

Marinette Campus  
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St. Mary Elementary School  
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February 12, 2010

### *St. Apollonia*

Dear Students and Parents,

Praise be Jesus Christ! Today's saint is St. Apollonia. St. Apollonia was a martyr who endured persecutions from being a Christian during the reign of the Emperor Philip. She was seized and beaten having all of her teeth knocked out. The crowd prepared a fire for her and asked her to curse God. Instead, St. Apollonia jumped immediately into the fire accepting her martyrdom for God. She is the patron of dentists. How timely it is to know of this saint as we get ready to celebrate St. Valentine's Day on Sunday. All that candy can sometimes cause a cavity. So celebrate in moderation and remember the real event is the gift of love.

We have a lot to celebrate at STAA. First, what a wonderful time during the Mardi Gras event held this past weekend. Thank you to all who helped to make this event beautiful and fun. I understand through the "grapevine" we did well in raising more money for our school. God bless all those who continue to have confidence in our efforts to

*"provide an affordable education in the Catholic teaching tradition that inspires in students a lifelong thirst for knowledge wisdom and truth; a desire to reach the full potential which God has intended for them; and a recognition of the discipline of the mind and heart required for effective service to others in the love of God."*

In a special way I would like to recognize one of our students from the Peshtigo campus. Recently, she had a birthday party. She requested that her guests should not bring her gifts. Instead, she asked them to bring a donation for our school. Her sacrifice awarded our school \$280. She gifted us in celebration of her birthday and recognition of her appreciation for being able to attend STAA. It is my hope that her zeal and love for STAA becomes epidemic. Additionally, her older sibling established a Valentine Campaign for our school. In lieu of the money that parents spend on valentines and candy, a contribution for our school might be considered. The poem they included with their handmade Valentine reads,

*"Roses are red, violets are blue, helping our school can be fun to do. I think you're fun,  
I think you're cool, let's work together on keeping our school.  
Roses are red and violets are blue, I love our school and I hope you do. Purple was  
created by mixing red and blue. God created our school to join me and you."*

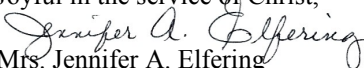
God bless the little children who He has entrusted to us to inspire their hearts with the love of God and neighbor. God bless the parents who work with us to provide the best opportunities for our students to reach the full potential which God has intended for them.

In the news, both campuses have received donations and grants for the purchase of computers. The Marinette campus recently opened boxes containing 4 new laptops. The Peshtigo campus anxiously awaits their order to arrive with their new laptops which were funded through a grant from M & M Foundation. We are moving forward! Thank you to all who have helped to prepare the rooms for the receipt of this technology.

Lastly, I cannot overlook our recent President's Accolade which was presented to Mrs. Ellison to be shared with Mrs. Rice for their efforts to aid students and parents in communicating the love of Christ. They are appreciated by all. May the Peace of Christ be with you and your family. St. Thomas Aquinas, pray for us!

I remain yours,

Joyful in the service of Christ,

  
Mrs. Jennifer A. Elfering

President of Systems