

VISIONS

NEWS FOR THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1
FALL 2008

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October 2008

Dear Colleagues,

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

We are living in uncertain times. The housing market is still at its lowest, the news from Wall Street gets bleaker by the day and unrest in our world creates a feeling of insecurity. Yet there is one thing that remains constant: the rootedness of our mission to serve our students. The role of an educator is to make sure that, despite the distractions and disruptions the world brings, the students stay fixed on their goals to achieve and to perform. And even though the teacher may be affected by the turmoil that the world creates, it is the teacher whom we rely upon to keep the calming influence in the classroom.

The responsibilities of our Catholic school educators increase, and the demands placed upon your time and energy does not diminish. As a Catholic educator these demands are multiplied, for we minister to both the academic and spiritual well-being of children. It is on this note that I ask you to reflect upon your own well-being. As teachers and administrators, you must minister to your own wellness if you are to minister to the wellness of your students. Make sure that you take time for yourself, both physically and spiritually. May this academic year be a fruitful one, one that will energize you!

Finally, in our effort to make VISIONS more available and environmentally friendly, the newsletter will now be electronically mailed to pastors and principals twice a year (once in the fall and again in the spring.) We also ask our principals to send the newsletter electronically to their faculty and staff.

Sincerely yours,



Superintendent of Catholic Schools



Archdiocese of Baltimore + Archdiocese of Washington
Diocese of Arlington + Diocese of Richmond + Diocese of Wheeling-Charleston + Diocese of Wilmington

MID-ATLANTIC CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CONSORTIUM OFFERS OPPORTUNITIES AND SUPPORT TO ARCHDIOCESAN SCHOOLS

To ensure the future success and vitality of all Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore and the Mid-Atlantic region, the Archdiocese is involved in a promising partnership with five other Catholic dioceses. This partnership, known as the Mid-Atlantic Catholic Schools Consortium (MACSC), is a collaborative effort of the Archdioceses of Baltimore and Washington and the Dioceses of Arlington, Richmond, Wheeling-Charleston, and Wilmington to address the challenges shared by diocesan and independent Catholic schools in the areas of Catholic identity, funding, leadership, academic and professional excellence, and governance.

The mission of the Consortium is "To make Catholic schools the schools of choice for Catholic children and families, and all who may desire an education rooted in the Catholic tradition and Gospel values." The Consortium has launched several initiatives that directly support the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Baltimore. Dr. Ronald J. Valenti, Superintendent of Schools for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, serves as President and Chairman of the Consortium's Board of Directors.

One strategic priority of the Consortium is to ensure that Catholic schools remain affordable for all Catholic families. To accomplish this goal, the Consortium is involved in efforts to help Catholic schools obtain every public benefit that students and teachers are entitled to receive. In 2008, the Consortium launched a pilot project in the Archdiocese of Baltimore to help schools participate in and receive more benefits from the federal E-Rate Program, which provides discounts to help schools obtain affordable telecommunications and Internet access.

The Consortium also has engaged in strategic procurement efforts to secure cost-efficient, high-quality supplies and services for Catholic schools. The Consortium's partnership with U.S. Communities allows schools and Catholic organizations in the Archdiocese of Baltimore to receive discounts from Office Depot and other vendors of technology products, school furniture, playground equipment, and other supplies. Through the Consortium, the Archdiocese of Baltimore was able to share its experience in forming energy cooperatives. As a result, several other dioceses have formed cooperatives that will allow them to realize significant savings on electricity and/or natural gas.

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Another goal of the Consortium is to encourage strong, effective leadership by pastors, principals, and teachers in Catholic schools throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. This month, the Consortium introduced its first Pastor and Principal Leadership Institute to help schools build strong school-level leadership teams. Five pastor/principal teams from the Archdiocese of Baltimore are participating in the pilot year of this program.

In the coming months, the Consortium will serve as an advocate for the BOAST (Building Opportunities for All Students and Teachers in Maryland) Maryland Tax Credit legislation, which potentially will make more scholarships available to K-12 students at Catholic and other nonpublic schools. The BOAST Maryland legislation will offer a 75 percent state income tax credit for business donations to scholarship organizations and educational enrichment programs. The passage of this legislation will encourage greater business investment in Catholic schools throughout the state. To receive e-mail updates concerning the BOAST Maryland legislation, sign up at <http://capwiz.com/mdcath/home>.

To learn more about the Consortium, visit www.midatlanticcsc.org. The Web site includes news about the Catholic schools in the six (arch)dioceses, other Consortium initiatives, school job postings, links to partner vendors, and other resources for Catholic school families, teachers, and administrators.

Mid-Atlantic Catholic Schools Consortium
10 Francis Street, Annapolis, MD 21401

STUDENTS CONTINUE TO STAR IN THE CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' MARKETING CAMPAIGN

In an ongoing effort to promote awareness of Catholic Schools, the Office of Marketing and Institutional Advancement has continued efforts started last winter with a host of new advertisements in print, radio and television. In September, new television and radio spots featuring over a dozen of our high school students promoted two high schools' fairs and are currently promoting the high schools' open houses. Print advertisements for the fairs and open houses have also appeared in a dozen publications and two billboards (one on I-83 and another on I-95) to promote Catholic education in general. But by far the most visible are the bus tail ads which will run through November and again in January through March 2009, promoting Catholic Schools Week and Fall registration.



**MOTHER SETON HOUSE BICENTENNIAL ESSAY CONTEST (1808 - 2008)
SAINT ELIZABETH ANN SETON IN BALTIMORE 1808 to 1809**

Sponsored by the Mother Seton House on Paca Street, Baltimore, Maryland

www.mothersetonhouse.org

E-mail: coordinator@mothersetonhouse.org

The **Mother Seton House** on Paca Street is sponsoring an Archdiocese of Baltimore Catholic Schools Essay Contest. The contest is part of the Bicentennial celebration of Saint Elizabeth Ann Seton's arrival in Baltimore to open a school, marking the beginning of Catholic education in the United States.

\$3000 TOTAL MONETARY PRIZES TO BE AWARDED:

\$1000.00 to the winner of each division

(Prize money - 1/2 to school; 1/2 to student)

Essays must be postmarked by January 4, 2009. Winning entries will be announced May 13, 2009, at the Annual Meeting of the Mother Seton House. Prizes will be awarded June 7, 2009, following Mass at the Mother Seton House.



Celebration of the Arts



Night at the Meyerhoff

On March 23, 2009, the **Division of Catholic Schools** will host its fourth "Celebration of the Arts--Night at the Meyerhoff. Talented students in Drama, Instrumental and Vocal Music, Art and Dance are needed to make this evening a success. Teachers and Principals should start thinking about students they would like to audition for participation. In addition, please save current year's artwork for display.

Auditions will be November 1st and 8th, 2008, with practices throughout the winter months. Call or email Mary Jo Hutson for information: 410-547-5397 or mhutson@archbalt.org

NEW MARYLAND LAW AFFECTS LEAVE POLICIES

by Anne Fox, Esq., Gallagher Evelius & Jones LLP

New legislation enacted in Maryland allows employees to use their accrued leave with pay for the illness of the employees' immediate family members. The legislation, known as the Flexible Leave Act, takes effect October 1, 2008.

The Act provides that employees may use any type of leave with pay, which would include sick leave and personal leave, for the illness of the employees' immediate family members, including spouses, children, and parents. Employees have the option to elect the type and amount of leave to use, but may only use leave with pay that they have earned. Employers are prohibited from taking adverse action against employees who exercise their rights under the Act or who complain about or file claims based on violations of the Act.

The Act does not limit the types of illnesses for which employees may use their leave or require any verification of illness. Employers are permitted, however, to enforce leave policies that provide benefits equal to or greater than those provided by the Act.

Schools that currently do not permit their employees to use accrued leave for the illness of immediate family members must do so and should revise their policies to reflect compliance with the Act.

If you have questions about how to revise your policies and practices regarding employee leave for the illness of immediate family members, please contact the Director of the Division of Human Resources of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, Michelly Merrick, at (410) 547-5448.

JOIN US AT THE HOLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATION

Looking for a special way to teach your students about the lives of children around the world? Want to help them learn how to become missionaries to other children in desperate need? Consider joining the many elementary and middle schools that will be participating during this Fall, Advent or Lent in the Pontifical Mission Society's Holy Childhood Association. The Holy Childhood Association (HCA) is a mission society for children in kindergarten through grade eight. Started in 1843 by Bishop Charles de Forbin-Janson in France, the HCA asks children in the United States and around the world to be missionary ambassadors to their brothers and sisters served by the Missions in 113 nations. The students are taught about different countries where children are in need, and about the merits of sharing their love and their faith in Jesus with these children through prayer, spiritual, and financial sacrifices. HCA is a spiritual formation and religious and social studies education program that is quite unique and special. For more information, go to our student website at www.HCAkids.org or <http://www.archbalt.org/missions/>.

Should you be interested in learning more about HCA programs that might work for your students, or to order some materials, please contact **Kelly Hellmuth**, HCA Program Coordinator for the Archdiocese at 410-625-8450 or khellmuth@archbalt.org.



ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

ST. PHILIP NERI SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN SOCIAL OUTREACH PROJECTS AND WELCOMES NEW PRINCIPAL

The students, faculty and staff of **St. Philip Neri School** will be participating in four outreach projects this school year. They are: Operation Christmas Child through “Samaritan’s Purse”, Raising Funds for Mississippi, First Friday-Brown Bag Lunch Project, and Collecting Aluminum Tabs from cans for Ronald McDonald House. The students have set goals for each of the projects, the two biggest goals are to send 300 Brown Bag Lunches each First Friday of the month to the needy in Baltimore City, and fill 72 shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. In Religion classes, the students have been viewing videos that show how giving can bring so much joy to others who are less fortunate.

Mrs. Shirley Wise, former principal of St. Mark School in Catonsville and St. Martin School in Gaithersburg, now has a new home at St. Philip Neri School. Mrs. Wise says she is honored to inherit an educational institution that is in “very good running order.”

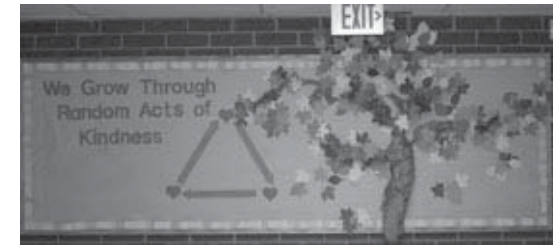
HIGH-PERFORMING STUDENTS AT MONSIGNOR SLADE CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Two current eighth graders, **Haley Jones** and **Courtney Vecheck**, were the first students to receive new Monsignor Slade Academic Scholarships, established as a result of a successful fund drive and newly formed Mustard Seed Endowment Fund. The students, who had to meet specific criteria based on information from their parish, standardized test results, grades, and financial need, were each awarded a \$500 scholarship toward their tuition. They were also required to write an essay, as well as complete an interview with the scholarship committee.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Talented Youth announced that current eighth grader, **Ben Cannon**, received a State Award for High Honors as a result of his outstanding scores on the SAT taken during his 7th grade year. He was also recognized with distinction for students who achieve a test score that equals or exceeds the average score for college-bound high school seniors.

“BE THE HANDS, THE HEART OF GOD” AT SCHOOL OF THE INCARNATION



Celebrating service has been taken one step further at **School of the Incarnation** in Gambrills, Maryland. The middle schoolers have “planted a tree” and are nurturing it to grow. Their anonymous kind words and actions to each other are the soil, sun and nutrients to encourage their middle school tree to grow each week. Through random acts of kindness, they are showing each other and the rest of the school and faculty how contagious it is to “be the Hands, the Heart of God.”

AN HONORABLE YOUNG WOMAN

St. Mary’s High School in Annapolis was thrilled—but not surprised—to learn that senior **Katie Thompson** had been selected as a National Merit Scholar semifinalist. She holds a 4.3 GPA, is an AP student and is a Parvis Scholar at St. Mary’s. The latter, as College Advisor David Gibson explains, “demands not only top grades but extraordinary service to community and the highest character.” Katie is considering a major in chemical or biomedical engineering.

Beyond academic excellence, Katie has shared her dramatic and musical talents with our community. She has participated in theater for four years, lending her own special dramatic flair to her roles, making her an audience favorite. As part of the music chorus, she has performed at many special events including the opening of the Basilica and the dedication ceremony of the new turf field. Reacting to the news of her semifinalist selection, faculty member and theater music director Matt Martelli responded, “It’s wonderful to see her hard work recognized and honored!”

High School Principal Richard Bayhan summarized, “All of us at St. Mary’s High School are proud of Katie’s stellar achievement in being selected as a National Merit Scholarship Semi-Finalist. She is a great student and a fine young lady who represents our school well.”

Katie Thompson will serve as part of the leadership team on an upcoming KAIROS retreat. She also received an Honorable Mention from the Maryland Higher Education Commission, Talent in the Arts program.

ST. MARY’S ELEMENTARY EXPLORE LETTERS OF ST. PAUL



August 27th was a special day at **St. Mary’s Elementary School** in Annapolis as the students gathered on a beautiful sunny morning for Mass. It was the first day of school, a day filled with excitement and possibilities as they gathered outside by the flagpole in front of the Fine Arts building to celebrate a new beginning.

The parish-wide theme this year is “Many Parts, One Body in Christ.” Through this theme the children will continue their faith journey and explore the life and letters of St. Paul. St. Mary’s has been blessed with the Redemptorist priests and School Sisters of Notre Dame. Father Kingsbury, the pastor of St. Mary’s, inspired each and all with his words about faith, community, leadership, service, and the love of God.



BALTIMORE CITY

CLASS OF 2011 GOES MEDIEVAL!

On the humid morn of September 13th, twenty-four **Archbishop Curley** students, along with Mr. Long and Friar Peter, traveled to Crownsville and back in time for the annual Maryland Renaissance Festival. Amidst a King and his Queen, nobles, hermits, and wenches, the members of the Class of 2011 watched as Hack and Slash entertained and some of their classmates spent time in the stockade. Filling their stomachs with smoked turkey legs, steaks on stakes, and ye olde Pepsi products, students enjoyed this escape to the past. **Alex Posey '11** described the day as, "a fantastical exploration into nerdiness for the better." **Tyler Burton '11** added, "It was a great time and I look forward to going again next year." The point of the trip was to raise funds for the Class of 2011, who have set a goal of \$1,000 for the year. **Ben Turcea**, Secretary of the Class of 2011, said, "This was a great start to what we hope will be a fun, profitable year."



Ben Turcea, Alex Posey, and Bill Henderson discuss how to get their new purchase back to Curley

CELEBRATING OUR GIFTS AND CALL TO SERVICE



Middle School students at **The School of the Cathedral** gathered outside on a beautiful September morning for a "Welcome Back" Prayer Service and Breakfast during their first week of school. The theme for the prayer service was "Call to Service." As a way of giving back to the community, students donated kindergarten through 2nd grade level educational supplies to the *For Granted* organization. This non-profit group is committed to improving lives in underserved communities around the world. Alumni Dr. Todd Hobelmann '91, a board member of *For Granted*, came to Cathedral to pick up the donations, which will be sent to disadvantaged children in Kiribati, an island in the Central Pacific. The primary mission of the organization is to empower children by giving them the tools they need to reach their full potential in learning. Middle school students experienced the joy of serving the world community by participating in this important outreach effort. The students also wrote down specific ways in which they could use their God-given talents to give back to the community, which were later posted in the Middle School. After the prayer service, the students and teachers enjoyed breakfast together as they welcomed the new 6th graders into the Middle School.

CATHOLIC HIGH LAUNCHES S.T.E.M. PROGRAM



The Catholic High School of Baltimore launched a Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) program at the beginning of the 2008-2009 academic year. In conjunction with The Infinity Project™, the introduction to engineering course, "Engineering: Our Digital Future," gives students the opportunity to use their math, science, and technology skills to create, design, and test an array of high-tech digital devices. The STEM program will enhance Catholic High's existing academic programs, which include the McCafferty Honors Program, College Preparatory Program, and Archangel Program.

Sophomore students are eligible for the STEM Program after completing Honors Biology and Honors Algebra II in the ninth grade. In addition to the engineering course, sophomores will take Honors Geometry and Honors Chemistry. After completion of these courses, students can advance their studies with Honors Physics, Advanced Placement (A.P.) Calculus AB/BC, A.P. Biology, and advanced technology courses. "We are the only Catholic high school in the Archdiocese of Baltimore to offer a STEM program," said Dr. Barbara D. Nazelrod, President of Catholic High. "It breaks stereotypes and is an unprecedented educational opportunity for young women who qualify for the program."

"IT'S A GOOD THING!"

Many good things are happening at **St. Thomas Aquinas School!** In May, students "Raced for Education" and raised over \$34,000 which was used to enlarge the Pre-K classroom, renovate a faculty room, and carpet classrooms and the library. Students also recycled 2,000 pounds of cans by June, raising over \$1,300 along with an awareness about the environment. New chairs were purchased with a \$1,000 Knott Grant.



Another addition to the school is a playground, with Noah's Ark, for children in pre-K and kindergarten. This was made possible through the generosity of the Harry and Jeannette Weinberg Foundation (\$10,000), WBAL's Campaign For Kids (\$5,000) and the Race for Education (\$5,000). This year, as a result of a partnership with Mamma's Cucina Restaurant in Hampden, St. Thomas Aquinas will benefit from a monthly "Family Night" there.

An academic partnership with the College of Notre Dame, led by Sister Bridget of CND, in cooperation with Sister Marie Rose Gustatus, SSND, principal of St. Thomas Aquinas School, will bring twelve CND students majoring in education into the school once a week as math tutors and classroom helpers. Sister Marie Rose stated, "This Service Learning Project will benefit the students and faculty of St. Thomas Aquinas School, and CND students will benefit from hands-on experience in a real classroom setting."

MERCY ENVIRONMENTAL CAMP A WONDERFUL EXPERIENCE

Back from a **Mercy High School**-sponsored environmental camp this summer, **Rachel Moser '10** hopes to spin the idea of commuting by bike to her fellow Mercy Girls. She plans to meet with Environmental Club members this month to brainstorm new ways to reduce their footprint on this planet and to share her camp experiences.

Rachel joined classmates **Nicole Jackson '10**, **Kaiolani Siregar '10** and science teacher, Ms. Judi Free, at the week-long camp, held at the Georgian Court University in New Jersey.

Georgian Court is a women's college sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy and was open to four Mercy high schools. Camp lessons ranged from creating acid rain in a laboratory to exploring life forms in an ocean tide pool. "I really liked the hands-on activities," Rachel said. "We made signs and posted them around campus to remind people to conserve electricity."

All of the activities focused on increasing awareness of our ecological place on the earth. "The girls worked together to understand the power they have to affect the future of all communities of life," Ms. Free said. "The Mercy Environmental Camp was also a wonderful experience for our students to connect with other young Mercy women."



ST. MARY OF THE ASSUMPTION NAMED A PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL

As an exciting outgrowth of its partnership with Loyola College, **St. Mary of the Assumption School** has been named a Professional Development School (PDS) by the founding dean of Loyola's new School of Education, Dr. Peter Murrell, in support of his focus on literacy and excellence in urban education. A PDS is founded upon the premise of deep collaboration, scholarship of practice, and commitment to social justice. As a PDS, St. Mary's will provide an educational environment that strives to implement cutting edge educational practices. St. Mary's faculty members have already begun their work as a professional development research cohort with Dr. Murrell, and Loyola education students will complete student-teaching assignments at St. Mary's. As a result, St. Mary's will provide a learning program shaped by the most innovative approaches in the educational field, becoming a model for effective methods in urban schools throughout the country.

WALKING TOGETHER IN FAITH



New seventh grade student, **Kyshea Brockington**, receives her official **Mother Mary Lange Catholic School** wrist bracelet from Sister Rita Michelle, principal, at the opening school liturgy on September 22nd. As a special part of the celebration, all of the new faculty, staff, and students processed to the front of the church and were welcomed by the school community as they received their "Walking Together in Faith" bracelet. This "official" school bracelet, that bears the school motto, serves as a constant reminder that our faith journey becomes easier when we walk together.

FATHER KOLBE SCHOOL RENAMED ST. CASIMIR SCHOOL



Over the summer, as you traveled through Canton, you may have noticed a new name on Father Kolbe School. On July 1st, they officially returned as **St. Casimir Catholic School**, the parish school of the Faith Community of St. Casimir. While the name has changed, their commitment to excellence remains the same.

St. Casimir is off to a great school year with students in grades 2 to 6 participating in a brand new classroom science program written especially for Maryland. The students will learn about animals and habitats indigenous to our area while reinforcing our Green School values.

The Patterson Park Audubon Center will provide activities for "Terrific Trees", 1st grade will learn about "A Wet and Wonderful World in the Water", 2nd grade will "Let the Winter Games Begin", while 3rd grade discovers "Incredible Insects".

Grandparents' Day was celebrated on September 19th with grandparents and special friends enjoying songs, poems, skits, and creative classroom activities.

Beginning their Year of Service, St. Casimir congratulates 7th graders **Sarah Behner, Juliette Brunelli, Katherine Malkowski, Shannon Seifert, Jordan Siegel** and **Kaelyn Thornton**. These young ladies baked cupcakes, made posters to advertise the sale and collected and counted the donations. The Maryland SPCA, the Johns Hopkins Children's Center, and Beans & Bread were the recipients of their hard work.

LEARNING FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

The Institute of Notre Dame launched its Learning for the 21st Century Technology Plan this fall, giving each teacher their own tablet PC. The plan, funded in part by the Middendorf Foundation and the Marion I. and Henry J. Knott Foundation, will ultimately provide one tablet PC for each student as well as for each teacher, creating a 1 person to 1 computer environment at the school.

"The goal of the plan is to improve student learning across all subject areas by engaging them through a new medium," explains Mrs. Charisse Wernecke, President of IND. "We want our students to be conversant with technology at an intuitive level by providing equal access to technology to all students."

To better integrate the new PC's, IND distributed the Fujitsu Lifebook T1010 laptops to teachers in August and hired a Director of Curriculum Integration, Mrs. Diane Russell, to lead the technology improvements and educate the school community as the plan progresses. Students will lease the PC's, so parents will pay a small fraction of the cost for the PC's and software each year over their four years.

The entire school building has a fully wireless network, and classrooms are equipped with state-of-the-art audio/visual equipment to interface with the PC's. Members of the Class of 2013 will be IND's first students to have the PC's for individual use.



IND history teacher Mrs. Allison Sabatini demonstrates how to use her new tablet PC to Davina Pratt '11.

SETON KEOUGH HIGH SCHOOL WELCOMES NEW PRINCIPAL



When students returned to Seton Keough in September a new face was there to greet them. Mr. Dennis Meehan began his tenure as the principal of **Seton Keough High School** in late summer. Mr. Dennis Meehan was appointed by Archbishop Edwin O'Brien on May 27, 2008. Mr. Meehan came from Syracuse, New York, where he was the principal of the Bishop Ludden School for the past 22 years. While at Bishop Ludden, the school showed a significant increase in its academic achievement while fostering a faith-filled learning environment based on the school's Catholic identity.

During his first days as principal, students welcomed him into the Seton Keough community by offering baskets filled with gifts from the Baltimore area.



BALTIMORE COUNTY

1st ANNUAL JESSICA MEREDITH JACOBSON 5K RACE

On September 13, 2008, **Immaculate Conception School** hosted the first Annual Jessica Meredith Jacobson 5K Race. The run/walk, around downtown Towson, honored the memory of Mrs. Jacobson, an ICS parent and parishioner who was tragically killed in September 2007. Proceeds from the event, organized by the Knights of Columbus, Fr. O'Neill Council, benefitted the ICS Tuition Assistance Fund and the House of Ruth. All of the ICS faculty and staff supported the event and hundreds of ICS students and families ran/walked. The top faculty finisher was Mr. Rich York (middle school teacher) and the top student finisher was **Jack Connelly** (grade 4). Mrs. Jacobson's family and her sons, both ICS students, kicked off the event. Over \$18,000 was raised and they look forward to the second Annual Race in 2009.



Mr. Rich York, ICS teacher

PLEASE AND THANK YOU



Many children in the first through fifth grade at **St. Joseph School, Fullerton**, are learning the in's and out's of good manners in social situations by taking part in the annual Manners Class. This year's class, consisting of 80 children, will cover how to write a thank you note, how to act in church, how to act at a friend's house and proper table manners. SJS teachers, Mrs. Katherine Diggs and Mrs. Paula Beres, volunteer their time for these after school sessions and make the occasion very enjoyable while role-playing good and bad traits. The students get to practice what they learn at a very special Manners Tea at the Parish Center on a Sunday afternoon in their "dressy" clothes. They are served a light meal by middle school students who also volunteer to wash the china dishes and repack them for next year.

EDDIE MONEY AND FELIX CAVALIERE'S RASCALS COMING TO CALVERT HALL

The first Annual **Calvert Hall** Concert for Tuition Assistance featuring Eddie Money and Felix Cavaliere's Rascals will be held in the Marion Burk Knott Center at Calvert Hall (8102 LaSalle Road - Baltimore, MD 21286) on Saturday, October 25, 2008, at 8 PM. Enjoy a night of rock-n-roll while supporting The Hall! For more information, to buy tickets (\$100 - Upper Concourse & \$250 Lower Concourse) or inquire about sponsorships, please call 410-825-4266 ext. 167.

In addition to welcoming 326 freshmen into the Class of 2012 at Calvert Hall, the school also added three Christian Brothers to its faculty/staff for the 2008-09 school year. Br. James Dries, FSC, is teaching chemistry and religion; Br. Joseph Keough, FSC, is the Assistant Librarian and Br. Michael Kramer, FSC '80, has joined the Guidance Department. Calvert Hall's former President, Br. Kevin Strong, FSC, is also volunteering several days a week in the Guidance Department.

The campus also has a new look as the first phase of renovations to Keelty Hall, the school's oldest building, has been completed. This included installing air conditioning in four classrooms, an updated Alumni Hall of Fame display and a new Faculty Office and Duplicating Center.

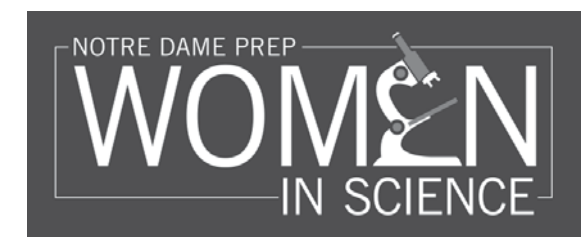
OH, SAY CAN YOU SEE!



Our Lady of Hope/St. Luke School students and parents participated in the Annual Dundalk Heritage 4th of July Parade. The school's 2008 float, depicting the theme, "Birth of a Nation" was designed and decorated by parents and students. The school was proud to receive the 1st Place ribbon in the Religious Group entry division. Our Lady of Hope/St. Luke School has participated in the parade for the past six years and has been awarded 1st place each year.

NOTRE DAME PREP STUDENTS SPEND SUMMER WITH SCIENCE!

The 2008-09 school year began in July when 24 **Notre Dame Preparatory School** students participated in summer science internships at several sites including Goddard Space Flight Center, University of Maryland, the National Aquarium, Johns Hopkins University, St. Joseph Medical Center, and the National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine in Washington, D.C. Four students also shadowed Dr. Laurel Yap, a former NDP parent, for two weeks on his rounds at Harbor Hospital to learn the nuances of medicine. The NDP Summer Science Internship Program began three years ago as a way for students to expand their science education through practical application. In October, the girls will make presentations on their work at the Fall Science Symposium. At that time, new members will be inducted into the NDP Chapter of the Science National Honor Society.



TOWSON CATHOLIC GRAD TO PLAY IN NBA

Donte Greene, Baltimore native and 2007 graduate of **Towson Catholic High School**, has signed a NBA contract with the Sacramento Kings. Greene declared himself eligible for the draft after completing one year at Syracuse University where he led the Orange in scoring, averaging 17.7 points per game.

According to the Syracuse University website, "Greene was a second team All-BIG EAST Conference selection and earned a spot on the BIG EAST Conference All-Rookie Team. Greene was a first team National Association of Basketball Coaches pick and made the United States Basketball Writers Association District II squad."

Donte has deep roots in the Baltimore area, where he lived for several years until he was 8 years old. His family moved often, but he returned to Baltimore when he was 12 years old and soon after began playing for the Towson Catholic High School Owls. While at Towson Catholic, Donte was selected to play on McDonald's All American High School Team consisting of the best high school basketball players in the country.

Donte Greene was quoted in the *Baltimore Sun* saying, "Growing up as a kid, your dream is to play in the NBA. Having that dream and knowing what I'm capable of doing, I felt like it was time." Greene follows in the footsteps of Towson Catholic High School's former player **Carmelo Anthony**, who currently plays for the Denver Nuggets and was part of the U.S. Olympic Team.

ST. PIUS X DEDICATES NEW GYMNASIUM

St. Pius X School dedicated its new gymnasium with a ribbon cutting ceremony on September 7, 2008. Appreciation and thanks are given to the many who generously donated to the parish *All for Christ* capital campaign. They express thanks to the France Merrick organization for their grant which enabled the gymnasium to be completely renovated.

A new floor was installed with padding on the surrounding walls making the space more conducive to many sports activities and especially important for fewer physical injuries during play. This will benefit the varied sports teams as well as the physical education classes. New windows, and curtains, a refinished stage and curtains, an upgraded sound system, and paint completed the project.

Amazingly, the students all want to know "how did you make the gym larger?" They didn't, but it sure looks and feels that way.



SUMMER CATHOLIC HEART WORK CAMP



Mount de Sales Academy Catholic Heart Workcamp group

During the summer of 2008, **Mount de Sales** students attended a weeklong service trip hosted by Catholic Heart Work Camp. Twenty students traveled to Buffalo, New York, to serve the poor and underprivileged. The group from Mount

de Sales met with high school teenagers from across the country to repaint houses, complete yard work, serve in food kitchens, and stock clothing drives. During the day, the teens served in different locations all over the city and then returned to the host parish site for evening programs filled with music, games, skits, and prayer. Also, on the last day of the trip, they traveled to Niagara Falls and the National Our Lady of Fatima Shrine for some sightseeing and prayer. The group had a fantastic experience and learned lifelong lessons of selflessness and humility while serving the less fortunate.

ELECTION FEVER HITS SACRED HEART OF MARY SCHOOL



Newly elected officers include: front row, left to right, Nicholas Bahr, Brieanna O'May, Samantha Dixon, Danny Hammoudi; back row, left to right, Jessica Carter, Samantha Concannon, Travis Clevestine, Kathryn Skalski, Sarah Stefanski.

Sacred Heart of Mary School was swept up in election fever as students went to the polls on September 12, 2008, to elect Student Council Officers for the 2008-2009 school year. All candidates did a great job campaigning and served as models for clean and effective campaigning!

The Council has set more service to the community as its goal. Activities planned include an Investiture Mass on October 3rd, a Halloween Haunted House, assemblies, and bake sales for service to the school community as well as activities to benefit those outside the school community.

FIRST EVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PARTICIPATES IN DRAGON BOAT RACES

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Elementary School competed in Catholic Charities' Dragon Boat Races on September 13, 2008, at Baltimore's Inner Harbor. Mt. Carmel was the only Archdiocese of Baltimore Elementary School ever to compete in the Dragon Boat Races. Dragon Boats are canoe-like boats manned by paddlers, a drummer, and a steersman. The drummer keeps the pace of the paddlers while the steersman guides the boat to the finish line. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's boat was manned by teachers, faculty, alumni, parents, school board members and friends of Mt. Carmel. The group started practicing in June in preparation for the event. Donations were collected and funds were raised all for the benefit of Villa Maria's after-school program for children with special needs. Students at Mt. Carmel donated their snack money, and collected spare change for the charity in addition to participating in an out-of-uniform day to raise funds. Our Lady of Mt. Carmel's Children's Choir participated in a team chant which was similar to a pep rally. Mt. Carmel's chant was the third place winner! Participating in this event was not only a unique experience, but allowed Mt. Carmel students to witness our teachers, faculty and others take an active role in giving back to our community.



SIGN IN, PLEASE



Our Lady of Victory students are recycling aluminum cans for their “You CAN Make a Difference” drive. All proceeds go to benefit a school in Tanzania, Africa. Njia Panda Elementary School played host to Milana Marksamer, a teacher at OLV, and her family this past summer. Mrs. Marksamer spent several weeks traveling around Tanzania, Zambia, and South Africa visiting many sights, and, more importantly, spent many days with the people in their villages, tribes and schools. The students and families at OLV are helping these people by raising money through an aluminum can recycling program as well as by donating both school supplies and soccer supplies to the teachers and students at Njia Panda

School. Items already sent to the school include pencils, sharpeners, notebooks, staplers, coloring books, soccer jerseys, and many miscellaneous supplies. They are one school that CAN make a difference.

Some remodeling took place over the summer at OLV. An addition and upgrade to the school’s lobby was made, creating a new area for the Receptionist’s Office. Now, when someone pays a visit and enters through the doors to OLV, visitors will be greeted by the receptionist and must sign in before proceeding. This allows for a more personal welcome to the school and enhances the school’s security measures.

Different after-school programs have been organized this year and will be monitored by members of the faculty, as well as parent volunteers. The Race for Education is one of the major school’s annual fundraising efforts.

“PURA VIDA” LIFE IS GOOD AT ST. URSULA’S

In June, Mrs. Katherine M. Bivons, sixth grade teacher, was granted the Mother St. Joseph Teaching Grant by the Saint Ursula School Board, and had the opportunity to travel to Costa Rica.

Why Costa Rica? The sixth graders of **St. Ursula School**, along with the Earth Foundation, work very hard to preserve designated rainforests. Mrs. Bivons was given the opportunity to travel to Osa Peninsula, along with thirteen American educators, to see the rainforest that they have helped save from deforestation.

Costa Rica is a friendly land of democracy and rare natural beauty. After her arrival in Alajuela, Mrs. Bivons traveled by bus along the Tileran Mountain Range. She saw many agricultural plants, such as coffee, banana, and palm, that are important to the economic stability of the country. She also witnessed an eruption of the volcano, Mt. Arenal.

The majority of her trip was spent at an Eco-lodge, where she stayed in a tent under the canopy of the rainforest. Each day started with the Howler monkeys as her alarm clock around 4:30 a.m. Mrs. Bivons hiked and saw many indigenous animals--lizards, capuchin monkeys, sloths, and toucans, to name a few.

The Costa Ricans or “ticos” whom she met were hospitable and hard-working people demonstrating that life and love are great gifts. She found that simple pleasures can bring one fulfillment and happiness. This trip made Mrs. Bivons truly appreciate the wonders of God. God is good and, for the ticos, “Life is Good”.



LOYOLA BLAKEFIELD STUDENT RECEIVES 7th ANNUAL DAN MCNEAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Benjamin Galloway, '09, was awarded the Daniel W. McNeal Scholarship Award at the Mass of the Holy Spirit on September 12, 2008. Benjamin is a member of the National Honor Society, the Student Ambassador Program and the Archdiocesan Youth Advisory Council. He is also Captain of the Loyola Tennis Team and has been playing piano with the Peabody Prep program for the past four years. The award is presented annually to a member of the junior or senior class that exemplifies the characteristics that **Loyola Blakefield** holds dear in Jesuit education – a commitment to academic excellence, involvement in community, and, in words and in deeds, a true man for others. The award is given in loving memory of Dan McNeal, a member of the Loyola Blakefield class of 1990, and recipient of the Loyola Alumni Medal. Dan died tragically in the World Trade Center on the morning of September 11, 2001. Dan led his life always thinking of others first. “Benjamin truly exemplifies the Ignatian spirit by his willingness to give 100 percent; not just for himself, but for others,” said Rev. Thomas A. Pesci, S.J., President of Loyola Blakefield.

CARROLL COUNTY

ST. JOHN SCHOOL, WESTMINSTER WELCOMES ALUMNI

Saint John School, Westminster, hosted an Alumni Celebration on Saturday, September 20, 2008, on campus. The evening began with a Mass celebrated by Fr. Gerard Steffener, S.D.S., who served as Associate Pastor at St. John in the late sixties and who also enjoyed a wonderful rapport with the youth of St. John through the 1990’s. Seventy alumni, representing classes back to 1931, attended this special celebration which included dinner and dancing. Historic pictures, class rings, yearbooks, and other memorabilia were on display to help initiate the warm reminiscences of school years spent at this historic school which has been part of the St. John parish missions since 1866!

Monsignor Arthur F. Valenzano, pastor, welcomed the Alumni by thanking them for their support and reminded them of the rich tradition of excellence in religion and academics that has been the hallmark of Catholic education in general and St. John School in particular. Miss Patricia M. Brink, Principal, reminded alumni that current students pray for their Alumni and Benefactors daily, keeping them close in heart to the St. John School of today. Referring to Alumni as “ambassadors,” she encouraged them to continue to support the school by sharing their excellent experiences of St. John School with current parish and community families.

The Alumni Celebration was hosted by Ralph and Christine Arnold, 1960’s graduates of St. John School who volunteered to coordinate the entire event!





FREDERICK COUNTY

BICENTENNIAL FOCUS AT MOTHER SETON SCHOOL



The next two years are special in the history of **Mother Seton School**. The year 2008-2009 is the Bicentennial Year of Elizabeth Ann Seton's Baltimore Ministry – culminating July 31. It was then, 200 years ago, that Mother Seton founded the Sisters of Charity of Saint Joseph's and the first Sisters began to lead a community life in Emmitsburg. Celebrations in 2009-2010 will focus on Mother Seton's Emmitsburg Ministry. On February 22, 2010, the school will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the opening of St. Joseph Free School and Academy. Mother Seton and her first Sisters welcomed three students from Emmitsburg on that date. Mother Seton School continues the tradition of Catholic education begun by Mother Seton in Emmitsburg as a direct descendent of her first school. The school's weekly newsletter has a Bicentennial reflection, and the website, www.mothersetonschool.org, has a daily quote from the patron saint. A Bicentennial Planning Committee meets regularly to plan festivities and has chosen the weekend of April 16-18, 2010, to invite a reunion of alumni and friends of the school. Appeals for contact information and historical memorabilia are circulating. The school is hoping that anyone connected with Mother Seton School will find a way to reconnect by assisting with event planning, sharing of information and memorabilia, and of course, joining in the festivities.

EXCITEMENT MOVES SAINT JOHN'S CATHOLIC PREP

Saint John's Catholic Prep will be moving to a new state-of-the-art campus in 2009. Located on a 44.5 acre site in Buckeystown, Maryland, the site will allow the school to build a campus to meet the academic, performing arts, and athletic needs of the students. To maintain the small class sizes and excellent student to faculty ratio, the school will be constructed for a student population of 500. This increase in enrollment will be gradual, but already the excitement about the new campus has helped catapult the 2008-2009 freshmen class to an all-time high.

To make the transition as smooth as possible for the incoming freshmen class, Campus Ministry Director, Fr. George Jakopac, was asked to conduct an opening "welcome" retreat in conjunction with the freshmen orientation. In order to accomplish this, it was important to create a peer ministry program based on the idea that young people need other young people to trust and from whom to seek guidance and support.

The retreat focused on choosing friends and treating them in a Christian manner. One of the ways that the peer ministers spread this message was through the use of skits. Based on the book of Sirach, the skits presented common scenarios of the freshman experience such as fitting in and setting priorities.



VISITATION ACADEMY STARTS YEAR OF FIRSTS



In the last few months, **Visitation Academy** has received a huge wave of support from its school families, friends and the community at large. "Enrollment is up 15% from this time last year and 100% of our staff and faculty is returning this fall," said Susan Chase, Principal. "Our commitment to academic excellence for girls continues. Many grades are near capacity and registration requests keep coming."

To complement the high academic standards, Visitation has introduced middle school sports programs in basketball and soccer and will compete against all-girl teams in the Frederick area.

Also new this year is a Home-School Association which will focus on Visitation Academy's four major fundraisers: The Christmas Gala, Father-Daughter Dance, Art Auction and the Mother-Daughter Tea.

Visitation Academy continues its search for alumna in the USA and abroad. "Our student files go back many years and we have made contact with alumnae from as early as 1925 and as far away as South America," said Sophie Schmehl, Development Officer. "In May 2009, the first Alumnae Reunion Weekend will take place in conjunction with a May Procession and the Art Auction and we expect plenty of visitors to the campus."

The next Open House at Visitation Academy is on Tuesday, October 28th, 2008, between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. This opportunity for parents to see the Visitation Academy during a regular school day and the benefits of all-girl education is invaluable. For questions or information about upcoming events, please email sschmehl@thevisitationacademy.org

ST. JOHN REGIONAL STUDENTS CELEBRATE CONSTITUTION DAY AT THE WHITE HOUSE



Mrs. Laura Bush welcomes a group of children from St. John Regional Catholic School to the East Room of the White House on Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2008, for an American history performance by the National Constitution Center to highlight the 221st anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution. White House photo by Joyce N. Boghosian

Students from the 7th grade at **St. John Regional Catholic School** were recently welcomed to the White House by First Lady Laura Bush. The occasion was the 221st anniversary of the signing of the United States Constitution. The program, which was held in the East Room of the White House, included a performance of "Freedom Rising" by visiting members of the National Constitution Center located in Philadelphia. Mrs. Bush addressed the students about the importance of September 17, 1787, when the first draft of the United States Constitution was signed in Philadelphia.

Mrs. Bush told the students that a new education initiative called "We the People", which was created in 2002 by President Bush and administered by the National Endowment for the Humanities, has provided Americans opportunities for learning about our common history and values. In January 2008, St. John's was one of the recipients of the "We the People" Picturing America grant which provided a collection of 40 images capturing America's most significant moments. She acknowledged that, as a grant recipient, the school was chosen to attend the Constitution Day White House event.



HARFORD COUNTY

CAT IN THE HAT "STEALS" ALL WORDS AT ST. MARGARET ELEMENTARY

Following their opening liturgy on September 10, the students of **St. Margaret School** took part in a kick-off of its Middle States Project "Writing to Enhance Learning". As the School prepares for its visit from the Middle States Accreditation Team this November, the faculty planned a creative activity for the children to introduce the project, which already is being implemented in this year's curriculum.

Surprised schoolchildren were summoned to the school gym by "The Cat in the Hat" who mysteriously took away all of the words in each of the classrooms. The students then worked with their teachers and Prayer Partners (older and younger students who share Christian friendship) to discuss what the world would be like without words and shared reasons why we need writing. In the end, the students sent "The Cat in the Hat" away and the words returned so that they could go on with their learning.



St. Margaret School anticipates it's re-accreditation in Spring 2009. To find out more about their Middle States Project, visit www.smsch.org or contact Principal Jane Dean at jdean@archbalt.org.

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP SCHOOL IS NEW AND IMPROVED!



On June 6, 2008, **Our Lady of Perpetual Help** ended the school year and began a major renovation of the parish education building as part of the parish-wide capital campaign. Phase I of the three year project was completed over the summer and included major structural repairs and improvements including a new, more cost-effective and environmentally sound heating and air conditioning system that allows for a more efficient use of electricity. In addition, repairs and upgrades were also made to the electrical system that has allowed our

classrooms to be more technology ready. The exterior brick facade was replaced as well as many of the windows. Although most of Phase I included structural improvements, some aesthetic changes were also made to the interior of the building including new paint and carpet in all of the classrooms! Phase II will begin next summer and focus on improvements within the church. OLPH is so thankful that God blessed them with a new and improved school and were so relieved that they were able begin the school year on time!

JOHN CARROLL STUDENTS CONTINUE TO LEARN THROUGHOUT THE SUMMER



"Self-Portrait" by Samatha Stewart

Summer does not mean the end of learning for **John Carroll School** students. The majority of John Carroll students stay busy with service, camps, travel, and other extensions of traditional classroom learning.

A small sampling:

After witnessing a fire that destroyed a neighbor's house in June, Junior **Kelly Stetka** planned a benefit that was held in August that raised over \$3,000 to help the family rebuild their home.

Senior **Sam von Paris** attended Boys State, an American Legion sponsored six-day youth leadership conference, at McDaniel College. A typical day included over seven hours of leadership lectures and activities.

Junior **Samantha Stewart** spent the summer in the Summer Residency for High School at Maryland Institute College of Art where she experienced four weeks of total immersion in an art school environment. Students attend from all over the world. Samantha's life-size self-portrait was voted best in the class.

Senior **Emily Burdeshaw** attended the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Surfing Camp in Assateague where she learned to surf in a spiritual environment.

Senior **Kelsie Spilman** spent the last two summers as a student ambassador for People to People representing the United States. She has traveled to eight different countries experiencing hands-on cultural experiences.

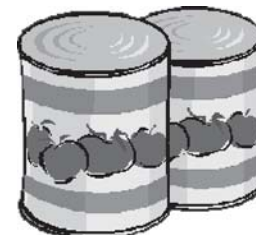


HOWARD COUNTY

DO, RE, MI, FA, SO, LA, TI . . .

St. Augustine is very pleased and proud to announce that the following students were recently accepted into the Children's Chorus of the Peabody Conservatory: **Kendra Hendrickson, Darlena Lopez, Sarah Mosberg, Abigail Bulla, John Dutan, Samuel Goodman and Arielle Rivera.**

At the start of the new school year, the St. Augustine School community collected non-perishable food items and toiletries for the Elkridge Love Mission (Food Pantry). This special outreach project will help many in need of food and daily necessities.



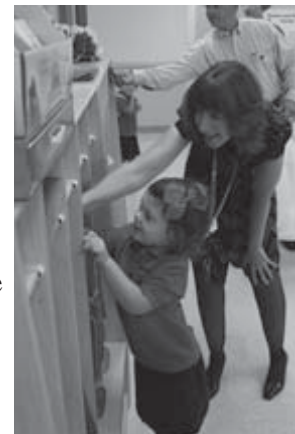
TECHNOLOGY AT RESURRECTION/ST PAUL

Today's students are very technologically savvy and new ways to instruct them in using this technology are needed. In addition to the fully equipped computer lab at **Resurrection-St. Paul School**, all classrooms are outfitted with LCD projectors. These projectors are used for teachers to project computer and web visuals as well as student generated presentations. A laptop cart with Wi-Fi internet is available for classroom research, several SMART boards are utilized in the classroom and ELMO document cameras are available to use throughout the school.



The use of technology has also been extended to Resurrection/St. Paul families with an entirely new website. The two main goals in the formation of the new website were to create a user-friendly format while offering an abundant amount of information to both current and prospective families.

WOODMONT ACADEMY LAUNCHES PreK-3 PROGRAM



Instructional Aide Karen Gaydosh helps Lauren Helminiak hang up her tote bag on the first day of school in Woodmont Academy's new PreK-3 class.

The biggest news on the **Woodmont Academy** campus is being made by the littlest students, members of the new Pre-K class for 3-year-olds.

Wearing bright red polos and even brighter smiles, the ten students in the inaugural PreK-3 class can be seen each Tuesday through Thursday morning heading for their classroom, sometimes with a little help from a big sibling, an older student or a faculty member. In class, which starts at 8:30 a.m., the children participate in Circle Time and Show and Tell, enjoy a snack and recess, work in Learning Centers, eat lunch, and receive religious instruction before their busy day ends at 12:30 p.m. The class is led by PreK-3 teacher Natalie Keller and PreK-3 aide Karen Gaydosh.

“Originally, we thought this would be a great service to our existing families, to bring a younger sibling into the school they already know and love,” said Marcie Zimmermann, Director of Admissions at Woodmont. “What’s happened is that it’s provided many new families with a structured, Christ-centered education for their very young children.” Of ten PreK-3 families, eight are new to Woodmont.

One new PreK-3 parent, Emily Jensen, says the program is everything she could have wanted for her daughter, Molly, and more. “All she wants to do is talk about what she did at school,” Jensen says. “The projects she has brought home have far surpassed our expectations. Seeing what she has done [so far] at Woodmont solidifies our decision to have chosen [Woodmont’s] program.”

TRINITY SCHOOL STUDENTS GAIN INSIGHT ON LIFE IN THE CONGO

On September 17, 2008, the students of **Trinity School**, Ellicott City, were given an opportunity to hear about life in the Congo when they were visited by Sr. Lenore Coan, SNDdeN and Sr. Claudine Dumbi, SNDdeN. Sr. Lenore, the Director of Mission Support for the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur who sponsor Trinity School, thanked the students for their continuing support of the Sisters’ mission efforts in Africa.

Sr. Claudine is currently in training to become the Chief Financial Officer for the Congo Province. She inspired students to think beyond their own circumstances and to embrace the section of the Trinity School mission statement which calls for students to be “animated by the spirit of service.” Examples of life in a classroom with dirt floors, limited supplies, and a lack of utilities gave Trinity students inspiration to continue their efforts on behalf of the children of the Congo.

Trinity students are on board with “Celebrating Service” in Baltimore’s Catholic Schools and they are looking forward to a year of sharing their many resources with those in need. Trinity’s annual service projects include food collection for the Elkridge Pantry, Christmas gift collection for PACT (Parents and Children Together), food collection for FISH of Howard County, and visiting adopted Grandparents at St. Martins Home for the Aged.

OFFICE OF CHILD NUTRITION RECOGNIZED BY THE MARYLAND STATE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The Archdiocese of Baltimore Office of Child Nutrition was recognized on October 9th by the Maryland State Department of Education with three Certificates of Achievement:

- For outstanding Customer Service by building relationships between the administrators, students, schools staff, and foodservice staff to ensure that the Child Nutrition Program is an integral part of the school community
- For excellence in the area of staff development as demonstrated by the assessment of school food service staff training needs and providing workshops to meet their needs and the program requirements
- For increasing program accessibility and outreach through the addition of five breakfast programs, an MMFA (Maryland Meals for Achievement) program, a snack program, three lunch programs, and participation by two schools in the Summer Food Service Program for the first time in many years.

Jay Parker, Director, joined by staff members Isabelle Gerber and April Bain, attended the Maryland School Nutrition Association Convention in Ocean City. Jay says that his department will become certified with the School Nutrition Association, and continue to improve its breakfast program, listen to its customers and kids, and implement other strategies to improve an already stellar program

VISIONS will now be published twice a year--in the Fall and again in the Spring. Please feel free to email this to your faculty and staff and Home and School Association President.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

November 1 & 8	Celebration of the Arts Auditions
December 13	High School Placement Test
January 4	Mother Seton Essay Contest Entries Due
January 9	High School Information Forms Due
January 25 - 31	Catholic Schools Week
January 17	High School Decision letters mailed
March 23	Celebration of the Arts--A Night at the Meyerhoff
April 2	Teachers’ Award Banquet
April 28	Distinctive Scholars Convocation
May 1	Flowermart

AT-A-GLANCE

DIVISION OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS CALENDAR

October

- 21 Celebration of the Arts Steering Committee (3:30-5)
- 22 East Baltimore County Regional Meeting (11:30)
- 22 Library Seminar I (9-12n)
- 23 ESPA Retreat Day (Place TBD)
- 24 Rubicon Analytical Tools Training (8:30-11:30 or 12n-3)
- 29 Library Seminar I (9-12n)
- 30 PowerSchool Local Administrators (Loyola-Timonium) (8:30am-3)
- 30 Elementary Principals' Collaborative Council (9am-2)
- 31 HALLOWEEN

November

- 1 Celebration of the Arts Auditions (9-12n)
- 5 Library Seminar I (9-12n)
- 6 North Baltimore County Regional Meeting (11:30)
- 7 Secondary Administrators' Meeting (8:30-1pm)
- 7 Policy Review Committee (9-3)
- 8 Celebration of the Arts Auditions (9-12n)
- 10 E-Rate Meeting (9:00-12n) (Loyola-Timonium)
- 14 Library Online Course I ends
- 17 New Administrators' Orientation IV (8-3)
- 18 Celebration of the Arts Steering Committee (3:30-5)
- 19 Elementary Principals' In-Service for Teacher Evaluation Instrument (9-12n)
- 21 Elementary Principals' Collaborative Council (9am-2)
- 22 Celebration of the Arts Parent Meeting (10-11:30)
- 24 Student Empowerment Advocate Meeting (1-3)
- 27 THANKSGIVING

December 2008

- 4 CLASS Meeting (12n-3pm)
- 8 IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
- 10 ALMA (9-12n)
- 13 High School Placement Test (8:30am-11:30am)
- 18 E-Rate Meeting (9:00-12n)-Loyola-Timonium
- 25 CHRISTMAS DAY

January 2009

- 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY
- 4 Mother Seton Essay Contest Entries Due
- 8 Celebration of the Arts Steering Committee (3:30 pm - 5pm)
- 9 Elementary Principals' In-Service for Teacher Evaluation Instrument (9:00-12n)
- 9 High School Information Forms Due
- 10 Celebration of the Arts practice (9:00-12n)
- 14 Library Online Course II begins
- 15 Policy Review Committee
- 16 Elementary Principals' Collaborative Council (8:00-2pm)
- 17 Celebration of the Arts Practice (9:00-12n)
- 19 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY
- 21 Secondary Executive Committee (1:30 - 3:30pm)
- 22 ESPA (8:30 - 3pm)
- 24 Celebration of the Arts Practice (9:00-12n)
- 25-31 CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK
- 26-27 Media Center Open House
- 31 Celebration of the Arts Practice (9:00-12n)