

St. Bridget School Newsletter

September 5, 2008

Saint Bridget
Our Patron Saint



We're going GREEN

We will attempt to improve communications this year in several different ways:

Phone Tree: Parents will be called for any weather delays, cancellations, or other emergencies; or e-mail WWW.EmergencyClosings.com

E-mail tree: Parents will have the opportunity to keep on top of what's going on in the classroom and school by e-mail. The teachers will use this to make you aware of what they experience with child(ren) or events in the classroom that require your attention as a parent

Newsletters:

the *new HSA Newsletter* that comes out once a month

the *Principal's Newsletter* that comes out once a month

These Newsletters will come out every two weeks; or twice a month once from me, and once from the HSA. I know many of you like getting a newsletter every week but it costs us a "pretty penny"; 18,000 sheets of paper plus the printer/copying costs. It also ties us up in production, and that has a significant impact on us by taking us away from doing other tasks.

We are also "**Going Green**" and will start e-mailing you the newsletter soon, which will test the technological limits of our system server. The newsletter is usually posted on the school website by Monday in color; which makes it easier and more fun to read. It will also drastically cut down costs associated with production. We, as stated earlier, will also make use of the **E-mail tree** to put out e-mail about any school events that require a parent's attention any time.

For any parents that do not have access to e-mail services, you can still obtain the newsletter by addressing your request for a "hard copy" of those newsletters to be sent home with your child(ren) to me. Send the request thru their teacher or bring it to the office; obviously you won't be able to e-mail me.

Mr. Pearson

Andrean Invitation

Andrean High School has extended an invitation to all of our CYO students to attend a special "CYO NIGHT" at the upcoming Andrean vs. Munster Football game on Friday, September 12, 2008 at 7:00P.M., at the Andrean football field, 5959 Broadway, in Merrillville.

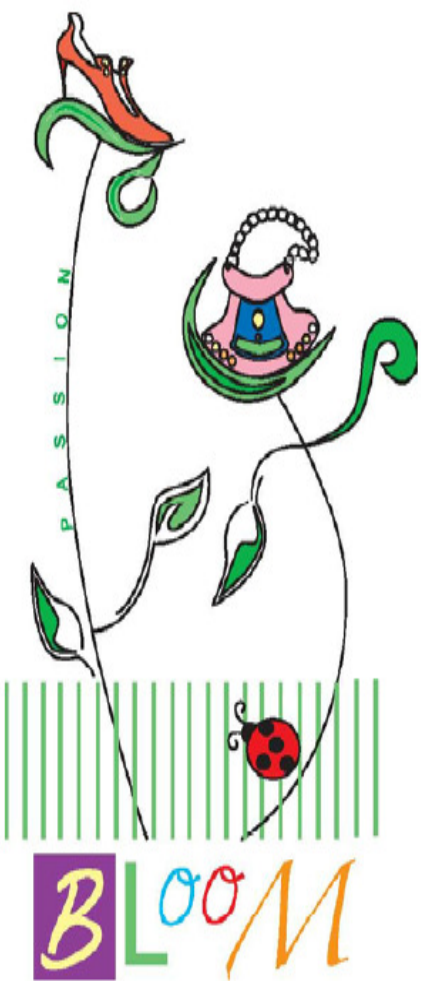
All students who attend the game will be allowed in "FREE" by using their "Sports Activity Pass" which will be provided to you by Andrean High School thru Mr. Pearson. Andrean wants you to have the opportunity of being part of what could be a night of fun and excitement.

Paul Wengel
CYO Director



St. Bridget Style Show

April 19, 2009



BLooMs reflects the potential of each child, growing into unique individuals. Just as a flower **B**LooMs, so does each child through knowledge, experiences and education. All are different, distinctive, and beautiful in their own individual way. Our style show celebrates the potential, passion, and of course fashion that **B**LooMs in the child within all of us.

Along with the style show we will have a basket raffle, cash raffle and door prizes. We have secured our music participant, caterer and clothing stores. We have also received donations for the basket raffle. The decoration committee is in full swing. The colors, tables, centerpieces and other décor have been chosen.

Other items that will be needed are scrip certificates or other gift cards to raffle off, 5x7 or 8x10 picture frames, as well as any donations to make up baskets. If you are interested in joining a committee please contact the chairperson below. For any other questions, please contact the co-chairs of the style show.

Chairpersons

Denise Silich 942-1894 or
Renee Antczak 942-9195,

Next meeting: September 15, 2008 – 6:30P.M.
Contact any chairperson for location of meeting.

Co-chairpersons

Decorating:	Chrissy Robinson	945-1334
Reservations:	Lisa Hickman	942-8158
Invitations:	Debbie Replin	942-1890
Program Book:	Monica Barker	942-2116
Cash Raffle:	Rose Benoit	979-5827
Food:	Denise Silich	942-1894 or
	Renee Antczak	942-9195

HSA Request

The SBS HSA board is requesting that all SBS families put an SBS yard sign in their front yard, if possible. If you do not have an SBS yard sign, please call to request one. These signs are a great way to market our school as well as to show pride of our kids. Our children are the ones who have earned SBS the state distinction of "Exemplary Status". Contact Mr. Pearson for a sign to be displayed until late fall.

Thank you,
HSA Board members

WANTED!

**More
Great
Students**

FOCUS ON FAITH

With the last Newsletter in May, we ended the Focus on Mass Series and reiterated the importance of Mass and terminologies throughout the summer months in the church bulletin. Part of the Newsletter Offering is a special edition of the importance of the Mass presented in letter form signed by Fr. Bertino, Mrs. Shaw, and Mr. Pearson. Please bring the children to celebrate the Eucharist!

For the month of September, we will take a look at Family Vital Signs or Seven Characteristics of Healthy Families and ways to integrate faith in family life as presented in the Our Sunday Visitor Publication of Take Out/Family Faith On the Go.

Two important characteristics of healthy families are family prayer and the family meal. "Prayer increases the strength and spiritual unity of the family, helping the family to partake of God's own 'strength.'" Pope John Paul II. A 1991 study by sociologist Fr. Andrew Greeley found that only 1 percent of married couples who pray together regularly think that divorce is even possible for them. It really is true that "the family that prays together stays together."



In a 2005 study, the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University found that children and teens who regularly eat with their families have lower levels of tension and stress at home, are happier and have better peer relationships, get better grades in school, are more likely to confide in their parents, have healthier eating habits, have a lower risk of suicide and have a much lower risk of substance abuse.

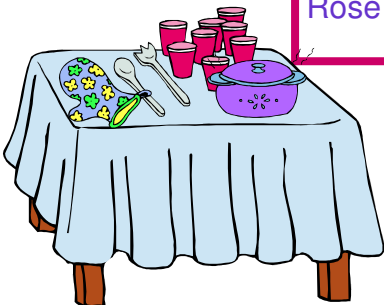
Eat meals together, around a table and with the television turned off. Children have a better understanding of 'coming to the table of the Lord, coming to Mass, coming to celebrate the Eucharist', when they understand coming to the table at home, eating meals together, around a table, sharing stories

St. Anne's

St. Anne's, a confraternity of Christian mothers, would like to invite all ladies of St. Bridget Catholic Church and School to our annual potluck dinner. We will gather in the Parish Center (school gym) on Tuesday, September 23, 2008, at 6 p.m.

WE WELCOME YOU TO COME AND ENJOY FOOD, DRINK AND FIND OUT MORE ABOUT WHAT ST. ANNE'S CONFRATERNITY IS ALL ABOUT.

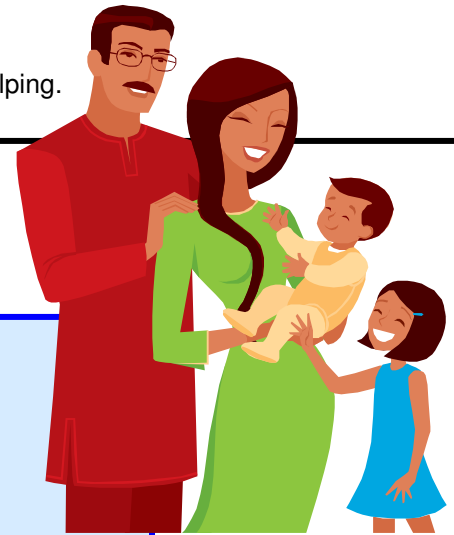
If you have any questions or to RSVP and let me know what dish you would like to bring please call Rose Benoit at 979-5827



ELIGIBLE FAMILY SERVICE ACTIVITIES

Accelerated Reader Tutor	Art Room Helper	Box Tops for Education
Catholic Schools Week	Classroom Activities	Coaches
Craft Show	CYO Band Chaperone	Daddy Date Night
Field Day	Field Trip Chaperone	Fun Fair
Grandparents Day	Hayride	Help with Campbell Soup Labels
Help with Milk Caps	Help with Nestle Pure Water Labels	In-School Tutoring
Library Volunteer	Lunch Room Monitor	Mail or Bulletin Stuffing
Mardi Gras	Market Day	Mother/Son Event
Monthly Pancake Breakfast	Nurse's Office	Parking Lot Monitor
Playground Supervisor	Pennies from Heaven Raffle	Santa's Secret Workshop
Scholastic Book Fair	Scout Leaders	Special Events
St. Bridget Fish Fry	Student Council Volunteer	Summer Festival
Teacher's Helper	Used Uniform Swap Meet	

*Parents can volunteer to help with these activities. Any activities that involve being among the students or in the school, the parents must have Virtus Training before helping.



You Can Help

Programs you can participate in to help SBS financially.

Nestle's Pure Life Water – save bottle labels

Funding Factory –turn in your used cartridges & cell phones

Box Tops for Education –Clip off Tyson and Campbell's labels

Kids, Caps & Cash specially-marked cap that meets Foremost's [rules](#)

Kemp's Nickels for Schools - specially marked caps or proof-of-purchase symbols

Paper Recycling

We get credit from your purchases, at the stores listed below, if the cashier is informed you are from SBS at the register.

GFS

Target

Meier

Cheryl Little, zacacie@hotmail.com, is the chairperson of the fundraisers Foremost Farms, Kids Caps & Cash, and Kemp's Nickels for School.



St. Bridget HSA Hay Ride



Deep River Park

September 13th, 2008

Food, Beverages and Gifts

Cost: \$10.00 Per person.

Rides are at 7:00pm and 8:00pm

25 persons per ride.

You must be at the park at 6:00p.m.

Mrs. Rinkenberger has sign up sheets in the school office. At this time we are almost sold out. Greg Ernst will need to know final numbers ASAP and will contact the park for additional rides/times.



Market Day

Our Market Day Director, Silvia Ochoa, needs volunteers to assist her each month on Market Days. Please contact Greg Ernst or Mr. Pearson if you are interested. This responsibility does qualify for service hours.



Walk for Lupus Now

Saturday, September 13th

The LFA Indiana Chapter is hosting a **Walk for Lupus Now** fundraiser at Festival Park in Hobart. The purpose of this walk is to raise funds to support the mission of the Indiana Chapter. This annual walk is our largest fundraiser and raised more than \$25,000 last year.

Get Involved!

Form a team of walkers. Can't join us? Support our efforts by pledging a donation on-line. Come with a friend. Just do it! Register today on-line at www.lupusindiana.org or for more information contact Walk Chairwoman Susan Colby at 219-924-1910 or e-mail Susan at lupuswalk-08@comcast.net



Back to School Mass

We would like to have all of our students and their parents to attend this *special* mass for St. Bridget students at 9:30, September 14th.

Mr. Pearson



ARTSONIA NOTES

Our Artsonia gallery will soon be updated so don't forget to check it out www.artsonia.com. Last year, St. Bridget received the following Awards:

Fan Clubs Award -Ranked #8 in Indiana (#719 in the nation) for fan club signups

Comments Award -Ranked #7 in Indiana (#565 in the nation) for comments posted

Fundraising Award -Ranked #9 in Indiana (#1039 in the nation) for funds raised



Calendar Events

September

9/15-9/26/08 ISTEPS

9/24/08 Mid-quarter progress

October

10/7/08 Half day/staff in-service

10/22/08 End of First Quarter

10/23/08 Teacher Conference

10/23-24/08 Fall Break- Students off

10/28-30/08 Junior High/Camp Tecumseh

10/31/08 Halloween

VIRTUS TRAINING SESSIONS

PROTECTING GOD'S CHILDREN FOR ADULTS

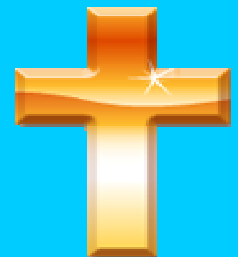
Diocesan policy mandates that all staff and volunteers who have substantial contact with children must pass a criminal background check and attend a VIRTUS training session. Please call the location of the training session to verify the date and time and to register. Each participant needs a workbook to participate at a cost of \$1.00.

See the VIRTUS link on the Diocese of Gary website for locations and times. Log on to www.dcgary.org and click on "Virtus Training Sessions" for the latest session information.

Two sessions will be held at St. Bridget

Friday, September 12 at 9:00am

Friday, October 10 at 1:00pm



The two sessions will be held at St. Bridget in the RE Room, No. 201. Please sign in and enter the school building by the security doors outside the school office. Kindly remember that these sessions are for adults only over the age of 18. Babysitting is not available and the cost of materials is \$1.00. Remember to tell anyone interested in attending the VIRTUS Programs that they can attend at any location in the diocese. If you have any questions, please call.

MAShaw

