

# ECHOES OF ANGELS

Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ...

## Read Across America Event

There's still time if you'd like to come tonight to our special family literacy event sponsored by Aurora University's Educators Rising Program. It will be lots of fun for our students with games, crafts, guest readings, and concessions planned. The event begins at 6:00. We hope to see you there!

## Calendar Change

As a result of the many snow days that we have used, we will be in attendance tomorrow, March 1. There will be no bus service.

## Re-registration Continues

Registration for the upcoming school year continues online. You can access the forms through our website. Once you have completed the online registration forms, please send in your \$125 registration fee (per family) to the office. On March 15, registration fees rise to \$150 and new families will begin registering for next year.



## Show Your Spirit

The Kirhofer's online Holy Angels Spirit Store is now open for business! Please use this link to order your favorite items: <https://holyangelsspiritstore.itemorder.com/>. As a reminder only the green Jerzees sweatshirt is approved to wear with the regular uniform. Don't delay! The store closes on Sunday, March 3.

## Baby Bottles for Life

As a school, we try to do a special project for Lent. This year we will again be doing the collection of coins in baby bottles. All donations will benefit Waterleaf. Waterleaf is a life-affirming pregnancy center operated in accordance with the teachings of the Catholic Church. They empower women in difficult or





## Last Hurrah

There's still time for all 8th graders to join in the 8th grade's "Last Hurrah" to be held on Saturday, June 1 at the Blankenheim's. There will be swimming, snacks, drinks, and fun. The cost is \$20 and can be sent into the office marked "Last Hurrah."

## Soup for Souls

Soup for Souls will return on Saturdays starting March 9 after 4:30 Mass. Please consider joining them for scrumptious soup and fabulous fellowship. Serving is from 5:30 — 6:30 PM. Free will offerings will be accepted and all proceeds benefit our school pantry. For any questions, contact Jackie at 630-290-3212.

## YES!

Michele Kelly, a former parent, is hosting a creative writing workshop (Yes: Your Extraordinary Story) for young authors in grades 6-8. The workshops will be held on March 27, 9-12, June 19-20, 9 - 12, and June 26-27, 9-12 at the Aurora Regional Fire Museum. Creative writing groups will be research the Aurora Woolworth fire of 1934. Call 630-697-2652.

untimely pregnancies to embrace the gift of LIFE they have been given, particularly when they have no one else to support them.

This year inside each bottle is a prayer from Archbishop Fulton Sheen. This Spiritual Adoption of Unborn Human Life Prayer, can be a part of your Lenten journey. Archbishop Sheen encouraged the spiritual adoption of an unborn child. This is done by praying that the one particular, but unknown child's life, be spared abortion and be allowed to continue to live.

Bottles will come home next week. You can return your bottle to the school or church after Easter Sunday. Call Rose Gatze at the Parish Center if you have any questions.

## Next Week at a Glance

**Monday** -

**Tuesday** - Band Concert 6:30

**Wednesday** - Ash Wednesday Mass 9:15

**Thursday** - Spring Pictures

**Friday** - Mass 8:15

Hot Lunch

## Bringing Home the Faith

Many of us have heard this question when we arrive at school, work, or home with the blackened cross on our forehead. The observance of Ash Wednesday is the most popular weekday celebration in the Catholic Church's liturgical year. During the celebration, children and adults process to the altar to receive ashes on their forehead in the shape of a cross. Ash Wednesday is also a day when people discover how many Catholics there are in their community. This can nurture in children a greater sense of religious community. And because receiving the ashes is a sign of humility and contrition, children will also see how many people recognize the need for repentance.

### The Ash Wednesday Ritual

Ash Wednesday is always the first Wednesday of the Lenten season and marks the beginning of Lent. The distribution of blessed ashes is typically done before the altar and, depending on the custom of the parish, people will hear the distributor say, "Turn away from sin and be faithful to the

Gospel” or “Remember, man, you are dust and to dust you will return.” The atmosphere in the Church is quiet and the observance solemn. People reflect on how quickly human life can pass. All are reminded of the need for repentance.

### **Ash Wednesday Readings**

The readings for Ash Wednesday offer a number of important images that help children understand the meaning of this experience. The first reading calls us to repentance but also emphasizes that God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and rich in kindness (Joel 2:13). In the second reading, Paul reminds us that the world sees the presence of Christ in the way we act. So, be reconciled to God today! (2 Corinthians 5:20—6:1). We are called to be the love and change we wish to see in the world. In the third reading, Jesus reminds us that the sacrifices and prayers called for in Lent are between God and us. It is insincere for us to show off contrite actions to win the praise of others—let others only see how our sacrifices and prayers help us love them.

### **Children and Preparing for Lent**

Ash Wednesday begins a wonderful season of reflection and preparation. Receiving the ashes as a member of the church community helps children recognize that they are an important part of the Catholic community and are united with the Church in its Lenten preparation.

#### *Mass Times:*

*Saturdays 4:30*

*Sundays 6:45, 8:00 (Extraordinary Form, Latin, 1st & 3rd Sundays), 9:30, 11:00*

#### *Confession Times:*

*Sunday after 9:30 Mass*

*Tuesday after 8:00 Mass*

*Wednesday 6:30 PM - 7:00 PM*

*Friday after 6:30 AM Mass*

*Saturday after 8:15 Mass and 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM*

### **Mission Statement**

Rooted in the Gospel of Jesus Christ, Holy Angels School is committed to spiritual formation, which nurtures the Catholic faith and inspires its practice. It is committed to academic excellence, which fosters the growth of each individual. Holy Angels School strives to meet the intellectual, social, and ethical challenges of living in a technological, global, and culturally diverse society.

### **Education Commission Members**

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