

St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School

\$22.22 Club and Alumni Newsletter

January 2012

From the Principal's Desk



Happy New Year to all our alumni, their families and all friends of St. Elizabeth!

I can't believe that this is the seventh alumni newsletter that I send. Wow! And it is with great pleasure that once more I bring good news about St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School.

The opportunity that St. Elizabeth provides of living our faith daily while providing high quality education is unparalleled. More and more families are seeing the importance of Catholic education and they are seeking it at St. Elizabeth. Enrollment increased 12% this year. We have a total of 84 students in Kindergarten through 8th grade, 10 in the 3- year-old preschool and 13 in the 4-year-old pre-school, plus all the children in both Little Bloomers child care rooms. The Infant/Toddler room has a waiting list! So contact us with time if you are planning to bring your children to us. We want them here, and we need to make sure we have room for them!

This is a year of changes. We welcomed our new pastor, Fr. Prentice A. Tipton, Jr. We are blessed to have him in our parish and school. Come to our school masses at 8:30 on Fridays.

After two years, the Diocese of Saginaw hired a new Superintendent of Catholic Schools, Mary Ann Deschaine. We are happy to have her on board!

As you may well know, all the parishes are undergoing a self-study as our Diocese plans the parishes of tomorrow. Bishop Cistone's vision of a future full of hope fills us with expectation of a better tomorrow.

As we face all the changes, we do it happily. I once read, "Although not all change represents progress, progress - by definition - is not possible without change" (Glickman, Gordon, & Ross Gordon, 2007). Change is difficult because we are taken out of our comfort zones and faced with new challenges. Yet, it is the only way to move forward. We just have to pray and put our trust in God that he will send the Holy Spirit to guide us in this new process. "The rage of God will never take you, where the grace of God can not protect you."



Catholic Schools Week 2012
January 29 to February 4

Join us for 5:00 PM mass, followed by potluck dinner and Open House on Saturday, February 4th

Have you checked our web page?

www.steliz.net

Follow us on Twitter!

www.twitter.com/seacschool

STAFF 2011-2012

- Fr. Prentice A. Tipton***Pastor*
- Gabbie Marguery-Costoya** ..*Principal*
- Jill Muylle***Little Bloomers Director*
- Louis Pierce***Coord. Religious Ed.*
- Julie Mosier** *Business Manager*
- Theresa Christman***Secretary*
- Lupe Tarkowski** *Preschool*
- Lisa Cameron** *Kindergarten*
- Dina Territo***Grades 1 & 2*
- Kristine Redwanz***Grades 3 & 4*
- Cristina Wolschleger** *Grades 3 & 4*
- Amy Bojo** *Grades 5 & 6*
- Dawn Papesh***Grades 7 & 8*
- Susan Bremer**... *Religion K-2/Librarian*
- Mary Nicholson** ... *Aide Grades 3 & 4*

Yesterday ... and Today

Alumni Corner

By Bethany (Trombley) Bauer

I attended St. Elizabeth from preschool through eighth grade, graduating in 1998. As some of you may recall, 1998 was the last year that classes were held in the school's previous building on Center Street; one of my last memories there is of a parade of all the school's students, each carrying a small object from the old school to the new. (Mine was a trophy one of our basketball teams had earned.) The walk itself was a journey I'd made many times during the course of my time at St. Elizabeth, for weekly mass and activities in the gym. This time, however, the walk was different. We were passing the torch, so to speak – bringing the history of the school's past forward to its bright new future.

Now, many years removed from that event, I feel privileged to have the opportunity to pass the torch of Catholic education on to my daughter. As the time to consider her options for schooling approached, my husband and I were confident that St. Elizabeth would be the best choice. When I considered the time I had spent at the school, memories of caring teachers, enthusiastic volunteers, and the individual attention I received were easily called to mind. I keep in touch with several of my teachers from that time to this day; their impact on my life has been immeasurable and irreplaceable. I knew I wanted the same for my daughter.

Madeline, who will be four in February, currently attends Mrs. T's Pre-3 class two days each week. She loves every moment; on school mornings her presence at my side is constant as she asks "Is it time yet? Can we leave now? Is it time yet?" Watching her grow in both knowledge and faith is truly a blessing, as is the opportunity to volunteer and partner in her education. It is my husband's and my hope that her experience of St. Elizabeth will be as enriching as mine – and that the torch of Catholic education will continue its journey.

Alumni News



Meet Jack Messing, Sara (Morel) and her husband Kerry Messing's newborn baby. Jack was born on December 27th, 2011. He is Sara and Kerry's second child. Luke, their oldest, is in Mrs. T's 3-year-old pre-school class. It is a pleasure to have our alumni back at St. Elizabeth as parents!

New Students Talk about Their New Life at St. Elizabeth

"When I go to church, I feel good. It makes me have good feelings."
"I felt welcomed. The kids don't say bad words."
"There are a lot of sports."
"Kids are nice. They hold the door for you."
"It is challenging. Math is hard."
"Classes are not loud and crazy."
"The teachers don't yell at you."
"We have two recesses!"
"You can have two milks and seconds at lunch time."

**We want to hear from our alumni. Send us your news! We want to share the happiness of your achievements and support the changes in your life. E-mail your news to me at gmarguery@steliz.net
Ms. Gabbie
Principal**

St. Elizabeth News at a Glance

We have more students.

We have more teachers.

Mrs. Bremer came back from retirement.

We have a band program and a band room.

We have two Interactive Boards.

We have a new ELMO document camera and LCD Projector in 1-2 grade, totaling 4 in the building.

The Kindergarten class has two I-Pads.

Our K-8 students are learning Spanish.

The children from the faith formation program can now play sports with us and be in our teams.

1-2 graders will play soccer in the spring.



Catholic Schools Week 2012

January 29 – February 4

5:00 PM mass on Saturday, February 4th

Followed by Open House and Potluck Dinner

Stop by any time during the week and see how our students are celebrating!

They will be making blankets to donate to a homeless shelter.

They will have some fun roller-skating.

They will visit a home and play cards with parishioners that live there.

And a lot more!

We Honored His Memory



See the little plaque in the middle of the book browser?
It says "In memory of Tony DeKett."

Tony was a member of the parish whose siblings attended St. Elizabeth. I promised that I would use the memorials we received for our library, a place that gives all that visit it peace, fun and a sense of wonder.

We needed more room to display all the new books so we had this double-sided picture book browser made.

Dear Alumni, Alumni Parents, Grandparents and Friends of St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School,

Ever since I came to St. Elizabeth almost seven years ago, I have had big dreams for the school. I have seen St. Elizabeth grow year after year. I have experienced the love and support – spiritual, moral, and financial - of the parish, parents and wider community. We have managed to improve our programs due to the extra financial support provided by all of you in the past. Due to all the generous donations received, Catholic education at St. Elizabeth is available to all children who want to come. We are blessed with the support that the parish gives the school, but any extra help is always welcomed.

The approximate cost of educating one student is \$4,000 a year. This translates into \$22.22 per day, per student, hence \$22.22 Club.

We would like to invite you to help us with the cost of providing a day, a week, or even more of the school's cost to continue to provide a Catholic Christian environment for all students who attend St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School. You'll find an envelope to return your gift.

Thank you for your consideration and may God bless you.

Gabbie Marguery
Principal

I want to provide financial support to St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School. I am enclosing:

_____ \$22.22 for a day _____ \$111.10 for a week
_____ Other

Gift in memory of: _____

_____ Please, remove my name from your list.

Add me to your e-mail list: _____

Name: _____

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church
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Reese, MI 48757

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St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School

**“Small enough to care.
Big enough to make a difference.”**

MISSION STATEMENT

The staff, parents and community of St. Elizabeth Area Catholic School work together to offer students a safe, supportive, and nurturing Catholic environment. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we are committed to Gospel values and discipleship.