Dear Alumni, Parents, Parishioners, and Friends,

It is a pleasure to bring you greetings from the students and staff of St. Michael the Archangel School. The 2012-2013 School Year has been a year of growth in skills, knowledge and stature. Consolidating the students in one building has increased our ability to provide a safe environment for all the students. Communication and collaboration among the students and staff have been impacted in a positive manner. The Library and Computer Lab were combined to become the Media Center. The Catholic Identity remains strong with the addition of the Angelus at Noon and weekly Mass on Wednesday. Congratulations to the actors and their families, the back stage crew, the musicians, Mrs. Moloney, Mr. Kraus and their assistants on their theatrical success of Seussical the Musical.

In Mathematics, we increased the number of classes of instruction and enrolled the students in a program 1st in Math which provides skill refinement and challenges the students with math problems in computation, money, time and concepts. The 8th graders completed the Stanford 10 on-line this year in the Computer Lab and the results were available the next day. New tables and a SMART board and projector were added to the Science Lab, thanks to the parent led initiative of Excellence in Education.

I want to thank each of you who support St. Michael the Archangel School with your time, talent, energy and treasure. Each of those areas contributes to a well-rounded education for the students. Please consider using the envelope attached with this Archangel Newsletter to continue your tax-deductible financial contribution to the school. Please know that you and your family are remembered in our prayers each morning.

Three graduates of St. Michael the Archangel School were recognized by their high schools on Tuesday, April 23 as Distinctive Scholars: Mark Pietrogiacomo – Archbishop Curley, Rachael Pilachowski - The Catholic High School and Margaret Richardt – Mercy High School. Last year four students were recognized: Thomas Gruebl - Calvert Hall College, Zachary Merkley - Archbishop Curley, Emma Dohmeier and Samantha Moxey - The Catholic High School. Congratulations to these graduates and their parents.

During the next few months, The School Advisory Council will begin the process of creating a Strategic Plan for St. Michael the Archangel School. Parents, parishioners, students, staff members and community leaders will participate in focus sessions to share information about the successes and area of improvements in planning the directions for the next 3 to 5 years.

Please stop by and explore your school and the changes that were made.

This is what the Lord asks, only this to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with your God. [Micah 6:8]

Patricia R. Kelly, Principal

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Gruebl ’08 enters the Naval Academy

Alumnus Tommy Gruebl ’08 was awarded the Knott Scholarship in his eighth grade year which was used at The Calvert High School College where he graduated in 2012. His years at Calvert Hall were successful. He was a scholar athlete in track, football, wrestling, and ultimate Frisbee. Tommy served as a peer education leader during his Junior and Senior year whereby the upper class students mentor the lower class students. They teach the lower school students life lessons, according to Tommy.

Tommy was academically successful as well. He was a member of the National Honor Society as well as received many awards upon graduation. He was honored as a McMullen Scholar, the Brother Thomas Gold Medal Dacinan John Gold Medal for

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Gruebl continued on page 4
Blessing of St. Michael the Archangel School

Fr. Jim Sorra, Pastor of St. Michael the Archangel Church, blesses St. Michael the Archangel School on Wednesday, September 4, 2012, following morning weekly school mass. Altar servers lead students, faculty and staff over to the renovated building where Fr. Sorra blessed the first floor in honor of St. Catherine Laboure. Fr. Sorra also blessed the classrooms and the students and faculty as he moves through the building up to the second floor.

St. Michael School, first and only Catholic School in the Archdiocese of Baltimore, currently using First in Math

St. Michael the Archangel School is participating in First in Math® (FIM), an online program that gets students excited about math. FIM allows students to progress at their own pace and master math skills ranging from one-step addition to multi-step algebra. The FIM program, created by Suntex Incorporated, is successful because the program includes comprehensive content presented in a video game format that engages all students in serious mathematics. The FIM program encourages students to learn. There is a competitive edge to the program as well. Students compete for the top score in their homeroom, the school, the state, and the nation. The more points they earn, the more they play, the higher their score. Learning becomes fun.

St. Michael Students in the lower school are using the program for homework. The students in the upper school are using the program for extra credit. Students will have time during the school day to work on First in Math® in the Computer Lab. The school celebrates success in Math each day with a Student of the Day in classrooms and each week with a Student of the Week. The Student of the Day receives a lanyard to wear and the Student of the Week is added to the Trophy poster on the chalkboard. St. Michael School has ranked in the top 5 in the State out of the top 100.

The website www.firstinmath.com allows teachers to go online daily and look at the results of the class. Results are shown for the Nation, the State, the School District, and the School.

Mrs. Sue Dover, 2nd Grade homeroom teacher, introduced this program to the Faculty and Staff. Mrs. Patricia Kelly, School Principal, went to the Excellence in Education Committee, a parent initiated committee who is raising money for Science, Technology, Math, and Engineering in the school, to request the dollars needed to enable the school students to participate. The cost per student is $7.00. All of the students in the Pre-Kindergarten through 8th grade are signed in to play First in Math. Whether at home or in the school day, each student has the opportunity to participate in the FIM program.

St. Michael the Archangel School continues in 3rd place of all the schools participating with an average of 2279 stickers per student in the state of Maryland and moved up to 68th in the national rankings. Jirsa Kendzierski (Pictured here), Grade 1 is ranked at 13th in the state of Maryland and Andrew Heffernan is ranked at 62nd. For the week of April 14, the player of the week was Jaiden Richardson in Grade 4 and Team of the Week was Mrs. Dover’s homeroom. Player of the month is Andrew Heffernan in Grade 2 and the team of the month is Mrs. Dover’s Grade 2 homeroom. Mrs. Conti’s Grade 3 team is ranked 67th and Mrs. Hanley Grade 4 is ranked 89th in the state of Maryland. In order to be ranked in the state, the team has to have 15 members, so Mrs. Grauer’s class and Mrs. Dover’s class are not ranked state wide. The students of St. Michael’s have solved 1,286,706 math problems. Students in pre-Kindergarten are now participating in First in Math. Congratulations to

Math continued on Page 4

Many thanks to all who gave so generously to our Annual Giving Campaign.

Goal: $15,000      Collected: $13,930

Founder’s Guild
($1500 or more)
William & Helen Rochford
   In honor of Karyn Rochford Cook & Frank Rochford

Scholar’s Club
($1000-$1499)
Jo Anne & Nicholas Kollman ‘53
Ronald Mason, Sr. ‘42
Joyce (Hand) Tyler ‘55 & Marlene Wolford
   In Memory of Mother—Sylvia Hand

Mother Baptista Fund
($500-$999)
John T. Ciesielski ‘68
Class of 1969 - Class Reunion Gift
The Blessed Virgin Mary Sodality
Rev. James L. Sorra, Pastor
Home & School Association
   For Carts, Projectors & Laptops for SMART boards

Father Reilly Fund
($250-$499)
Mickey Brown ‘81
Michael & Patricia Kelly, Principal
Gerry Lioi ‘79
Mr. Adam Sielicki, Jr. ‘61
Francis L. Struben ‘35
David & Roslyn Udris

1926 Club
($100-$249)
Anonymous Donor
   In Memory of Mary Kay Loskot Bailey
Norman E. Bronzert ‘55
   In Memory of Sister Beatrice
Mary Jane (Truszkowski) Brown ‘56
Joan Burker ‘72
Mrs. Nicholas DePalo, Sr.
   In Memory of Nicholas A. DePalo, Sr.
Garland C. Dodson ‘44
   In Memory of the Ursuline Sisters
Donald Dodson ‘50
   In Memory of the Ursuline Sisters
Sharon L. (Eller) Edwards ‘59
   In Memory of Sr. Zoe
Stephen & Deborah Flanders
John & Patricia (Haynes) Godwin ‘81
John S. & Debbie Hopkins
Ronald Kress ‘49
Nick LePore ‘79
Leo Mayers ‘60
The George W. McManus Foundation, Inc.
Deborah Mendel
William Morley ‘60
Paul Murtha ‘60
Ms. Jeanne (Miles) Potter ‘68
Dennis & Barbara (Hild) Robinson ‘66
Wally & Susan (Hyle) Saumenig ‘67
   In Memory of Dr. John & Millie Hyle
Mr. & Mrs. Carl Schmidt
Edward Simon ‘47
RADM Francis Neale Smith, USNR (Ret.) ‘48
Christopher Svehla ‘72
Margaret M. (Leppert) Winter ‘34

St. Michael the Archangel Fund
($50-$99)
Elizabeth Audoersch ‘78
Catherine & Tony Brocato +
   In Honor of Denise M. Brocato Hawthorne ‘74 & Anthony
   Brocato, Jr. ‘77
Frank Dell’Acqua ‘53
Michael Dietz ‘53
   In Memory of George & Gertrude Dietz
Eric & Eileen (Coyne) Endryas ‘76
Robert J. Hurley ‘64
Elizabeth Keeley
   Clorox Company Foundation Matching Gift
Kathleen Klein ‘62
Ann A. Leppert ‘38 +
Mary Jo (Doyle) Lloyd ‘72
   In Memory of Robert J. Doyle
Theresa Marie (Neas) Margolis ‘40
James A. Murtha ‘63
   In Memory of James J. Murtha (Father)
Katharine Polley
   In Memory of Charles W. Polley, Sr.
Mr. & Mrs. Irving Pratt
Christine (Flackler) Salemi ‘55
Mr. Cornelius (Neal) Scheve ‘35
Ben & Corinna Sibiski
   In Honor of Natalie ‘07 & AJ ‘08
Lester & Margaret Wooden ‘55

The Green & Gold Circle
($25-49)
August Alberti
   In Memory of Jennie Alberti
Michael R. Citro, Sr.
   In Memory of Jean Citro
Tessianna (Callahan) Cunningham ‘53
   In Memory of Tessianna Callahan
Mrs. Antoinette DiMassimantonio
   In Memory of Pasquale DiMassimantonio
Kaareen Harrison
Mildred (Dietz) Horodyski ‘63
   In Memory of George & Gertrude Dietz
Robert G. & Mary A. (Dannemann) Hurley ‘38
Christina Praydis ‘04
Joseph E. Praydis, Jr. ‘05
Lisa Salvatore '96
Kimberly Samm '06
Patricia Sielicki '60
Jay & Christina (Kotschenreuther) Sigler '86
   In Memory of Kimiko Kotschenreuther
Joan Voigt '70
   In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph P. Dulaney

Daughters of Charity Donation
($1-$24)
Christopher Endyas '08
Erin Endryas '05
Barbara (Raab) Lange '55
Cynthia (Scott) Reithlingschoefer '55
   In Memory of Leonard Reithlingschoefer '53
Robert M. Schmitt
   In Memory of Pauline Grace (Leppert) Schmitt '45
Allison Udris '03

+ Deceased Donors - May they Rest in Peace!

The Development Office makes
every effort to keep accurate
records. Please bring any errors
to our attention, so that we may
properly acknowledge our donors.
Thank you for your generous support!

Gruebl continued from page 1

Senior Athlete with the highest average. Tommy received the Gold Medal for the highest honors with Role all 4 years, State of Maryland Scholastic Award for finishing in the top 5% of his graduating class, Gold Medal for the National Merit Scholarship, and a Gold Medal for the National Hispanic Scholars.

Tommy wanted to be a soldier since he was 5 years old. At age 12, he was coached by a military man who suggested he would be good for the Academy. According to Tommy, “It was my dream to go to the Naval Academy.” Tommy admits that he loved the Naval Academy every time he visited it. He loved the disciplined environment.

Tommy’s dream came true in August of 2012 when he was admitted to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland. Tommy shared his initial experiences at the Academy. According to Tommy, “right now, I’m taking core classes you would see pretty much anywhere. I validated Calculus I and II so I’m in III w/Vector fields. I take Government with an emphasis on the Constitution, so we understand what we are fighting for, English, Chemistry, Gym (wrestling 9 weeks, boxing 9 weeks).” Seamanship, Tommy explains, teaches basics about ship handling. Leadership teaches how to be a good leader.

Tommy thinks that this summer will be broken into three blocks, one block on a sub cruise, the other in ground school, and the third is leave. Each block is about four weeks. According to Tommy, what he loves most about the Navy is, “the brotherhood. The culture is great, lots of like-minded people. It took me four years of high school to get as close to my friends there as I have in a couple of month with friends here.” Tommy finished his first semester at the Academy in the top 10% of his class.

Math continued from page 2

the 188 students who are participating in First in Math.

According to Mrs. Kelly, "We see an excitement about math and participating in the activities. We hope to see great results in our math scores this year as a result of this program.”


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<th>School Expenses</th>
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Profit/Loss.............................................$204,870.52
St. Michael the Archangel School students donate to St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital

St. Michael the Archangel School has been donating to St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital® since 1986. The money raised goes towards helping children with cancer and other deadly diseases. Mrs. Anita Grauer, 1st grade teacher and coordinator of St. Jude’s Math-A-Thon since 2007, encouraged the students to participate in the program, raising $13,845.00. St. Michael School began its association with St. Jude’s Math-A-Thon in 1986 and has contributed a total of $65,847.72 to date.

St. Jude’s Hospital patients are treated by world-class researchers and doctors and patients are treated from all 50 states and around the world and they do it for free. No family ever pays St. Jude for anything. The research conducted at St. Jude has helped push the overall survival rate for childhood cancers from 20 percent when the hospital opened in 1962 to 80 percent today.

8th Grade Team wins Tower of Power for St. Michael School

In cooperation with Johns Hopkins University’s Whiting School of Engineering, during the celebration of National Engineers Week (February 17 – 23, 2013), St. Michael the Archangel School 7th and 8th graders participated in building a tower from spaghetti and marshmallows. The tallest freestanding tower wins!

Towers are to be built by a team of students (3 students max) using only one pound of spaghetti and 2 bags of large marshmallows. The construction time limit is a half hour. The towers must be freestanding. Each middle school may submit one entry to JHU. An entry consists of two items: a digital photograph of the team and its tower, a teacher-verified height (in cm). The winning middle school team will be invited to JHU’s Tower of Power competition on February 18, 2013 to build their tower again and compete with undergraduate students, alumni, and faculty teams. Each middle school entry received a certificate signed by the Assistant Dean for Engineering Education Outreach.

Middle School students who competed in the Johns Hopkins Tower of Power competition 2013 included: Kaitlyn Owens, Isabella Santini, Julia Caudill, Daryus Mackey, Stephen Napoli, Jacob Cunningham, Safi Kalenda, Emily Broda, Taylor Eberwein, Kara Meyer, Elita Mujokoto, Haley Metzger, Connor Kiss, Alex Maher, Ben Fullem, Kyle Bandell, Emily Crusse, Kevin Olkowski, Micah Norris, Erik De Torres, Lisa Elbner, Joseph Nwobi, Yoseph Berhan, Joseph Washington, Alpha Wordsworth, Casey Burke, Hope DesNoyer, Tiya Adugna, Rebecca Perry, Alex Gerwig, and Kate Borowy.

The tallest tower in the competition at St. Michael School, verified by Mrs. Charlotte Scherr, was 87cm constructed by 8th grade students: Erik De Torres, Micah Norris, and Kevin Olkowski (pictured here below).

Check out the new Website at www.smoverlea.org...the school and parish website are now combined.

Add your name to the Email News & Notes sent to your inbox weekly with the school and parish bulletins and upcoming events in the school, parish, and community. Send your email to csibiski@smoverlea.org.
Above: Kate Borowy, Rebecca Perry, Alex Gerwig
Below: Yoseph Berhan, Joseph Washington, Alpha Wordsworth

Above: Tiya Adugna, Hope DesNoyer, Casey Burke
Below: Mrs. Scherr, Science teacher, measures the tallest Tower of Power design

Mark Your Calendar!

Plan to join us for the **Centennial Anniversary** of St. Michael the Archangel Church - September 2013 to September 2014. Many events and activities are on the calendar. Visit the Anniversary page on the website at www.smoverlea.org.

**Alumni Homecoming is scheduled for October 26, 2013, School Gym.**

If you are interested in working with the committee planning the Alumni Homecoming or any other event for the Anniversary, please contact Carolyn Marinari at carolynmarinari@gmail.com.