



# *St. Simon Says*

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## **Catholic Schools Week**

Catholic Schools Week this year was filled with many fun events. St. Simon kicked off Monday with a guest speaker who entertained us with his silly miming. In addition, the guest speaker taught us about how our actions can make a difference in someone's life.

Tuesday was Grandparents Day, and for the first time ever at St. Simon, students were allowed to invite their grandparents to have lunch with them on the school campus. After finishing lunch, grandparents could go to the playground with their grandchildren.

Wednesday's activities included a Mass planned by the Student Council and Principal and Vice Principal Appreciation Day. Because Mr. Clossick and Ms. Bordeleau are notorious for planning raffles, such as the iPod raffle and Starbucks raffles, the school decided to hold a raffle in their honor. Many students walked away from the raffle with prizes such as "Pizza with Mr. Clossick" and "Pizza with Ms. Bordeleau." Mr. Clossick and Ms. Bordeleau walked away with a few prizes for themselves, too!

Thursday was Student Appreciation Day. Students were allowed to wear free dress to school, and there were many fun activities planned for the students, such as a faculty basketball game in which students were coaches and referees!

Friday ended Catholic Schools Week with a blue and white dress day. Students could wear free dress as long as it was mainly blue and white, our school colors.

Now that such a fun Catholic Schools Week is over, everybody can't wait for next year's!

By Alyssa Vandenberg  
Commissioner of Religious and  
Community Affairs

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## **Sports**

One of the main sports events at St. Simon is the annual Father Murray tournament. It is a fun-filled event where St. Simon gets to host other schools in a friendly but competitive set of games from Thursday to Sunday. Apart from the basketball, the food is always great, including personal pizzas, teriyaki bowls, hamburgers, and snacks. This year the schools in the tournament were St. Raymond, Holy Spirit, Hillview, Menlo, St. Christopher, St. Nicholas, Taylor, and St. Simon. Our boys varsity A1 team took first place, beating St. Christopher in the championship. Our boys varsity A2 team took 7th place, beating Holy Spirit in an



exciting game on Saturday. The girls varsity team took second place in their bracket, losing to Taylor in a close matchup. From the boys teams, Dylan Collins and Derek Stephens as well as Matt McCaffrey were placed on the all-tournament team. Gabe Scott was the MVP of the tournament. From the girls team, MC Guidoux and Marina Margaretic were selected for the all-tournament team. The students had a great time at the tournament and look forward to it next year.

By Carolyn McGuire  
Co-Editor

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## **Lent: By Giving Something Up We Relate to Jesus' Suffering**

Every year as Lent approaches, everyone starts deciding what they will give up for the forty days of the Lenten season. It could be chocolate, TV, or soda. Whatever you choose to give up, you give it up all through Lent. Finally, on Easter you are allowed to have what you gave up.

Similarly, this relates to Jesus. Jesus went through a great amount of suffering as he fasted for forty days in the desert. We share Jesus' suffering by giving up something that we love to show our love for him. On Easter, Jesus is restored to life, and we can have whatever we gave up during the Lenten season once again.

Now that we have started Lent, it is time for us to make that decision again. However, you do not necessarily need to give something up. Instead of giving something up this Lent, you could do one kind act a day. Or maybe you could set aside a little bit of money every day to give to

the poor. Whatever you decide to do this Lenten season, keep Jesus and his suffering in your mind as a reminder of his love for you.

By Alyssa Vandenberg  
Commissioner of Religious and  
Community Affairs

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## **Student Appreciation Day**

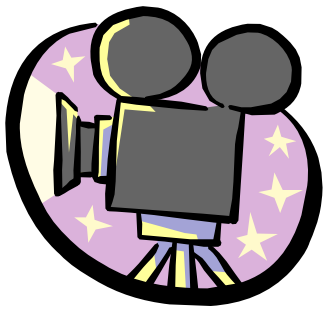
On January 31<sup>st</sup>, the school staff treated the students to the annual Student Appreciation Day. The day of student fun and relaxation started right away as the teachers and staff members opened the car doors for the students as they were dropped off. After that the 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades took part in the school Lightning competition, where 5<sup>th</sup> grader Paige Vermeer ended victorious against 8<sup>th</sup> grader Blake Jarvis. The students got a yummy treat at recess, and then afterwards went to the gym for a special assembly. There, the San Jose Taiko drummers performed for us and selected students from the audience to play with them. The Taiko performance was followed by the Staff Basketball game. The students went wild as their favorite teachers and staff members battled it out on the basketball court and where students selected by raffle coached or acted as referee of the game. Lunch followed, and after that, the day ended with movies. Students chose tickets for movies being played in teacher's classrooms and watched the movies for the rest of the fun day.

Colin Mack  
Vice-President

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## Movie Review

In August of 2007, the sequel to the famous Daddy Day Care was re-released. It was called Daddy Day Camp. Cuba Gooding Jr. (Charlie) plays the role of a hard-working father who wants to introduce his son to the fun of an outdoor summer camp. He wants to send him to Driftwood, the same camp he attended when a child. While driving to the camp, Charlie talks about the good times he had as a child except when he lost an "Olympic" event in the last second. As soon as they turn onto the road to get to



Camp Driftwood, they see Camp Canola, a state of the art camp run by Charlie's nemesis, Lance, the bully who beat him in the race when they were kids. Fur-

ther down the road, Charlie is deflated when he sees the sight of the pathetic, falling down Driftwood. It makes him nostalgic enough to want to buy the place and rebuild it to its original state. After the camp reopens, he enlists the help of his military father to give the kids real-life wilderness experiences. Daddy Day Camp concludes with a re-match between Charlie and his archenemy. Silly humor and shenanigans occur throughout the movie that makes it hilarious to the younger crowd. 3 stars.

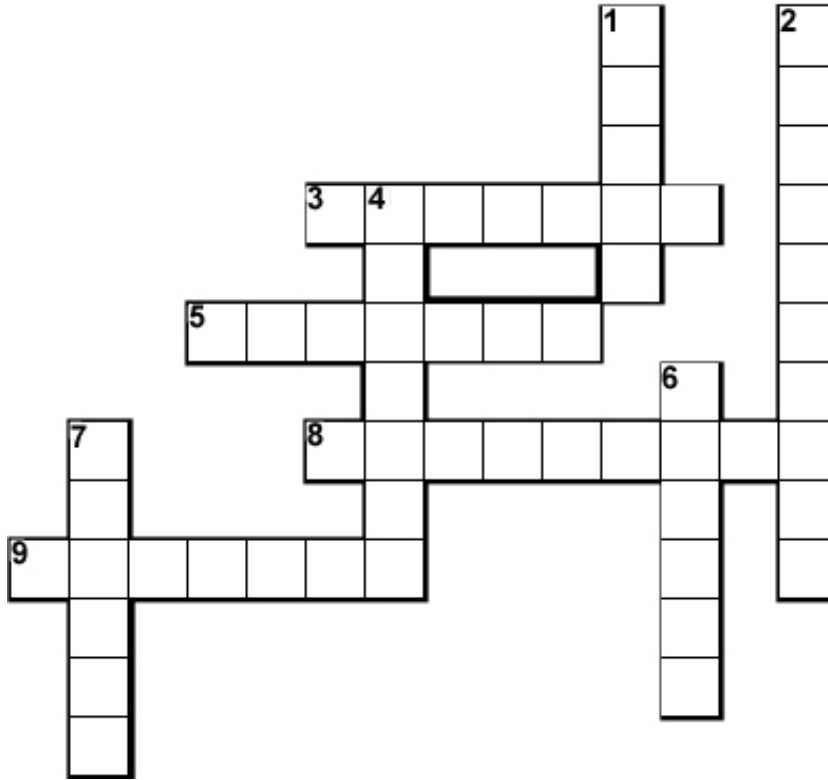
Anthony Verducci  
President

## Black History Month

Black History Month was established in 1926. It was founded by Dr. Carter G. Woodson and other African-American activists who wanted to teach about the achievements of important black figures. In the 1970s, the activists selected the month of February, the month of Abraham Lincoln's and George Washington's birthdays, to be the official Black History Month. Today, Black History Month is widely celebrated and many people acknowledge the great achievements of African-Americans in society.

Raymond Meijer  
Co-editor

## President's Day Crossword Puzzle



Use the presidents' last names.

Across

3. Our last President
5. Was the youngest U.S. President and was shot in Dallas Texas
8. This president loved nature and most children in the U.S. have a toy bear named after him.
9. His wife was known as Lady Bird

Down

1. Was forced to resign because of the Watergate scandal
2. The first United States President
4. Was shot by John Wilkes Booth
6. Former actor
7. Had a large dam named after him

<http://www.internetfamilyfun.com/games/presidentcrosswordsol.htm>