

## NEWMAN CATHOLIC MIDDLE SCHOOL

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### Dates to Remember:

#### February

- 2/7 MS Yearbook Group Photos - NCC Gym
- 2/7 Wisconsin Valley Forensic Meet - Newman Campus
- 2/8 Liturgy - 9:40a
- 2/9 MASH
- 2/13 NCMS Home and School Meeting - 6:30p - NCC Library
- 2/14 Happy Valentine's Day
- 2/14 Conservation REC Field Trip
- 2/15 Liturgy - 9:40a
- 2/16 MASH
- 2/17 District Solo/Ensemble at Assumption High School - Wisconsin Rapids
- **2/20 NO SCHOOL**
- **2/21 2012-2013 NCS Registration Forms Due for Returning Families**
- 2/22 ASH WEDNESDAY
- 2/22 Liturgy - 9:40a
- 2/23 MASH
- 2/24 Women In Science - UWSP
- 2/27 NCMS Spring Sport Meeting - 6:00p - Room 100
- 2/29 Liturgy - 9:40a
- 2/29 Parent/Student/Teacher Conferences - 3:00p - 8:00p

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## *The Cardinal Connection*

*"Do This In Memory Of Me"*

February 2012

Monthly Newsletter

## From the Principal's Desk

Greetings Newman Parents!

It looks like we not only survived but thrived through another Catholic Schools Week at Newman Middle and High Schools! It was such a blessing to celebrate Mass with so many of our area Priests and the Bishop this past week. What a blessing to be able to come together as a community to celebrate the mysteries of Christ's Love for us.

We have had a lot of fun celebrating the gift of a faith filled Catholic education throughout the last few days. Bowling, Spirit Games, Bunco and some very creative costuming are just a few of the activities our staff worked very hard to procure for our students. I want to send out a special thanks to our High School Home and School for paying for the entire High School's bowling expenses this year. What a generous offering! I want to ask all of our parents to consider attending more of our Home and School meetings in the future. It is such a great way to keep in touch with the happenings around here and to find new avenues to support the students and staff at Newman. Our next Middle School meeting is on Feb. 13<sup>th</sup> and High School meets on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you there.

In the next few days you should be receiving your registration materials for next year. It goes without saying that I hope to see all of you back with us again in the coming year. More importantly I want to encourage you to help me spread the word about how valuable the Newman experience is for you and your family to others in the greater Wausau area. I have had dozens of meetings over the past few weeks with brand new families who are eager to join the Newman family and many of them were brought to us through conversations with you! Keep up the great work! I will continue to do my part to make sure that Newman Catholic Middle and High School stay a place where the spiritual fervor, the academic prowess and the extra-curricular challenge are things very much worth sharing and praising. I wish you a blessed February and continue to pray that we all grow together as servants of the Kingdom of God!

Your Brother in Christ,  
Jamie

Mr. James Delikowski, Principal  
Newman Catholic Middle and High School

## Sixth Grade News

In Math, the students have completed their studies on dividing decimals. They are now working on a chapter that involves patterns and number sense. They will cover such topics as divisibility rules, factorization, factors, simplification of fractions, mixed numbers, multiples, and measuring using fourths and eighths.

In Science class, the students have just finished learning about Newton's three laws of motion including such concepts as friction, air resistance, balanced and unbalanced forces, gravity, and weight and mass. We will be now be studying the interesting world of work and simple machines (levers, pulleys, inclined planes, etc) in which the students will learn about work and power, mechanical advantage, efficiency, and the different types of simple and compound machines.

In Language Arts, the students are exploring their creativity with our current poem unit. I enjoy reading their "picture with words" creations. They are progressing into very good writers.

In Religion the students are studying God's relationship with us in order to strengthen our faith through learning about his almighty, eternal, all-knowing, and all-present existence and revelation. We are now working on learning about the Catholic Churches' liturgical year, its feast days, and the church seasons. We will be creating our own versions of the liturgical year calendar.



We spent most of January exploring the amazing geography of South America. As we discussed all the unique areas, students made a physical map of South America. We will continue our look at South America with each student getting a more in-depth look at an assigned country in South America. If you've been to Latin America, please let me know if you have pictures, information, or experiences that you would like to share. We'd love to have you as our guest speaker!

**The sixth grade team would like to express their deepest gratitude and appreciation to all of the families for their very thoughtful Christmas gifts. Thank you!**

## Seventh Grade News

In Spanish, the seventh graders will continue working on verb conjugation every day as they learn to describe their leisure-time activities and how to make plans with others. Even though verb conjugation is a difficult part of language acquisition, becoming "expert" in the present tense will only help you when we reach the past and future tenses! Practicing at home with flashcards is a great help.

In Language Arts, students did an outstanding job practicing and perfecting their Forensic presentations! They were quite impressive! Interested students will be competing at the City Forensic Meet to be held **right here** at Newman Catholic Middle School! We are so excited to be hosting this event, which will take place on Tuesday, February 7. Further details will be forthcoming. We will continue to learn and practice the structure of English and will begin a new novel shortly!

In Social Studies, the students are wrapping up their unit on Ancient Rome. This was a really fun unit as we were able to learn about Julius Caesar, Roman architecture, and the amazing battles of the Punic Wars. Soon we will be learning about Ancient India and China. A special thanks goes out to Mr. Tordot for his interdisciplinary art project in which the students are creating their own Greek helmets. They look really cool and the kids have enjoyed the project.



In Math, we are currently exploring factors, multiples and fractions. In the upcoming units we will be getting into area, volume, and perimeter of geometric shapes.

In Science, we will be concluding our cell study by delving into how traits are inherited. We very much enjoyed working in the lab facility down the hall as we explored one-celled organisms and also various other cells using microscopes. Students also carried out experiments related to diffusion and osmosis – processes that allow nature to balance conditions outside of the organism with the inside of the organism, known as equilibrium. Students continue to share current events about chemistry, the atom, and physics in small groups on Fridays. Students are continue to read each Wednesday from a book they have selected on the topics we are studying. For January and February, the topic is chemistry, the atom, and scientists of the atom.

In Religion, we have taken on the role of discovering who wrote the gospels and why, as we try to imagine what it was like to be with Christ on his earthly journey. Soon we will be examining how the roles of preacher, prophet, and precursor led to conveying what the Messiah would be like and what his role would be while on earth such as John the Baptist who was certainly one of the key biblical and historical figures in preparing the way for Jesus. Students will also organize a "Day in Nazareth" festival to simulate what the culture, clothing, foods, and even music were like in first century Israel.

In the weeks surrounding **Catholic School's Week**, we will emphasize the various cultures / ethnic backgrounds our students represent by sharing them "story fashion" in class. Information will be shared with your child explaining the expectations for this activity.

## Eighth Grade News

In Language Arts, the students are practicing and performing Forensic presentations in preparation for a Language Arts grade and a voluntary competition opportunity with The City Forensic Meet. Newman Catholic Middle School will be hosting this event, which will take place Tuesday, February 7. More information on the specifics will soon follow.

In Social Studies, we are coordinating a study of economics with a six week program called *It's My Business* through the Junior Achievement Program. We are scheduled to begin January 27. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Barb Boehm and Mr. Brad Tipple for donating their time to be our JA instructors. We are also learning in greater detail the function of the Legislative Branch of the government.

In Math, students completed a unit on adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing fractions. We also studied the area of triangles and trapezoids as well as the circumference of circles. We will be moving on to working with square roots, real numbers, the Pythagorean Theorem, and coordinate planes.

Science class will be rocking – literally! We have just finished learning about the life cycles of stars and galaxies and will be moving on to the study of minerals and rocks. Then things will then get a bit shaky as we begin our studies of plate tectonics, earthquakes, and volcanoes.

The algebra class has been studying linear equations, inequalities, and how to graph them on a coordinate plane. We have also learned the basics of using a graphing calculator. Next, we will be learning about systems of equations, and will be graphing them as well.

In Religion, students just finished an in-depth immersion into the Eucharist. Presently, we are focusing on the Sacraments of Initiation, which will find students designing and constructing murals to emphasize the essential signs of each of these three sacraments. In the coming weeks we will explore our church building designs and students will plan their own liturgies in small groups. The next due date for Outreach hours is March 13<sup>th</sup>.

The Spanish students will be able to tell you all about places to go and things to do in the community. They will also identify different means of transportation. They will continue to practice conjugating many present tense verbs and even some past tense verbs. Tricky!

In French class, students will learn about more places around town and how to give directions. They are reviewing the major groups of verbs, those ending in -er, -re, and -ir. Lots of reading comprehension will take place as well!



## Guidance Office

### All Middle School Parents:

Bad online behavior can jeopardize your child's college plans. Students now have to worry about an increasing number of colleges peering at their social-networking pages online.

Gone are the days of an applicants' acceptance based solely on ACT scores and grade point averages. It is important parents know what social networking sites their children use, and talk with their children now about what they post. Chances are that parents are unaware of everything happening with their child outside of school; many incidents end up spilling onto school grounds and quickly onto social-networking sites. Information on the internet is there forever and accessible to everyone. Colleges are rejecting applications based on what they are finding.

Please review with your child the sites that they use, pictures they have posted or have been "tagged" in, and messages they have posted in blogs and social-networking sites. A great way to do this is by having your child Google their name and see what comes up. If you would like more information please contact the guidance office.

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

Please note all 8<sup>th</sup> grade scholarships are due February 29<sup>th</sup>. Paper copies are available in the main office and on our webpage. Please be sure to send all scholarships to Jamie Delikowski, Middle School Principal.

## Middle School Clubs

### Student Council

**Mrs. Bergmann**

Several of the middle school student council members had the opportunity to attend a high school student council meeting last month to assist with planning for the Catholic Schools Week dress up days! We are also sponsoring a Catholic Schools Week door decorating contest and you can look forward to reading about the winning homeroom in the next newsletter.

The student council members would like to thank Mrs. Cathy Yadro for counting our first round of "Box Tops for Education" for us. Please keep sending your Box Tops to the middle school classrooms. We really appreciate your support!

### Conservation Club

**Mr. Quandt**

At our last meeting, we created bird food distribution systems. Ask your child what they created, surely they will have already told you where they placed it to feed the wintering birds in your locale!

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, we are planning on journeying to the REC for snowshoeing and winter exploration! If your child has their own snowshoes, that is a plus. A permission form will come home so that we have enough drivers to make this unique experience possible.

## Middle School Specials

### Art

**Mr. Tourdot**

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

6<sup>th</sup> Grade recently finished creating a coin that would represent them if they ruled a country. Now students are working on creating ugly art. We are learning about armatures and how to create an outer shell to be put over the armature to create a 3-dimensional work of art.

#### 7<sup>th</sup> Grade

7<sup>th</sup> Grade is finishing putting the finishing touches on their Roman Helmets. Next we are going to start working with clay to create coil pots.

#### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade

8<sup>th</sup> Grade is learning about Pop Art and block printing. We discussed different Pop artists and the subject matter of Pop Art. We began carving blocks for block printing and will soon do some practice printing to find any problems with the carving design. Then we will be printing the final Pop Art prints to be displayed.

### Band and Choir

**Mrs. Ahles and Mr. Mootz**

First on our agenda is the District Solo and Ensemble Festival which will be held on February 17, 2012, at Assumption High School in Wisconsin Rapids. Many of our eighth grade and some of our seventh and sixth grade Newman Catholic Middle School students will be participating in this festival. Liturgy dress is expected for those participating. Information will be coming home soon with your child regarding this festival.

Large Group Festivals follow in April. Choir is April 12th and Band will be April 19th. While we are learning the music for all these festivals, and our Spring Concert, we will also be including music theory and music history in our course work.

## 2nd Quarter Honor Roll



Newman Catholic Middle School is proud to announce 29 students achieved a perfect 4.00 grade point average for the second grading quarter and have been placed on the High Honor Roll.

Grade 6: Ashley Krasowski, Chalig Lo, Robert McGucken, Conor McIntyre, Abigail Opatik, Andrew Raschke, Connor Wulf

Grade 7: Caitlyn Chandler, Katherine David, Lauren Fech, Jenny Hamilton, Luke Johnson, Thomas Krahn, Katherine Losinski, Samuel Losinski, Pahder Moua, Hannah Peck, Braxton Resch, Savannah Schroeder, Breck Wcisel,

Grade 8: Andrew Bates, Marne Boehm, Dane Fronck, Terek Glenetski, Brogan Kimball, Nathan Lenar, Emma Stanke, Noah Szmanda, Mikayla Tomsyck

**Newman Catholic Middle School also salutes the 45 students who have achieved the Honor Roll with a grade point average of 3.40 or higher.**

Grade 6: Kylie Balk-Yaatenen, Sawyer Berumen, Jordan Buntin, Signe Fronck, Jenna Goethel, Sarrianna Hoffer, Alexis Hollis, Brooke Jackson, Matthew Johnson, Laura Larrain, Lilly Nowinsky, Nolan Plaisance, Jacob Singer, Samuel Sodke, Michael Stanke

Grade 7: Sean Bennett, Nathan Brill, Chase Frankel, Sarah Gillette, Lauren Heeg, Fernando Juan, Cady Kelnhofer, Chamong Lo, Hayden McKeough, Hannah Meyer, Grace Nieuwenhuis, Makayla Slaby, Harrison Varline, Christian Yadro

Grade 8: Noah Aderholdt, Amelia Brown, Ireland Calo, John Cywinski, Abigail Fox, Garrett Gasper, Johanna Gregory, Chloe Hattenhauer, Andrew Johnson, Tomas Larrain, Karina McGucken, Jessica Pitterle, Logan Schroeder, Abigail Singer, Tabitha Townsend, Jason Tubbs

## 2nd Quarter BUG Roll

Congratulations to the following students from Newman Catholic Middle School who made the second quarter BUG roll in the Bring Up a Grade Program. Students set a specific academic goal to raise the grade in one subject of their choice without allowing grades for other subjects to drop. Student will be rewarded on Tuesday, February 7th, with a pizza party during lunch with Mr. Delikowski.

6<sup>th</sup> grade: Ashley Krasowski, Chalig Lo, Robert McGucken, Conor McIntyre, Abigail Opatik, Andrew Raschke, Connor Wulf

7<sup>th</sup> grade: Caitlyn Chandler, Katherine David, Lauren Fech, Jenny Hamilton, Luke Johnson, Thomas Krahn, Katherine Losinski, Samuel Losinski, Pahder Moua, Hannah Peck, Savannah Schroeder, Breck Wcisel

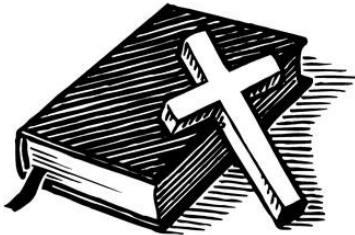


8<sup>th</sup> grade: Andrew Bates, Marne Boehm, Dane Fronck, Terek Glenetski, Brogan Kimball, Emma Stanke, Noah Szmanda, Mikayla Tomsyck, Tabitha Townsend

## Faith Corner

Joy Orozco

### Why Do Catholics Confess Sins to a Priest?



Jesus said to the Apostles, the first priests, in John 20:21~23, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." He then breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (How would they know what sins to forgive or retain unless people were confessing their sins to them?)

Clearly, in the above passage, Christ has bestowed upon His first priests, the power to forgive sins in His name. GOD has the power, the ONLY power, to forgive sins...but He has given this power to certain men on earth to exercise in His Name. Many people say that a human mediator is not needed to confess sins. However, there is no Christian denomination where a believer may baptize himself. In ALL denominations, it is required that there be human mediation for baptism to take place. Why then, is it so odd to think of this same process for the confessing of sins?

This is a beautiful Sacrament, a gift that God has given us on earth, that we may humble ourselves by confessing to human ears our sins, that those ears may listen, and then offer, in the name of Jesus, God's forgiveness and absolution to us in our contrition.

We understand that a priest has, by himself, NO POWER to forgive a person's sins...but by the power bestowed upon them as successors of the Apostles, JESUS comes to us in the Sacrament...and through the hands of His priest...He heals us.

All our area parishes offer the sacrament of reconciliation. There is no better time than the present to make a wrong - right...

## St. Matthew's Parish - Soup Supper Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed at the Soup Suppers being held at St. Matthew Catholic Church (225 S. 28<sup>th</sup> Ave., Wausau WI) beginning Ash Wednesday (February 22, 2012). Suppers will be served every Wednesday in Lent beginning with Ash Wednesday to April 4, 2012 and is served in the school cafeteria from 4:15 to 6:30 PM.

We encourage students to sign-up and help. Sign-up sheets are located in the Main Office.

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy soup. Free-will donations are accepted.



## Home and School

Please join us for the next Middle School Home and School Meeting on Monday, February 13. The meeting will take place in the NCC - Library at 6:30. Home and School is a great opportunity to get involved in our school. We hope you can make it!!!

## Food Service

Kerry Fehrman

As I looked back at the first three months of lunch menus and lunch participation, it was interesting to see how some meals were very popular at the middle school and high school level but not as popular at the elementary level and vice versa. And even more interesting was to see that breakfast for lunch, chicken patty on a bun, chicken nuggets, and mini corn dogs were popular at all three sites.

Starting in February, NCS at St Anne and St Mark Food Service will be providing menu entrees specifically targeted to the elementary student's tastes and preferences on Monday and Fridays. The NCS MS/HS Food Service will be following a similar menu plan as the NCS schools on Tuesdays through Thursdays but offering entrees that are popular with the older students on Monday and Fridays. Our hope is to increase student participation in the NCS school lunch program by providing meals that appeal to these two specific school age groups. Copies of the menus will continue to be available through your school's newsletter and the NCS website link.

## QSP

Is it time to renew your favorite magazines? REMEMBER, you can renew or order magazines any-time throughout the year through QSP to help benefit Newman Catholic Middle School. To order or renew, please visit the website [qsp.com](http://qsp.com). Our school code is: 425004929. Once you are on the website just follow the user friendly instructions.




## Brains and Brawn

**CONGRATULATIONS to the 8th Grade Boy's Basketball Team. They took 1st Place at the Brains and Brawn Tournament held in LaCrosse on January 28, 2012.**



Front Row – Left to Right: Jason Tubbs, Jake Gajewski, Bailey Lemke, Noah Szmanda --- Back Row – Left to Right: Nathan Lenar, Dane Fronck, Terek Glenetski --- Not Pictured: Coach Paul Michlig and Coach John Tubbs

## Newman Catholic Middle School February Calendar and Menu

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
All meals include lettuce and fresh vegetables for salads, fruit, sliced bread and condiments.	This menu is subject to change due to product availability. Thank you for understanding.		1	2	3	4
5	6  Chicken Nuggets	7 MS Lunch - BUG Roll Pizza Party  Wisconsin Valley Forensic Meet (Hosted by NCS)  Mini Corn Dogs	8 9:40 Liturgy  Chicken and Gravy	9 MS Lunch - Conservation Club  2:50 MASH  Pizza	10 Junior Achievement Grade 8  Battle of the Books  Quesadillas	11
12	13 6:30 NCMS Home and School NCC Library  Chicken Fajitas	14  Natural Gas Presentation - WPS 3:00 Conservation Club - Snowshoeing  Taco Salad	15 9:40 Liturgy MS Lunch - Battle of the Books  Hamburger	16 Natural Gas Presentation - WPS MS Lunch - Battle of the Books  2:50 MASH Breakfast for Lunch	17 Solo and Ensemble (Wisconsin Rapids)  Mandarin Orange Chicken	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL Staff Development  Progress Report Week Begins	21 2012-2013 NCS Registration Forms Due for Returning Families  Chicken Patty on a Bun	22 Ash Wednesday  9:40 Liturgy  Pizza Dippers	23 2:50 MASH  Chicken Noodle Soup and Sandwich	24 Junior Achievement Grade 8  Women in Science  Fish Fillet	25
26	27 6:00 NCMS Spring Sports Parent Meeting NCC - Room 100  Chili	28  Hot Dog	29 9:40 Liturgy  3:00 - 8:00 Parent/Teacher Conferences  Spaghetti with meat sauce	March 1  2:50 MASH  Breakfast for Lunch	March 2  Junior Achievement Grade 8  Potato Soup and Grilled Cheese	