

ANTIOCH ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

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WE ARE BLESSED!

Blessed are they hear the word of Good, and keep it, Luke, 11:28

Our Theme for this year has been a joy to all. We have been counting our blessings each and every month. We are blessed to have 370 students in our school. We are blessed to have a caring and professional teaching staff. We are blessed to have parents and families that value Catholic Education. We are blessed to have a supportive and interested Alumni Association. We are blessed to have a pastoral staff that guides and loves us.

We began the year learning the Beatitudes. We made placemats for the Boulevard Bash with drawings of the things we are blessed with. We created a large quilted banner of the things we are thankful for at Thanksgiving. We created a multi-colored handprint banner for Catholic Schools Week.

In January, under the direction of our Youth Choir, we celebrated a day of Diversity and prayer; "Building the Kingdom of God on Earth"-Modern Day Saints and Martyrs. We had three speakers that addressed the whole school. Sr. Juanita Shealey spoke to us on Civil Rights and Martin Luther King, Jr. Mary Stevenson, director of COAR-the orphanage in El Salvador, spoke to us about Archbishop Oscar Romero, the martyred Missionaries, and the orphans in El Salvador. Eileen Updegrave spoke to us on Dorothy Day, Fr. Damian and the North American martyrs. After each whole group session, the students returned to the classrooms and worked on an art project created by the choir members. We finalized the day with a prayer service in church with readings, peace prayers, and songs of praise. It was informative, prayerful and creative and everyone cannot wait to do another prayer day in the spring.

We are busy learning, praying, singing and sharing. We are trying to live our Mission, *Preparing students for a diverse society through academics, faith and service.* We are trying to live out the legacy of those who have come before us and for those who shall follow us. Thank you for your contribution to our school! We are Blessed to be a part of this exciting time in the city of Cleveland. God bless us all.

Joyce Needham, Principal



Caption describing picture or graphic.

- *IN MEMORIAM*
- Marge Bruen Fitzpatrick '30
- Patricia Kane Gardner '44
- Marian Troyan Bichimer '44
- Donald Hild '45
- Joan Woost '50
- Dr. Patrick Scanlon '51
- Nancie Stasek Kurtz '51
- Tom Bitterman '52
- Colette Montgomery Beineke '52
- Norman Kocab '53
- Lawrence Schwind '54
- Jim Bibik '56
- Neil Kilbane '58
- Jim Prell '61
- Joseph Spremulli '65
- Donna Martin Fiening '65
- Deborah Kimla Vigh '71
- Van Kremperger '73
- Jasara Deuley '93
- *May they rest in peace.*

WHAT ARE THEY DOING NOW??????????

KEVIN WEIRING '94 is working on his Masters in Education and teaching at Metro Catholic.

RENEE SILATA PIGAT '65 earned at MPH & CT (Certification of Thantology) and works as a Bereavement Coordinator for Hospice Care of the Low Country..

ROBERT BONZA '50 is teaching Creative Writing to Senior Friendship "students" on a volunteer basis in Florida.

KEVIN O'MALLEY '63 is a substitute teacher and lives in Grants Pass, Oregon with his wife, Toni and daughter and son.

DOUG KOKOSKIE '80 was recently recognized for his hard work and accomplishments as Assistant Athletic Director of Rutgers University in New Jersey.

Please contact us at stignatius/alumni@hotmail.com to keep us informed of any news or name/address updates for our records. We will print more news in the next issue.

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LENT AND BACK TO THE FUTURE: BY Rev. James R. McGonegal

"We are stardust, we are golden, and we've got to get back into the garden" This familiar refrain from the 1970's Joni Mitchel folk song reminds us who we are-where we came from and where we're going. Ashes without Easter is a frightening thought. The forty days of Lent and the fifty days of Easter remind us not only of our humble beginnings but also of our glorious future. As a church filled with sacraments and symbols it is easier to imagine the past and harder to look forward to the future. We remember the human devastation of 9/11 and the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina with the constant visuals presented to us. But building a memorial in New York or rebuilding the city of New Orleans is a greater challenge for our imagination. Even the Gospel for Easter Sunday leaves us with an empty tomb and we can only hope that what happened to Jesus will happen to us. But faith is filled with ambiguity in our human experience.

It always amazes me how children are so filled with the future. What they want to be when they grow up. They can hardly wait for summer vacation. They look with expectation for the day when they can drive a car or become twenty-one. Perhaps they teach us something about Easter without really knowing it. The human spirit without expectations grows dim and cynical. We need our children to remind us that the gift of life is about growth and development. Our Catholic School is a vital took not only for our children but for ourselves. My father always claimed that the best investment he ever made was in his kids. That's a wonderful outlook and when he died he was surrounded by children and grandchildren knowing that he had spent his life working hard for other.

Our Alumni Association is an outstanding group of people who remember their grade school days with fondness They still ask about Sr. Nativa or a favorite teacher who taught them to read and write or enjoy poetry and art. They love to visit the building and classrooms where they spent so much of their youth. They now laugh about the time they spent standing outside the principal's office waiting for a warning or a demerit. Many now have children of their own and recreated their youth as they invest in the future generation. Maybe Easter is a time when we all go back to the future and reinvent our faith.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

The St. Ignatius of Antioch Alumni Association **has** made a difference.

We are only one of a few Grade School Alumni Associations. We have only been in existence for about 8 years. We have no formal Constitution or By-laws and we only meet when we need to in order to get things done.

But we have gotten things done!. First, through the outstanding efforts of Joan Pren Carpenter '51, we have found over 5000 alumni and added them to our mailing list. We have regularly published this newsletter to let all our alumni know what is happening at the school, the parish and with the Alumni Association. For camaraderie and old times' sake, we have hosted the Boulevard Bash, Class Reunions, the Founders' Day Mass and Reception and our Annual Golf Outing , with the assistance of the Jurcisin family.

At the school, we have been active in many school activities including Graduation, Catholic Schools' Week and Career Day. We have supported and recognized the outstanding school administration, faculty and staff. We even host a year-end picnic for the same. Our members sit on the School Finance Committee and we have worked hard with the Parish and the Administration to make sure the school is on solid financial ground. With our help, the State of the School is strong.

We have invited all alumni to participate in parish activities and on any Sunday, you will find many alums in attendance. If you have not been back for church, you should give it a try. You will be inspired by the liturgy, the music and yes, even the homily.

Last, but not least, we—the Alumni have made a difference financially. Contributions to the School and Parish at the Boulevard Bash, in the collection basket and year-end donations have contributed greatly to the Parish finances. **YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED!!!**

Yet, we are not done. There is more for all of us. We want to continue with the reunions, the golf outings, the Boulevard Bash and other fun events we are planning. We want to do more for the School and the Parish. We are meeting with the pastoral staff, parishioners and benefactors to make plans for a capital campaign that is greatly needed. We sincerely believe that with the efforts of all alumni that we can work with the pastoral staff, the school administration and the parishioners not only to **KEEP OUR GRADE SCHOOL GRAND**, but also, we can help a Parish that has served God and Greater Cleveland for over 100 years to continue to be **A BEACON OF SPIRITUAL LIGHT OVER ALL WHOM THE TOWER STANDS ABOVE.**

PLEASE JOIN OUR CAUSE. (For more information, call Sr. Dianne Piunno at 216-251-0300.)

BOULEVARD BASH REPORT

The annual Boulevard Bash to benefit St. Ignatius of Antioch Elementary School took place on October 22, 2005. Dinner and music set the tone for an enjoyable evening of socializing with old friends and making new ones. The Antioch Auction, which gives donors the opportunity to purchase supplies and equipment for the school, was a huge success. The raffle for Dinner at the Antioch Inn was won by Patricia Paras, mother of Mark '68 and Patricia Paras Mulself '64.

For all that attended, we thank you for your generous support. For those who did not, we hope that you will consider attending our next Boulevard Bash.

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

COMING EVENTS

May 20th—Dinner/Theater at
McIntyre Center more information later.

July 26th—Golf Outing

October 21st—7th Annual Boulevard Bash

KEEP OUR GRADE SCHOOL GRAND!

At last October's Boulevard Bash, many attendees generously participated in the "Antioch Auction" by funding various items to benefit St. Ignatius of Antioch School and its students. We welcome similar support from other alumni and friends for any of the following items.

1. Youth Author Booklets	\$5.00	8. Field Trip Bus Rental	\$180.00
2. Display Boards for Science Fair	7.35	9. Ban Lessons (per student/year)	250.00
3. Religion Books	13.25	10. Tuition for student (month)	335.00
4. Musical Instrument Rental (month)	25.00	11. Physical Education Equipment	500.00
5. Sports Registration Fee	30.00	12. Replacement Windows for gym	1,000.00
6. Chairs for Math Table	69.00	13. Tuition for student for 1 year	3,350.00
7. School Uniforms (2)	100.00	14. Replacement Windows for McIntyre Center	10,000.00

Enclosed is my gift for \$ _____ for _____ of item _____ above or for any purpose that will benefit the school.

Name: _____ Class of _____

Address: _____ City/State/Zip _____

Thank you for your generosity. All gifts will benefit St. Ignatius of Antioch and its students.