gifts stay in each U.S. diocese for hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.



Since 1975, people of all ages have participated in CRS Rice Bowl, putting their faith into action during the Lenten season.



What does your donation provide?

\$40

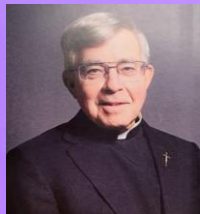
helps purchase infant scales to measure babies' growth.

\$80

helps raise chickens to provide eggs for protein and income.

\$120

contributes toward a household garden for family nutrition.



Parish Mission February 17th - 22nd

As a parish we need to continually renew our vision of who we are and what our purpose is. Join us for a parish mission led by Fr. George Knab, O.M.I. from Belleville, IL, the site of the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows.

- Sunday** 6:30 p.m. **BEAUTY OF THE EARTH**
Ritual: Birth through Water and the Holy Spirit; Refreshments following
- Monday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments, talk: **The Greatest Commandment**
6:30 p.m. **BEFRIENDING OUR GRIEF**
Ritual: Sacrament of Penance
- Tuesday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments, talk: **The Second Great Commandment**
10 – 4 Confessions are heard every hour on the hour
6:30 p.m. **HEALING ONE AND ALL**
Ritual: Prayer of Faith
- Wednesday** 7:30 a.m. Prayer, refreshments, talk: **Good Grief, Letting Go of a Loved One Gracefully**
6:30 p.m. **THE WAY FORWARD**
Ritual: CELEBRATION OF MASS
Guided Holy Hour (Attendance is optional)
- Thursday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments and **Question and Answer Session**
5:30 p.m. Guided Holy Hour (Attendance is optional)
6:30 p.m. **RADIANT SPLENDOR**
Ritual: Benediction and Announcement of the Plenary Indulgences
Refreshments following