



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

March 1, 2017

School Office: 414-453-5830

Email: stsebschool@archmil.org

Fax: 414-453-9449

Ms. Grams, Principal

Website: school.saintsebastianonline.net



[Like us on Facebook!](#)

Dear St. Sebastian Families,

On the heels of a bustling last week of learning, conferences, and staff professional development, I hope that our entire community was able to enjoy a day of rest over the long weekend! With great efforts and hard work also comes needed time of rest and rejuvenation!

As you may know, today is Ash Wednesday and officially marks the beginning of our holy season of Lent. Scripture tells us that Jesus spent 40 days in the desert, fasting and praying in preparation for his public ministry. Today we would call this a "retreat," which is essentially what Lent is - a focused "retreat" in the middle of our ordinarily lives, for just over 40 days, when we prioritize the time to look inward, consider ways to turn from sin, to strengthen our connection with God and others, to break open our hearts to love more fully, and to perhaps re-purpose how we spend our time and attention. We too, like Jesus, are called to prayer and fasting. To that end, Pope Francis offers the following prayer to guide us:

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

*Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
Fast from worries and have trust in God.
Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy.
Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.*

If you are looking for resources throughout your Lenten journey, I would recommend signing up with "Dynamic Catholic's 'Best Lent Ever'," accessible at <http://dynamiccatholic.com/bestlentever>, and/or Loyola Press for information that can benefit the entire family: <http://www.loyolapress.com/our-catholic-faith/liturgical-year/lent>.

May this be your (and your family's) "Best Lent Yet!".

Have a blessed journey,
Ms. Grams

SERVICE PLANNING, CONTINUED - We will hold the next steps of our service planning meeting this Thursday, at 7:30am in the school's conference room in the front office. All are welcome to join the team! This is a wonderful opportunity for our students, families, and school community to grow in faith through service to others! If you have any questions, please speak with Molly Ambrose.

YAC VOLLEYBALL – Parents, if your child will be interested in playing Volleyball next fall, please make sure you get them registered on time as deadline is at the end of May, registration forms are available in the school office along with Sport Physical sheets. Payment should be by check or money order. The physical sheets are good for 2 years and would be a good idea to pick up now before your child's next Doctors appointment so that your child will be ready for when our next season starts. Also, anyone interested in being a coach or assistant coach can contact Diana Kokalis at [sdk1998@yahoo.com](mailto: sdk1998@yahoo.com) or [414-265-6513](tel: 414-265-6513).

FISH FRY NEWS - Lent is upon us, which means we will have a Fish Fry every Friday from March 3 through April 14! Below is the schedule of which grade is scheduled to help at each of the remaining fish fry dates. Please make note of the fish fry your class is assigned and visit the volunteer portal to secure your spot to help! (Please note...registration on the portal ends one week before each fish fry.) And, don't forget to tell your family, friends, neighbors and co-workers about THE. BEST. FISH FRY. EVER.

March 3 - 1st grade

March 10 (carry out only) - K5

March 17 (carry out only) - K4

March 24 (carry out only) - St. Coletta

March 31 (carry out only) - Faith Formation (date change)

April 7 - 4th grade

April 14 (carry out only) - Cub/Boy/Girl Scouts

(Don't worry 7th grade...you get to close out the Fish Fry season with the May 5 fish fry!)

To sign up on the volunteer portal:

1. Go to parish/school website: www.saintsebastianonline.net
2. Click on Get Involved
3. Click on Stewardship Portal
4. Login to view Opportunity Calendar and sign up!

New to the volunteer portal?

- Follow steps 1 – 3 above
- Create an account (username and password)
- Click on Apply to volunteer and provide required information
- Once confirmed (may take a day or two), follow steps 1 – 4 above!

Missed your grade's fish fry? Loved working fish fry and can't wait to help again? We'd love your help anytime it works for you...especially help with clean-up.

FARMER'S MARKET - Our 8th annual Winter Farmers' Market & Brunch will be in the church hall this Sunday, March 5 from 9am to 12:30pm, and we're still in need of volunteers - if you are considering lending a helping hand with food preparation, vendor unloading or loading, bussing, greeting, clean up, or any of the other tasks necessary for a great market and meal experience, please let us know! Visit the online St Sebs volunteer portal at <https://stseb.datapropeller.com/ParticipantPortal> or contact Tonia Schmear at [tonschmear@hotmail.com](mailto: tonschmear@hotmail.com) or (262) 754-2766 about volunteering. Thank you!

1ST GRADE FISH FRY MARCH 3! - We are still in need of volunteers to help with the 1st grade fish fry on Friday March 3! We especially need help with the following:

Thursday prep from 6:00 - 8:30 in the school cafeteria

Friday clean-up from 7:30 - 10:00 in the school cafeteria

Dessert donations - 2 dozen, preferably home-made treats delivered to the school cafeteria between 2:00 and 4:00 (or to the school office, if earlier)

1st grade is a small class and this is going to be our busiest fish fry of the year. If you missed helping at your grade's fish fry...or would like to volunteer again, please email Lena Stephenson at roblena@sbcglobal.net

ROSIE READER - Congratulations to the following students for their progress on the Rosie Reader program:

Completing the letter "D" in reading:

K5 - Margot Rexroat and Eleanor Hegerty

Keep up the good work!

USED BASEBALL MITTS NEEDED - If you are spring cleaning your garage in the coming months and discover that you have a used mitt that doesn't fit any of your own children anymore, please consider donating it for a good cause. Mrs. Kozina's son, Ben, will be traveling to the Dominican Republic this summer with some classmates and teachers from Marquette High School. They will be going up into the mountains to dig latrines and help some of the underserved population of the country. The teacher in charge told the boys that many of the local children enjoy playing with them after their work hours are finished each day and suggested that the boys bring along baseball mitts to leave with the children they meet. PLEASE do not go out and buy new mitts. We are looking to collect around 12-15 mitts of various sizes. If you have one, you can have your child bring it to school and either leave it in Mrs. Kozina's office mailbox or deliver it to her classroom. Thank you in advance! The deadline is mid-May.

SPRING CONCERT MAY 9 – Save the date! Also, please note – there will be NO Prelude Concert performances at the beginning of the spring concert. Instead, our student's individual skills will be highlighted in an upcoming talent show. More details to come.

FORENSICS FRENZY NIGHT – Attention 5th graders and middle school students! Ever wonder what the Forensics program at St. Sebastian's was about? Come find out on Monday, March 13th at 7:00 PM in the church hall. Meet our Forensics team, watch performances and enjoy refreshments.

SPRING SOCIAL - HOUSE PARTY 2017 - All parents, teachers, parishioners, friends, neighbors, and countrymen, please join us on March 11th from 7:30-11:30pm in the school cafeteria for a classic basement party. Enjoy a variety of basement games, including darts, foosball, bags/cornhole, flip cup, and other classics. Live music from the band *Bright Lights, Big City* playing songs from the 80's and 90's. The cost for the event is \$25 for one person and \$40 for two people, which includes beer, wine, and light snacks (very light, like bag of Doritos light, so eat before you come or, even better, make it a night and go out to dinner with friends or your kids' classmates' parents beforehand). Please make checks payable to St. Sebastian School and send them in to the office Attn: Molly Ambrose/House Party. For questions please contact Molly Ambrose at mollyj26@hotmail.com. Please open the attachment for additional information.

FAMILY FREE DAY – There will be free admission for families on Saturday, March 4th at the Milwaukee County Zoo from 9:00 – 4:30.

FIRST COMMUNION PREP REMINDER - Our next Parent-Child Session for First Communion preparation is next week. You may attend either:

Sunday, March 5th at 9 am in Saint Sebastian School Cafeteria (enter from the school parking lot)
or

Wednesday, March 8th at 6:30 pm in Saint Sebastian Church Hall

If you have not yet selected a Communion Mass, you may do so at these sessions.