

# family

St. Mary's Parish Family  
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## Young Carnival Chairperson Makes History

The 61<sup>st</sup> annual St. Mary's Central High School (SMCHS) Carnival will be celebrated **February 3-5, 2012**. How do we accomplish such a 3 generation tradition so effectively year after year, you might ask? For starters, there are thousands of people who attend the Carnival each year. There are the hundreds of volunteers who commit their time and talent to staff this three day extravaganza. There is also the Leadership Committees that work from Oc-

tober - February each year making sure all the details are arranged, games organized, and great meals prepared.

But, there is an annual Chairperson of the SMCHS Carnival

that has worked their way up to that leadership role with years of experience in nearly all the aspects of Carnival organization.

**For the 2012 SMCHS Carnival, parishioner, Brooke Wolf, is the General Chairperson.** Brooke is a senior at SMCHS and is the youngest General Chairperson we've ever had.

Ms. Wolf tells us, "I have been help-

ing at the Carnival since I was a First Grader. My parents were the driving force in helping me get involved in the carnival. I loved being around my dad and helping in the Bingo room and couldn't wait until the end of the night to see how well we did. My mom has made countless pans of scotcheroos over the years for the bake sale and she has been the ladies activities coordinator for St. Mary's Parish for several years.

"It didn't take me long to know that I wanted to continue to volunteer and be involved with the success of the Carnival. My dad was Chairman in 1996, and I wanted to follow in his footsteps.

"It's amazing to see how many people volunteer their time and talent to make the Carnival a success. Many people don't realize how much work is done behind the scenes throughout the year. You might see people in leadership positions, but really, it's all of the countless hours of time and talent many volunteers put in to the Carnival that make it successful. As carnival chair, I can only be successful with the help of so many other people.

"When you think about this being the 61<sup>st</sup> annual Carnival, it really tells you something about the dedication and many sacrifices people have

made over the years to make sure this great tradition continues. Over the years, my want-

ing to be involved in the Carnival has been inspired by all the great people I have met and worked with. The valuable lessons I have learned, the great friends I have made, and the leadership skills I have been able to develop are immeasurable.

"It doesn't take much of a person's time or talent to make a difference in other people's lives. As carnival chair and a volunteer, hopefully my involvement will inspire other students and adults to take an active role in volunteering their time and talent."

Don't forget to sell your sweepstakes tickets and turn them into the Parish Office by February 5<sup>th</sup>. But most of all, don't forget to attend the Carnival on Feb. 3-5 and celebrate the life and fun that surrounds our SMCHS community!



## Jesus says, "Feed the Hungry, Shelter the Homeless"

Did you know that in 2010, Ruth Meier's Hospitality House provided a total of 13,020 nights of shelter to our homeless neighbors? This was an increase of 1,608 nights of lodging over 2009 and 3,293 more nights of shelter than in 2008. - **ALL** of our shelter beds were full 276 out of 365 nights in 2010. This steady increase is one of the main reasons for adding a drop-in center to our women and children's emergency shelter before winter. Even when all of our beds are full, the drop in center provides a warm place to sleep and an opportunity for a hot meal and shower, etc.

"**Awareness of the Homeless**" is the theme for the breakfast, hosted by the Charity and Justice Committee of St. Mary's Parish Family, to benefit the activities of the Ruth Meier's Hospitality House.



Volunteers go out six days a week to the local supermarkets, Bread Poets, Starbucks, and Sam's Club to bring back what these kind businesses have set aside for us.



This year the breakfast is scheduled for **February 26, 2012** with serving from 9:00 AM - 12:30 PM in Monsignor Feehan Hall. The menu will include sausage, pancakes with various toppings, fresh oranges and bananas, coffee, juice and milk. A free will offering will be taken with all gross proceeds benefiting the Ruth Meier's Hospitality House. Please give generously to those who are struggling in our community.

Anyone interested in helping whether it be in the dining area, kitchen, or elsewhere can call Hero Barth at 255-3387. A sign up sheet will be posted in the gathering space two to three weeks prior to the breakfast.

## LENTEN FAITH ENRICHMENT

Fifty years ago this October the sessions of the Second Vatican began. We all know that many changes in the life of the Church resulted from those meetings of the bishops from throughout the world. Yet the core of who we are as Church – the "deposit of faith" – has remained the same and will always remain the same.

Our Lenten faith enrichment sessions year will focus on Vatican Council II. On Fridays after Stations of the Cross (which will begin at 6:30 pm) Fr. Gene and the deacons will discuss Vatican II and each of the major constitutions that were issued by the Church Fathers.

We invite you to make these sessions apart of your Lenten practices.



**Ash Wednesday Masses**  
**9:00 am (school Mass),**  
**5:30 pm and 7:00 pm.**



*7th grade*

*Leap Day*

*Retreat*

Wednesday, February 29, 2012,

5:30-8:30pm

South Multi Purpose Room

We get an *extra day* to listen, reflect,  
pray, and take a *leap in faith!*

All 7th graders preparing for the  
Sacrament of Confirmation are asked to  
attend. Supper will be provided.

## **Save these dates!**

**Lenten Mission Retreat with**

**Fr. Charlie Heidt**

**In March 2012!**

**Watch for more details!**

**Mexican breakfast  
fundraiser**

**for SMGS 8th  
Grade Class Trip!**

**Sunday, Apr 1st  
8:30 AM-1:00 PM**



## **Did you know....**

St. Mary's Grade School is now accepting enrollment applications for the 2012-2013 school year.

- Preschool (age 3 by 8/1/2012)
- Jr. Kindergarten (age 4 by 8/1/2012)
- Kindergarten (age 5 by 8/1/2012)
- 1st - 8th grade (limited availability in all grades)

St. Mary's Grade School upholds the highest standards of morality and education, serving families with children from birth to 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

- Rosetta Stone language curriculum in 1st through 8th grades, 24 languages offered
- Technologically advanced learning environment
- Proactive approach to student issues like bullying and conflict resolution
- Integrated health and religion curricula
- Variety of athletic and non-athletic extra curricular activities offered



Tuition assistance is available.

Families of all faith denominations are welcome. For registration information or to schedule a tour, call 701-223-0225, email [st.marys@sendit.nodak.edu](mailto:st.marys@sendit.nodak.edu), or visit our website, [www.stmarysbismarck.org](http://www.stmarysbismarck.org).

## Way to Go!



St. Mary's had a very successful blood drive on Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. There were 21 donors that registered and there were 16 successful donations. Out

of that there were two donors that donated double red blood cells for a total of 21 units of blood. Thank you from United Blood Services and the Health & Wellness Committee. One donor used his time while donating to catch up on rest, perhaps you recognize him!



Our next **Festival of Faith** Inter-generational Parish Gathering that will take place on **Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-8:00 PM in Msgr. Feehan Hall**. We will begin with a potluck dinner. Please bring a

dish/salad/dessert to share!

After dinner, Fr. Gene will be presenting to the adults on "Liturgy: What does it mean?" with a look at the broader sense of the word, not just Sunday morning Mass. There will also be activities on that topic for kids and childcare available.

**There is** regular Faith Formation sessions that evening at 5:00 and 6:30 – those students are to either attend their regular session or are welcome to attend the Festival of Faith with their family. **This is not a night off for FF sessions!**

Please plan to join us for an evening of family, friends, food, fellowship and faith!

## Question of the Week

Reflect on these statements each week alone or with family to prepare for next week's Gospel.

**February 5, 2012**

**5th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Gospel: Mk 1:29-39**

Adults: Name a time this past week when you shared the Good News with a coworker, neighbor or family member.

Children: What can you do to help your friends and classmates know more about Jesus?

**February 12, 2012**

**6th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Gospel: Mk 1: 40-45**

Adults: Name a time when you experienced Jesus' healing touch.

Children: What do you want to ask Jesus to do for you?

**February 19, 2012**

**7th Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Gospel: Mk 2: 1-12**

Adults: Which is easier for you, to ask for forgiveness or to receive it?

Children: Name a time when you asked Jesus to forgive you.

**February 26, 2012**

**1st Sunday of Lent**

**Gospel: Mk 1:12-15**

Adults: In what ways can you identify with Jesus in the desert during this Lenten period?

Children: What will you do this Lent to become more like Jesus?