



APRIL, 2018

DATES TO REMEMBER:

April 1- Happy Easter

April 2- Easter Monday; No School!

April 8- Get your Spring Soiree Tickets!

April 12- Grandparents Day; 9:15am-11:15am at SI

April 14- Spring Art Soiree; 6:30-8:30pm at SI

April 16-20- 6th Grade at MOSS

April 24- Spring Performing Arts Performance; 6:30-7:30pm at SI

April 28- SI First Communion at Holy Apostles

May 18- Fun Run

May 31- LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!!

*Growing leaders who turn
FAITH into ACTION.*

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear St. Ignatius Catholic School Community,

One of my proudest days as principal of St. Ignatius was March 21st, the day of our Faith in Action Fair. If you scan our website, our school communications, or even this very publication, the Howl, you will see the slogan, "Growing leaders who turn faith into action". Our Lenten season at St. Ignatius was proof that our students are both growing into leaders and are turning their faith in God into tangible action in the world.

During Lent, students learned about the seven principles of Catholic Social Teaching:

- Care for God's Creation
- Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers
- Life and Dignity of the Human Person
- Call to Family, Community, and Participation
- Solidarity
- Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
- Rights and Responsibilities

They were then asked to identify a personal interest or passion along with a problem in the community or world and design a project to address that issue. 4th-8th grade students conducted individual projects, while our PreK-3rd grade students worked together as a class.

Within a week of kicking off these projects mid-February, I had a handful of eager students in my office, presenting their "pitch" (all students had to pitch their projects to teachers). One of our 7th grade students had an entire proposal written and rehearsed, along with a request to offer a free-dress day to support an organization he had already researched and for which he found great passion. His well-organized plan, passion, and initiative merited him the coveted "free dress day" privilege.

A second grade student blew me away when within weeks she had come up with a project to collect small stuffed animals for children in hospitals. Having spent time in the hospital as a young child herself, she remembered the comfort those small tokens brought to her. Her stuffed animal drive brought in hundreds of stuffed animals that she was able to deliver to our local children's hospital. (continued on page 3.....)

Academic Excellence • Faith Formation • Social Justice • Service • Strength of Community

Faculty: Brenda German

Hometown: Boise, ID

Background: Ms. German graduated from Carroll College in 2008 with a Bachelor's Degree in Educational Technology. She is now pursuing a Master's Degree in Educational Technology.

What do you love about working at St. Ignatius? *"My favorite part of working at St. Ignatius is that I'm surrounded by so many incredible people. Our students and staff are positive, fun to be around, genuinely kind, and are actively working towards growing in their relationship with God."*

What do you like to do on the weekend? *"I enjoy biking, playing basketball, playing the piano, going on weekend excursions, and doing seasonal activities."*

Who do you cheer for? *"I cheer for the Red Sox."*

What part of education are you most passionate about? *"I am most passionate about faith-based learning. I believe it is important for students to learn in an environment where they are encouraged and supported as they grow in their relationship with God. I believe it is important for students to be inspired to live out their faith and to contribute to the world in positive ways."*

Dear St. Ignatius Families,

We have many fun things happening this month! The first being Grandparents Day on April 13 at 9:15am. The HSA will be hosting a reception in the commons for all Grandparents starting at 9:15 followed by an all school Mass at the church. The reception will be a great opportunity for our St. Ignatius students to show off their school and classrooms to those they call grandma and grandpa.

Up next is our Spring Art Soiree, it is going to be great! On April 14 from 6:30-8:30pm, the school will be displaying all of the amazing visual arts our students have been working on. All art on display that evening will be up for bid, including the *coveted* class art projects! Each class has been working hard to create a masterpiece that represents who they are. The soiree will be a semi-casual affair with two drink tickets and hors d'oeuvres included with the purchase of your ticket. Buy your tickets today before this event sells out! Click [HERE](#) to purchase tickets and for more details.

The first of several planned events for our uniform closet, "The Wolf Den" will be held April 3 & 4 from 3:00pm-6:00pm in the school commons. This event is an opportunity for families to donate their gently used uniforms and accessories that their students have outgrown. The goal of the Wolf Den is to gather enough donated items (year after year) so that we may continually provide a wide selection of uniforms at a largely discounted rate to our families.

Lastly, thank you to everyone who made nominations for our open HSA board positions of President- Elect and Secretary. The nominations committee is currently in the process of contacting all nominees to discuss their interest further. Elections will take place electronically April 10 to April 16. If you have any questions please contact Amy Eisele at aeisele@bk.org.

We are on the home stretch! The HSA only has two meeting left, April 10 and May 8 at 7pm in the commons. Our meetings are open to all parents. It is a great way to stay connected to what is happening at the school, meet other parents and find out ways you can get involved. We hope to see you there!

With Gratitude,
Amy Eisele
HSA President- Elect
hsa@stignatiusmeridian.org

GREAT THINGS HAPPENING! LENT

Lent was a wonderful season at St. Ignatius Catholic School. From our Faith in Action Projects/Fair to the Living Stations of the Cross to our weekly prayer service—living our faith was certainly in focus.

During the Lenten Season, our students created and brought to life social justice projects. In younger grades, these projects were completed by each class. In upper grades, each student worked on an individual project. Students showed great passion and creativity for their projects. These projects ranged from community awareness efforts to fundraising to hands on service. On March 21st, these students presented their projects in a visual format in classrooms and hallways (on trifold, poster boards, computer presentations, etc.) at our Faith in Action Fair. (Think of it as a science fair but with service projects!) Parents and community members were invited to walk around and observe how our students are turning their FAITH into ACTION!



In addition, each week during Lent our students started their week with a prayer service lead by Mrs. Kane. This weekly service included song, a gospel reading, and education about the different precepts of Catholic Social Teaching. Our student body ended each week by praying the Examen together to close out our week.

Our 2nd-8th grade classes also spent time in the sacrament of Reconciliation. Lent is such an important time for reflection, reconciliation, and forgiveness. Our student body focused on all of these important actions of faith during Reconciliation and throughout Lent.

Finally, our student body ended the Lenten Season with a Living Stations of the Cross performed by the 8th grade students. This was a powerful and moving experience for all of our students and all in attendance.



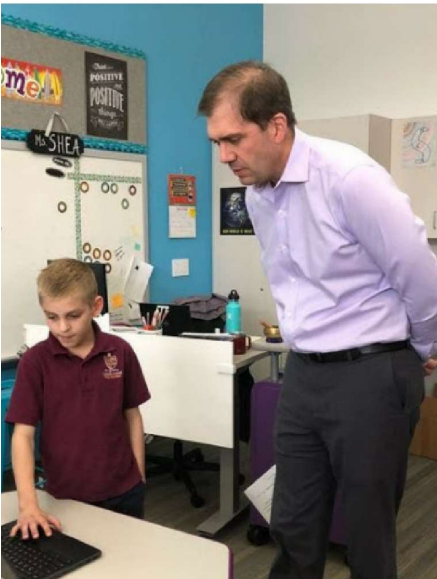
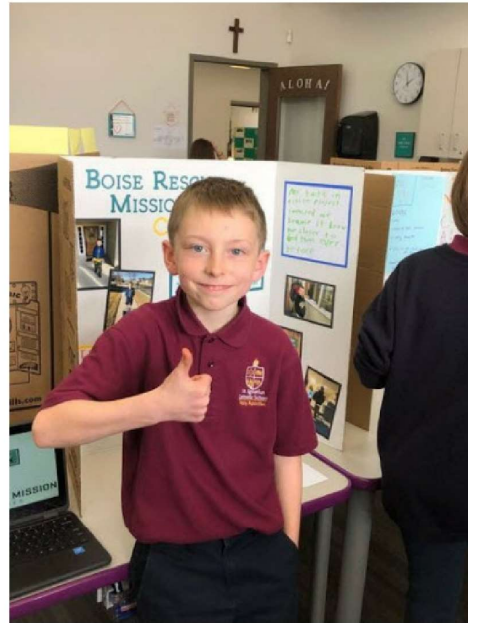
PRINCIPAL'S CORNER (continued from page 1...)

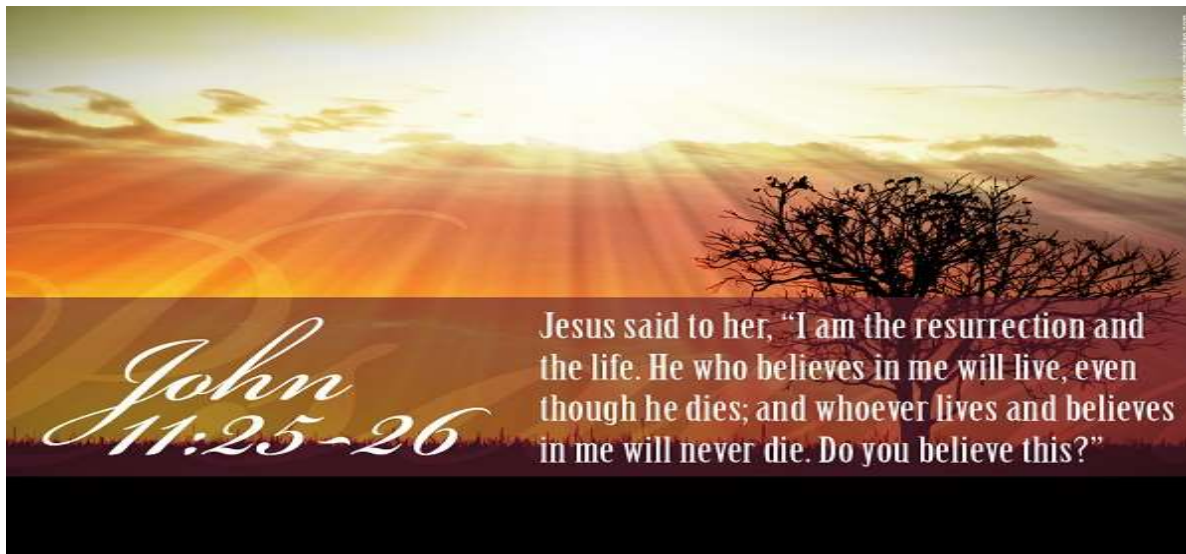
One of my favorite moments from our presentation day was watching a young fourth grader explain his project. He had worked to raise money and items for the humane society. He had clearly learned so much about shelters and how they help stray animals. As he presented his project to me, his initial nervousness slowly melted away and was replaced with a genuine passion and conviction for his cause. "I can't wait until I'm twelve," he exclaimed, "so I can volunteer at the shelter". Not only did his project have an impact on needy animals, but clearly, his project made an impact on him.

That's what service does. When we meet the needy face to face...when we encounter the lives and situations of others, we not only make a difference in the world, but we, too, are changed. That's the outcome of our faith in action. Saint Teresa of Calcutta claims that "Faith in action is love, and love in action is service." What a joy to watch our students act in love as they impact the world.

Blessings,
Andi Kane, Principal, St. Ignatius Catholic School







REFLECTION: APRIL- RESURRECTION

After many days on the Lenten journey, we can now yell and say Alleluia! Christ has risen! He has risen indeed! What a beautiful and deep event to ponder. The Resurrection of our Lord is considered to be not only, a big feast for the Church, but to be "The Feast" from where all others work around. This does make sense since this mystery of life is the base of our Christian Faith. According to the Catechism of the Catholic Church 652, "Christ's Resurrection is the fulfillment of the promises both of the Old Testament and of Jesus himself during his earthly life." Jesus' Resurrection can be a great reminder of the new life He has given and is constantly calling us to. Here are some suggestions to share and live the faith at home.

1. Story Time: On April 29th we celebrate St. Catherine of Siena. She was a very influential Catholic Theologian for her time. She was born on March 17, 1347 to a large family. She was always connected to God from a very young age. Take time to watch/read her Biography and discuss on why she still touches many lives today.
2. Prayer Time: Divine Mercy is this year is on April 8th. This Feast allows us to focus on the Divine Mercy that God has for all His children. Pray a Divine Mercy Chaplet together as a family. A chaplet follows the same repetitious style as the Rosary only shorter and with a specific theme. The instructions can be found here <https://www.catholiccompany.com/content/How-to-Pray-the-Divine-Mercy-Chaplet.cfm>
3. Simple Reminders: Easter Sunday falls on April 1st this year but the season lasts for fifty days. A great way to keep the Resurrection fresh in our minds during the whole month, would be to make a Resurrection Garden together! The garden can be customized to fit each family. Here are the directions and details to make one <http://www.catholicicing.com/resurrection-garden/>
4. Friends in High Places: St. Mark's Feast day is on April 25th. He was the author of one of the Gospels of the New Testament. During the week of the 25th, add the Gospel of Mark to your dinner/family time. Take turns reading from the Bible. Use a Bible that is child friendly such as the Catholic Children's Bible so everyone can understand what is going on in the Gospel.

"Accept the Risen Jesus into your life" Pope Francis

Dear St. Ignatius Community,

I thank you for your continued prayers, support, notes, and well-wishes as I hang here on hospital bedrest until our baby is born. We know that the power of prayers has helped our little one stay put so far. When my waters broke at 25 weeks gestation, we knew it was likely that labor would come soon. Thankfully, we are still here, now 27 weeks, and giving our little one a better chance with every passing day. Please keep the prayers coming.

Did you know that St. Ignatius spent six months on bedrest after his leg suffered a brutal injury in the Battle of Pamplona? While he laid in bed healing with little to do (I can't imagine not having my smart phone and computer in this situation!), he spent time reading two books- one about the life of Christ and another about the lives of the Saints. It was during this time that St. Ignatius began to shift his desire for fame and glory as a soldier to a desire to imitate the holy lives of the saints. His six months on bedrest changed everything. Upon his recovery he began his conversion, dedicated his life to Christ, and started down the path that would eventually lead to the creation of the Society of Jesus and his own sainthood.



Figure 1- The room where St. Ignatius spent his time on bedrest.



Figure 2- View from my bedrest. Thankful for fresh flowers, coffee, and the Internet!

My bedrest journey probably isn't molding me into a saint, but I will say that the time I've had to pause and reflect has been profound. I've had time to really rest in the love that I have for my family, friends, and for our school and community. I've been able to see clearly what is really important and what is not. I'm settling with the calling to let go of my own plans and surrender to the unknown- however scary or unpleasant it might seem.

I know that the school is in great hands in my absence. I continue to stay included in the happenings from my hospital bed and am doing small things as I can. Our team approach to school leadership and administration has set up the school to function well in my absence. We have a great team with great people in place to cover my responsibilities temporarily.

I am so grateful to you all for your support. The outpouring of love and prayers is a testament to the greatness of the St. Ignatius community. We may be young, but we are strong. I pray for you all and thank you for your prayers during this unknown time for our family.

Blessings,
Andi Kane, Principal, St. Ignatius Catholic School

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY THIS MONTH

We have so much to be thankful for at St. Ignatius.....our school is possible because of the support of this amazing community!

THANK YOU parents for getting your re-enrollment materials in on time this month! We are so excited to have almost all of our current students returning for the 2018-2019 school year.

THANK YOU 7th grade families for hosting a fabulous staff appreciation lunch this month. Our staff greatly appreciates these special lunches provided with love by our parents!

THANK YOU to all our volunteers who help us keep this place running! We appreciate all of you who brave the cold to do crossing guard duty and brave the noise of the lunch room! We thank those with the patience to help in the library and the classrooms. We celebrate those who coach and those who help with class art projects. And we are grateful for all those who are willing to step up and lead our HSA and our fundraising events and those who do the hard work to support these essential events.

THANK YOU FOR MAKING ST. IGNATIUS POSSIBLE!

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Connect with us!
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Twitter: [@stignatiusid](https://twitter.com/stignatiusid)
Instagram: [st.ignatiusmeridian](https://www.instagram.com/stignatiusmeridian)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Strength of community is one of the cornerstone philosophies of St. Ignatius Catholic School community! A vibrant community gives children strong roots to grow and develop. We encourage all families to participate in our many social, service and volunteer endeavors to help us build and strengthen the St. Ignatius family.

GRANDPARENTS DAY!

On **April 12** from **9:15-11:15** students invite their grandparents or another significant adult in their life to come visit St. Ignatius Catholic School. We will be hosting a reception, students will be able to give grandparents a tour of the school, and they will join us to celebrate Mass. Parents should have received an email to forward to grandparents to sign-up.

SPRING SOIREE

If you haven't purchased your tickets to the first annual Spring Soiree, get them soon! **April 14th at 6:30pm**, experience something new as we transform the school gym into an art gallery for the evening to showcase student talent. Your students have been working hard and will be excited for you to bid on their collaborative class project. In addition, we will showcase select artwork from local artists. Many community members have generously contributed wonderful items that will be part of the silent auction as well. Funds raised during the Spring Soiree will go directly to the Art, Music & Makers Space programs. Join us for an adult only evening of art, entertainment, good food, no host bar and a silent auction. You won't want to miss this art extravaganza! Deadline to purchase tickets is April 8th. Tickets available on our website!

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/spring-soiree-tickets-43171994598>

THE  SOIREE **4.14.18**

St. Ignatius School Mission

St. Ignatius is a Christ-centered Catholic school committed to the Ignatian traditions of academic excellence and teaching students to live their Catholic faith through service and the promotion of justice. Our community - school, families, parish - seeks to inspire students to reach their potential, to act with initiative and integrity, and to engage the world as a place where God can be found in all things.