

The Principal's Newsletter
February 16, 2018



Educating * Mind * Heart * Spirit



Last year's total = \$5,624

This year = \$7,000

Special thanks to all who donated, to Mrs. Engstrom and to all the parent volunteers who made this year another successful year.

The way people work together produces excellence.

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***The application window for Student Tuition Organization (STO) scholarships is now open! To apply go to: online.factsmgt.com/aid For questions regarding the application process you can chat online with a representative or contact FACTS by phone at 866-441-4637.**

OR, if you would like Sharon to assist, please call or send her an email – ssmith@stswc.com and set up a time. She is more than willing to help you get through the application process.

STO Qualifying Income Levels 2018-19

Persons in Household	Maximum Qualifying Incomes*
2	49,380
3	62,340
4	75,300
5	87,300
6	101,220
7	114,180
8	127,140

***Notes:**

- STO qualifying levels are based upon 300% of 2018 Federal Poverty Levels as required by Iowa law.
- Family size includes parents/guardians plus total number of dependents claimed on tax return. For families with more than eight persons, add \$12,960 for each additional person.
- Families are eligible for **STO assistance** if they are Iowa residents and their taxable income is at or below the above listed income levels. Falling within these guidelines does not necessarily guarantee tuition assistance awards.
- Any available local tuition assistance may not be based upon the above income levels but may require completion of an STO application.

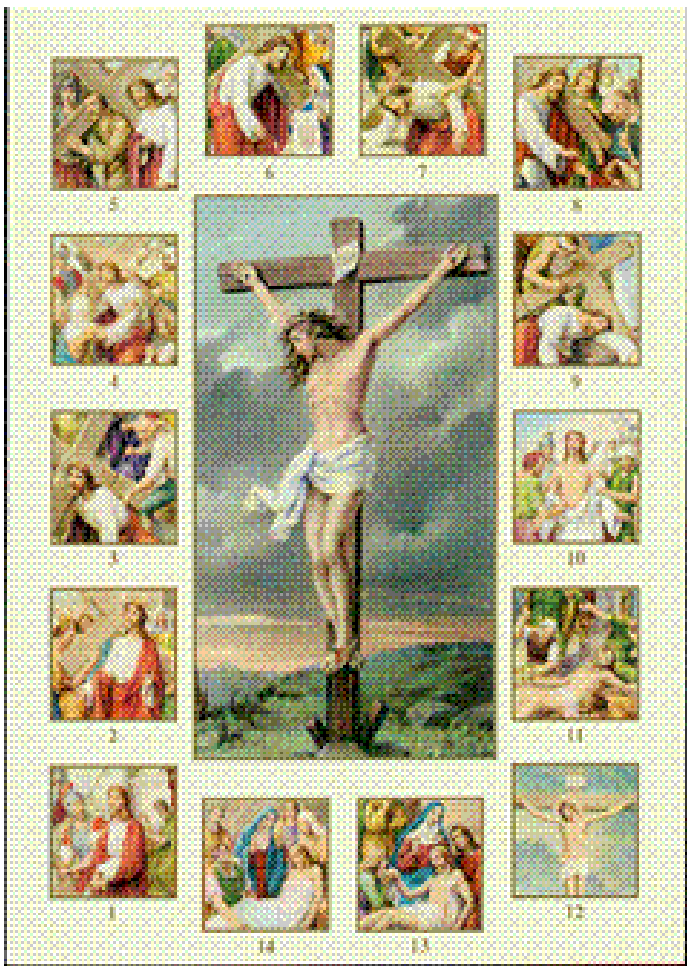
***March 29** Round #1 Deadline for FACTS Applications

- Completed online application AND all required tax documentation must be uploaded or faxed by this date.

***May 11** Schools Distribute STO Round #1 Award/Tuition Contract Letters

TAX NEWS: When working on your taxes, please don't forget about the tuition tax credit. Taxpayers who have one or more dependents attending grades KINDERGARTEN THROUGH TWELVE in an Iowa school may take a credit for each dependent for amounts paid for tuition and textbooks. **The credit is 25% of the first \$1,000 paid for each dependent** for tuition and textbooks which amounts to a maximum tax credit of \$250 per child. Please note that this is an **Iowa tax credit** and not a deduction.





Lenten Activities:

Students in kindergarten through 3rd grades will take time during their religion classes on several occasions to pray the Stations of the Cross.

Mrs. Wagner will lead the 4th, 5th, & 6th graders.

Stations of the Cross

1. [Opening Prayer](#)
2. [1st Station: Jesus is condemned to death](#)
3. [2nd Station: Jesus carries His cross](#)
4. [3rd Station: Jesus falls the first time](#)
5. [4th Station: Jesus meets his mother](#)
6. [5th Station: Simon of Cyrene helps Jesus to carry his cross](#)
7. [6th Station: Veronica wipes the face of Jesus](#)
8. [7th Station: Jesus falls the second time](#)
9. [8th Station: Jesus meets the women of Jerusalem](#)
10. [9th Station: Jesus falls a third time](#)
11. [10th Station: Jesus clothes are taken away](#)
12. [11th Station: Jesus is nailed to the cross](#)
13. [12th Station: Jesus dies on the cross](#)
14. [13th Station: The body of Jesus is taken down from the cross](#)
15. [14th Station: Jesus is laid in the tomb](#)

Students in grades 2 - 6 will also learn the mysteries of the rosary and pray the rosary as a class at least once during Lent. **Joyful Mystery of the Rosary - Monday & Saturday**

The Annunciation

The Nativity

The Visitation

The Presentation

Finding Jesus in the Temple

Sorrowful Mystery of the Rosary - Tuesday & Friday –

The Agony in the Garden

Jesus Crowning of Thorns

The Scourging at the Pillar

Carrying of the Cross

The Crucifixion

Glorious Mystery of the Rosary - Wednesday & Sunday

The Resurrection

The Descent of the Holy Spirit

Mary is Crowned as Queen of Heaven and Earth

The Ascension

The Assumption of Mary into Heaven

Luminous Mystery of the Rosary - Thursday

The Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan

The Proclamation of the Kingdom

The Institution of the Eucharist

The Wedding at Cana

The Transfiguration

Our almsgiving will be given to The Sisters of St. Francis, Dubuque, c/o Sister Water Project

100% of donations to the Sister Water Project go toward materials, transport, and labor for water systems in Honduras or Tanzania.

Upcoming Events:

*Tuesday, February 20 – Mrs. Engstrom’s SWIM unit begins



*Monday, February 26 – Kindergarten Roundup at 7:00 p.m. in the gym.
All kindergartners will NOT have class on Friday, March 2nd as next year’s prospective kindergartners will come to experience life as a kindergartner.

*Monday, March 5 – Preschool Roundup at 7:00 p.m. in the gym



*Thursday, March 8 – Parent/Teacher Conferences beginning at 3:30 p.m.

*Week of March 12 – SPRING BREAK

*Friday, March 23 – End of the 3rd Quarter

*Good Friday, March 30 – No School

*Thursday, April 5 – 2 hour early out for in-service
Open House from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

*Friday, April 6 - Grandparents/Grandfriends Day
Mass at 10:30 followed by a luncheon for grandparents/grandfriends & students

*Sunday, April 8 – First Communion at the 10:00 a.m. Mass

*Week of April 16 – Kindergartners take the Iowa Assessments

*Thursday, April 19 – Preschool Spring Concert – 6:30 p.m. in the gym

*Tuesday, April 24 – K-6 Spring Concert at 6:30 p.m. in the gym

Annual St. Thomas Aquinas Ball Saturday, May 5

*Thursday, May 10 – 2 hour early out for in-service

*Friday, May 11- Final Prayer Partner Mass for this school year

*Friday, May 18 – Peace Officers Mass at 8:30 followed by a Brunch for them

Graduation – Kindergarten & 6th – Friday, May 25

Mass at 8:30 followed by a graduation ceremony in the gym