

# PRINCIPAL'S PAGE

February 2010

*"Children very soon learn about life. They watch and imitate the behavior of adults. They rapidly learn love and respect for others, but they also quickly absorb the poison of violence and hatred. Family experiences strongly condition the attitudes that children will assume as adults. Consequently, if the family is the place where children first encounter the world, the family must be for children the first school of peace."*

*Pope John Paul II*

**The Lenten Season:** Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection and taking stock. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter. Through penance, reflection, and fasting we prepare for Christ's Resurrection on Easter Sunday, through which we attain redemption.

On Ash Wednesday we receive ashes made from the blessed palms used in the Palm Sunday celebration of the previous year. The ashes are christened with Holy Water and are scented by exposure to incense. While the ashes symbolize penance and contrition, they are also a reminder that God is gracious and merciful to those who call on Him with repentant hearts.

## **Expectations of Students at Sporting Events:**

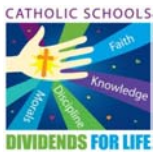
Parents, your help is needed to reinforce the following rules. Students are to remain in the gym during basketball games. Students are not permitted to loiter in the hallways or on the stairwells. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

**Be Proud:** Wear blue and white to every sporting event.

**Be Loud:** Cheer loudly for the HTS Tigers and not against our opponent.

**Be Respectful:** Show that we are the best fans by behaving responsibly, being respectful of others and of school property. **Go Tigers!!!**

**Catholic Schools Week:** Catholic Schools Week is an annual national celebration of the important role that Catholic elementary and secondary schools across the country play in providing an education that emphasizes not only academics, but also spiritual, moral, and social values. We have planned many special activities for this week. The children will enjoy the educational and the fun activities. The students may dress down all week.



There is still time to sign up for the Buddy Lunch on Monday. We are asking all parents to attend the National Night. The children have worked very hard to prepare for this event. It is also a great time to socialize as a school community. Please send in your picture and information for our Wall of Life.

**Confirmation Candidates:** The following 8<sup>th</sup> grade students will be making their Confirmation on February 23, 2010. Please remember our children in your prayers. Alec Balog, Daniel Bechek, Gianna Boburka, Brandon Britt, Dominic Bullotta, Daniel Christenson, Brendan Connolly, Caitlin Davis, Dominic DeMino, Davis DiCello, Maria DiSanti, Nick DiSanti, Jennifer Haseleu, Cassandra Keene, Andrew Krivan, Michelle McGuire, Derek McMonagle, Nick Metz, Giuseppe Michelone, Emma Minsinger, Cayenne Morinville, Marissa Palarino, Augustin Peponidis, Jenna Reilly, Alexander Ritter, Catherine Roberts, Teodora Sciulli, Kayla Skelly, Kyle Seamon, Ryan Theobald, Emilie VanDyke, Stephen Vasko, Jaclyn Warner, Theresa Wilbert, and Melissa Zegeer.

**Painless Fundraising:** Here are some easy ways to help us meet our fundraising goals.

**Abitibi Paper Recycling:** Do you know that we profit around \$150.00 each month from this program. Just imagine what we make if everyone could would bring in their newspapers and magazines!

**Box Tops for Education:** Last year we make over \$700 through this program. We could raise a lot more if everyone had their friends and family saving Box Tops.

**Campbell Soup Labels:** Eat soup and send in the labels the rewards are great.

**Target Rewards:** When you use your Target Visa Card to make a purchase at Target or elsewhere, Target will give Holy Trinity School a percentage back. Remember to register HTS as your chosen school when applying for your Target Card.

**SCRIP** What else is there to say! We have to shop for groceries, buy gas, and eat out. You can purchase these gift cards through the school. They also make great gifts. This program has been extremely successful this year. Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

**Free Concert Tickets:** The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra is offering a free concert entitled "Russian Masters" on Saturday, February 20, 2010 at 4:00pm at Heinz Hall. Tickets are available at [www.pyso.us](http://www.pyso.us).

**Thank You:** The teachers and I would like to thank Father Ken for taking time from is very busy schedule to pass out report cards to the children.