

5/14/10

St. Barnabas School

*Growing in mind, heart, and spirit  
to become  
leaders in the world!*

Principal's Corner



## SPOTLIGHT ON GRADE 5

The fifth grade has been very busy this past quarter. There are two particularly exciting events that we would like to share with you.

In mid-April, the 5<sup>th</sup> grade took the annual over-night trip to CYO Camp Rancho Framasa in Brown County. This is such an exciting field trip for the kids because they get to have many Indiana State Standards reinforced in a beautiful and fun environment. Because CYO Camp is a Catholic facility, all of our activities focused on prayer and God's beautiful creation. Each day began with prayer and each meal began with prayer. At one of our stations we made rosaries and at another station we learned about sustainable living or "going green", but the focus here was taking care of all that God has provided for us. The trained staff at camp led our eager learners in other areas as well, which included social studies, where we reenacted the Underground Railroad. We also participated in stations that included science standards such as pond ecology.

However, the most valuable experiences from CYO Camp are the stations that included team-building activities. During these activities the students participated in Challenge Olympics, where they had to use many problem solving skills and team work to be successful. We also had time for some "free" fun. Some of our more adventurous students chose to kayak, canoe, or do archery during this time. Wow! Imagine a teacher's nervous eye as they are watching 10 and 11-year-olds with a bow and arrow in their hand!

Another exciting annual 5<sup>th</sup> grade event is the Wax Museum. The Wax Museum is a culmination of much of our studies in social studies class. The students are responsible for researching a famous American figure and presenting this research to their class in a 2 - 3 minute speech. They then are required to summarize this speech into a first-person 30 second presentation. Finally, the students dress as their figure and pretend to be him/her in a Wax Museum. People are able to "press their button" to hear information about their famous American. This year was the first year we have put this on during Grandparents Day. We had so many compliments from the grandparents. They were very impressed, as were we, their teachers, by the students' serious manner and deliverance of their speeches. We even had a few grandparents who commented that they were actually alive during the time of some of our famous Americans, and they really enjoyed the factual travel through history.

## CALENDAR

**May 16**

First Communion

**May 19**

Last school Mass with 8th Grade

**May 20**

8th Grade Talent Show 1:45

**May 21**

Tour de France Grades 4, 5, 6

**May 23**

Graduation Mass 4:00

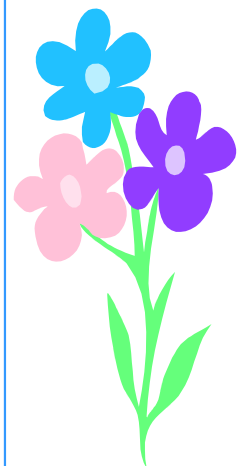
**May 24**

8th grade Picnic  
7:00 Graduation Dinner/Dance

**May 26**

**Last Day of School**

**DISMISSAL at 12:45 following Field Day. This is a change in time! Bring Sack Lunch**



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**IMPORTANT NEWS**

Spring ISTEP+ results will be available to parents this summer and will be accessed through individual parent accounts. **The individual codes for each student in grades 3-8 will come home in the report card envelopes.**

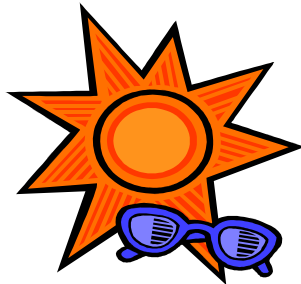
The state is projecting that ISTEP+ results will be available in June and parents will need to use the codes to access student results. Please put the information in a safe place. When the test results are released we will send an email to each family to alert them to go online and view student results.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FIRST COMMUNICANTS!**

**They have been preparing all year and will make their First Holy Communion on Sunday at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral.**



**Thank you to their teachers and parents for the guidance and support to prepare the students for this sacrament.**



**MENU**

**YEARBOOK**

It's time to order your St. Barnabas School Yearbook. Order forms were sent home. Our full color yearbooks are only \$23.00. Orders were due today, Friday, May 14th. There will be a \$5.00 late fee added to orders received after today, May 14th. For an additional \$5.00 we can imprint the student's name and picture on the yearbook cover. Order today!!!!

**Schedule for May 26—Last Day**

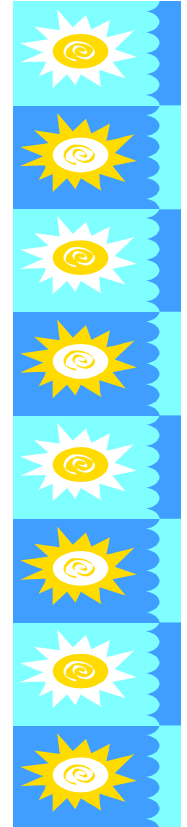
**7:30 Awards for Grades 4-7 in Gym**  
**8:30 Mass**  
**9:30-11:00 Field Day**  
**11:00-11:30 Sack Lunch**  
**11:30-12:30 Field Day**  
**12:45 Dismissal for the summer!**

May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	May 21
French Toast Sticks Warm Syrup Cheddar Omelet Sausage Patty Fruit	Hot Dog on Bun Mashed Potatoes & Gravy Green Beans Pineapple	Breaded Pork Patty on Bun Spiral Fries Cucumber & Tomato Mixed Fruit	Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potatoes Sweet Peas Fruit	Grilled Cheese Sandwich Cup of Chili Garden Salad Fruit

## Summer Tutors

If you are interested in having your child tutored this summer, please contact one of the following St. Barnabas teachers.

Helen Heckman	Grades 2-8	<a href="mailto:hheckman@saintbarnabasparish.org">hheckman@saintbarnabasparish.org</a>
Karen Miller	Grades K-3	<a href="mailto:kmiller@saintbarnabasparish.org">kmiller@saintbarnabasparish.org</a>
Mary Hellmer	Grades K-2	<a href="mailto:mhellmer@saintbarnabasparish.org">mhellmer@saintbarnabasparish.org</a>
Elizabeth Lecher	Grades 3-6	<a href="mailto:elizabeth.lecher@gmail.com">elizabeth.lecher@gmail.com</a>
Becky Kappel French	Grades 3-6	<a href="mailto:rfrench@cdeducation.org">rfrench@cdeducation.org</a>



All fees were due today, May 14, 2010. Any family with a balance in their account, or any current family registering after today, May 14, will be charged a \$100 late fee. If you need to know what your balance is, please call Mrs. Bridgewater at 881-7422 ext 248. If you have any questions, please contact Marcy Rolph, Business Manager, at 881-7422, ext. 253. Thank you.

## CYO Fall Sport Sign Ups

Registration for Fall Kickball, Football, Cross Country, and Cheerleading will be held in the School Atrium on Sunday May 16 and May 23 following the 9:00am and 11:00am Masses. Registration forms will be on the School website and at the sign up. Participation Fee will be due at the sign up. A late fee of \$10 will be included for sign ups after May 23, 2010 due to CYO deadlines.

For more information contact:

Kickball	Kristen Baker	889-3452 <a href="mailto:Riversidekmb@aol.com">Riversidekmb@aol.com</a>
Football	Greg Tatarek	883-0369 <a href="mailto:tatarek@comcast.net">tatarek@comcast.net</a>
Cross Country	Gary Reising	893-4201 <a href="mailto:greising@att.net">greising@att.net</a>
Cheerleading	Kathy Ganka	889-4230 <a href="mailto:Kathleen.K.Ganka@rolls-royce.com">Kathleen.K.Ganka@rolls-royce.com</a>

### PARENTS NOTE:

A Physical Evaluation is required for each child participating in a sport at St. Barnabas (Cheerleading is not included). The physical may be dated no earlier than April 2010 and will be valid for the entire school year. Physicals will be conducted at St. Barnabas in early August. Details will be in the Church Bulletin. Also, CVS and Walgreens perform sports physicals with no appointment needed. If the child receives a physical from a family doctor a copy will be acceptable so long as it indicates that the child is cleared for sports activity. Due to the importance of this matter, no exceptions will be permitted.

## Lost and Found

**Please have your child check the lost and found before the end of the school year for missing items. We have several school sweatshirts, lunch boxes, 3 pairs of glasses, shoes, pants, coats, etc.**

## Medicine

**If your child has medicine that he/she takes at school, please stop by the office or have your child pick up their medicine before the last day of school. Any medicine left at school will be disposed of. Thank you!**



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**My PTO Blog 5/14/10**

By: Rachel Brown (please forward comments, questions to [rrsbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:rrsbrown@hotmail.com))

## **2010-11 PTO News**

**Retraction:** Last week, I thanked Gina Eriksson for volunteering for the wrong PTO position (and just to further insult her, I misspelled her last name)! I think I scared her. **Gina has been kind enough to step forward to co-chair Community Nights.** If you'd like to help Gina, please let me know.



**Thank you Celeste Willis and Liz Beer!** They have graciously accepted the position of Santa Shop co-chairs. Long live fuzzy dice.

**Below are the PTO volunteer positions that currently need your talent.** Please call or email Rachel Brown if you are interested in learning more: [rrsbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:rrsbrown@hotmail.com), 883-1609.



### **Secretary**

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Take minutes of PTO monthly meetings
- Distribute minutes via email to PTO
- Schedule meeting space

**Time Commitment:** One hour each month. Meetings are during the afternoon or evenings on weeknights.



### **Magazine Sale Prize Store Co-Chair**

#### **Responsibilities:**

- Coordinate volunteers to man the prize store on 3 days in Sept.
- Set up/tear down prize store
- If you do a great job, George might make another trip to visit.

**Time Commitment:** 3-4 hours a day, three days in Sept. The Prize Store is open a few hours during the school day for the kids to get rewards for magazine sales.

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### Spirit Wear Co-Chair

#### Responsibilities:

- Work with merchandise vendors on creation/delivery of product
- Promote spirit wear at school

**Time Commitment:** 3-4 hours in June/July/August. Most of the work will be before school starts, after that, it will require an hour each month.



### Family Activity Night Co-Chair

#### Responsibilities:

- Plan all aspects of a Family Fun Night one time for Feb.
- Coordinate volunteers for the event
- Maybe Cam could come as Fizbo the Clown to entertain?
- You can choose the event, or do one that has been done in the past (Family Reading Night...Celebrating the Arts Night...etc)

**Time Commitment:** 4 hours pre-event planning, 3 hours the night of the event. Planning can be done from home during your free time.

### Paper Products Order Form Due!

Please turn in your order form with your school fees. The check is payable to the St. Barnabas PTO. **This program is the ONLY way each student fulfills their responsibility to outfit their class with the necessary paper items.** These paper items will not appear on the school supplies list for the coming year because the PTO is purchasing these items for you in bulk. The form is attached to this newsletter.

### In the Mailbag

**Mary Eiland writes:** *Rachel, I was wondering if you had a chance to check out the Coke Rewards site <http://www.mycokerewards.com/schoolDetails.do?id=1056994551&x=38&y=16>. It would seem like an easy way to get school supplies or sports equipment. All that is required is a school coordinator who redeems items on behalf of the school. I would be willing to help with the project if you need someone. Just let me know!*



**Mary:** Congratulations on being named **Coke Rewards Princess** of St. Barnabas. It is a great way to get some free supplies for our school. I know with First Communion and Graduation coming up, there will be tons of Coke caps to keep. Everyone needs to start saving them now and Mary will let us know when/where to turn them in at school. Thanks for heading up this effort!

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## Paper Products Order Form

2010 – 2011 School Year

We have lightened your load! The Saint Barnabas PTO will purchase all paper products for students for the 2010 – 2011 school year and will distribute them to the appropriate classrooms prior to the start of school in August.

For \$15.00 per student, we will purchase and deliver three reams of paper, two rolls of paper towels and two boxes of Kleenex.

Please complete the following information and return it to school, along with **your check payable to Saint Barnabas PTO. We will make sure that your child's supplies are in the classroom on the first day of school.** Thank you!

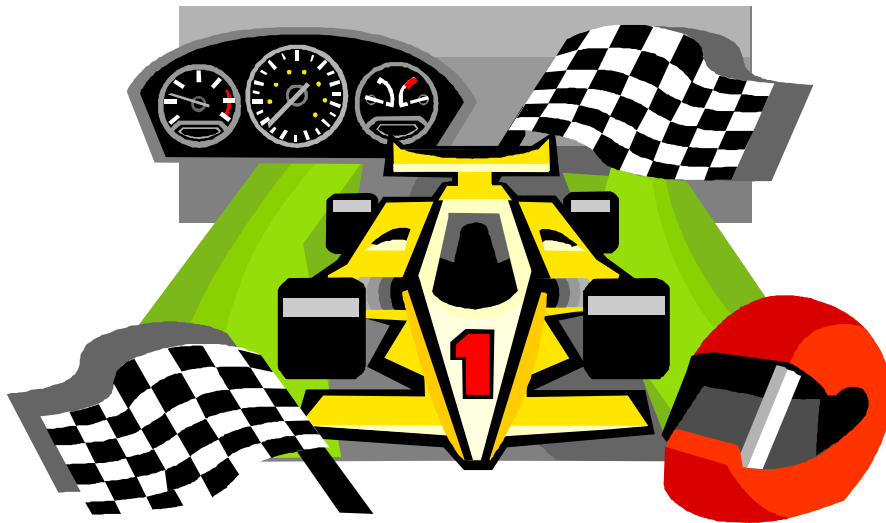
Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (next year) \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (next year) \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (next year) \_\_\_\_\_

Student \_\_\_\_\_ Grade (next year) \_\_\_\_\_

**Number of students** \_\_\_\_\_ **x \$15.00 =**      **Total Due: \$** \_\_\_\_\_



## St Barnabas School

Greetings from Lands' End! We're pleased St Barnabas School is recommending Lands' End School as a dress code provider. Our School Rewards Program donates a percentage of your net sales of Lands' End School Uniform products back to St Barnabas School. You must mention or include your Preferred School Number when placing your order. Check out the plaid jumper, skirt and skorts.

**YOUR PREFERRED SCHOOL NUMBER IS: 900069113**

**Items may be tried on at Sears and ordered at Sears or at Land's End. And you can use a SCRIP card to pay for them!**

The following ordering options are available:

Phone: 1-800-469-2222  
Mail: Lands' End School  
2 Lands' End Lane  
Dodgeville, WI 53595-0640 USA  
Internet: [www.landsend.com/school](http://www.landsend.com/school) (see instructions below)

- Go to [www.landsend.com/school](http://www.landsend.com/school). To view your school's dress code, on the left side of the page within Helpful Hints for Parents click on "Find your school's dress code." In the pop-up screen, enter state, city, school name and click on "find school". View your school's Dress Code Guidelines (.pdf) and be sure to note Dress Code Items. Click on "Shop using this number". Close the pop-up window and start shopping!
- Select "Girls" or "Boys" in the Categories box on the left side of the screen. (Selecting from navigational buttons at the very top of the screen takes you out of the School Uniform store.)
- Select the product category (Tops & Sweaters, Pants & Shorts, etc.).
- Select the item. Click on the color and click on the size. (If you need help with sizing, click on the Size Chart link.)
- Enter your Preferred School Number in the School Code field and click "Confirm."
- If your school has a logo, you may apply it by highlighting it in the Logo Preference drop-down menu.\*\*
- Click Add to Bag.
- Review the product information in the pop-up box that appears and click "Keep Shopping" or "Check Out Now".

\*\*Please note: If your school has authorized their logo for non-school uniform items, you may request it in the "order options" box on the bottom of the shopping bag page under Special Requests. Indicate which items should have the logo and include your Preferred School and logo numbers. Non-school uniform items do not qualify for the School Rewards contribution, but we need your Preferred School and logo numbers to accurately apply your logo.

We look forward to meeting - and exceeding - your dress code and spiritwear needs!

Sincerely,  
Your Friends at Lands' End School Uniforms

**Survey Corner – Week Four**

A survey was distributed to families in November with the idea that the results of the survey would help guide the parish religious and lay leadership as tough decisions arise. As we work through the annual budget process it is worthwhile to study the survey data results and comments. Each week information from the school survey will be shared in the bulletin and newsletter along with some of the comments that correspond to those questions. The entire survey results can be viewed on our webpage at [http://www.saintbarnabasparish.org/school/school\\_survey\\_results.pdf](http://www.saintbarnabasparish.org/school/school_survey_results.pdf)

Questions on the survey addressed tuition and asked respondents to speculate as to what level of tuition would be affordable if the current model were replaced by a pure tuition model.

<b>How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$4000 per child?</b>	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very unlikely</b>
Current school family	15%	9%	16%	10%	50%
Not a current school family	8%	5%	19%	17%	51%
All respondents	13%	8%	17%	12%	50%

<b>How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$3000 per child?</b>	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very unlikely</b>
Current school family	22%	15%	14%	13%	37%
Not a current school family	9%	18%	11%	16%	47%
All respondents	19%	15%	13%	13%	39%

<b>How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is around \$2000 per child?</b>	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very unlikely</b>
Current school family	42%	24%	13%	9%	12%
Not a current school family	27%	16%	20%	13%	25%
All respondents	39%	22%	14%	10%	14%

<b>How likely are you to send your children to St. Barnabas School if tuition is</b>	<b>Very likely</b>	<b>Somewhat likely</b>	<b>Not sure</b>	<b>Somewhat unlikely</b>	<b>Very unlikely</b>
Current school family	68%	16%	7%	3%	6%
Not a current school family	49%	5%	12%	5%	15%
All respondents	64%	17%	8%	3%	8%

Comments to the questions, “What kind of school do you want to have and will best meet our students’ needs? Any additional comments regarding survey issues?” included:

- This survey does not share or explore the root cause of our budgetary concerns/shortfalls. Why is attendance at mass falling? As a result, why is parishioner financial support falling? We appear to be treating the symptoms rather than the illness. From a personal financial standpoint tithing has a positive tax implication that should result in more dollars for the church. We should continue to reinforce this facet of the program.
- *Fund raisers and charging a small fee for dinners or special programs could improve finances. The magazine sale wasn't marketed very well this year. why didn't they sell after masses? Fund raisers that don't involve the children selling things would be great such as other parishes promote bingo, craft sales, festivals – get creative!*
- More fundraising such as a fair or festival to off set school cost.
- *I feel I don't have a school or a parish anymore. I have a building that I go to church in.*

- I'm sad to see some of the changes that seem pervasive throughout ST. B the past several years. It seems like instead of parents working together to support the kids, they are spending more time and energy competing among each other and comparing/speculating "how much money" people contribute. I'm sad to see so many of my friends leave St. B because of the sense of a caring community just seems to be gone, in lieu of money, money.
- *Parish changes to tuition and our tithing amount will decrease. I don't believe a catholic education should be denied to anyone because of money. Stewardship model is good concept, but hard to make sure everyone giving their fair share.*
- More fundraising such as a fair or festival to offset school cost.
- *Christ filled our school! I cannot comment on what other school families are doing financially!*
- Charging tuition will reduce school size, parish size, and tithing pledges. Please run St. B as a church and not a business. The school is the heart of the church. Don't think like a businessman when planning for the school. It is not a direct relationship between its size and tithing commitments.
- *Need more accountability for families who can but don't carry their weight financially.*
- We love St. B however with just one child in school, making our tithing is difficult. If we had to switch to tuition, we should be unable to send our 2<sup>nd</sup> child there which would be very disappointing. A minor increase in student enrollment (2/perclass) might help ease budget challenges w/o increasing overhead. I'd hate to see enrollment drastically increase though. One of the benefits of St. B is smaller class sizes.
- *Catholic education is very important to us for our children. It would be a struggle to pay tuition, but hopefully financially could still send our child to St. B.*
- Selected very likely on \$4000 as we are currently paying full tuition due to the fact that this is our first year. We are also tithing and paying for aftercare services which add up very quickly.
- *I really hope we don't go to tuition!*
- All-day kindergarten fees are hard to manage along with book fees. If the current book fees were raised no more than \$1000 per child, we would be able to send our children to St. B. Further tuition costs would force us to reduce our tithe as well ask our family members to assist us with tuition.
- *Our hopes as parents to make sure our children have the best education possible. We need to make sure we have all resources available to keep in line with public schools and to prepare our kids for the next level of education. If the funds are not there ultimately the students and teachers suffer. I don't want to second guess my choice of catholic education if we are not able to give them all their educational needs in the school. We have always been an advocate for tuition for private education.*
- *If the tuition would become a norm, we would have to stop tithing. We would also look into other schools.*
- Tuition – I understand many families have struggled this last year and I sympathize with that. However, if tuition is a result of some not keeping up with their tithing and school fees, address those families.
- *I really hope we don't go to tuition.*
- \$4000 seems a little high if a family has a lot of children.
- *I want a school like the one we have. If we move to tuition then we are not serving all the children, only those with wealth. A family of 3 is already paying \$2250 book fee, would the # above include this? We are very happy with school. I hope classrooms would not become crowded, but understand financial concerns. I wish we knew what to expect out of the cost per year. Last year it was tight on our budget coming up with the unexpected fees. It feels like new fees and extras keep springing up. We pay what tuition would cost for two kids. If other families are not maybe they could work something out. We love the school and want to see it flourish. What about festivals or bingo to help cost?*
- St. B School is wonderful. I would pay whatever it takes to keep the school operating, although it would be tough, I would make sacrifices. You could not ask for a more dedicated school staff.
- *My kids will attend Catholic schools, of course I would rather not have a tuition fee but if that is that it takes to provide them the opportunity, so be it. If tuition causes some families to other parish schools or public school, it will be their loss. I will make whatever sacrifices are necessary for my children to attend St. B School. (I'd still rather not pay*

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- My wife and I like the school the way it is. In today's economic environment, the "church renovation" should be delayed and the capital campaign money should be used to keep school afloat. If you charge tuition, which you will, the school will decrease in size. People will leave and the expansion of church will not be needed. You will have plenty of seats for who is left in the parish.

- *If we are going to tuition, we need to know well ahead of time. We need to know before we fill out our intent cards.*

All day kindergarten fees are hard to manage along with book fees. If the current book fees were raised not more than \$1000 per child, we could be able to send our children to St. B. Further tuition costs would force us to reduce our tithe as well as our family members to assist us with tuition.

- *All 4 of my children attended St. B School. Our family is truly blessed to be members of a parish that supports a Catholic school. Catholic education is priceless and I will continue to give to my parish so that this school is here for years to come. I will be praying that God give all of us the strength and courage to continue to live this mission.*
- St. Barnabas School should be available to any active parish family. The stewardship model involves the whole parish and has worked for the entire parish's existence. As an empty nester I am more than willing to continue the same level of tithe as when I had students at St. B and RHS. I think the parish needs to market to families whose children went through St. B and ask them to support current young families. Try to encourage more giving from families. Most don't mind helping. I myself am turned off by the constant threat of tuition and negativity!
- *Our children were able to attend and had wonderful experiences.*
- We sent both of our daughters to St. B for 9 years. We sent them to public HS. I do wish you had the flexibility in your budget to allow ALL who wish to attend St. B to do so. Perhaps you raise your basic student fee to a higher w/o actually charging tuition but the bottom line should be – never to turn away a parishioner who seeks Catholic ed. for their child.
- *I attended 8 years at St. B in the 80's. I have seen it grow and improve over the years. St. B is Wonderful! We are proud to send our children here. We love being members of the parish as well. The only suggestion I have now would be to offer 3 classrooms per grade for the younger students and then 2 for grades 6-8 to help cut costs.*
- St. Barnabas is a fantastic school and I am very proud to send my children. The education is top notch – rigorous, challenging and allows its students such variety of activities to enhance learning. There are so many wonderful caring teachers. Keep up the great work.
- *We are saddened to see the legacy of St. B parish and the dream of Fr. Sciarra falling apart, as we forget about the critical need to pass on our faith to the next generation. This is our mission – it's not a matter of whether we can afford it – we are letting the tail wag the dog, making decisions solely on budgets. What will happen to our faith in our children's generation? School families are the life blood of this parish (past, present, future) yet school families are treated as a financial burden – our leadership has it backwards.*
- First I feel we are blessed to be a part of this parish and school. I become overwhelmed at school masses to know my child is in this place. A Catholic education is pertinent to us.
- *St. B is a stewardship parish. We are a community of believers serving the needs of all of our parish through stewardship. We are all one body, one spirit in Christ. By separating the school as its own entity, it becomes a payment for service and loses its identity as a ministry of the parish. Stewardship is the reason we are proud members of St. B and sets us apart from any other parish. It is the responsibility of the parish to educate children. Although we can afford to pay 'tuition' and have done price comparisons at local catholic schools, we decline to answer question 14. St. B is not a parish of haves and have nots. We believed in stewardship. St. B meets the needs of all our parish community. We are a STEWARDSHIP parish.*
- I am pleased to be asked an opinion; survey well done - thank you.
- *Joyful and Alive! That is what I feel during the Wed. morning school liturgies. The entire St. B school experience ought to feel that way, but currently it does not because there are money worries, stressed teachers, and inconsistent policies. The school is a precious gift to our next generation that we may lose unless it gets stability. I think that fees need to be increased significantly so that revenue will be predictable again. Also, there needs to be a clearer statement of the roles and responsibilities of parents, teachers and administrators so that there will be less bullying by certain parents to get special treatment with respect to behavior and grades just for their kids. A stable environment for St. B's wonderful teachers to do their job is probably as important as stable revenue.*

1 ST. B School has a rich tradition we as a parish need to preserve and nourish.