

# The Cardinal Flyer

FEBRUARY 17, 2010

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## BJ's Corner

Dear Families,

Today begins the Lenten Season. A time for sacrifice, service and reflection.

I encourage you to spend time together, work doing some type of service and take time to talk about how fortunate you are to have what you have.

This past week has been busy with learning of all types. Kinders are enjoying the letter "P" and exploring the "P" possibilities. First Graders continue to enjoy themed units and are hatching mealworms, learning time, using analogue clocks, and continuing to practice in reading, writing and math.

Next week our 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and several 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders will receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Preparation continues.

Please go to [www.stcharlesabq.org](http://www.stcharlesabq.org) to see the many things going on here at St. Charles.

Have a great week.

B.J.

## Important News: ITBS Testing

Next week February 22<sup>nd</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup> will be our annual ITBS tests. Students in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> will take them. I use the results to adjust our teaching of curriculum.

**Please insure your child/children do not miss time from school next week. Make sure they are well rested and have a good breakfast.**

Thank you.

## Choir at St. Pius

Come and see our fabulous choir perform at the Varsity Boy's Basketball game at St. Pius X. The game is **TONIGHT**, Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 7:00p.m. They will sing the National Anthem.

## Calendar Update

February 22<sup>nd</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>  
ITBS tests 3<sup>rd</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>

February 26<sup>th</sup> –  
Second Trimester  
Report Cards

## Food Drive for the Storehouse

Next week, to coincide with Lent, we will begin our annual food drive for the Storehouse. Please start collecting non-perishable items to donate. During Lent, we must challenge ourselves to show our deep love for God by serving others. Please be generous to our food drive!

## Financial Aid Scholarships

All financial aid applications for the school year 2010-2011 will be done online through FACTS. The web address is [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com). There is a \$25.00 fee to FACTS for this service. The deadline is April 15, 2010. We do not have any applications in the finance office due to "Going Green." This applies to the Maloof Scholarship, which is given in August and the Archbishop's Scholarship, which is given at the end of October or the first of November. If you wish to apply for any of these scholarships, this is the only way to do it.

## Yearbook Final Offer!

There is still time to order your 2010 Yearbook. Don't miss out on our first full color book with all your classmates and events of the year. The yearbook is available for \$40. Reserve your copy online today at [jostensyearbooks.com](http://jostensyearbooks.com). This is your last chance, don't delay!

## A Message from St. Charles School Advisory Council

Dear Parents and Friends,

Today we begin our Lenten Journey with an opportunity towards examining ourselves and questioning our commitment to follow in Christ's footsteps. Lent is a time for self-denial but more importantly it is a time for great works of mercy, charity and service to our sisters and brothers who are less fortunate than us. In Psalm 116 we can find grace and guidance for our Lenten Journey – *"How shall I make a return to the Lord for all the good he has done for me? The cup of salvation I will raise up and I will call upon the name of the Lord."*

We urge each family of St. Charles School to embrace our annual food drive for the Storehouse that also begins today. Sometimes our children get caught up on the competitive nature that surfaces in classrooms trying to out do each other. Others are motivated by the prize and bragging rights that come with collecting the most food items. Though healthy competition is a natural part of the educative experience, let us all work to focus our children's hearts and minds on the intrinsic nature of this annual school wide initiative. Our Lenten season provides an immeasurable opportunity for spiritual growth and faith formation. Our annual food drive is an opportunity for our children to experience the joy that comes from being a means through which Christ's love and mercy flows towards others.

How can our family's participation in this year's food drive be a meaningful experience for our children? How can our Lenten journey and our deeds be the way that our children better understand how much Christ needs each of us to do his work here on earth? How can our St. Charles family, as a whole, experience the very same spiritual growth by joining together in our acts of charity for those in our community who need us? Are we the instruments of Christ's mercy that we need to be?

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An Ash Wednesday Prayer

By Christine Sine

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We have chosen to fast

Not with ashes but with actions

Not with sackcloth but in sharing

Not in thoughts but in deeds

We will give up our abundance

To share our food with the hungry

We will give up our comfort

To provide homes for the destitute

We will give up our fashions

To see the naked clothed

We will share where others hoard

We will free where others oppress

We will heal where others harm

Then God's light will break out on us

God's healing will quickly appear

God will guide us always

God's righteousness will go before us

We will find our joy in the Lord

We will be like a well watered garden

We will be called repairers of broken walls

Together we will feast at God's banquet table

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