



# Elementary Newsletter

3/19/24 ISSUE#15

## A WORD FROM OUR PRINCIPAL

Spring has Sprung! What a wonderful time of year when the weather is warming up and nature is coming back to life. As flowers bloom and animals are born, we are reminded of the innocence and beauty that exists and that there is new life all around us. During this time of year, God provides us glimpses of the coming attractions. He provides a beautiful reminder that we should be living a full life and leaving the old dead parts behind us. Happy Spring!

A couple of reminders as we end the month of March and look into April:

- 3rd Quarter Grades were finalized last week. If you have not had a chance to review the report card, you can find it on Sycamore. Click on the white tab labeled "Grades" and then the blue tab labeled "Summary" to find 3rd Quarter Grades. As always, if you have any questions, please contact the office. Final report cards will be printed and sent home in May.
- Easter Break will be held March 28th, 29th, and Monday, April 1st. We hope you enjoy time with your family.
- K-12 Spring Concert will be held at the Nielsen Center on Wednesday, April 10th at 6:30PM. We hope to see you there!

Blessings,  
Mrs. Peatrowsky



## DATES TO KNOW

- 3/20: Edge 7:00-8:30p.m. (Girls @ The Nielsen Center & Boys @ the Activities Center)
- 3/22: March Birthdays Comfy Clothes Day
- 3/27: Citywide Tornado Drill
- 3/27: Bluejay Pride Shirt (or any GACC shirt) with uniform bottoms
- 3/28, 3/29: NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)
- 4/1: NO SCHOOL (Easter Break)

## REMINDERS

- GACC will now be doing an all-school Mass on the first Friday of the month at 8:15 A.M., unless we do not have school the first Friday. Then, we will have our regular scheduled Elementary Mass on Thursdays at 8:15 A.M.
- Remember to hand in Graybeal's receipts, box tops & loaves for learning!
- EVERY Friday during Lent, the After School Program will be held in the Elementary School NOT the cafeteria.



# FEBRUARY BUEJAY OF THE MONTH NOMINEES

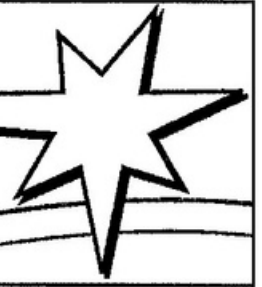
- Brody Doescher
- Ray Timmerman
- Jed Black
- Henry Prinz
- Londyn Thor
- Clare Schlaebitz
- Kennedy Bradfield
- Parker Prinz
- Beckett Knobbe
- Kyla Janata
- McKinley Tomka
- Betsy Strehle x2
- Ailany Pena Romero
- Ryder Doescher x2
- Isabella Nesladek
- Ayva Knobbe
- Brecken Strehle
- Barrett Eby
- Jett Lofgren x2
- Blaise Toline
- Emmett Ritter
- Oliver Reeson
- Ryker Randel
- Rhoads Stratman
- Grace Vonahme
- Braxton Kreikemeier
- Barrett Ridder
- Ellie Ridder x2
- Mia Wolfe
- Molly Bracht
- Danielle Pieper
- Taylor Schold

## FEBRUARY BLUEJAYS OF THE MONTH

- Taylor Schold
  - For volunteering to check on an upset student in the boys bathroom and make sure they were okay on two separate occasions.
- Brooklyn Roeber
  - For being patient and respectful by waiting in line for the restroom when preschool and pre-kindergarten were trying to use them rather than walking around them.
- George Guenther
  - For always being kind and thoughtful to both his teachers and peers as well as always participating in class activities.



# Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

March 2024

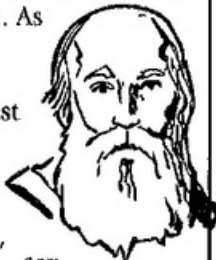
St. Mary's Parish  
Fr. James Weeder, Pastor



## Thoughtful Moments

### Pope St. Zachary

St. Zachary was a deacon before he became pope in 741. As pope, St. Zachary skillfully negotiated peace for Italy against the usually violent Lombard clan and befriended the Frankish king Pepin, the Short, the father of King Charlemagne. He was a patron of restoring churches and saving priceless treasures from Byzantium from being destroyed. Also known for his charity, St. Zachary ransomed slaves being sold in Venice and supported St. Boniface's mission in Germany.



### See with your heart

Scripture says that God wants to be intimate with us but it can be challenging to feel close to someone we can't see in human form. Remember that Jesus said, *"Call to me and I will answer you, and will tell you great and hidden things which you have not known"* (Jeremiah 33:3).

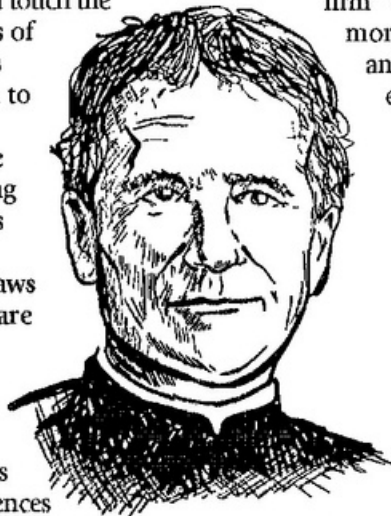
*"Do not worry about tomorrow; tomorrow will take care of itself. Sufficient for a day is its own evil"* (Matthew 6:34).



## Invoke Don Bosco's special charism

As an educator and father-figure, St. John "Don" Bosco had a special charism. He could touch the hearts and minds of rebellious youths and inspire them to follow Christ. Follow his advice for forming young hearts and minds for Christ:

*"See that the laws of discipline ... are made known."* Children of all ages benefit from understanding clear expectations and the consequences for deviation. He knew that children thrive on routine and well-defined boundaries. And, Don Bosco believed that placing youths in safe surroundings with good influences removes the likelihood of their committing sin. That encourages responsible independence.



*"Always gentle and prudent."* It was his experience that "gentle but firm" or "quiet but stern" were more effective in discipline than anger or violence. The educator must strive to make himself loved by his pupils, if he wishes to obtain their respect and obedience.

*"Never ... correct in public."* To Don Bosco, punishments were a last resort and done in private when it is more likely to have the child's full attention. Never humiliate a youngster.

*"A humble prayer to God is much more useful..."* Don Bosco encouraged drawing on God's grace. The Holy Spirit speaks to our children's hearts in ways we can't. Inviting God into our challenges might turn what could have been a fall-out into a breakthrough.

## Why Do Catholics Do That?

## Why do Catholics bow during the Creed?

During Sunday Mass, we recite the Nicene Creed, and bow when we proclaim the miracle and mystery of the Incarnation. It is such a central tenet of our faith that we genuflect when proclaiming it on Christmas and the Feast of the



Annunciation (April 8). Whether we bow or genuflect during the Creed, the extra gesture helps us to recall with gratitude and reverence that God became man "for us ... and our salvation," when we proclaim our Catholic beliefs.

## Help children "tune in" to the Holy Spirit

Holiness results when we honor God and follow His ways. Try these suggestions to develop children's "God-radar" that allows the Holy Spirit to work in their lives.

**5-minute check-in:** Encourage children to make "5-minute check-ins" with God throughout the day. They can thank Him for blessings, offer intentions, confide worries, offer apologies – whatever they want to tell God.

**Form faith-filled consciences:** Make sure children know the Ten Commandments and understand them as God's laws to guide their behavior. For example, if your child thinks



"white lies" are okay to spare hurt feelings, explain the Eighth Commandment forbids lying, and brainstorm charitable alternatives.

**Twelve Fruits raffle:** A heart where God is known, honored, and obeyed will "grow" the Twelve Fruits of the Holy Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, generosity, gentleness, faithfulness, modesty, self-control, and chastity (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, #1832). Write each fruit down on a slip of paper and put them in a jar. Each of you can draw one from the jar weekly and practice it.

### Scripture LESSON John 20:1-9, "People who have hope live differently"

The Resurrection is the keystone of our Faith, making a claim unique to Christianity. When Mary Magdalene arrived at the tomb, she expected to find a corpse. Instead, she found the stone rolled back, the grave clothes left behind, and the tomb empty. She thought thieves had taken the Lord's body and ran to tell Peter and John.



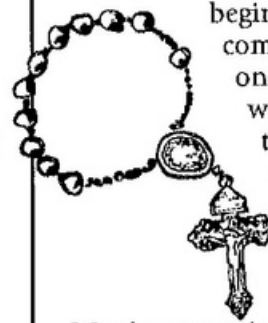
When the Apostles arrived at the tomb, Peter went in first and also saw that the grave clothes had been left behind, not left in a heap, but neatly arranged. No grave robber would take a body and leave the shroud. John

followed Peter and saw the cloth covering Christ's face was neatly folded in a separate place, perhaps by Jesus Himself. John saw and believed.

*What can a parent do?* Pope Benedict XVI wrote, "People who have hope live differently." We know death is not the end and we hope for eternal life. As Christians, we're called to live differently. We do this when we put God first and listen to Him. Then we can point others to this hope.

### Parent TALK

We had such a fruitful Lent this year, we wanted to keep up our good habits as "Easter resolutions." At the beginning of Lent, we committed to doing one good family deed weekly. We discussed the good deeds over dinner, which gave the children a chance to pat each other on the back.



We also committed to praying a decade of the Rosary as a family every night to help us have a good Lent. At first, it was difficult to make the time, but the family decade became a favorite part of our bedtime routine. We still do good deeds every week, but instead of discussing them, we talk about ways others have been kind and discuss how to imitate them.

Continuing our Lenten practices of doing good deeds and praying nightly helps us to be more patient and caring, and brought us closer together as a family.

### Feasts & Celebrations

**March 12 – St. Seraphina (1253):** Born to a poor family in San Gimignano, Italy, she suffered from a mysterious paralyzing illness. Her family abandoned her, but she found comfort in Christ's Passion and the prayers of St. Gregory the Great. She suffered with extraordinary patience until her death.

**March 14 – St. Matilda (968).** The daughter of the Count of Westphalia, St. Matilda married Prince Henry the Fowler and had five children, including Otto I, the Holy Roman Emperor. She was known for her charitable works and

generosity to the poor.

**March 17 – St. Patrick of Ireland (461).** Born in Scotland, St. Patrick was kidnapped by pirates and brought to Ireland as a slave. He escaped but later returned to become the bishop of Ireland. He is credited for having established the Church there.

**March 24 – Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion (1st Century).** The start of Holy Week. Today, we recall Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem, when He was greeted by cheering crowds waving palms.



### Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children  
 Success Publishing & Media, LLC  
 Publishers of *Growing in Faith™* and *Partners in Faith™*  
 (540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax  
<http://www.partnersinfaith.com>  
 (Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

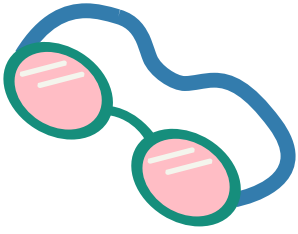
# Guardian Angels Central Catholic

## Lunch Menu

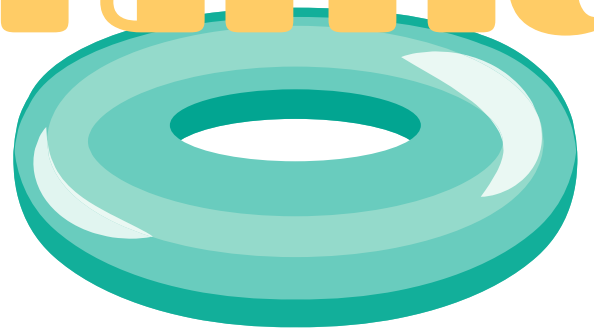
### March 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4 	5 <del>Pulled Pork Nachos</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	6 <del>Spaghetti w/Meatsauce</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	7 <del>Chicken Nuggets</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	8 <del>Cheese Pizza</del>
11 	12 <del>Breaded Beef Patty</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	13 <del>Chicken Alfredo</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	14 <del>Sausage Egg &amp; Cheese Biscuit</del> Deli <del>Salad Bar</del>	15 <del>Fish Sticks</del>
18 <del>Mashed Potato Bowl</del>	19 Taco Bag Deli Salad Bar	20 Beef Stroganoff Deli Salad Bar	21 Hamburger/Bun Deli Salad Bar	22 Tomato soup & Grilled Cheese
25 Chicken Quesadilla	26 Hot Beef Sundae	27 Corn Dogs	28	29

# family season POOL pass raffle



SPONSORED  
BY SPA



Return the form below to the GACC office for your chance to win a family season pass to West Point's new pool this summer!

**1** TICKET  
FOR **\$10**

**3** TICKETS  
FOR **\$25**



**DUE: MARCH 22ND**

**WINNERS ANNOUNCED: MARCH 27TH**

---

Name

Phone Number

Number of Tickets to Purchase \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\*CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **GACC SPA**



# PRO-LIFE SPEAKING EVENT FEATURING

*Ramona Treviño*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

7:00 PM

GACC ACTIVITY CENTER

419 E. DECATUR • WEST POINT

Refreshments served following our speaker

PUBLIC WELCOME • NO CHARGE



Ramona Treviño, Outreach Director

Ramona Treviño worked as the manager of a Planned Parenthood abortion referral facility in Sherman, Texas until 2011 when God used the prayers and public witness of a 40 Days for Life campaign to move her to leave her job and reclaim her walk with Christ.

Ramona's resignation from Planned Parenthood resulted in her former center going out of business.

Ramona has shared the miracle of her conversion and the goodness of Christ's mercy throughout the U.S. and internationally through speaking engagements as well as print, broadcast, and online media.

Ramona is a wife, mother, and grandmother. She is the author of *Redeemed by Grace: A Catholic Woman's Journey to Planned Parenthood and Back*.

Sponsored by: St. Mary's ProLife, Knights of Columbus  
One Rose One Life fund, and other  
Generous Donors



***St. Paul Lutheran School***  
***Daddy/Daughter & Mother/Son***  
***Dance!***

***Rescheduled to Friday, April 5, 2024***

***6:00 -7:30 pm***

***At St. Paul Lutheran School Gym***

Cost:  
Preschool—4th Grade  
Pay at the Door

\$10.00 per Couple, or \$20 per Family

  
**DADDY**  
*daughter*  
**DANCE**

  
*Mother Son*  
**DANCE**







# Free Community Shred Day

---

**Wednesday, April 24**

**4:00-5:30PM**

**Nielsen Center Canopy**

Suggested Items:

Old bank statements  
Credit card statements  
Old tax returns  
Any documents with  
personal information

We Will NOT Accept:

Magazines  
Newspapers  
Cardboard  
Styrofoam

**100lb Limit Per Household or Business**

**Paper Items are Shredded Onsite**



Member FDIC

# WEST POINT COMMUNITY THEATRE

*presents*



Book by Amanda Rogers

Music & Lyrics by Gregg Opelka

Based upon the television program *The Beverly Hillbillies* created by Paul Henning

FRIDAY, MARCH 15 AT 7:30 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 16 AT 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 17 AT 2 PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 AT 7:30 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 24 AT 2 PM

*SOCIAL ONE HOUR PRIOR TO CURTAIN*

**TICKETS: \$12.00**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT

F&M BANK, CHARTER WEST BANK, BANK FIRST AND  
CITIZENS BANK, FLOWER & GIFT GALLERY, PETRO MART  
ONLINE AT [WWW.WESTPOINTCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.ORG](http://WWW.WESTPOINTCOMMUNITYTHEATRE.ORG)

AND AT THE DOOR IF AVAILABLE

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING  
COMPANY, INC., of Woodstock, Ill.