

Divine Mercy School

February 3, 2016

Dear Parents,

**The students and staff of Divine Mercy School extend their prayers, thoughts and deepest sympathy to the Recker family on the recent loss of their loved one. May He continue to grant strength through this most difficult time.**

Food Pantry – Friday, February 5th

I know that I mentioned this before, but please do not have students at school before 8:40 in the morning. School does not begin until 8:50 and teachers use this time for preparing for the day. Most days our teachers do not receive a break all day, so this time is important to them. Thank you for your support!

Mid-term reports for this nine weeks and the last nine weeks of the school year have changed. Only students that are having difficulties with their classroom work will be receiving a report. These reports will be in the Wednesday, February 10th Envelope. If you do not receive a report, it means that your student is doing satisfactory work.

Wednesday, February 10th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of Lent. We will be starting our day with Mass at 9:15.

Thinking back to your childhood days, the questions, “What are you giving up?” was one that was posed to us by our friends and adults. Sometimes it was a contest as to who could make the biggest sacrifice – chocolate, pop, tv, and the ever popular “homework.” As adults, the idea of giving something up takes on a whole different connotation of course. We come to understand that another Advent and Christmas season has flown by, and all of those wonderful New Year’s resolutions may have gone as well. Lent seems to come along at just the right time to remind us of our baptismal promise to commit ourselves to God and to reject the temptations of sin. Our childhood practice of “giving something up” was a baby step in the understanding of sacrifice and penance as a means of changing our lives. Our loving God gives us another opportunity beginning this Lenten season to recommit our lives through sacrifice and penance and to make lasting changes in our lives.

**Some Thoughts Of What To Give Up . . .**

Give up complaining --- focus on gratitude

Give up negativism --- be positive

Give up pessimism --- become an optimist

Give up anger --- be more patient

Give up harsh judgments --- do kindly thoughts

Give up pettiness --- become mature

Give up worry --- trust Divine Providence

Give up gloom --- enjoy beauty

Give up discouragement --- be full of hope

Give up jealously --- pray for trust

Give up bitterness --- turn to forgiveness

Give up sin --- turn to virtue

Give up hated --- return good for evil

Give up giving up --- hang in there!

The school, along with Father Poggemeyer, will be holding Stations of the Cross each Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the church during Lent. Everyone is welcome.



The Paulding County Spelling Bee will be held this year on Thursday, February 4th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Payne Elementary School Auditorium. Grady Vogel will represent Divine Mercy as the Champion Speller. Good Luck Grady! We are proud of you!

Our Mardi Gras will be held this Friday, February 5th. The PTA organizes a fair of activities and games for the students to play. Raffle tickets will be available for a chance to win a “big” prize. Students bring dollars, quarters, dimes and nickels to participate in the games. All donated money will be sent to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital.

**Enclosed in Today’s Envelope**

**you will find :**

* Scholastic book order-due Feb.8 by returning to office or ordering on-line

Respectfully in Christ,

Divine Mercy School Staff