

SABER NEWS & NOTES

Friday, September 17, 2021

September 15, 2021

Dear Manistee Catholic Central Families,

I am honored to lead your school as the new Principal at Manistee Catholic Central. While I am only beginning this journey with you, I am excited to get to know the families who make MCC such a special place. I have already seen the importance of family, tradition and history at MCC, which is the foundation that this community builds from.

We have made it through a very challenging year in 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic has no doubt affected all of our lives. The MCC community came together to ensure our students received the very best Christian education possible under such challenging circumstances. Thank you for your commitment and the continued commitment our school staff and families continue to count on for another successful year.

As we move into a new school year, remember that we are a community of believers that share a common vision in Catholic Education. After a challenging year filled with fear and unknown, we return with renewed hope and joy. Do not be afraid," Saint John Paul II told us. "Open wide the doors for Christ. Do not be afraid. Do not be satisfied with mediocrity. Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch...I plead with you – never, ever give up on hope, never doubt, never tire, and never become discouraged. Be not afraid."

As your children begin their school year journey, some things may be new, some things may be updated, but one thing will be certain – MCC is a safe space for them to learn, grow and transform as they return to some normalcy. Our teachers and staff welcome all students, embracing every child as a unique individual with diverse needs, helping them grow academically, socially, mentally and physically. We will teach the whole child with confidence and care.

As we look at this new year, we are also looking at our future. We are in a competitive environment and offer an amazing school. We are making plans to advance our school for the common good, offering new programs and enriching the school community we now have.

Welcome back to Manistee Catholic Central! I look forward to serving the MCC Community as your principal and I ask that you pray for all of us, as we do for you.

Blessings,

Catherine Grinn, Principal

Divine Mercy Parish Calendar

Please check the Divine Mercy Parish Calendar often to see important scheduled events.

<http://www.calendarwiz.com/calendars/calendar.php?crd=catholiccommunityofmanistee>

Important Upcoming Events and Reminders

9/17 V Football Away at Baldwin 7:00pm - 8:30pm

9/18 JV Volleyball Away at MCC Scottville 9:00am - 2:00pm

9/20-9/23 NWEA Testing

9/20 Advisory Council Meeting 7:00pm - 9:00pm

9/21 Tutoring 3:00pm - 4:00pm

9/21 JV/V Volleyball Away vs. Baldwin 6:00pm - 8:30pm

9/22 Cross Country Away at MCE

9/22 MS Football vs Marion Away 6:00pm - 8:00pm

9/23 Tutoring 3:00pm - 4:00pm

9/23 JV/V Volleyball Home vs. Mesick 6:00pm - 8:30pm

9/24 No School - Teacher Professional Development Day

9/25 JV Volleyball away vs. Mancelona 9:00am - 11:30am

9/25 V Football Home vs SJLMC 2:00pm - 4:00pm

September 13-17, Virtue of the Week was Fidelity

Matthew 25: 19-21 “After a long time the master of those servants came back and settled accounts with them. The one who had received five talents came forward bringing the additional five. He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents. See, I have made five more.’ His master said to him, ‘Well done, my good and faithful servant. Since you were faithful in small matters, I will give you great responsibilities. Come, share your master’s joy.’”



FIDELITY

INTRODUCTION

This week our strength building on the virtue of Faith is FIDELITY.

The strength to be steadfast in one’s commitments and promises.

Another word for FIDELITY is Faithfulness.

Being FAITHFUL is a wonderful strength.

It enables us to be true to what matters most in life even when we may not feel like it.

Saber Cafe - Hot Lunch Menu

Soft shell chicken taco Mexi rice pinto beans	20	Italian Brat on bun peppers and onion cucumber salad	21	Sloppy Joe oven fries corn on the cob	22	Roasted chicken rice pilaf southern style green beans	23	No school	24
Chicken and waffle corn on the cob southern style greens	27	Cheese Quesadilla black beans salsa tomato slices	28	Italian pasta bake garlic toast roasted broccoli and cauliflower	29	Turkey or salami sub chips potato salad	30		

Daily alternates: #1 PBJ, #2 chicken caesar salad Daily fresh fruit and veggie bar Local milk from cream cup dairy skim daily and chocolate on Tuesday and Friday
Prices: K-5 \$3.00, 6-12 \$3.25 cup of soup \$1.00 included with High School meal Ala Cart (6-12): Entree \$2.50 milk \$.50, fruit \$.50, Staff and guest \$4.25 (tax included)

New Elementary Reading Curriculum - “Collaborative Classroom”

We are very excited to have a new reading curriculum in elementary. Here are some highlights:

- Being a Reader: concepts of print, phonological awareness, letter and word recognition, poetry
- Being a Writer: workshop model, immersion in the narrative, informational, opinion argumentative writing
- Making Meaning: read-aloud experiences and vocabulary instruction
- small group and whole group
- individualized daily reading



The individualized daily reading is provided by the mass amounts of books we now have! Teachers are looking for more bookcases and shelves to store and display these great books for students. **If you have a bookcase or shelving unit you'd like to donate, please contact the school.**

2020-2021 Yearbooks Are Here!

All students who pre-ordered and paid for a yearbook should have already picked it up, but if you missed out on ordering last year, we do have a few available for purchase.

2020-2021 yearbooks are \$47.70 including tax. Please send cash or a check made payable to Manistee Catholic Central and see Mrs. McComb to purchase.

Orders for the 2021-2022 are happening now! If you'd like to purchase the 2021-2022 yearbook at the lowest price of \$42 + tax, please go to www.jostens.com/yearbook and follow the prompts.

COVID Strategies and Policy

Please see the important attached documents outlining MCC's COVID strategies and policy for the 2021-2022 school year.

Blood Drive - 9/27

NHS will be hosting a blood drive on Monday, September 27 in the gym 9:00AM-2:00PM. All attempting donors will receive a limited-edition sickle cell awareness t-shirt as a thank you! Please contact Mrs. Henderson to donate (rhenderson@sabers.org, 231-723-2529 ext. 117, or call/text 231-736-7385. Or you can sign up to donate here:

https://donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/130225

Attendance

Please make yourself aware of our tardy policy: 4 unexcused tardies in 1 class = 1-hour detention. If that detention is skipped, the student will be signed up for a 2-hour shift at that month's Saturday Work Bee. If the Work Bee is skipped, the student will receive a 1-day suspension.



MCC CHICKEN DINNER

Monday, Oct. 4, 2021 • 4:30-6:30 p.m.

MCC Cafeteria

Take Out Available

\$15 per ticket

Meal Prepared by
Jerry Zupin & Crew

*Baked Chicken • Fresh Polish Sausage
Cabbage Rolls • Real Mashed Potatoes
Sweet & Sour Cabbage • Butter Squash
Whole Kernel Corn • Rolls & Butter*

Chicken Dinner

Tickets may be purchased at the MCC office, with any MCC coach or Athlete, and at the parish office.

Student Planners

Students were given a planner and are required to use them in all classes, K-12. Parents, please check your student's planner to see that they are using them to record homework assignments and important dates. Also - if your child is using different transportation, such as the public school bus or Dial-A-Ride, please write that in their planner accordingly so that teachers are aware.

School Phone Numbers

Please be aware that when MCC calls you, different numbers may show on caller ID. Please save these numbers so that you don't miss a call from us!

231-723-2529 231-655-5060 231-655-5033 231-510-7909 231-299-0726

Prayer

Thank you, Lord, for this day, this week, this opportunity, this time together. Strengthen our wills and forge our resolve to be FAITHFUL in our pursuit of excellence in every area of life.

COVID Strategies 2021-2022

Although many of our mitigation strategies against the coronavirus will still be in practice, as of now masking will be a parent's choice. Our primary goal has always been to care for the well-being of our students, teachers, and staff. We define well-being as the spiritual, intellectual, physical, emotional, and social well-being. Because of this holistic approach, we set our goals to conduct in-person learning as much as possible, with as few restrictions as possible.

This is a decision made for today, and as situations change so could school protocols. For example, if there is a mandate by our Governor for masks, we would follow the mandate to maintain our foremost goal of in-person learning.

Please keep in mind, it weighs heavily to decide against CDC and Health Department guidelines, which recommend universal masking for teachers and students. However, it is important to remember that these are recommendations and not mandates. We will always follow mandates; however, recommendations allow our own experience and local expertise to bear weight on final decisions. Even with the new variant, the high level of vaccinations coupled with the number who have immunity through previously contracting the virus put us in an entirely different place than when making decisions last year.

Following local health department guidelines is important and understanding the need for quarantine and isolation is equally important. Quarantine and isolation are determined by the local health department and are used as important tools to prevent the spread of disease. Manistee Catholic School will be using the following policy regarding COVID. **This should be followed by all families at all times:**

- You isolate for 14 days when you are already infected with COVID-19 and have tested positive, even if you do not have symptoms. Isolation is used to separate people who are infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected.
 - You quarantine for 10 days when you have been exposed to COVID-19 and then test after 3-5 days. This is because you might become infected with COVID-19 and could spread COVID-19 to others.
 - Any individual that displays COVID-19 symptoms, regardless of vaccination status, should isolate and be tested for COVID-19.
 - The exposed student should not remain in school, and instead the student should quarantine at home for 10 days following the exposure. They may return after day 10 if symptom free during those 10 days. They should continue to monitor for symptoms for a total of 14 days following the exposure.
 - Students, teachers, or employees who are a household contact or were exposed to COVID-19 outside of the school setting must quarantine for 10 days and be tested after 3-5 days. **NO EXCEPTIONS**
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COVID POLICY 2021-2022

Manistee Catholic Central School will follow these policies and procedures:

- foster an environment of Christian charity and respect for others' decisions regarding vaccination status and use of masks.
- expect parents/guardians to monitor their children for symptoms of infectious illness every day, including an at home temperature check before arrival at school.
- students who are sick or displaying symptoms of infectious illness should not attend school and seek medical care.
- Schools will continue to report positive cases to the Health Department and report positive cases to school families.
- Positive cases will be required to isolate at home for the requisite period based on Health Department guidelines
- Any person with COVID symptoms cannot enter the building at any time.
- Any person testing positive for COVID cannot enter the building for 14 days AND must be symptom free.
- MCC will continue to utilize the CDC guidance for cleaning, disinfecting, and hygiene.
 - Staff will wipe down all common areas daily
 - Teachers will wipe down all common areas and desks in classroom daily
 - UV lights will be used in classrooms
 - Disinfecting spray will be used in all classrooms
- continue to use many of the distancing strategies for indoor activities that were used last year. The Health Dept has suggested 3 feet distancing this year.
- All visitors must report to the school office and sign in.
- Visitors will not be admitted to the school area during school hours. Visitors may visit the office area.
- Volunteers must complete a health self assessment and temperature check prior to entering the school building.
- Volunteers must report to the school office, sign in and wear a volunteer name badge during their time in the school.
- At this time, there are no COVID-related restrictions for athletics; schools will follow MHSAA requirements.
- Schools will follow the Mass protocols as established by the Diocese – these will be listed in the parish bulletin as needed.
- While the school is not requiring masks at school or school events, the use of facial coverings is required by federal order on school buses and other forms of public transportation in the United States, as well as on all field trips.

Please follow these COVID guidelines/policies at all times and partner with our staff as we continue to offer a safe and healthy environment for our students, staff and families.