

Saints + Scholars Press

Our Mission: Monroe Catholic Elementary Schools is a Christ-Centered, Catholic learning community committed to the academic excellence and spiritual development of every student.



News from Mr. Kubik

Mass Schedule:
St. Michael - Mondays
For 1st Grade
St. John - Tuesdays
For 2nd-4th Grades

Fundraising Opportunity

MCES has a new fundraising opportunity through working the University of Michigan Home Football Games and other special events at the Big House. Open to all parents to raise money for their favorite program or activity at MCES including Class Trips, CYO, Quizbowl, Robotics, Atrium, Garden School or even specific grades or buildings. To learn more call Lisa Soncrant at 734-770-9496 or email her at isoncrant@comcast.net.

Fall Prayer: O God of Creation, you have blessed us with the changing of the seasons. As we embrace these autumn months, May the earlier setting of the sun remind us to take time to rest. May the crunch of the leaves beneath our feet remind us of the brevity of this earthly life. May the steam of our breath in the cool air remind us that it is you who give us your breath of life. We praise you for your goodness forever and ever. Amen.

Join the MCES Parent Prayer Group!

Drop in on Wednesdays at 8:00 am in the Prayer Room at St. Mary Campus to pray with other MCES parents. Questions can be directed to Principal Zawistowicz at zawistowicz@monroecatholicschools.com

IOWA Test Time

9/22/16

Each year, during the first 2 weeks of October, all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Detroit take part in the IOWA Assessments and CogAT Test. These standardized tests allow us to see where our students are excelling and where they may need some extra help. The students are tested on a wide range of subject areas. The CogAT, or Cognitive Abilities Test, estimates a student's reasoning and problem solving skills. Each year the teachers review the data that comes from these assessments and use it to help plan their teaching. The IOWA test is taken in 1st through 8th grade. The CogAT is administered in 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th grades.

Tips for IOWA Testing Weeks for Parents:

- Keep a positive attitude at taking tests.
- Encourage your children to do well, but don't pressure them.
- Help them get plenty of sleep.
- Eat a healthy breakfast and avoid overly sugary foods and drinks.

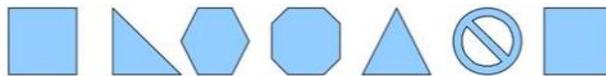
Tips for IOWA Testing Weeks for Students:

- Relax
- Take your time; Don't rush!
- Read questions carefully and look at all the answer choices.
- Don't worry if others finish first; it's not a race.

Here are 2 practice questions you can complete together:

Example of a 1st-2nd Grade Question:

1) How many triangles are shown?



- A. 1 B. 2 C. 3 D. 4

Example of a 3rd-4th Grade Question:

2) Which of the following is not true?

- A. $4 + 4 = 8$
B. $4 \div 1 = 4$
C. $4 \times 0 = 1$
D. $4 - 4 = 0$

Bubble your answers here:



*The above questions are just samples.

*Answers can be found at the top of the next page.

Please feel free to email me if you have any questions about the IOWA Assessments. When score reports are returned, I will explain what they mean in my newsletter. Enjoy your weekend!

Saints + Scholars Staff Highlight

Mrs. Julie White

What do you do at MCES?

I am the administrative assistant at the St. Michael Campus, 3 days a week.

How long have you taught at MCES or one of our founding schools?

17 years total. 5 years at MCES and 12 at St. Mary.

What is your favorite part of working here?

Having daily interaction with the students and working with our awesome staff.

What was your favorite subject to learn about when you were in school?

Science. I always wanted to be a marine biologist.

What does our theme: "Saints + Scholars" mean to you?

It means that our job at MCES is to be good role models for the students.



Mass Participation

Mass is the high point of celebration for Catholics each week, and our students are lucky to experience it weekly during the school day. If you do not already, please consider attending mass on Sundays- or the Saturday vigil- to help acclimate children to the solemn mass environment. This will help them understand the importance of participation in mass; I am sure parents who have attended our school masses would agree it is such a great experience when all the students are actively participating in the music and responses. Consider having a family discussion over breakfast after mass to carry the message beyond mass. Some possible questions to consider:

- 1) Which song did you like most? Why does it have meaning to you?
- 2) What part of the stories in the readings and Gospel most jumped out at you?
- 3) What challenged you most? Or What stuck out for you most from the priest's message?
- 4) What was one part of mass you were confused about or did not understand?

These are just some examples to get a conversation started, so you can get the most out of mass as a family.

Calendar Reminders

September

9/23-25 St. Michael Parish/Campus Feast Day Celebration

9/25 Blue Mass for Law Enforcement at St. Michael Parish
10:30am

9/27 8th Grade parents who have **NOT** signed up their students for the Washington D.C. Trip Meeting, 7pm in Mr. Kipf's classroom, 208.

9/28 MCES Parent and Family Prayer group 8am St. Mary Prayer room, all are welcome drop-in format.

9/29 Bob Beaubien Scholarship Application due to the St. Mary Office

October

10/1 Oktoberfest for St. John Parish

10/7 PreK field trip to Farmer Charlie's

10/7 Green and Gold day, students can wear any SMCC shirt, or green or gold top with jeans or gym uniform bottoms.

10/7 SMCC Homecoming Parade, join in the fun and walk with your CYO team or with the MCES Float.

10/7 MCES Homecoming Tailgate, 5pm to 7pm in the St. John Parish/school parking lot.

10/12 No afternoon MPS buses. All shuttle buses and SMCC buses will run as normal.

10/14 Picture Retake Day, students getting their picture retaken can wear their Sunday best for pictures.

10/14 and 15 St. Mary craft show, proceeds benefit MCES

Children's Book Donations Requested

If you have any books for 1st Grade and younger, we are looking to grow our new Media Center Library. Please drop them off at the school office in a bag that includes your name/family name. Any donations are greatly appreciated!



Thank you to those who have donated books:

Carleen Stiff
Landon Phillips
The Marting Family
The Odette Family

Attn: Kindergarten Families

Just a quick reminder that belts are not required in Kindergarten as a way of preventing accidents. Students are expected to wear belts with their school uniform in 1st grade. Thank you.

