



Roman Catholic School  
68 East Main Street  
Hamburg NY 14075  
716-649-7030

## *From the Principal*

Dear Parents,

Our Christmas season continues until January 9 when we celebrate the feast of the Baptism of the Lord. On Sunday, January 8, we celebrate "Epiphany", remembering when the Magi or Three Kings presented Jesus with the gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. We bring our own talents and gifts to Jesus. We may be familiar with the Feast of Epiphany being celebrated on January 6, but in many places, including the United States, the feast is transferred to Sunday.

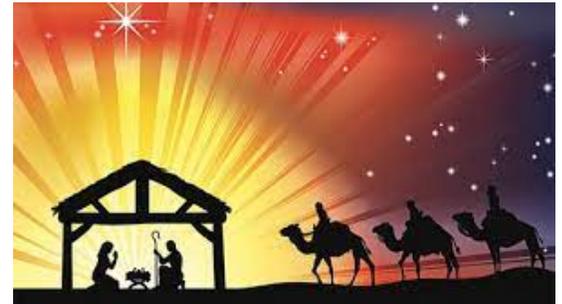
We will have the blessing of our school in early January. As each classroom is blessed, the inscription 20+C+M+B+23 is written over the doorway. This is symbolic of the visit of the Three Magi: Casper, Melchior, and Balthasar. As they protected the Infant Jesus, by not returning to Herod, we ask for their protection over us this year. Some families may have the tradition of blessing their homes on the feast of Epiphany, and marking the door of the home with the inscription listed above. We pray that Christ may dwell in our homes and in our school.

### BLESSING OF THE HOME

May all who come to our home this year  
rejoice to find Christ living among us;  
and may we seek and serve,  
in everyone we meet,  
that same Jesus who is Lord  
forever and ever. Amen.

## UPCOMING DATES

- 1/6- Mass
- 1/8- Celebration of the "Epiphany"
- 1/9- "Monday Blues" dress down day
- 1/9- Music classes begin
- 1/10- Parents' Guild Meeting 6:30 PM
- 1/13- Mass
- 1/16- Martin Luther King Jr. - No school
- 1/20- Mass
- 1/26- Progress reports distributed
- 1/27- No School- Faculty In Service
- 1/29- 8th Grade Spaghetti Dinner
- 1/30- Mass & Diocesan Spelling Bee
- 1/29-2/4- Catholic Schools Week
- 2/1- Open House 6:00-8:00 PM



"Let it be known to all who enter Ss. Peter and Paul, that JESUS CHRIST is the reason for this school, the unseen but ever-present teacher in all its classes, the model of its faculty, and the inspiration for its students."

## *From the Principal, continued...*

Thank you to the family members who joined us for Mass, Student of the Month Awards, and the Christmas Sing-a-Long on December 21. Thank you, as well, if you were able to watch it live-streamed. The students shared with you Christmas carols and fun Christmas songs. We thank Mrs. Warren and the teachers for organizing this with the students. Thank you also for the parents who organized Santa's Workshop on December 1, and to the parents who helped with the event. The students had the opportunity to make nice crafts/decorations. We appreciate the parents who coordinate and organize events for the children and the parents who help with the events. Thank you to the three parents who come to lunch monitor. Thank you also to the parents who come to help the teachers in their classrooms. Information will be forthcoming with the activities for Catholic Schools Week celebrated at the end of January and into the beginning of February.

Thank you to the students and families for your generous contributions to the "Adopt-a-Family" project that took place during Advent. Many families will be thrilled with the gifts that were given to the SSPP Parish Outreach who will distribute them to families in need. Our students are learning to be of service to others. What a great season of Advent!! The students also enjoyed the days before their break with the activities in their classrooms, Santa's Shop, Christmas sing-a-long, and the many things scheduled on the Advent calendar. It is so beautiful to see the Christmas spirit among our faculty, students and parents. Students were engaged in our morning prayer, and in placing symbols on the Jesse Tree. The primary grade students delivered cards to "Creekbend". One of the exciting events during Advent was "Advent Bingo". Students and families made beautiful mangers out of recycled materials. Thank you to the teachers for planning such meaningful activities for the students to prepare their hearts for the celebration of Jesus' birth.

Encourage your child to do their best in their school work. It is important and necessary for the students to complete their work on time and to do their best in class work, projects, and homework. Progress reports will be distributed on January 26. Please visit the Parent Portal to see the results of the work your child is doing in the classes. Thank you for your support!! Thank you to all of the parents who met with the teachers at the Conference Day on December 12.



## *From the Principal, continued...*

Six of our Middle School students participated in the Diocese of Buffalo Catholic Schools Math League on Dec. 2. This was the first year this event took place. The competition was to take place on Nov. 18, but was postponed to December 2 because of the snow event. We congratulate our six students from Gr. 7 & Gr. 8 who won the competition. They received a medal. Congratulations to Alex L., Brenden S., Shepard S., Isaac S., Christian R., and Lucas S. Special recognition was given to Alex L. who brought home three medals: one for the team win, one for the overall individual champion, and one for the best score on the written test which took place in November prior to the Math Tournament. Thank you to Mr. Simon for arranging this for the students and for the parents that attended.

Our school is participating in the Buffalo Catholic Schools Spelling Bee. The class spelling bee competitions and school finals need to take place in early January. The top three students from SSPP will enter the Diocesan Spelling Bee finals Competition on Jan. 30 at Mt. St. Mary Academy. This is the first year this event is taking place.

The students in each grade Pre K through 8 were working on a STREAM project called the Anchor Church Project, in November and December. Some of the Diocesan schools are participating in this project to learn about churches in the Diocese that are closed. SSPP students were doing projects about Holy Angels Church in Buffalo. Each classroom had a certain project they were working on such as researching the windows at the church, making a collage of the artwork in the Church, making a map of the neighborhood where the Church was, making a diorama of what the church is now used for, labeling an altar, researching the history of the Church and making a newspaper article, researching the architecture of the church and making a model of it. The Gr. 8 students are making a video of the projects that the other grades are completing. The Grade 8 students went on December 14 for a field trip to the Holy Angels Church site in Buffalo.

“STAR” testing in Reading and Math for students in Grades K-8 will take place in January.

One of the fundraisers sponsored by Parents’ Guild is the “Monday Blues”. The children may participate in this for \$20 per child or \$40 per family, and wear jeans on the first Mondays of the months, with the next being January 9. Students may wear jeans, khaki pants, cargo pants, or sweatpants (or shorts depending on the season). Jeans must not have holes or slits in them. They should not be tight fitting. No pajama bottoms may be worn. Leggings cannot be worn as a stand-alone bottom. T-shirts or sweatshirts with inappropriate sayings and/or pictures are prohibited. All casual/dress down clothing must look neat, be free of rips, holes, or tears, and must be school appropriate. Clothing should not be tight fitting. Clothing must remain modest, and be neat in appearance. No tight fitting or revealing clothing (i.e. leggings or short shorts) should be worn.

## *From the Principal, continued...*

We acknowledge students who practice the virtues and values that are designated for each month. The Catholic Schools received information from the Diocesan office in regard to the character program. Traits are set for each month. The trait for September was “welcoming”, October’s was “sportsmanship”, November’s was “service”, December’s was “appreciation”, and January’s is “determination”. A short video is available on the Diocesan website showing how the trait for the month can become a part of the school culture. Each school is asked to nominate a student at the end of the month for the Character Award. One of those chosen from the classrooms for our Student of the Month recognition will have their name sent to the Diocese. The student from each grade level who has the chance to be chosen from the school for the Diocesan Award will receive the Student of the Month Award at SSPP. These certificates will be presented to students at the end of a Mass celebration close to the end of each month. The SSPP Students of the Month for January will receive their certificate at the end of the Mass celebration in January or early February. Parents of the January Students of the Month will be informed when those certificates will be presented to the students.

Congratulations to Mrs. Jarmusz and her family on the birth of their daughter, Baby Isabelle, on Jan. 2.

We welcome Ms. Helen Smit as our Music teacher for grades Pre K-8. Music classes will begin with Ms. Smit during the week of January 9.

During the past few years, the Diocesan Catholic Schools receive information about the “Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award”. A graduate of St. Rose of Lima School in Buffalo and a young woman of great faith, Natalie Lewis demonstrated dedication to bringing happiness to people through acts of kindness. Her infectious smile and loving personality endeared her to everyone she met and reflected her strong Catholic values. In 2014, Natalie died tragically in a hot air balloon accident; her short life was punctuated by a conscious commitment to acts of compassion, love and benevolence. To honor Natalie’s memory and to encourage young people to adopt a practice of working for mercy and simple acts of kindness, the Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award was established in 2016.



## *From the Principal, continued...*

The Natalie Mattimore Lewis Kindness Counts Character Award is given to a faculty-nominated seventh grade Catholic school student who exemplifies Natalie's spirit of kindness. The award includes a \$1,000 tuition voucher and a \$100 cash award. This award will be presented at the Catholic Education Luncheon on Thursday, January 26th, 2023 and will be featured on a primetime televised segment to support Catholic Education on Saturday, January 28th, 2023 from 4:00-5:00 PM on WBBZ-TV.

We are very proud at SSPP that Savannah Brooks from Gr. 7 was nominated for this award by Mrs. Johnston, and was chosen to receive this award on January 26. Congratulations, Savannah!!!

As we come into the month of January, a greater effort is given to advancement, marketing and enrollment in our school. We are grateful for all the creative ways the Advancement Committee market our school and get the good word out about Ss. Peter & Paul School to others. Ads and promotions are wonderful, but we know the best way to increase our enrollment is by personally inviting someone to come to our school. People are attracted to Ss. Peter & Paul School because of what they see or hear. Often it is because of the messages that are given from our current families. Let us personally invite a family to come and visit our school. All of us are reminded to be a welcoming presence in the school. We are all ambassadors of our school. We have hired "The Quilted Squirrel" to put together a marketing plan and advertising campaign for the school. We are grateful for the work that Steve Lingle and "The Quilted Squirrel" have done for us in the past and continue to do now. Plans are being made for the Open House on February 1 (6:00p.m.-8:00p.m.). Help us to spread good messages about our school to the community. I invite parents to become involved in the many events sponsored at Ss. Peter & Paul School, which benefit our children. The next Parents' Guild meeting is on January 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Have a blessed New Year 2023.

Sister Marilyn Ann



# *Student of the Month*

Congratulations to our November Students of the Month. The trait was “service”.

Pre K	Carly R.
Kdg.	Paisley L.
1	Elizabeth K.
2	Carson S.
3	Aiden S.
4	Joshua S.
5	Violet T.
6	Jacob R.
7	Savannah B.
8	Tristan K.



Congratulations to our Students of the Month for December. The trait for December was “appreciation”. The certificates for both November and December Students of the Month were distributed at the end of Mass on Dec. 21.

Pre K	Mitchell S.
Kdg.	Jackson P.
1	Talia M.
2	Ashton J.
3	Ashlyn G.
4	Alyssa F.
5	Emma P.
6	Jacque A.
7	Alexander L.
8	Charlie R.



## *Mission Statement*

“The mission of Ss. Peter and Paul, is to transform the lives of our Pre K through eighth grade students by being rooted in Catholic tradition and Gospel values. In partnership with families, we promote faith, respect, charity and quality education as we prepare students to reach their potential in a nurturing and challenging environment.”



## *At SS. Peter and Paul, We...*

- continue spiritual growth and understanding of our faith
- nurture students in an atmosphere of kindness, love, and understanding
- instill respect for ourselves and others, for we are all children of God
- educate to the highest standards of learning
- develop the potential that lies within each student
- foster communication skills, creativity, and independence

## *Lunch Volunteers Needed*

In an effort to reduce last minute requests for volunteers in the lunch room, we have put together a sign up genius for the remainder of the year for lunch room volunteering. We do have a couple of consistent volunteers that help in the lunch room (thank you to each of you), but by creating this signup we hope to make it easier for more parents to volunteer and ensure we have 2 parents for each lunch period (vs 1 today). You'll find 2 spots for every day in this signup. Please know that we are starting this process new so there may be some hiccups, but we'll work through them.

[Click here to sign up](#)

## *BLESSINGS AND BEST WISHES FOR 2023*

Every good gift comes from  
the Father of light.  
May He grant you His grace  
and every blessing,  
and keep you safe  
throughout the coming year.

May He grant you unwavering faith,  
constant hope, and love  
that endures to the end.

May He order your days and work  
in His peace,  
hear your every prayer,  
and lead you to everlasting life and joy.  
Amen.



# SS Peter & Paul Winter Classic Basketball Tournament

February 1-4, 2023

SS Peter and Paul Catholic School is hosting its 15th Annual Winter Classic Basketball tournament after taking a hiatus during the pandemic. This tournament is for JV and Varsity Elementary Parochial Schools from all over WNY. It attracts over a 1,000 visitors from 24 teams throughout the region.

We would like to make this comeback year better than ever. We would like YOU to be a part of this exciting event. All proceeds from the tournament assist in funding the sports program for our students at our school in Hamburg, NY. Over 75% of our students in grades 1-8 participate in our sports programs. We would greatly appreciate your support through the purchase of advertising space in our tournament booklet.

### Prices for Advertising Space:

1/4 page	5"w x 2"h	\$40.00
1/2 page	5"w x 4.25"h	\$60.00
Full Page	5"w x 8.5"h	\$100.00

We also will be having a basket raffle. We appreciate any and all donations. They can be sent to the school office or call Mary Rogers at 716-435-7054 or Maureen Overdorf at 716-954-3798 to arrange pick up. Electronic files are encouraged and can be emailed to [schooloffice@ssp-phamburg.org](mailto:schooloffice@ssp-phamburg.org), by January 12, 2023. Please make all checks to SSPP Parents Guild and send to:

SS Peter & Paul School  
c/o Basketball Tournament  
68 Main St  
Hamburg NY 14075

Please join us for any of the games especially Championship Saturday February 4, 2023. For more information or any questions call SSPP Athletic Director, Mike Talluto at 716-465-8802.

Warmest Regards,

SSPP Basketball Tournament Committee



**15TH ANNUAL  
SS PETER & PAUL  
WINTER CLASSIC  
BASKETBALL  
TOURNAMENT**

WEDNESDAY-SATURDAY  
FEBRUARY 1-4, 2023



# Lunch Menu

22-23 January 9-12		BUFFALO BOARD OF EDUCATION			12/9
Bolted Items YOU order from US Foods					
MEATLESS MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	NY THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
No School	Pizza Pocket/ NY cheese stic Green Beans heartzel pretzels Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 3	breaded chicken leg .75gr usda potatoes/usda corn soft pretzel Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 4	Meatloaf/balls w/ Gravy seasoned rice NY Peas&Carrots/ dinner roll Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 5	chicken tenders garden salad muffin top Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 6	
Big Daddy Pizza Fresh Veg Stix/Ranch Cup green beans Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 9	French Toast/turkey sausage cinn pita chips tator tots Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 10	Breaded Chicken Breast/Bun Onion Rings NY Coleslaw (dressing) Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 11	NY Beef Hot Dog on Bun Baked Beans w/NY Onion NY Chips/NY Slushy Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 12	Breaded Chicken Nuggets Sweet Potato Fries garden Salad/ rf doritos Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 13	
No School	Pizza Crunchers Green Beans Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 17	Breaded Chicken Drumstick waffle fries Corn USDA/Iw Waffle 2gr Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 18	usda beef crumbles rec# pasta w/ meatsauce dinner roll/ garden Salad/NY J Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 19	veggie nuggets/ Dinner Roll Macaroni and Cheese Broc/Caul/Carrots Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 20	
Pizza Pocket NY Green Beans French Fries Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 23	hamburger on a bun tator tots/ NY Peas Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 24	Breaded Chicken Tenders NY Potato Wedges NY Carrots/RF Doritos Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 25	Sloppy Joe on Bun Steamed Rice NY Corn/ NY butternut squash Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 26	No School	27
brd cheese stick 1623099 2 each w/ marinara cup kale salad & baked lays Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 30	Meatloaf w/ Gravy on Bun Mashed Potatoes NY Carrots/ Corn Fresh/Canned Fruit 1/2pt.Low/Nonfat Milk 31		fresh veg choice cucumbers, broccoli celery, carrots, cauliflower hummus/ beans 2x week	fresh or canned fruit offered daily ny juice or ny slushy every Thursday lunch	

