

**Catholic Schools Week 2008**  
**January 27 - Feb. 2, 2008**



**The 2008 theme is: *Catholic Schools Light the Way***

The 2008 theme is "Catholic Schools Light the Way." The theme focuses on the leadership that Catholic Schools provide to our nation, producing graduates who light the way to a brighter future for all humankind. The theme also highlights the spiritual foundation of Catholic schools, for we are on "The Way," a biblical term used to describe those who follow Jesus as disciples. The slogan, "Catholic Schools Light the Way," reminds us that we are called to "light the way" to the kingdom for others even as we walk "the way" of discipleship and grow in faith ourselves.

In keeping with this year's theme we have planned the following activities for the week:

**Saturday, January 26, 2008**

**Sunday, January 27, 2008**

At all the masses SME families will distribute bookmarks to the parishioners with a message from the students expressing appreciation for the parish's support of the school.

**Monday, January 28, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Community**

At 8:20 am Families and parishioners of St. Mary's will join the faculty, staff and students of SME and OLP School to say a prayer together for Catholic Schools.

At 8:30 am the School Community will gather in the gym for a prayer service led by the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Students. The theme will be: *Catholic Schools Light the Way*. Guest Speaker- Jeannine Szumigala will tell about the work her brother, Mark Rugani is doing in Honduras. Both are graduates of SME.

Students will begin project called Helping Hands for Honduras.

*Dress: Dress Up (no Jeans)*

Basketball game between the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade Royal Knights at 5:30 pm in the school gym. Please come and show your school spirit!

**Tuesday, January 29, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Students**

At 9:00 am Grades K-4 will have Relay Races in the gym.

Grades 6 and 7 will work on a service project for SME graduates and relatives who are in the armed forces serving overseas.

Grade 8 will hold an auction for Catholic Charities.

*Dress: Crazy Hat with sports team shirts and jeans*

**Wednesday, January 30, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Nation**

8:30 am *5<sup>th</sup> Grade DARE Graduation in PC*  
Parents invited

10:00 am Students from Sacred Heart Academy will present a concert called *Musical Showcase*.

1:00 pm *Decade of the Rosary for Peace*

The whole school will join hands while students from each class lead us in a decade of the rosary for peace.

*Dress: Red, White and Blue (jeans allowed)*

6:00 pm Guided Tours for new families before the HSA meeting and continue through the evening.

**6:30 pm HSA Meeting and Open House**

***Come and visit the classrooms and meet the teachers.  
Registration information will be available in the office***

**Thursday, January 31, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Vocations**

Students will have an opportunity to learn more about the vocation of priests and sisters.

10:00 am Clown will perform for students in grades Pre-K to 4

Students will make Valentines for priests and religious to thank them for their service to the people of God.

*Dress: Mismatch, Backwards, Inside-Out Day*

**Friday, February 1, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Faculty, Staff and Volunteers**

8:30 am School Mass

Distinguished Graduate will be honored followed by a reception in PC

10:00 am St. Francis High School's  
Jazz Ensemble will perform in gym Parents invited

Afternoon:

Grades K-4 Movies

Grades 5-8 Faculty/Student Volleyball Games

*Dress: Spirit Attire*

**Saturday, February 2, 2008**

**Sunday, February 3, 2008**

**Catholic Schools Light the Way:  
In Our Parish**

**Sat. 4:30 pm Special Mass for Catholic Schools Week**

Following the 4:30 pm Mass there will be an Ice Cream Social in the PC courtesy of the HSA.

We celebrate God's light in the world and the light of knowledge we strive to kindle in our students.

Following the 4:30 pm Mass there will be an Ice Cream Social in the PC courtesy of the HSA.

At each of the weekend masses SME parents and students will share a letter of appreciation with the parishioners.

At 8:20 am each day a different student from each grade will lead the school community in a prayer centered on the theme for each day.

*How can you participate in Catholic Schools Week? Here are a few suggestions:*

- Write a note of appreciation to your children's teachers. Thank them for the attention and energy they give your children every day, as well as for their dedication to Catholic Education.
- Write a letter to your representatives in the U.S. Congress and state legislature to let them know why Catholic Education is important to you and your community. Send a copy of your letter to the principal.
- While you are at it, write a thank-you note to that special teacher from your own school days who had a significant impact on your life.
- Return the yellow paper in last week's NewsNotes asking families to tell how SME lights the way for your family.
- Set aside time for family prayer for all those who contribute to the success of our school, including parents, students, teachers, staff and volunteers

Join the Fun! Gather the entire family – from younger siblings to grandparents - and participate in the week's events at our school.

*Please extend an invitation to your friends and neighbors to attend our Open House, Wednesday, January 30th, beginning at 6:00 pm to learn more about the value of Catholic Education.*