



## STUDENT NEWSPAPER

February Edition

Blue Streak Blazer Header Design by 5th Grade Student **Will Raney**

2023 - 2024: No. 4



### Cover Story

# Catholic Schools Week 2024



**Philomena Odonker**  
5th Grade Student Writer

Every year, around February, we have Catholic Schools Week. We do lots of fun activities for a whole week, and it was planned by the Civics Club.

**Monday-** Monday was pajama day, and half of the school got to do a fun science day.

**Tuesday-** Tuesday was decade day, and the other half of the school got to do a science day.

**Wednesday-** Wednesday was a dress-up day because we had mass. The checkers tournament for 6-8 graders was that day as well as the live game on the gym floor. Kate Marhefka won.

**Thursday-** Thursday was the talent show for anyone who wanted to play the piano, sing, dance, or perform a skit.

**Friday-** Friday was Spirit day, so you could have worn anything St. Vincent related, yellow, or blue clothing. That was also the teachers vs 8th grade volleyball game. It was a tie. It was all very loud.

*Pictures top left rotating clockwise: Students dress for decades day. The 8th graders play volleyball game against the faculty members + our visiting priest, Father Michael. Checkers champion Kate with runner up, Alex. Talent show participants, Barbara and Abigail, wow the crowd with their acapella performance.*





## Feature

# Welcome Baby Pitt



**Lucy Adams**  
5th Grade Student Writer

You may have noticed that there is a new person in the school! She is Mrs. Pitt's daughter and her name is Ava Pitt. She was just born last year in October. She is bringing so much excitement and joy to all the kids and staff.

Mrs. Pitt has her wrapped around her all the time and walks around the school with her everywhere. She is so small and puts smiles on everyone's faces. It's exciting to see her in the school.



## Feature

# Knowledge Fair 2024



**Philomena Odonker**  
5th Grade Student Writer

Knowledge Fair was on February 8, 2024. Each year, your teacher will inform you about a different topic for your Knowledge Fair report.

**Kindergarten-** They did an All About Me project.

**1st-** 1st grade built animals and made a report about them.

**2nd-** 2nd grade made a tri-fold on biomes.

**3rd-** 3rd grade made a tri-fold on dinosaurs.

**4th-** 4th grade built people from the American Revolution and made a report about them.

**5th-** 5th grade did a cookie project. They used Mason Jars and decorated them with a certain cookie, and sold them.

**6th-8th** stops Knowledge Fair and does Science Fair instead. Judges came and listened to them and if they did well, they got to go to district and might have won money.

## Ask Father Column



# Ask Father

Questions submitted anonymously from students in preschool-8th grade

## What is the best part of being a Priest?

The best part of being a priest for me is the fact that I am able to celebrate the Holy Mass. This is actually what attracted me to the priesthood. As a young boy I did not know much about the priesthood but I saw the priest often only at the altar celebrating mass. I think this is the highpoint of being a priest and the best part for me. It is a point at which the priest acts in "Persona Christi", he represents Christ and the sacrifice of Christ on Calvary is re-enacted through his actions.

## What is the best part of Africa?

I come from Cameroon which has been dubbed Africa in miniature. Cameroon is very unique in that it has diverse landscapes that represent each of the continent's climatic zones, including rainforest, desert, swamp, savannah, and beaches. All variety of plants and animals native to tropical Africa are found in Cameroon too. It is one of the most biodiverse countries in the world thanks to the conducive climate and dense forests. The country has more than 20 reserves to protect its fauna and flora, more than 400 species of mammals, 690 bird species, 250 reptiles, and 200 amphibians. Language wise, French and English are the official languages of Cameroon

## What is your favorite food?

My favourite food is Kati -Kati which is my traditional meal. This meal is made from Corn flour and huckleberry. It is then eaten with roasted chicken. It is a tasty, wonderful meal, loved by most Cameroonians especially those from the grass field area. A short Youtube video that shows how it is prepared can be found here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTnLJPJdbiA>.

## Do you go grocery shopping in your priest clothing? Or normal clothing?

It does not really matter to me which clothing I wear. I am proud to be a priest so I travel in my priest clothing especially the Roman collar shirt or the Soutane/cassock. I can wear it anywhere I wish to go. There are monks and nuns and religious who wear the habit and have to wear it everywhere they go and they do it everyday. Diocesan priests are not bound to but I can wear my priest clothing everywhere and anywhere. It helps to remind me of my identity as a priest. Many persons also get to ask for a blessing, confession, etc when they see me in my priest clothing.

**What do you think Heaven looks like?** That is a difficult question to answer. Heaven is a state of being with the Lord, of experiencing the glory of the Lord. It is a state where we shall worship the Lord together with the angels and the saints. It is a state in which we shall see God as he really is in the beatific vision. Our understanding of heaven so far is from Jesus Christ himself and because it is purely spiritual, it is difficult to explain, since our understanding of things is material; based on our earthly realities. St Paul had an experience of it and said it was difficult to express what he saw. According to him,

*"I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven. Whether it was in the body or out of the body I do not know—God knows. And I know that this man—whether in the body or apart from the body I do not know, but God knows—was caught up to paradise and heard inexpressible things, things that no one is permitted to tell."* 2Corinthians 12:2-4.

Thank you for all the great questions!

*Father Michael*

## Feature

# Welcome Miss Mann

 5th Grade Student Writer  
**Lark Wright**

STV has been so welcoming. It's been really nice because I used to teach high schoolers and definitely like teaching some of the younger kids. It's been a lot more fun. I have a dog. I keep a picture of my dog named Easton. My favorite candy would probably be M&M's. I like to sew. I grew up in Jasper Indiana.

I just moved and I was looking to find a new job and I wanted to work at a school that was a little bit smaller so I could get to know all the kids. I was looking for a religious school since I worked at a public school before and we're not allowed to talk about religion in public schools at least in the one I worked at you weren't allowed.

I do like to sleep in on a snow day. When we get the call I sleep in a little bit and then I usually go play with my puppy and that's pretty much it. He is really lazy so we like to sleep in and then we play inside the house a little bit. We watch TV together. He really likes watching planet Earth shows about animals. He barks at them sometimes.



## Holiday Feature

# Valentine's Day


 **Samantha Whiting**  
5th Grade Student Writer

Everyone knows the very popular holiday Valentines day, the 8th century Gelasian Sacramentary recorded celebrated the celebration of the feast of St. Valentine on February 14th.

We celebrate this holiday because of St. Valentine and sacrificing himself for Jesus. Valentine's day is also about love and loving each other.

## Holiday Feature

# National Love Your Pet Day

 **Lily Adams**  
7th Grade Student Writer

Do you have a pet that you love? Well, National love your pet day is perfect for you! National pet day is on Tuesday February 20th. This special day is a day to show our love to our pets. Some things you could do on this day is take your pet on a walk, give them a treat. If you have a fish you can clean their tank out. Kate Marhefka has a black lab named Vin, and her favorite thing about him is that he is playful.



## Take it to the STV Hallways

# Tell us about your talent!

 **Lark Wright**  
5th Grade Student Writer



**Allie**  
3rd Grader

“ When I was little, my mom said I was good at singing. I like to sing but don't practice a lot. I'm not scared to be on stage!

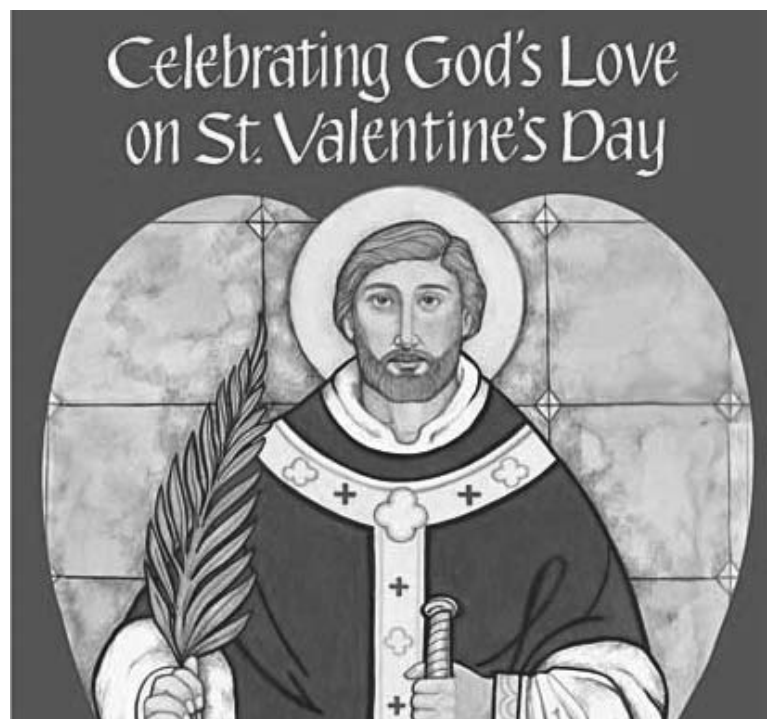
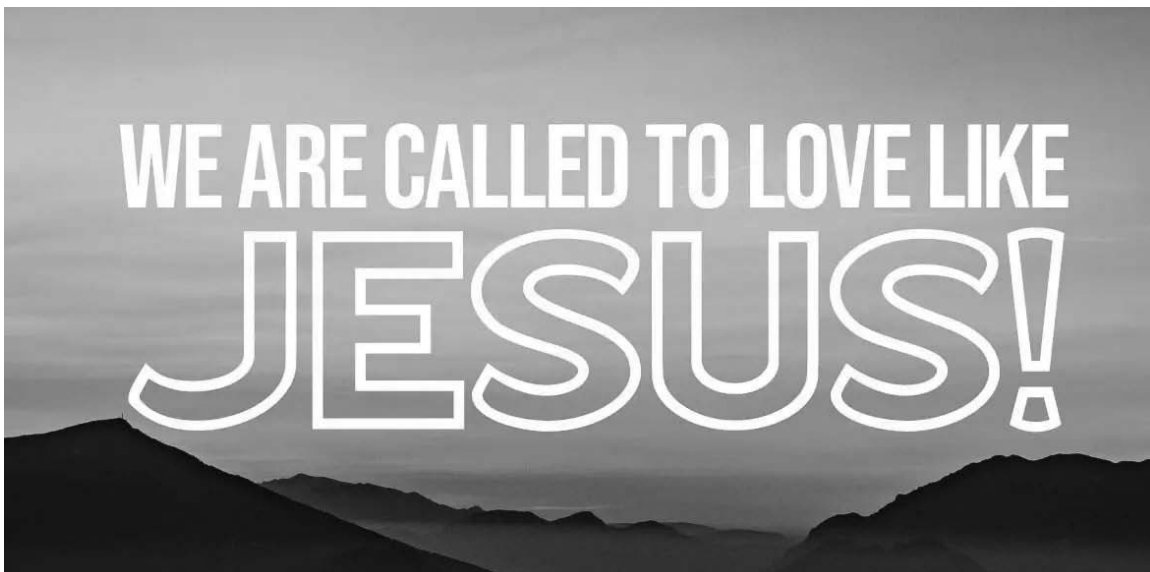
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**Addie**  
7th Grader

“ I've sang ever since I was little. It's been special to me because all of my family sings. I practice every night. I'm also on a worship team. I like being on stage but when you get up there at first it can be very nerve-wracking

”





## Seasonal Feature

# Groundhog Day



**Amari McQuigg**  
7th Grade Student Writer

On Friday, February 2, 2024 groundhog it will be this year's Groundhog Day. This holiday is used to predict the coming of spring and how long winter will continue. When the groundhog comes out of its den and retreats back to the den because of its shadow, winter will remain for six more weeks. But if it emerges from its den and doesn't retreat, spring will come six weeks early. This holiday was originally celebrated by German immigrants that moved to Pennsylvania on February 2, 1877 but the tradition of using animals to predict the

weather dates back to much earlier times. Despite using animals to predict weather being extremely common, the German immigrants brought it to the United States. Before it was called Groundhog Day, it was originally a holiday called Candlemas, which is when christians take candles to church to be blessed. This also was called Badger Day. On Badger Day it essentially was the same thing as Groundhog Day but with a badger. Then they switched to hedgehogs and now the current groundhogs. Even though it's been an annual hol-

iday every year, the groundhogs are often wrong about the weather. Usually being correct only about 39% of the time. That being said, doesn't always mean it's always wrong. Between the very first celebration of this holiday and 2023 the groundhog has seen its shadow 108 times and didn't see its shadow 20 times. The current longest streak of the groundhog not seeing a shadow is only two years, 2019-2020. The only time a groundhog has never made an appearance on Groundhog Day was in 1943. Happy Groundhog Day!

## Poll - Snack Poll



**Amari McQuigg**  
7th Grade Student Writer

February is Snack Food Month! Here's the history behind one of the most famous snacks in America. One common snack almost everyone eats often is potato chips. However, the snack was actually made by accident. George Speck, who later adopted the name Crum, was working at a

restaurant as a chef at Moon Lake Lodge Resort in New York in 1853. One customer repeatedly sent his french fries back until Crum cut them into thin slices. The customer ended up loving them and soon other customers wanted to try the food. Eventually the food became so popular that

Crum opened his own restaurant, "Crum's House" where his restaurant promoted the Saratoga Chips at every table. The chips were first officially sold in Cleveland Ohio by William Tappendonby in 1895.

APPLE SAUCE 9   CHIPS 32   FRUITS/VEGGIES 20   COOKIES 34   STRING CHEESE 15   CHEESE & CRACKERS 4

K I X A R R O W H W G T T G B O  
 F I O W V C M P L Z R F F L Q L  
 J R D V B X U N Z A I B Z Y N S  
 Z V O Y O G L P E G C A N D Y U  
 C Q N B H R D H I A E E A X Q W  
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 K I I K H V Y C I L O V E D K E  
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 Q K Z M G K K N Q Y W H Q B V M

- Heart
- Arrow
- Flowers
- Valentine
- Love
- Sweet
- Candy
- Cupid
- Chocolate
- Hugs
- Kisses
- Gift