

# Cathedral School Review

Volume 3, Issue 30

April 9, 2009

### *Special points of interest:*

- The Road to Betrayal
- Mass Schedule
- Library Schedule
- No School
- Spring Mode
- School Advisory Council Update
- Contact Your Legislator
- Happy Birthday

## The Road to Betrayal

“Surely it is not I, Lord?” As Fr. Bob explained to us this week, this statement of Jesus’ closest friends, His apostles, is used by many different people as they begin the road to betrayal.

He went on to say that every sin we commit is another betrayal for Jesus. Later in the homily, we got to see a crown of thorns, similar to what Jesus wore. Those thorns were terribly sharp and were driven

mercilessly into Jesus’ head. Our sins, too, are like those thorns, piercing Jesus’ scalp, even his skull.

Why did He do all of this? Quite simply, because He loves us. God loves us so much that He was even willing to sacrifice Himself, through His Son, in this terrible, painful, humiliating way, so that we could enjoy eternity with Him.

If a denial (“Surely it is not I, Lord?”) can betray Jesus, then an honest account of our sins and transgressions can heal our relationship with Him. If we admit to our own failings, sincerely apologize for them (especially through the sacrament of Reconciliation), and seek to do better, we can rest assured that God will give us the grace to do so. He loves us that much! Thanks be to God!

## In Other News...

### Mass Schedule

- April 15—planned by Kindergarten!
- April 22—planned by 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade

We would like to invite you to celebrate the Mass with your child and his or her class on Wednesdays at 8:45 a.m. Grandparents, other relatives, and friends are also welcome. Hope to see you there!

### Library Schedule

- April 14—Grades K, 1 & 2
- April 21—Grades 3 & 4

### No School

We will not have any school tomorrow, Good Friday, April 10. School will resume on Monday, April 13. If you have any questions, please contact the school office. Have a blessed Easter!

### Spring Mode

Now that the weather has begun to warm up, we have, as a staff, been discussing an upcoming shift to a “spring mode,” as far as recess goes. We feel that now is an appropriate time to begin this transition. During the winter, our recess clothing requirements were designed to keep your child warm, as well as dry.

Now, as we move into

spring, our concern moves to keeping children dry, more than warm. Therefore, we are changing our recess requirements to the following:

1. A coat or jacket will still be required for all students (grades K-6). On a particular day, the recess supervisor may allow students to leave their coats/jackets unzipped or even to remove them entirely, depending on the immediate weather conditions.

2. All other items will be optional, as long as students stay on the *paved part of the playground*. If a student wishes to play in one of the unpaved areas, they will still be required to wear the “winter gear,” including boots, gloves/mittens, hat, and snow pants (K-4). As mentioned earlier, this is designed to keep children dry, more than warm. The ground is quite wet, and we don’t want your child to get wet and uncomfortable!
3. As in any season, puddles and mud piles will remain off-limits, even though they are so appealing to so many children!

If you have any questions or concerns about this, please contact the school office. Thank you for your cooperation in keeping your children dry and comfortable as they enjoy their recess time!

### **School Advisory Council Update**

The next meeting of the Council will be on Wednesday, April 22 at 6:00 p.m., in the school library. The School Advisory Council will continue reviewing and revising school policies. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Also, we are now accepting nominations for three Council positions which will be opening this spring. The fourth position will be filled by extending Sis Eickhof’s term by two years. In this way, we will be able to have three positions opening each year, as called for in our Constitution and By-laws. If you are interested, please submit your name (or the name of someone that you think would be interested in helping this school in this way) to the school office. We will be voting in the school community beginning May 14, in the parish over the weekend of May 16-17 and concluding all voting at the Spring Program on May 19. If you have any questions, please contact a Council member or the school office. Thank you!

### **Contact Your Legislator**

As the state begins to consider ways of reducing spending, in order to balance the budget, one discussion point came up last week that could have a significantly negative impact on private schools throughout the state, such as our Cathedral School. In an email, Peter Noll, who is the education director for the Minnesota Catholic Conference, reported the following information:

After last week, it can be officially declared that child-benefit programs offered to nonpublic school children by the state are under assault in the legislature this session. Bills that would reduce special education services under IDEA call for essentially eliminating special education transportation and reduce services back to federal funding only. As most of us know, the federal government covers only about 14% of special education costs. As if that isn’t enough bad news, there is a measure that would allow school districts to charge fees for nonpublic children to ride the regular buses to and from their schools. Another bill would wipe out Minnesota’s K-12 Education Income Tax Deduction and Credits Program. The Minnesota Catholic Conference, our allies and coalition members are desperately attempting to fend off onerous legislation, yet it seems that desperate economic times have caused some lawmakers to attack programs that have benefited nonpublic children and families since the 1950’s.

While we understand when civic leaders say that all Minnesotans have to share in the economic suffering, the aforementioned legislation would essentially eliminate many of the programs that have served us

well for decades. For many parents who have chosen nonpublic schools for their child’s education, the loss of the programs could result in a tipping point for many parents. Many may have to make the difficult decision of transferring their child from their school of choice to the local public school. The unintended consequence of forcing parents to make this move actually adds to the financial deficit that our state is experiencing. For every child that moves from a nonpublic school to a public school, there is an additional \$10,000 that Minnesota taxpayers must generate for K-12 general education allotments.

—Peter Noll

One way that you could help us in this effort is to contact your state legislator and tell them what you think about this attempt to cripple private schools, such as the Cathedral School. Another way that you can help both with issue, as well as other important matters, is to join the MNCAN (Minnesota Catholic Advocacy Network). If you have any other questions, please contact the school office. Thank you for your continued support!

### **God’s Blessings on Your Birthday**

Ethan LaPlante, Grade 1—April 10

Hailey Seaver, Grade 2—April 11

---

Cathedral Elementary School  
 Adam Hollingsworth, Principal  
 702 Summit Avenue  
 Crookston, MN 56716  
 Phone: (218) 281-1835  
 Fax: (218) 281-1747  
 Email: ahollingsworth.cathedral@midconetwork.com  
 www.cathedralschool.org