

GTACS NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF GRAND TRAVERSE AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

MSAA SCHOOLS OF
DISTINCTION 08

Catholic High School
HONOR ROLL
2008-2009

NATIONAL
Catholic High School
HONOR ROLL
2010-2011

GTACS
GRAND TRAVERSE AREA
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education ensuring educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.

January 20, 2012 Please email information for system-wide distribution to Cathy Nelson at cnelson@gtacs.org.

For this weekend's Mass readings, [click here](#).

A number of TCSF students and others from northern Michigan are headed to Washington D.C. this weekend for Monday's national [March for Life](#). The local memorial is this weekend, Sunday, and you can learn how to get involved at [this link](#).

CALENDAR ITEMS

January 23	Click here for the January and February prayer schedule for clergy of our Diocese
January 26	Guys and Dolls tickets go on-sale
January 29	<i>Cherub Tales</i> , a Christian story hour for wee ones at Holy Angels Library (open to public), 10:30-11:15 am
February 1-6	Catholic Schools Week begins – click here for complete schedule
February 3	Bishop Hebda makes his <i>ad limini</i> visit to Rome; to add to the spiritual bouquet, click here
February 3	All System Mass, 8:30 a.m. in the St. Francis gym – all are welcome
February 8	Next PTC meeting at noon at SEAS
February 10	Opening night of St. Francis High School musical, Guys and Dolls
February 15	Open house for new/prospective students and their families
February 20	Preschool and kindergarten enrollment for in-system families
March 2	Family bowling night at Lucky Jacks (PTC-sponsored event)

Keep an eye on the [registration dates](#) for the 2012-2013 year.

WELCOME TO...

9th grade – Maria Salgat, and parents Mark and Michelle

9th grade – Sam Holmes, and parents Sam and Mary

4th grade – Whitney Paulson (older brother of second grader, Tim, and son of Ryan and Kate)

CONDOLENCES TO...

GTACS Teacher, Mrs. Betsy Charron, whose brother, Steve, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday night. Please keep this family in your prayers during this very difficult time.

CONGRATS TO...

Alex Quinlan, Brooke Wilson, Kate DeYoung and Anna Wheatley for qualifying for advancement during the recent Michigan State Vocal Music Association solo & ensemble district. Kate also achieved earned *superior* ranking.

THANKS TO...

GTACS parents and students...because your diligence in collecting Box Tops has paid off! The PTC would like to share the totals and to thank you all for your help: SEAS earned \$955.00; Immaculate Conception earned \$2,232.30; and Holy Angels earned \$2,827.10. Thank you to Mrs. Bridget Thuente who coordinates this effort at our Schools.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK (JAN. 29-FEB. 3)

As you plan ahead for [Catholic Schools Week](#), two small things: 1) Do you know someone – perhaps a family member or parishioner – who would like to come to the All System Mass? Please consider inviting them and/or offering to car pool. We'd love to share this powerful experience with more of our community, and all are welcome to stay for coffee and rolls afterward; 2) Fair warning: We'll once again be participating in a canned goods drive to benefit the food pantry at Father Fred. If you see a great deal on non-perishables, you may want to stock up!

GUYS AND DOLLS

Tickets to our high school musical, Guys and Dolls, go on sale this Monday. The box office will be located in the lobby of the high school gymnasium (11th street entrance). Hours are Monday-Friday from 11 am-2 pm and the phone number is 231 946-0715. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$10 for students (18 and under) and seniors (65 and older). Performances are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Feb. 10, 11 and 12 AND Feb. 17, 18 and 19 with Friday and Saturday shows at 7 pm and Sunday matinees at 2 pm. Get the latest info about this year's show by joining the Guys and Dolls [Facebook group](#).

– OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH –

CULTURE OF LIFE CATHOLIC MEN'S CONFERENCE

Fr. Paul O'Brien will be the keynote speaker during this men's [conference](#) being organized by Absolute Catholic which begins with Mass with the Bishop. Event is March 3 from 9 am-5 pm at St. Francis High School. \$25 fee includes lunch.

PARENT/HIGH SCHOOL TEEN RETREATS

Fr. James Bearss is leading "The Just Man" father/son retreat February 11-12 at the Augustine Retreat Center in Conway. Fr. Matthew Wigton will lead, "The Mystical Rose" mother/daughter retreat March 24-25 also at the Augustine Center. Cost for either session is \$60 per person which includes accommodations and meals; Saturday-only is \$15. To register, contact Liz Gengle at 231 347-4133 ext. 27 or jp2youth@gmail.com.

– EASY THINGS YOU CAN DO TO SUPPORT OUR SCHOOLS –

TRASH FOR CASH

January is a good time for New Year's Resolutions. Why not make a resolution now to be a better participant in getting free money for our school? We are always collecting Tom's receipts, Oleson's receipts, Box Tops for Education, Labels for Education (including Campbell's and Pepperidge Farms UPCs), Spartan UPC codes, and Tyson Project A+ labels. There is real money to be had in these little pieces of paper that would otherwise go out in your trash. GTACS receives about \$6,000 each year from these programs. Please send them in to school with your child so we can turn your TRASH into CASH! Please remember to put your son or daughter's name and grade on the back of Oleson's receipts because this money goes directly to your student's 8th grade trip to Washington DC. Thanks for your support!

- **JANUARY BOX TOPS BONUS**

Meijer shoppers: Buy any 10 or more participating Box Tops for Education products from January 22-28 and get 70 bonus box tops for our Schools! Each box top is worth 10 cents; see www.boxtops4education.com for details.

- **LABELS FOR EDUCATION BONUS**

Clip the "labels for education" area on five cans of Campbell's soup, attach to [this form](#), and turn it in to your School's collection bin by 2/29 to earn 100 bonus points.

JUST IN TIME FOR SUPERBOWL SUNDAY

The Band Boosters are taking orders for hoagie sandwiches now through January 30. Hoagies are \$4 each and will be ready for you on Saturday, February 4 – just in time for the Superbowl! Find a band member to get your hoagie order in!

– IN OUR COMMUNITY –

YOUTH: IT'S A STAGE!

The Old Town Playhouse Young Company begins winter session on January 30. These after-school classes are designed for students ages 5 to 16 and include instruction in Acting, Singing, Dance and Speech. Register online at www.tcctheatre.org or call 947-2210. All classes are held at the Old Town Playhouse, 148 E. 8th street in Traverse City.

PRESTO, PROGRESSO! YOUR CANNED FOOD DONATIONS ARE DOUBLED!

The 18th annual Father Fred Foundation Frostbite Food Drive runs from Feb. 3 to 12. Anonymous donors are offering to match your donations of food, personal care items, and cash, up to \$100,000. The food drive accepts food, personal care items and cash gifts. Our Schools have traditionally participated in this drive as part of Catholic Schools Week, and this year is no exception. But what IS exceptional is the need this year, and the generous match for our donations.

If I did not simply live from one moment to another, it would be impossible for me to be patient, but I only look at the present, I forget the past, and I take good care not to forestall the future."

— [St. Thérèse de Lisieux](#)