



La Belle Dame

The Newsletter of Our Lady of La Salette Parish

November 2009

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Introducing The La Salette Education Foundation

We don't educate these children because they are Catholic, but because we are Catholic."

-Cardinal James Hickey of Washington, D.C.

The Catholic Church has been active in the education of children for centuries. At different points in world history, Catholic education rose to the occasion to serve in times of need. The Church educated the poor in the Old World and eventually moved to the New World to fight not only poverty but poor public school systems that did not serve immigrants as well as Americans with an African heritage. Uneducated and poor immigrant parents knew that an education was mandatory in order to take advantage of the vast opportunities in America. The Catholic Church was there and at its highest point educated around twelve percent of all children in America.[1]

Times have changed. Parents today are rarely uneducated; most immigrants arrive well educated; public schools get all of the public education dollars; and the Church has also lost its army of Sisters and Brothers who served as educators for a very reasonable salary. As the cost of a Catholic education has risen, Parochial schools have quickly become private schools only for those who can afford them. Decades ago, Catholic High Schools saw the writing on the wall and took an idea from colleges and started Education Foundations in order to help bridge the costs of education and the ability for people to pay. Forward-thinking elementary Catholic School leaders realized that a local parish with quickly changing demographics may no longer be able to shoulder the burden of supporting an elementary school - let alone a Catholic high school, and started Educational Foundations for their elementary schools.

A group of individuals, including active and former parents of Our Lady of La Salette School and Parish, have gotten together to create The La Salette Education Foundation. The purpose of the Foundation is to solicit help from those who support the goals of Catholic education.

Of interest to those who are likely to read this newsletter, current parishioners and active school parents are not a target audience. This group already demonstrates its dedication to Catholic Education and in particular to La Salette. The Foundation is more interested in those who have received a quality education from Our Lady of La Salette School and those who want others to have that same opportunity. While the Foundation is certainly interested in help from our Alumni, we don't want to limit ourselves to just that group. Since it is not a requirement to be Catholic in order to receive a Catholic education, it won't be a requirement to support it.

By rules of the Archdiocese of Detroit, the Foundation is completely separate entity from Our Lady of La Salette Church and School. The Foundation is a Michigan non-profit corporation and is in the process of getting its 501(c)(3) status.

If you know of people who have left the area or who are no longer parishioners, please let them know about The La Salette Education Foundation. People can help by going to <http://www.tlef.org> (<http://TheLasaletteEducationFoundation.org>). Use your influence by contacting old friends to help promote quality Catholic Education. Finally, there's a good reason to get on FaceBook!

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La Salette
LIVE ON



Foundation (cont'd)

Board Members

President: Christine McNish
Vice President: Mark Wonsil
Secretary: Katie Matuszak
Treasurer: Veronica Riha
Members: Tim Anderson, Peggy Squires, Ed Szykula, Dan Terbrack, Matthew Tuck, Jennifer Van Every

Mission Statement

The La Salette Education Foundation exists to strengthen Catholic educational excellence and the values transmitted through that education.

Our immediate focus is on the Our Lady of La Salette Catholic educational community. We accomplish this mission by distributing donor-directed resources in the form of:

- *Tuition Assistance*
- *Educational Grants and Services*
- *Capital Improvements*

We share this mission with those who have benefited from an Our Lady of La Salette educational experience and with those who believe that our children require Catholic educational and moral values in order to further their spiritual, intellectual and physical growth.

“We don’t educate these children because they are Catholic, but because we are Catholic.” *.....Cardinal James Hickey, Washington DC*

Come Join Us at The Ladies Guild

If you happen to be walking past one of the meeting rooms in the Fr. Landry Center on the second Wednesday of the month, at around 7:45 pm, you will hear things. You will hear the pleasant sounds of women sharing time and refreshments, singing, lifting up intercessory prayers for loved ones, sharing mutual concerns, sharing thought provoking reflections and planning special events that benefit our Parish. Oh, yes, and you will definitely hear the sound of laughter. Those are the sounds of a typical Ladies Guild meeting. Won't you consider joining us?

If you do, then you could be an active participant in the work of the Guild, such as our recent Ann Lash Birthday Bag collection. This event is dedicated to the memory of Ann Lash who was one of our most faithful members and the chairperson for this event for several decades. We continue this tradition, and due to efforts of our current members and the generosity of the congregation, it remains successful.

Another traditional event is our delicious Annual Harvest Potluck Dinner. That will take place on Wednesday, November 11, 2009. After dinner, the Investiture of new members will be the highlight of the evening. You could be a part of that, too.

So if you are a woman, 18 years of age or above, next time you hear the sounds of a Ladies Guild meeting, don't just listen, come on in. We promise a warm welcome.

...Pat Omans, President

Plan Ahead for 11th Annual Auction: “County Fair”

It's never too early to get started on Auction planning! Our 11th Annual Auction has been scheduled for April 24, 2010 and the theme will be “County Fair.” Please be sure to mark your calendars and begin thinking of how you might like to participate. Please let Debbie Fritsch know if you'd like to be on the planning committee



2nd Annual Fun Run

Congratulation Fall Fest Runners!

It was a beautiful day, and a great turn out for this year's Fall Fest Fun Run. Next year will be our 3rd Annual Fun Run, and we hope to double the number of participants!

We will also have a contest for a new t-shirt logo. Start working on your ideas! The contest will start in May. Spread the word and recruit runners. Even better, challenge a friend or family member to a friendly competition! Results are below - congratulations to all. Contact Drew Pennington (248-541-3027) with any questions.

5K Competitors, Male:

1. Rich Lynch, 18 minutes 2 seconds
2. Luke Bowker, 20 minutes 1 second
3. Ryan Austin, 24 minutes 5 seconds
4. Tom Bowker, 24 minutes 13 seconds
5. Mike Deitering, 24 minutes 14 seconds
6. Paul Medley, 25 minutes 3 seconds
7. Chris Affer, 25 minutes 8 seconds
8. Pete Oravetz, 25 minutes 20 seconds
9. Jim Bowker, 25 minutes 45 seconds
10. Scott Spiewak, 26 minutes 49 seconds
11. Dennis Wigman, 27 minutes 32 seconds
12. Jon Wonsil, 28 minutes 36 seconds
13. Josh Brazelton, 36 minutes 53 seconds
14. Howard Steele, 38 minutes 48 seconds

5K Competitors, Female:

1. Mary Ryan Pennington, 23 minutes 23 seconds
2. Angela Kelosky, 24 minutes 42 seconds
3. Rachel Spiewak, 26 minutes 40 seconds
4. Suzanna Brennan, 29 minutes 49 seconds

Special thanks to Drew Pennington for her efforts in organizing this event!



1 Mile Competitors, Male:

1. Luke Bowker, 6 minutes 36 seconds
2. Ryan Austin, 7 minutes 38 seconds
3. Scott Spiewak, 7 minutes 44 seconds
4. Michael Fisk, 7 minutes 52 seconds
5. Christopher Squires, 7 minutes 59 seconds
6. Zeke Bowker, 8 minutes 19 seconds
7. Cody Myers, 8 minutes 21 seconds
8. Allen Rauschert, 9 minutes 5 seconds
9. David Austin, 9 minutes 28 seconds
10. Joey Paprocki, 9 minutes 33 seconds
11. Andrew Spiewak, 10 minutes 8 seconds
12. Ben Stachnik, 11 minutes 32 seconds
13. Bill Stachnik, 11 minutes 33 seconds
14. Henry Pennington, 11 minutes 35 seconds
15. Gary Kaczmarczyk, 15 minutes 7 seconds
16. Lee Van Every, 15 minutes, 24 seconds

1 Mile Competitors, Female:

1. Katie Matuszak, 7 minutes 51 seconds
2. Melissa Kerby, 9 minutes 1 second
3. Liz Anderson, 9 minutes 4 seconds
4. Veronica Riha, 10 minutes 45 seconds
5. Erin Kuisle, 11 minutes 6 seconds
6. Teri Myers, 11 minutes 26 seconds
7. Charlotte Squires, 11 minutes 38 seconds
8. Molly McGee, 11 minutes 39 seconds
9. Izzy Smith, 12 minutes 11 seconds
10. Danielle Stachnik, 12 minutes 40 seconds
11. Marie Carey, 13 minutes 13 seconds
12. Abby Youmans, 13 minutes 51 seconds
13. Kortney Garwood, 13 minutes 55 seconds
14. Jennifer Van Every, 14 minutes 19 seconds
15. Scarlett Van Every, 14 minutes 20 seconds
16. Adriana Prakken, 14 minutes 39 seconds
17. Tess Youmans, 14 minutes 40 seconds
18. Ashton Garwood, 14 minutes 42 seconds
19. Natalie Sheibels, 15 minutes 45 seconds
20. Bailey Myers, 15 minutes 46 seconds
21. Emma Beaudoin, 15 minutes 47 seconds
22. Margaret Beaudoin, 15 minutes 52 seconds



School News

Meet Our New Principal: Mrs. Ann Kolley



Our school is one very important way that our parish fulfills its mission as a Catholic community of worship, education, faith formation and service.

The school has served the community of southeast Oakland County for 66 years. Thousands of children have called it their home away from home. We all know that the principal and teachers of a school are central to its success and its faithfulness to everything it is called to do and be.

Therefore, I have made a very important change in the leadership of our school. Last Monday, I appointed MRS. ANN KOLLEY as the new principal. For six years, Mrs. Kolley has served La Salette as a teacher. She is a gifted, competent and faith-filled educator. I am confident that she will work hard to continue our traditions of academic excellence, cultural diversity, sound and caring discipline and Catholic Christian faith formation. I look forward to Mrs. Kolley's guidance and administration of the school. With our prayers and support, she will indeed help all of us at Our Lady of La Salette School to grow in faith, knowledge and service.

.....*Father Connell*

So Much History in So Little Time!

The third, fourth and fifth graders went on a fantastic journey through Michigan's history last Thursday. We went to Michigan's Capitol, The Michigan Historical Museum, and the Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center.

At the Capitol, the students learned about the three levels of government and how each level plays a part in how our state is run. We were able to sit in on a session in the Senate and have the students of Our Lady of La Salette recognized.

The Michigan Historical Museum was amazing! We explored the mines that operated in the Upper Peninsula, and touched a nugget of copper that was as big as two students. We were amazed to find out about a woman who disguised herself as a man to fight in the Civil War and serve her country. Finally we visited the Hackley House that was home to a lumbar baron in the 1800's.

Our trip ended at the Supreme Court Learning Center. This tour was a "hands on" experience that all of the students loved! Many students pretended they were judges, lawyers,

and defendants in a mock courtroom. On computers the children were able to be a "Judge" and listen to a "case". After listening to the case they were able to decide if they thought the defendant was guilty or innocent and give their own sentence. Our tour guides were excellent, answering their many questions with ease.

Thank you to the many parents that volunteered to chaperone this trip. We could not have had the wonderful trip we had without your help. Pictures follow below, and additional images are included on page 5.

...*Kelly Beaujean*





Spaghetti Dinner

There really is nothing more warming than spaghetti! Please come to share in that warmth and community as Our Lady of La Salette School and the Knights of Columbus host a spaghetti dinner, with all proceeds going towards this winter's rising energy costs at our school.

When: Sunday, Nov. 8
Time: 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Where: Knights of Columbus Hall
2299 W. 12 Mile Road, Berkley
Includes: Spaghetti, salad, roll, coffee & pop and good company
Cost: \$7 per person

Additional donations are gratefully accepted!!! Baked goods will be available for sale.

...DeeAnn Uhlarik



Save These Dates

- November 6: Blood Drive, 1:00-6:45
- November 8: Spaghetti Dinner, 5:00-7:30, K of C Hall in Berkley
- November 22: Berkley Community Thanksgiving Service, 7:00
- December 6: Advent by Candlelight, 6:00
- December 12: Breakfast with Santa, 8:30-11:30
- December 13: Madison Chorale, 3:00
- April 24, 2010: Auction 11 "County Fair"

Protecting God's Children Workshop

Attention Parents, Volunteers, Coaches, and all that have contact with children at OLLS:

This workshop is mandated by the Archdiocese of Detroit for any and all people who have contact with our children at the school and parish. I recommend that all parents take the workshop regardless if you plan to volunteer because it gives good information on how to spot dangerous scenarios for our children. The workshop is November 3, 2009 from 5:30-9:00 in the Landry Center. If you have already taken the workshop in the past seven years, your certification is still good.

You must register online at <http://www.virtus.org/virtus/> If you are unable to attend this workshop, it is offered throughout the Archdiocese at several parishes during the school year. We would only need a copy of your certification on file at OLLS if you do attend somewhere else.

...Stacie Sniezlik

The Madison Chorale

Former Director of Music at La Salette Maureen Kennedy will be directing the Madison Chorale (madisonchorale.org) in an annual Holiday Concert here on Sunday, December 13th at 3:00 p.m. This has become an annual holiday favorite here at the parish with a couple of our own choir members singing in the chorale.

Presale tickets are \$12.00. \$10.00 for students under 18 and seniors over 65. All tickets at the door are \$15.00. Presale ticket money must be received by December 1st and may be mailed to The Madison Chorale, P. O. Box 753, Royal Oak, MI 48068. Please provide a stamped, self-addressed envelope for return of tickets.

The Handbells will not be with us this year and no other groups at this time. For further ticket information, call Linda at 248-808-6238.

*...Peter Rogers
Music Ministry*

Berkley Community Thanksgiving Service

Please join us for an ecumenical service planned by the Berkley Pastors Group. An offering will be taken to help the homeless (S.O.C.H.).

When: Sunday, November 22, 7:00 PM

Where: Our Lady of La Salette

Participating churches: Our Lady of La Salette, Greenfield Presbyterian, Berkley First United Methodist, Cana Evangelical Lutheran, Berkley Community Church

*...Peter Rogers
Music Ministry*



Trunk or Treat

It was an evening of ghosts and goblins in the La Salette Parking lot recently. Kids were treated to pizza and candy, as parents decorated car trunks for the evening's fun.

.....John Golden



More Photos from OLLS Lansing Trip

