

MISSION STATEMENT

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.

August 18, 2011

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

THIS WEEKEND'S MASS READINGS (Reflection based on Matthew 16:13-20 from *Faith First for Families*)...our children look to us as the rock on which they build many things: their trust in other people, their hope, and certainly their faith in God's promises. The way our children see us respond to others, what they hear us say, and what they see us do, will shape who Jesus is in their lives. Taking a moment to pray for guidance and wisdom before we act or react to a situation may be just enough to let Jesus in.

BACK-TO-SCHOOL LETTERS EMAILED LAST FRIDAY

If you missed the email containing superintendent/principals' back-to-school letters, uniform information, school supply lists, or dining services information, don't despair! You can find them here, on our [website](#).

FREE OR REDUCED MEALS APPLICATION

The economic climate has made it more challenging for many families to make ends meet. If you find yourself in this situation, your student(s) may be eligible to receive reduced or free meals at school. Applications are available at all school offices, and on the GTACS web site. To apply online, visit www.lunchapp.com and follow the instructions for Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools (you do not have to fill out and submit a paper application). Once the application is processed, a letter will be mailed to your home within (10) business days. If you have any questions regarding the free and reduced meal application process, please contact GTACS Dining Services at (231) 995-8454.

DATE CHANGE: MIDDLE SCHOOL VOLLEYBALL TRYOUT SCHEDULE

Due to a conflict with the SEAS ice cream social, the timing of the second day of volleyball tryouts has been changed. Here is the new schedule: *7th Grade Volleyball Tryouts* will be Monday, August 29 from 5:15-6:30 pm, and *8th Grade tryouts* will be from 6:45-8:00 pm. On Tuesday, August 30, tryouts will now be from 3:15-4:30 pm for 7th grade and from 4:45-6:00 pm for 8th grade girls. The first practice will be Wednesday, August 31.

TENNIS COACHING POSITION

St. Francis High School has an opening for junior varsity boys tennis coach for the fall 2011 season. (Ben Schipper, the current coach, will be returning to college after Labor Day.) Season begins in August and continues through September 30. Contact Athletic Director, Tom Hardy, thardy@gtacs.org for details.

SPIRIT WEAR FOR SALE AT OPEN HOUSES

Here's a convenient way to stock up on spirit (Glad) wear for use throughout the year. Staff members or volunteers will be on-hand at each school open house with a selection of available items. Please bring cash or check to purchase items.

PAT LACKIE MEMORIAL

There will be a special memorial service at SEAS to honor a cherished teacher, Mr. Pat Lackie. The ceremony will begin in the front sSQSgarden on Friday, September 9, at 2:00 pm. All are welcome.

TRIP NEWS WEEK OF 8-15-11

- Please be advised that **Domino's Pizza** is in the process of updating their computer systems. As a result, from Monday, 8/22 through Wednesday, 8/24, you will be unable to use your **Domino's Pizza** gift cards at their store locations.
- In case you missed it: **Burlington Coat Factory** (\$25 denomination at 7%) and **Whole Food Markets** (\$25 denomination at 2%) were added to our Not-On-hand order form last week!
- **Macy's Shop for a Cause** day is Saturday, August 27th. Your \$5 donation entitles you to a 25% off coupon good that day on regular, sale & clearance items, including home - even save on most brands usually excluded! An extra 10% off applies to electronics, electrics, furniture, mattresses and more. Some exclusions apply. You will also be entered for a chance to win a \$500 Macy's gift card. See coupon in our office for details. All proceeds benefit the GTACS' scholarship fund.

Bonuses:

- **CVS (NOH)** - 1% until 8/25

"From the Eucharist comes strength to live the Christian life and zeal to share that life with others," – **Blessed Pope John Paul II**