

# PNL

LCHS parent  
newsletter

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## LCHS Welcomes New Counselor

Lansing Catholic High School would like to welcome Joanne Westfall to the counseling staff at LCHS. Joanne graduated from Alma College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Spanish, and a minor in Art. Teaching was Joanne's first career. She has eleven years of experience teaching high school Spanish in the Grand Rapids area. "I was passionate about introducing my students to the language and culture of Spanish-speaking countries," says Joanne.

In 2005, Joanne earned a Master's Degree in Counseling from Michigan State University. She worked as a school counselor at St. Thomas Aquinas in East Lansing for four years. In addition to STA, Joanne also worked at Community Mental Health and in private practice.

When asked of her experience at LCHS, "I really like LCHS, it is nice to have one, full-time job again. I enjoy working with high school students on a one-to-one basis and also in small groups. I like to help them problem-solve about academic, social and personal issues. I am looking forward to working with the PALs (Peer Assisted Leaders) and starting a variety of support groups during lunch including grief, divorce and girls groups" says Joanne.

Joanne is married to her husband Kraig who is a videographer and owner of the company Good Fruit Video. They have two children, Audrey, twelve and Steve, nine.

You can contact Joanne in the counseling office or through email at [westfall@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:westfall@lansingcatholic.org) or 517-267-2151.

Docens Modum Vivendi ● Teaching A Way of Life

## March for Life Trip to Washington, D.C.

Lansing Catholic has reserved a charter coach from Dean Trailways for our pilgrimage for Washington, D.C. to attend the March for Life from Sunday, January 22 - Tuesday, January 24, 2012. The cost per participant will be approximately \$130. We will be attending Holy Mass at the National Basilica and attending the Life Rally at the National Mall. If you have any questions about the trip, please contact Mary Jo Thayer at [thayer@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:thayer@lansingcatholic.org).



## Upcoming Events

November 20-23	Kairos Retreat
November 21-23	Urban Immersion Retreat for Seniors Underclassmen Seminars
November 23-25	No School Happy Thanksgiving!
December 2	NHS Blood Drive Spirit & Song, 7-9:30 p.m. at Perspective 2, Old Town
December 7	Christmas Concert, 7 p.m.
December 8	Immaculate Conception All-School Mass, 8:30 a.m.
December 12	Cougar Club Mtg., 7 p.m.
December 14	College Financial Aid Workshop, 6:30 p.m.
December 15	Tuition Due
December 15-21	Semester Exams
Dec. 22 - Jan. 3	No School - Christmas Break
January 4	School Resumes Parent Group Mtg.

## A Note from our Principal Mr. Tom Maloney

*"Encourage one another and build one another up" 1 Thessalonians 5:11*

This year's scripture theme has proven to be a wonderful guide for our Lansing Catholic community. Paul, in his letter to the Thessalonians, puts forth a simple yet profound statement that challenges us to recognize that as Christians, we are called to be people of encouragement. We are to be counter-cultural, to resist the norm of tearing each other down, and rather be people who build one another up.

Already this year, our Lansing Catholic family has taken this theme to heart. This community is truly one of support and encouragement. The overwhelming success of our fall sports season is a credit to our student athletes, coaches, and parents who work together to use God's gifts on the athletic fields, courts and courses. Homecoming 2011 was filled with a wonderful sense of community as generations of Cougars came together to celebrate being a part of this family of faith. The LCCHS Fall Musical, Honk, not only showcases our students' talents, it brings to light the very real issue of bullying, and provides opportunities for discussions about being people of encouragement.

We have been working hard behind the scenes to kick off our second Capital Campaign, Heritage 2. The first gift for this campaign has come from our student body. Our students have given selflessly by donating over \$50,000 through the Student Fundraiser over the past several years in order to build up our school for future Cougars.

As we move forward through another fast-paced school year, this month especially provides opportunity to pause and be grateful. I continue to pray for you, our families, as we move forward together, encouraging each other and building one another up.

God Bless,  
Thomas Maloney  
LCCHS Principal

# STA Principal To Be Recognized

Since 2000, Michigan's Children has held a special legislative recognition benefit called Much Ado About Something Wonderful. Each year this celebration brings together the governmental affairs community with legislators and judges who through their work help us achieve our vision of making Michigan the best state in America to be a child. At "Much Ado," we recognize legislators and judges who have distinguished themselves on behalf of children.



In 2008, the organization added a new award named for a longtime Michigan's Children Board Member. The Kevin A. Kelly Child Advocate Award is designed to honor someone outside the legislature who has relentlessly, passionately, and vigorously worked on behalf of Michigan's vulnerable children and their families. The recipient of this year's award teaches through compassion and by Catholic Christian example. Although this award is not religious-based, it is important to note that this year's winner is one who walks with Jesus by his side each and every day.

The fourth annual "Kevin A. Kelly Child Advocate Award" will be presented to Rod Murphy, the Principal of St. Thomas Aquinas School, who worked with Mr. Kelly and has had a lifelong commitment to teaching and coaching children.

All St. Thomas Aquinas families and friends are welcome to join us on Tuesday, November 29 to celebrate the accomplishments of Rod Murphy and others who have helped make Michigan a better place for kids. The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the Country Club of Lansing, 2200 Moores River Drive, Lansing.

Reservations are \$50 per person and may be made on line at: [https://secure3.convio.net/voices/site/Donation2?df\\_id=3321&3321.donation=landing](https://secure3.convio.net/voices/site/Donation2?df_id=3321&3321.donation=landing) or by sending a check to Michigan's Children, 428 W. Lenawee, Lansing, MI 48933.



## Spirit & Song

Be sure to mark your calendar for  
**Friday, December 2**  
**7 p.m.**

Let's start off the Christmas Season together at our Spirit and Song event at Perspective 2 Studio in Old Town. This event features a Wine and Beer tasting experience and entertainment by Lansing Catholic's Choir with solo and group performances.

In addition, we will have an appearance by our very own chaplain, Fr. Gordon, who will delight us with seasonal selections. Tickets are \$15 each and are available at the door or from the Development Department in advance. To purchase tickets contact Sara Rentz at 517-267-2127 or email [rentz@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:rentz@lansingcatholic.org). See you there!

# Christmas Shopping

Christmas is just around the corner! Don't forget the Lansing Catholic Spirit Shop for your favorite Cougar! We have plenty of items in stock so be sure to check us out! Our sterling silver crosses are available which make perfect presents! We also have some beautiful ornaments for your Christmas tree. Stop by the front office and ask for Mrs. Murray or email [murray@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:murray@lansingcatholic.org).



# The Nutcracker

Senior Maddie Brogan and Junior Lindsey Fedewa will be participating in The Nutcracker ballet, offered over the Thanksgiving weekend at the Wharton Center. The girls are member's of the Children's Ballet Theatre of Michigan, a community-based performance company comprised of students ages 8-18. This is a can't-miss local tradition and a fantastic show! Come and support the girls! For tickets, visit [www.whartoncenter.com](http://www.whartoncenter.com).

# Math Lab Update

The math department will be starting an ACT "Math" Workshop. Interested students will be given practice problems to work on and assistance to help prepare for the ACT. Contact Ms. Saucedo for details at [saucedo@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:saucedo@lansingcatholic.org).

# A Note from Our Chaplain, Father Gordon

*It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas.*

Sadly, it seems that the shopping malls have been decking the halls since before Halloween. (Part of me likes the tinsel and the other half cringes at the commercialization of Jesus' birth.) So to keep Christ in CHRISTmas and to make the most of this holy season, I recommend taking a little time to write down some spiritual new year's resolutions. In addition to the usual goals, travel plans and budgets that we make at this time, consider what it would take to grow in faith, hope and love this year. Here are a few common suggestions: recommitting ourselves to daily prayer, reading a chapter of the Bible or another spiritual book each night, praying more frequently as a family, making regular use of the Sacrament of Penance, discussing faith topics over dinner, attending Mass during the week when possible, fasting & praying for the needs of others, taking time for silent reflection, planning an annual retreat, stopping by a shrine or religious site when vacationing, looking for daily opportunities to perform corporal or spiritual works of mercy, etc. There are so many ways of spicing up our spiritual lives, and all it takes is a little planning.

This Advent, we will begin using the new translation of the Roman Missal for our school Masses. Our parishes throughout the diocese will be doing the same, so this is an opportunity for our students to study the Mass further as well as to support what goes on in our respective parishes. Although it may take a while to become comfortable with the new responses, let us embrace this chance to reflect on the words we use in our worship so as to pray in a more meaningful way.

May God bless and keep you all in this Holy Season! – Fr. Gordon



# LCHS Wish List

This is the wish list information.....

DEPARTMENT	ITEM	PRICE	QUANTITY	USE
Library	<i>The Language of Life</i> by Francis S. Collings	\$15.99	1	Library Book
	<i>Why Zebras Don't Get Ulcers</i> by Robert Sapolsky	\$19.00	1	Library Book
	<i>The Omnivore's Dilema</i> by Michael Pollan	\$17.00	1	Library Book
	<i>Endless Forms Most Beautiful</i> by Sean Carroll	\$16.95	1	Library Book
	<i>Harry Potter Page to Screen: The Complete Filmmaking Journey</i>	\$75.00	1	Library Book (\$43.97 on Amazon)
	<i>The Case Against My Brother</i> by Libby Sternberg	\$14.95	1	Library Book
	<i>Ship Breaker</i> by Paolo Bacigalupi	\$9.99	1	Library Book
	<i>Finnikin of the Rock</i> by Melina Marchetta	\$9.99	1	Library Book
	<i>Into Thin Air</i> by John Krakauer	\$15.00	1	Library Book
	<i>Into the Wild</i> by John Krakauer	\$15.00	1	Library Book
Theology/Campus Ministry	Kairos Retreat Scholarships	\$100.00	30	Allow seniors a spiritual experience
	Mission Trip Scholarships	\$100.00	15	Allow students to serve others
	iLive iPod/iPhone Speaker System (ISP150B)	\$50.00	2	Speaker System for Retreats
	Home Depot Gift Cards	\$25-50.00	30	Purchase supplies for Mission Trip
	Microphone (AKG BBB D5)	\$229.00	4	Sound at Masses and events
	Microphone Cords (xlr to xlr 25ft - 6 pack)	\$80.00	1	Sound at Masses and events
Main Office	Vacuum, Hand Held	\$40.00	1	Used school-wide
	Large Chair Mat	\$60.00	1	46x60 inches, main secretary desk
	Microwave for Employees	\$30.00	1	Prefer "handle" to push opening
	Can Opener	\$15.00	1	Employee lunch use
Math Department	Math Illustrations (Computer Program)	\$59.00	1	Used for tests and worksheets
	Houghton Mifflin Stuart Calculus Test Book	\$22.46	1	Test bank for calculus tests
	Nasco Dry Erase Math Boards	\$159.95	2 sets of 30	Monitoring/Assessing students
Art Department	Platform Ladder with handrails	\$545	1	Access high storage areas
	Safeco Foldaway Cart	\$195	1	Portability for materials
Classroom Enhancements	Multi-media Classroom (digital projector, interactive whiteboard document camera, dvd player and in-ceiling speakers)	\$4,000	2	Enhance teaching/learning opportunities for all students

## College Financial Aid Workshop

Lansing Catholic High School and Dr. Frank Bernier, LCHS college guidance counselor will be hosting a College Financial Aid Workshop for Parents & Students on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the LCHS cafeteria.

Registration is free.

### Workshop Topics include:

- College Planning Timetable for Juniors & Seniors
- "Leverage" - What it means
- Admissions Guidelines & Annual College Costs
- Scholarships - Types & Searches
- 30 Ways to Reduce College Costs
- Top 15 Financial Planning Strategies
- How to Determine Financial Need
- Funding Sources
- FAFSA Summary



Come and join us for an informative workshop to help families understand, plan for, and succeed with, the college financial aid process. For more information, contact Dr. Bernier at 517-267-2111 or [bernier@lansingcatholic.org](mailto:bernier@lansingcatholic.org).