

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.

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Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is Thursday @ 11:00 a.m.

Please email information for the SF newsletter to Kathy Hunt at khunt@gtacs.org

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Maureen DeYoung at mdeyou@gtacs.org

Christ – Above All Things

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

4/29 (Thursday) Bloodmobile here at SF – parents are encouraged to give also.
5/1 Prom @ Traverse City Country Club
5/4 (Tuesday) ½ day Inservice followed by Festival of the Arts
5/17 (Monday) Mass with Bishop Hebda @ 9:30 followed by speaker Jason Evert
5/19 (Wednesday) Senior trip to Empire after lunch
5/20 (Thursday) Sports Faith International Assembly and Awards
5/27 (Thursday) Senior Award Night and NHS Inductions 7:00-8:30 PM
(cafeteria)
5/31 (Monday) No School Memorial Day
6/2 (Wednesday) Baccalaureate & Graduation Practice @ 10:00 AM
6/3 (Thursday) Baccalaureate Mass @ St. Francis Parish beginning with prelude music @ 6:30 PM
6/6 Graduation @ 3:00 in the SF Gym
6/7-6/10 EXAM WEEK for 9-11th

FROM THE COUNSELOR

Happy Friday!

Magdalen Marie Maday was welcomed into this world by Beth and Jason Maday early Monday morning! I thought I would open this newsletter with a letter Mrs. Maday left for all of you before leaving.

Catechism of the Catholic Church

2378 A child is not something owed but a GIFT. The “supreme gift of marriage is a human person.

Bed time is when my six year old son saves the tough questions. This is either a stall tactic or the time when just he and I have a quiet chance to talk without the thought of dishes, homework and/or the intrusion of his three year old sister. As he looked at my ever expanding belling (anticipating the birth of baby #3) he asked, “Am I still going to be special to you when the baby comes?” I thought...wow...that is not a five minute answer and as I looked at the clock thinking this is **really** going to put us past bedtime, I

took a deep breath, looked into his dark brown eyes and said you are my GIFT...my gift from God. We then took a trip into his six year history talking about all the times God was visible and working in our family. We also talked about the scary times or the uncertain times and we had to faithfully walk into HIS arms knowing he would lead the way.

By the end of the conversation he said, "Mom, are you crying again?" (Apparently my son thinks I cry a lot) but through the tears, the remembering, the laughter, my son finally got the message, he is my GIFT and I am so very, very grateful!

As I enjoy this special time with both Gabe and Anna Cate and as we anticipate our third gift I am ever so humbled that you entrust YOUR GIFTS to me/to us. Thank you for sharing your children with me and know they hold a very special, special place in my heart.

Even though I may not be around much the end of this year, your GIFTS are always in my prayers and as they plan for classes next year, anticipate summer jobs, or are making that big college decision; I will continue to pray for HIS guidance in all they do and will choose to do.

Praying for your GIFTS,
Beth Maday

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

May 6th – We would like to offer the **ASVAB for any 10th, 11th or 12th grade students** who would like to participate in this career exploration test. This test, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery, is administered by the military but the scores will not be sent to any military branch. Military recruiters will be available the day of testing if anyone is interested in meeting with them, but **ONLY** if requested by the student. This is a free and informative test and if you are interested in participating, please stop by the guidance office to sign up.

The SR. PLANS/Baccalaureate Mass form has been handed out to all senior students. These forms are used during the senior awards program and also during Baccalaureate Mass. **PLEASE** make sure they are returned to the guidance office **NO LATER than Friday, May 7th.**

Some of the enrollment deadlines may have already passed, but take a look and see if any of these programs interest you...

MORE SUMMER PROGRAMS:

Penn State Pre-College Programs (sas.upenn.edu/summer/students/highschool)

Loyola Pre-Collegiate Summer Scholars (LUC.edu/summerscholars)

Operation Bentley (May 15 – May 21) **ALBION COLLEGE**. This is open to juniors and sophomores interested in policy development and local government.
(albion.edu/Bentley)

CMU's Leadership Camp – seniors who have been admitted for Fall 2010 can apply
(reslife.cmich.edu/leadership/leadershipcamp)
Alma College Leadership Academy (JUNIORS) – alma.edu/leadacademy
Lawrence Tech Summer Camps – ltu.edu and look under Summer Programs 2010
Lake Superior State University – lssu.edu/summercamps
Ferris State University Summer Academic Camp www.ferris.edu/summercamps

A new scholarship list is attached with some upcoming due dates. Take a look at the list and remember to meet the deadlines.

Many of you have emailed or stopped in to ask about this year's Christian Service Awards. Below is an email that was sent to us from the Diocese.

“In response to questions concerning the appropriate criteria for awarding the annual Christian Service Awards, Bishop Hebda has recently indicated that the awards will not be given this year. While very impressed by the zeal and commitment of the high school students he has met, the Bishop would like the opportunity to become better acquainted with the youth of the Diocese and to explore with the soon-to-be-formed Diocesan Youth Council the means by which this local Church can best encourage Christian service.”

Lastly, I am honored to be filling in for Mrs. Maday while she is on maternity. I will be holding regular office hours at St. Francis from 7:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Monday – Friday. I am also checking Mrs. Mayday's email daily. I will do my best to answer any questions you have for me and if I do not know the answer, I will find out. Please feel to stop in with questions or just to say “hi”.

With God's Guidance,

Susan Stendel
GTACS Counselor

For Sale

The St. Francis Library is selling the following subject encyclopedias:

Grolier's Amazing World of Animals, 20 Volumes, 1972.
Marshall Cavendish Illustrated Encyclopedia of Family Health, 24 Volumes, 1984.
McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science & Technology, 20 Volumes, 2002.

All books have normal library markings. If interested, call Mrs. Niemi at 995 8431 and make an offer.

Color Guard for Gladiator Marching Band

Interested in joining the Gladiator Marching Band as a Color Guard member? Come to SF band room on Wednesday, April 28 and Thursday, April, 29 and learn color guard fundamentals and some routines!! Each color guard session will run from 3:00-3:45.

More color guard sessions to follow on Wednesday & Thursday, May 4 & 5. Auditions for a position on the squad take place Thursday, May 20. Come join a part of the fun!!

Student Council sponsored Blood Drive

The SF Student Council will be having a blood drive on April 29th from 10:00-2:00. The bloodmobile will be parked outside the school. Students who want to give blood can sign up in the office for a time slot. Their goal is 32 pints! Parents are welcomed also. GIVE LIFE.

Congratulations

Rotary Student of the Month Alex Rushlow who was honored at a rotary lunch along with Taylor Bartlette at the Park Place on April 20th.

The 2010 VERITAS yearbook sales are at a record low.

This could be due to many of us focused on spring break! ☺

The yearbook staff will extend the 2010 VERITAS Yearbook Sales through the next two weeks – to end on April 23rd!

ALL YEARBOOKS ARE PREORDERED – we do not purchase extras.

For only \$60.00 you can be a cool part of SFHS's history of the year!

LAST CHANCE – GET YOUR BOOK NOW!

***Place CHECK/CASH in labeled envelope YEARBOOK SALES 2010 with STUDENT NAME – in Mrs. Tull's mailbox. Pick up your receipt!**



Senior Parents – CAN YOU BELIEVE YOUR BABY IS GRADUATING??? Leave a lasting message in the VERITAS yearbook (community section) of just how proud you are of your son/daughter with a BABY AD!

- This is a limited offer and **available ONLY** from **March 22nd through April 30th**.
- Pricing: Single Block/business card size: \$50
 - Double Block: \$90
 - Half Page: \$180
 - Full Page: \$450

- Word limit: approx. 40 for a single block and 80 for double, 1/2 page, and full page. A single block is limited with a small message and one photo – if you need more room, please go up in size.
- Requirements: A disk with clear photo. Typed message. Every piece labeled with name(s). Check/cash. Please place in envelope labeled: BABY AD – YEARBOOK – TULL. Please deliver to Mrs. Tull’s mailbox or room/#211.
- Remember – this offer ends APRIL 30th



NEW SIGN Your Yearbook!

The VERITAS staff has created a NEW way for each student to have the opportunity to “sign” or leave a message in the 2010 yearbook!

- This exciting and limited offer is for STUDENTS ONLY.
- Cost is **ONLY** \$15.00 to leave a **permanent message** in the community section of the yearbook.
- The space is approximately half a business card size and can accommodate nearly 30-40 characters depending on font/size. (no images – font only)
- Please TYPE out your message and your name. Place in a sealed envelope with the check or cash amount of \$15.00. Write on the envelope: MRS. TULL/SIGN MY YEARBOOK and place in her mailbox or bring up to room #211.
- This offer is limited in space and time: from now until shortly after spring break (March 22nd through April 30th) – SO ACT QUICKLY!!!!