

2010 2011



# SSM

ST. STEPHEN MARTYR  
CATHOLIC SCHOOL  
Shaping Spirits and Minds



# FAMILY FOCUS November 3, 2010

St. Stephen  
Martyr School  
2931 Pindell Ave  
Louisville, KY 40217  
502-635-7141  
E-mail:  
school@ssmartyr.org

## Dear Families,

I know people think sometimes that I am crazy to be a Principal, but I tell you, last Friday makes it all worth it. The students come dressed in a variety of costumes. The PTO has a cupcake and drink party for all the students. The Student Council has a costume contest in a variety of categories. I could never judge because I would have way too many ties! The excitement is in the air throughout the building. I was invited up to a party for the 3<sup>rd</sup> graders and I screamed. It was so much fun. I started wondering, "Can we really do these things when the pressure of test scores and learning is so high right now?" I wonder if we can find the right mix. I think children have to be rewarded every now and then for working hard and doing the right things. It was crazy...but a good crazy. Somebody asked if I would like to be the Principal of all orphans. I said no because we couldn't do all the things we do without our parents. Our children would not be as good as they are without the parents. I think the kind of support we have here at SSM is what makes all the craziness work. Thank you.

Mrs. Margaret Bowen



1st Reconciliation Reminder  
November 4th at 7 pm in the Church.  
Please join us for a reception in the MarTeen  
room following the ceremony.

### Let us help you do your shopping!!

From 11/1—12/13 you can order gift cards using the SSM Scrip program. This is a good time to plan ahead for Christmas, Mother's Day, birthdays, anniversary gifts, etc. Send orders to the school office every Monday morning and gift cards are sent home the following Friday!

Call Laura Kelty for questions  
(449-0103).



## Weekly Calendar

Wed, 11/3	7th Grade Parent Lunch
Thu, 11/4	Teacher Recognition Lunch at Olmstead. SAC Board Meeting
Fri, 11/5	
Sat, 11/6	
Sun, 11/7	
Mon, 11/8	
Tues, 11/9	
Wed, 11/10	
Thurs, 11/11	<b>Early Dismissal</b> —1 pm
Fri, 11/12	Card Party Dress Down Day
Sat, 11/13	Corn hole Tournament benefit for Joey Sullivan (see flyer in today's Wednesday folder)



### SSM Recycles!!

Please continue to send in your gently used cell phones and small ink jet cartridges!!

### Double Duty Decorating Ideas!!

- ⇒ Use aluminum foil to protect doorknobs and fixtures when you are painting.
- ⇒ Use a glass picture frame as a vanity tray. Cover the glass with a piece of colored paper or fabric to match any room.
- ⇒ Use a cake dome as a terrarium. Covering small potted plants speeds their growth and provides them with an attractive display.
- ⇒ Use egg cartons as ornament holders to help keep them safe and organized when stored.
- ⇒ Use a berry basket for bathroom storage. It's cute, functional, and eco-friendly.
- ⇒ Use a pretty cake stand as a candle holder to create a beautiful display or table centerpiece. Use candles of the same color but in different sizes.

Think outside the box and reuse items for different purposes!

### Attention Recent SSM Graduates

To help cut down on expenses for our 8th grade parents as well as trying to do our part to recycle, we are asking graduates to donate their red graduation robe back to school so we can have them on hand to loan to our graduates for class pictures & actual graduation ceremony. We will keep them here to reuse in the future!

If you have a robe you would donate, please drop it by the school or parish office! Thank you.



Please send all Family Focus news items to Wendy Gerhard at wgerhard@ssmartyr.org by Tuesday at noon!!

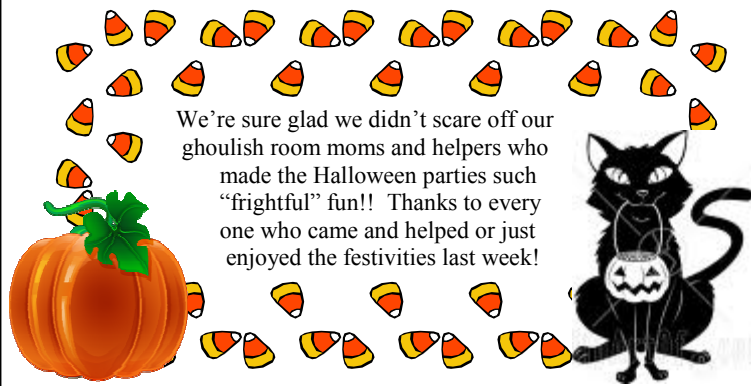


# KUDOS KORNER

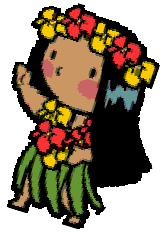


Another parent wrote recently to our Kindergarten teacher, Sr. Karen Byerley, and her aide, Mrs. Ruth Woo, to thank them. Mom overheard her child leading her sisters in a prayer of the rosary! Mom wrote, "We are so blessed to have both of you and SSM in our lives, helping us mold the lives of our children."

Mrs. Elizabeth Smigielski  
(mother of Virginia Jeunet Smigielski Spalding)



We're sure glad we didn't scare off our ghoulish room moms and helpers who made the Halloween parties such "frightful" fun!! Thanks to every one who came and helped or just enjoyed the festivities last week!



## Reverse Raffle News!!!

The Reverse Raffle could still use the donation of a wooden porch swing and the wooden frame of a mirror. Both of these items are essential to our classroom projects! Our students will take the constructed pieces and decorate them as a class, beginning in mid November!! Please help if you can!



## PLEASE HELP!!!

If you can make even just a few calls to vendors to help with our silent auction, please contact Wendy Gerhard at 635-1281! Every call helps!! We will be starting right after Thanksgiving—remember this event benefits the school, which benefits your child.

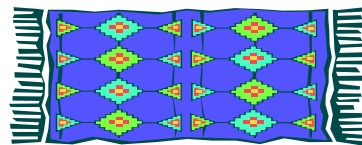
Contact Angie Laemmle at 644-5570 or email [angielammle@yahoo.com](mailto:angielammle@yahoo.com) or Wendy Gerhard at 635-1281.

Thank you for your help.

## Dare-To-Care!

Beginning Monday, November 8th, our Student Council will once again be collecting for Dare-to-Care. This year, SSM will focus on collecting **ONLY** canned and/or boxed items. Items packaged in glass are not accepted, and although Dare-To-Care accepts other packaging, such as cellophane (i.e., Ramen Noodles), these items do not transport well through our school and often are ripped open—so PLEASE do not send items packaged in glass or cellophane!! Our collection will end on November 22nd.

Our mission this year is to provide abundantly for the less fortunate. Thank you in advance for any canned or boxed item you can send with your child.



## Blanket Louisville



Again this year SSM will participate in the Blanket Louisville program. If you have a new or gently used blanket you can donate to this worthy cause, please send it to school. We will be collecting blankets of all sizes—baby through king size—through November 19th! Thank you for your support to help those in need stay warm this winter.

A reminder from our traffic guard to please...**USE YOUR TURN SIGNALS** when turning from Hess Lane onto Pindell and onto Hess Lane from Pindell!! Please drive safely and obey the rules of the road to keep our children and other drivers safe!



## Keep the faith bracelets for Joey Sullivan

If you would like to purchase a bracelet in support of Joey Sullivan, bring \$1 to school on Thursday and Friday of this week. Justin Lotz and Michael Hardy will come to the classrooms with these for sale.



Way to go SSM! We have collected 3,600 Labels for Education points toward our 10,000 point goal! Post brand cereals has recently teamed up with Labels for Education. Please clip UPC's from your favorite Post cereal as well as from your old favorites and send them in to the attention of Amanda Thompson.

## Volunteers!



## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers are needed for the Card Party, scheduled for December 5th. Contact Debra Wine at 387-7096 if you can help! The Reverse Raffle is set for February 26th, but we need your help now! Please contact Angie Laemmle at 459-6691.