

"A Century of Caring; A Legacy of Faith"



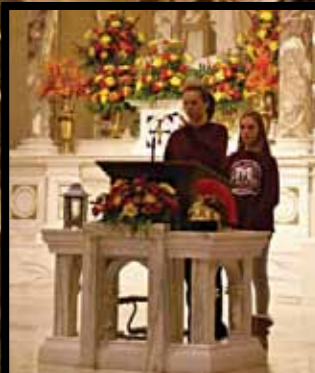
ST. MARTIN

T T
OUR ALK

DECEMBER 2011

www.saintmartin.org

*Centennial Year
Closing Celebration*



See page 5 for more photos.

From the Principal's Desk

By: Carolyn Murphy

St. Martin School has been a very busy place lately. It is a wonderful time to be at St. Martin School. We had our First Halloween Parade around the block of school. We enjoyed having so many people come out and line our parade route. We were able to show off our costumes and "scare" friendly faces. It is now going to be a yearly tradition!



We have finished our First Quarter. Fr. Terry and I passed out report cards and we held our First Quarter Awards Ceremony. I am so proud of all of the achievements we had this quarter. Congratulations to the following students for making the Honor Roll:

First Honors: Brandon Hogue, Olivia Rider, Katherine Rust, Essaye Tekia, Alexandria Eberly, Elena Hauer, Nick Merk, Mariah Niederhauser, Serena Niederhauser, Jessica Whitman, Jordyn Gilday, Scott Flynn and Jacob Edwards.

Second Honors: Cristina Bagley, Ali Breig, Noah Burgin, Tony Butscha, Nathan Fantetti, Rosa Fantetti, Tylar Jansing, Sofia Tekulve, Emma Day, Kaylie Frede, Cassidy Gaskins, Daniel Gilliland, Kyle Hisle, Ellie Kammerer, Stephan Metzner, Jacob Roa, Becky Rutherford, Emily Schultz, Avery Stenger, Abby Sucher, Brittany Davis, Rowen Fanning, Tommy Gessendorf, Camryn Glasmeier, Derek Holt, Aahrea Hope, Colleen Lampman, Matthew Mahon, Lucy Milazzo, Jasmine Torbeck, Noah Bonecutter, Johnny David, Katie Makin, Katelyn Rutherford, Ellen Wolterman, Tyler Klein, Cody Holt, Andrew Hogue, and Nicholas Weber.

We also gave out 64 Rainbow Awards to the students who completed and turned in all homework and other assignments on time. 135 Star Awards were given out to the students who did not receive any check marks in "Social and Personal Development." Finally, this year we started a new award. We are calling this the All Star Achievement Award. This went to one child in each homeroom who did their very best in every aspect. They may have worked hard to overcome an obstacle or they may have gone out of their way to make our school a better place.



I am happy to announce that our Fifth and Sixth Graders are busy practicing for our Christmas Concert. It will take place on December 20, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., in our Parish Center. All are welcome. It is guaranteed to put you in the Holiday Spirit!

**Our Faculty and Staff of St. Martin School
would like to wish everyone a very
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
We are all looking forward to
SMOT School Centennial Year!**



IMPORTANT DATES

Day with Santa	December 3
Feast of Immaculate Conception	December 8
Fifth/Sixth Grade Christmas Concert	December 20
Christmas Break	December 22-January 2
Martin Luther King (NO SCHOOL)	January 16
Teacher Records Day (NO SCHOOL)	January 17
Catholic Schools Week	January 29-February 4
Open House (12:30-2:00 p.m.)	January 29

Please Join Us...

SMOT PTO Presents Our Annual "Day With Santa"

Saturday, December 3, 2011, in Fr. Mick Hall, from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. This fun day includes: Visit from Santa, Secret Santa Shop, Crafts and Games, Face Painting, Country Kitchen Baked Goods, Raffles, and Pizza and Hot Dogs for Lunch.



St. Martin of Tours Alumni, Where Are You?

As we begin our school Centennial year, we are updating class lists and locating alumni. If you or other family members attended our grade school and are not currently receiving our newsletter, please send the following information to:



Alumni Association
St. Martin of Tours
3720 St. Martin's Place
Cincinnati, Ohio 45211
(or drop in collection basket)

Last Name _____

Maiden _____

First Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone _____ Year Graduated _____

Attach an additional sheet of paper if necessary.



*50th Day of School
50's Sock Hop*



*Father/Daughter
Square Dance*



Breast Cancer Awareness Pink Out of Uniform Day



*Fourth Grade
Saints*

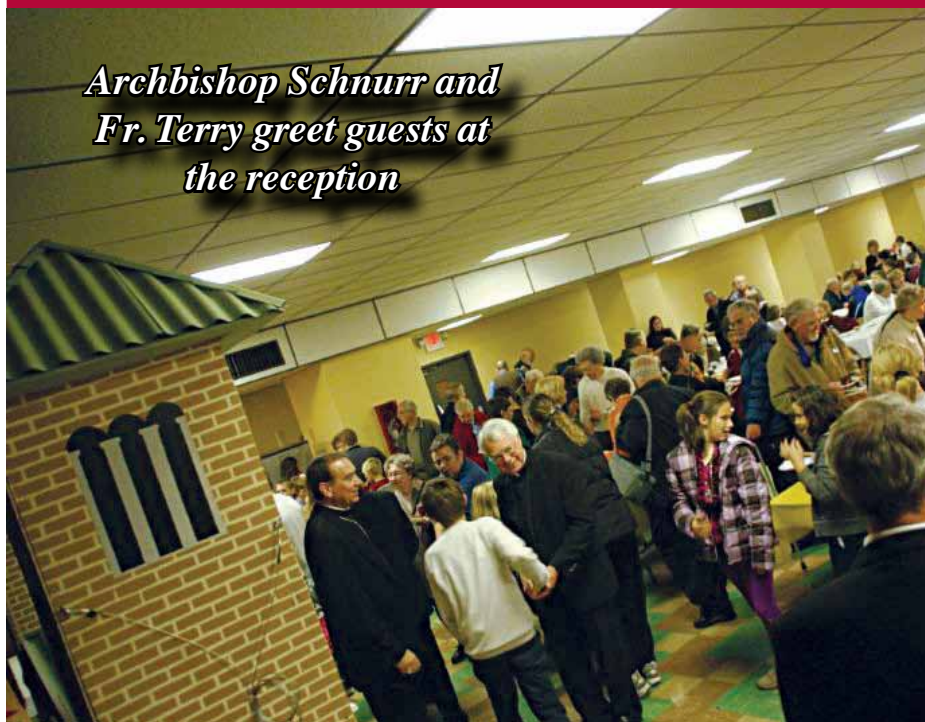




Centennial Year Closing Celebration

School students carry their lanterns out of church and over to school in preparation for SMOT School Centennial Celebration in 2012

Archbishop Schnurr and Fr. Terry greet guests at the reception



Knights of Columbus

Ushers

A few Centennial Committee Members (l to r): Marie Kramer, Sue Momberg, Eileen Duffy and Debbie Brunst



A few more Centennial Committee Members relax after our yearlong celebration (l to r): Lois Sundrup, Laurie Huff, Marti Barnes and Patti McGeever



PASTORAL COUNCIL

Present at the October 27, 2011, Pastoral Council meeting were: Kevin Bonecutter, Kristen Dupps, Liz Kaiser, Nicole May, Carolyn Murphy, Fred Schlimm, Kevin Weber, Debbie Weitz and Father Terry Hamilton. Absent: Vickie Reinhardt, Bill Clark

TASK FORCE REPORTS:

Spiritual Life: Adult Faith Formation: We collected names of people interested in a book club after the ministry fair and will contact them after the holidays. Lent: Plans for a choral group reading; more information to follow. Advent Wreath Making will be after all Masses on November 27 and the AFI will offer Fair Trade products (coffee, chocolate and cocoa). Tatiana Concert will be Thursday, December 8 (Feast of the Immaculate Conception) at 7:00 p.m. There will be a Mass at 5:00 p.m. followed by fellowship (light supper) in Fr. Mick Hall. Several items requested by Tatiana's group including dinner, recruiting babysitters for Tatiana's children (who are involved in the end part of the concert), CD-selling volunteers, etc. Advertisement: The bulletin announcement regarding the concert is written – goes in three weeks before. We need to be sure to get it in the neighboring parish bulletins, too. We will stuff flyers in the bulletin over the weekend of November 19 & 20 (weekend before Thanksgiving). We will have a DVD Preview Event at the Advent Wreath fellowship on November 27. Immigration: There is a future in-service scheduled for Principals which will discuss the booklet *Cincinnati: A City of Immigrants*. There was much discussion as to how St. Martin's could expand this within the parish; possibly a Lenten Program on Social Justice. Pastoral Council's presentation in September was well received and very positive surveys were returned. Four other parishes have scheduled the presentation and more are in the works. Mercy High School offered a scholarship to the youngest daughter of the immigrants who spoke to Pastoral Council. She now attends Mother of Mercy. **RCIA:** No update - Five children are in RCIA; no adults. However, Marti is working with a young man one-on-one. He has been catechized and is preparing to make his profession of faith. **Worship:** *Roman Missal* Talks with Deacon Royce Winters will address "Change and the Christian Life" on Tues., Nov. 15th in Fr. Mick Hall from 7:00-8:30 p.m. The Caring Connectors are beginning to work on the Giving Tree. **Welcome Committee:** Liz to set a time for brainstorming after holidays.

Parish Life: The Centennial Choral Fest was held on October 9, 2011, and the church was filled to capacity. The presentation was fantastic and Angie Birkhead-Flight should be much commended for organizing this beautiful event. A social was held after the event in Fr. Mick Hall and it, too, was well attended. It was noted that special mention should be reflected in the minutes to show how much Council appreciated all of the hard work that Angie put into the Choral Fest. St. Vincent de Paul collection at the concert raised \$2,000. Our annual Halloween Kids Fellowship will be held after the 5:00 p.m. Mass on October 29, 2011. Children are encouraged to wear costumes to Mass and then parade down to the Parish Center where free games, activities, pizza and drinks will be provided and some of the costs will be covered by the PTO. Our final **Centennial Event** will be the Closing Ceremony on Friday 11-11-11. Mass will begin at 7:00 p.m. and a reception will follow. Archbishop Schnurr and Dr. Rigg, Superintendent of Archdiocesan schools, will attend the ceremony; church tours will also be given on November 13, 2011.

Finance: Discussion centered on tuition for the 2012/2013 school year. Several options were put forth and discussed. The Finance Committee will wait to hear from Education Commission representatives at the November Finance Committee meeting before further considering any change in tuition.

Youth: I met with Sean Reynolds, the Director of Youth Ministry in the Archdiocese, in Sept. He provided some valuable tools and training for the ministry. There have been two school youth Masses this year. Both Masses were successful and the students seemed grateful for the opportunity to participate. A couple things to consider: What if each Mass was open to all of the grade levels? How can we get more students to volunteer at Mass? The following is the list of the youth Masses for the remainder of the school year: November 20, January 22, February 19, March 18, April 15, May 13 and June 17. In an effort to get more youth involved, I am setting up a Christmas ornament decorating with the residents of Terrace View Nursing Home. The tentative date will either be December 10 or 17. If you have any ideas or suggestions, feel free to let me know.

Athletics: No Report.

Education Commission: EdChoice vouchers are probably going to be expanding to more families next school year and we should begin looking at the possibility of the number of students that those "new" vouchers could bring to our school. The vouchers would be open to any child and be income based (250% above poverty level is currently the cutoff). Request for bike racks to be moved as they take up parking spots and are a potential hazard. Request for repainting the pick-up/drop-off area.

Property and Grounds: The cement slab corrected the ceiling from leaking in the boiler room of the Red School. Michael will continue to check the Bell Tower drains. Blooming Garden donated and planted a Canadian Red Cherry Tree on the St. Martin side of church. The "Fire Lane" was extended; looking into posting a "NO PARKING FIRE LANE" sign. The dumpster area has been cleaned up and a privacy fence installed. Due to a generous donor, Pete Arnold Painting Company will be painting the trim of the church, trim and windows of Rectory, and the trim of the Red School building. The painting will be completed in the spring. Looking into placing more signs around the property to help visitors find their way around. Next Property & Grounds meeting is Monday, January 9, 2012, at 6:30 p.m. in Fr. Kotter Room.

Principal: All testing is complete. Bill Clark has added a school photo album to our website. Grandparent/VIP day was October 25 (Mass, performance, refreshments and school tour); it was a success and I received many compliments. In order to promote reading: AR dragon, AR book club, AR store at the end of the each quarter; students meet their goals and receive ice cream with the principal. End of First Quarter was today. Reconciliation Meeting was very positive; Fr. Seher attended and Laurie Huff did a great job. After School items: Miss Schablein is teaching a HS placement prep class; Mrs. Holthaus has an Algebra class as well as a group of students competing in Math Counts @ MND. St. Martin's went PINK on October 26 to support Breast Cancer; we raised \$120 for the American Cancer Society. Great Tuition Giveaway will have a high school and elementary drawing on February 3; register online (School Facebook); \$1,500; picked during Catholic Schools Week. Dr. Rigg, superintendent of schools, will be at St. Martin's on November 29 for a tour of our school.

Pastor's Report: Bicentennial preparations have been keeping everyone busy. 11/11/11 Liturgy prep and *Roman Missal* prep are both underway.

New Business: There was discussion of tuition increase; registration fee applied to tuition. Kevin Weber suggested discussing sliding-scale tuition at the December meeting. Welcome Committee would like to present new parishioners information regarding vouchers. Payment of wedding fees was discussed and a recommendation was made that a deposit be required when a date is scheduled. Our next **Pastoral Council meeting** will be Thursday, December 1, 2011, at 8:00 p.m., in Room E of the Red School Building.



Pages for Sages...For our wisest members...December 2011

Advent Blessings to All! We hope that you are finding some time to reflect on the beauty of this Advent season amidst all the hustle and bustle of Christmas preparations. This

month's Saint is Frances Xavier Cabrini. The new Mass music we just learned to sing is named for her. We hope you can join us for many, if not all, of our Advent activities.

*We are hosting what we are sure will be a wonderful Advent/Christmas concert by Tajci, also known as Tatiana. This will take place at 7:00 p.m. on December 8th. All are welcome to join us on December 8th for Mass at 5:00 p.m. to be followed by a light supper in Father Mick Hall before the concert. Our joint Penance Service with St. Catharine of Siena Church will be on December 15th, at 7:00 p.m., here at St. Martin; Advent Vespers with Exposition and Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament will take place on December 20th, at 7:00 p.m. And of course, on December 24th, we will celebrate the Nativity of the Lord at 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. On Christmas Day Masses are scheduled for 12:00 Midnight, 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Invite someone to Church this Christmas. Maybe you, or someone close to you, has been away from the Church for a while. **All are welcome at the Manger!** We wish you a blessed, peaceful Advent, and a Christmas full of the joy of the Christ Child!*



Saint for December - Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini



Frances Xavier Cabrini was the first United States citizen to be canonized; she became a U.S. citizen in 1909. Her deep trust in the loving care of her God gave her the strength to be a valiant woman doing the work of Christ. Refused admission to the religious order which had educated her to be a teacher, she began charitable work at the House of Providence Orphanage in Cadogno, Italy. In September 1877, she made her vows there and took the religious habit. When the Bishop closed the orphanage in 1880, he named Frances Prioress of the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart. Seven young women from the orphanage joined her. Since her early childhood in Italy, Frances had wanted to be a missionary in China, but, at the urging of Pope Leo XIII, Frances went west instead of east. She traveled with six sisters to New York City to work with the thousands of Italian immigrants living there. She found disappointment and difficulties with every step. When she arrived in New York City, the house intended to be her first orphanage in the United States was not available. The Archbishop advised her to return to Italy. But Frances, truly a valiant woman, departed from the Archbishop's residence all the more determined to establish that orphanage. And she did. In 35 years, Frances Xavier Cabrini founded 67 institutions dedicated to caring for the poor, the abandoned, the uneducated and the sick. Seeing great need among Italian immigrants who were losing their faith, she organized schools and Adult Education Classes. As a child, she was always frightened of water, unable to overcome her fear of drowning. Yet, despite this fear, she traveled across the Atlantic Ocean more than 30 times. She died of malaria in her own Columbus Hospital in Chicago.

Comment: The compassion and dedication of Mother Cabrini is still seen in hundreds of thousands of her fellow citizens, not yet canonized, who care for the sick in hospitals, nursing homes and state institutions. We complain of increased medical costs in an affluent society, but the daily news shows us millions who have little or no medical care, and who are calling for new Mother Cabrinis to become citizen-servants of their land.

Quote: At her canonization on July 7, 1946, Pius XII said, "Although her constitution was very frail, her spirit was endowed with such singular strength that, knowing the will of God in her regard, she permitted nothing to impede her from accomplishing what seemed beyond the strength of a woman."

Patron Saint of: Hospital administrators, Immigrants, Impossible causes.

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Prayer to St. Frances Xavier Cabrini

How much there can be in a name is most clearly shown in you who was called Frances Xavier, thus expressing your wonderful missionary spirit. An emigrant from Lombardi in Italy, you in turn took care of immigrants. You founded the Missionary Sisters and became the first American citizen to be canonized a Saint. Make us dedicated servants of God like yourself and care for the immigrants who need your help. Amen.

Dealing with Holiday Blues Take Care of Yourself and Lower Your Stress

Barbara E. Riley



The holiday season can be a time of joy, cheer, parties and family gatherings. However, older adults may not be as excited about winter holidays as they used to be. They might be feeling financial or social pressures or they can be lonely or grieving lost family and friends. These feelings can be intensified by talk about family closeness and love. Whatever the cause, the "holiday blues" are part of the range of normal feelings. By accepting the negative feelings, as well as taking proactive steps, older adults can get through the season and still have fun. The Mayo Clinic recommends a few simple tips:

- **Acknowledge your feelings.** Realize that it's normal to feel sadness, even during celebrations. It is alright to take time to cry or express your feelings. You cannot force yourself to be happy just because it's the holiday season.
- **Reach out.** If you feel lonely or isolated, seek community, religious or other social events that can offer support and companionship, or volunteer to help others to lift your spirits and broaden your friendships.
- **Be realistic.** The holidays don't have to be perfect or just like last year. Choose a few traditions and rituals to hold on to, and be open to creating new ones.
- **Set aside differences.** Try to accept family members and friends as they are, even if they don't live up to all your expectations. Set aside grievances until a more appropriate time for discussion.
- **Stick to a budget.** Before you go shopping for gifts and food, decide how much money you can afford to spend and then stick to your budget.
- **Learn to say no.** Saying yes when you really don't want to do something can leave you feeling resentful and overwhelmed. Friends and colleagues will understand if you can't participate in every gathering or activity.
- **Don't abandon healthy habits.** Overindulging only adds to your stress and guilt. Have a healthy snack before holiday parties so that you don't go overboard. Continue to get plenty of sleep and physical activity.
- **Avoid alcohol.** Excessive drinking will only increase feelings of depression.
- **Take time out for yourself.** Spending just 15 minutes alone, without distractions, may refresh you enough to handle everything you need to do. Find something that reduces your stress level.



While it's natural to feel stressed or sad around the holidays, persistent sadness or grief may indicate a larger problem that is often overlooked. Some warning signs of depression are:

- Frequent, generalized and out-of-proportion complaints about any medical condition;
- Irritability or mood swings;
- Difficulty organizing thoughts or remembering things;
- Feelings of sadness or apathy;
- Feelings of worthlessness, uselessness or excessive guilt; and
- Difficulty sleeping, eating or other regular daily activities.

If you recognize any of these symptoms in yourself or others, contact a mental health provider or your regular physician. Clinical depression is a medically treatable condition, and early diagnosis can make treatment more effective.

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The Holy Father's Intentions for December 2011



General Intention: Peace among All Peoples. That all peoples may grow in harmony and peace through mutual understanding and respect.

Missionary Intention: That children and young people may be messengers of the Gospel and that they may be respected and preserved from all violence and exploitation.



Memorial Mass Fund

For the Memory/

Intention of:

Jason Stewart
 Calvin Kern
 Jim & Lois Kemper
 (50th Anniversary)
 Joseph Coffaro
 Larry Lammert
 Harry Curly Gardner
 Robert Steinhauer
 Angela Doerger
 Ernie Schulte
 Sue Brendle
 Sue Brindle
 Sue Brendle
 Frank Witt
 Frank Witt
 Dr. Harry Konerman
 Dr. Harry Konerman
 Dr. Harry Konerman
 Carl Staud
 Carl Staud
 Jim Kinney
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rita Ray
 Rose Ranz
 Dorothy Hammer
 Dorothy Hammer
 Dorothy Hammer
 Helen Wuellner
 Samuel Almond
 Tom Rose
 Larry Niklas
 Joe Panno
 Emil Staub
 Gerbes Family
 Intention of Stefanie Rupp

From:

Eileen Murray
 Bob Hildebrand
 Kay Fuller
 Joan & Dick Vale
 Charles Kuhn
 Rich & Irene Joesting
 Dorothy Dochterman
 Betty Waters
 Bob Hildebrand
 Charles Keating & Elaine Bolland
 St. Martin Altar Society
 Helen Braun
 Nancy Meyer
 Dorothy Neiheisel
 Nancy Meyer
 Delores Gerhardt
 Bob & Mary Danemayer
 Bob & Mary Danemayer
 Peg Ellis
 Delores Gerhardt
 Delores Gerhardt
 Ruth Huebner
 Marie Runda
 Ruth Klosterman
 Kathy Baarlaer
 Mary Heffron & Daughter
 St. Martin Altar Society
 Ruth Huebner
 St. Martin Altar Society
 Norma Von Holle
 Jean & E. J. Krabacher
 Mary Fink
 Martha Anhofer
 Donna Stotler
 Mike & Sheryl Meister
 Thea Gerbes
 Thea Gerbes



Message From the Editor

There will **NOT** be an issue
of *Tour Talk* in January.

The deadline
for February's issue
is January 10, 2012.

*I wish you all a Blessed
Holiday Season!*

Donna



Tour Talk is the official publication of

St. Martin of Tours Parish

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Cheviot, OH 45211

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The primary purpose of this newsletter, published 10 times a year (monthly, except January and August) is to provide short, well-balanced articles about parish news, such as committee reports, fund-raising activities and current events.

Deadline is the 10th of the month. Articles and photos can be e-mailed to:

dbroerman@fuse.net.

Inclusion of web sites does not mean that we endorse everything found on a web site or other sites to which that site may link. If you decide to access third-party web sites, you do so at your own risk.

Editor: Donna Broerman

Deaths

Amy Dinsmore
 Frank Witt
 Kathleen Matthes
 Rose Ranz
 Rita Ray
 Ernst Schulte
 Susan Brendle
 Rosemary Smith
 Dorothy Hammer
 Thelma Van Ofen
 Samuel Almond
 Betty Jane Baltes

Welcome

New Parishioners

Anthony & Sarah
 Thesing
 Rick & Erin Wiehe
 Timothy Rizzo
 Robert & Jean
 Weadick
 Kevin & Laura
 Hobbs
 Dan & Victoria
 Patterson