



## Essay Contest Winner ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL, PENFIELD

Each year, the Monroe County Volunteer Fire Association sponsors its fire prevention essay contest for students in two grade categories: 5th-6th grade and 7th-8th grade.

This year's essay topic was "Stay Fire Smart, Don't Get Burned". Justin Salamone of St. Joseph School, Penfield received 1st place among all the Monroe County submissions in the grades 5 & 6 category. Justin received \$100 and a commemorative plaque in recognition of his achievement. Justin also accepted the Don Fox Memorial trophy, on behalf of St. Joseph School, from Mrs. Fox. Mr. Fox was involved with the essay contest each year since its inception in 1965.



**DIOCESE OF ROCHESTER**  
1150 BUFFALO ROAD  
ROCHESTER, NY 14624

**QUESTIONS?**  
PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE  
OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS AT:  
**585.328.3210**  
OR VISIT OUR WEB SITE  
[www.dorschools.org](http://www.dorschools.org)

## A Letter From Anne Willkens Leach

**DEAR PARENTS, GUARDIANS, TEACHERS,  
STAFF, PRINCIPALS AND ALL THOSE WHO LOVE  
AND CARE FOR OUR CHILDREN,**

*First and foremost, I want to thank each and every one of you for making my role as Superintendent of Catholic Schools such a joyful, enriching experience.*

*Our schools are exceptional faith-filled learning environments. Our children grow academically at a pace that far exceeds the New York State grade level comparisons on standardized testing. More importantly, in addition to academics, our children have mastered social skills, integrity, ethics and moral values. The support they receive from you, our parents and greatest supporters, is a treasure.*

*Our teachers, principals and staff, as well as everyone at the Department of Catholic Schools, ensure that each and every child has a keen sense of belonging. They know that they are cared for and loved. I am so proud to lead such an exceptional group of professionals.*

*My visits to your schools continue to be joy-filled. Each of our schools host events that are so special. From Masses, concerts, and celebrations, each time I participate with your children and staff, I feel so blessed to be a part of such a loving community. I have been embraced by our families and staff and have felt a sense of welcoming second to none, and for that I am extremely grateful.*

*Please know how much you and your children mean to me. I remain committed to increasing enrollment and keeping our schools open. Registration continues through August, so please encourage your friends, relatives and neighbors to join us.*

*For your students who are leaving sixth grade, I hope that you have chosen one of our middle schools for their quality junior high experience. For your students who will be graduating from 8th grade, I wish them the very best high school experience. And for your students who are returning in the fall, I wish them a happy, fun-filled and safe summer.*

*Thank you for all that you do for the children of the Diocese of Rochester.*

*God Love You,  
Anne Willkens Leach*



**HAVE A SAFE AND FUN-FILLED SUMMER**



### INSIDE:

- ▶ Weather Wisdom
- ▶ Odyssey of the Mind
- ▶ Fun With Science
- ▶ Essay Contest Winner

Diocese of Rochester Catholic Schools

June 2010

# Partners

NEWSLETTER

## NEW DIOCESAN BOARD TO ASSIST WITH OVERSIGHT OF CATHOLIC SCHOOLS

Bishop Matthew Clark has appointed 15 members to serve on a diocesan-wide Catholic School Board to provide guidance and oversight on issues related to Catholic schools in the Diocese of Rochester. The committee has been charged with providing input on issues such as planning, public relations/marketing and fund-raising.

"We are thrilled to have assembled such a talented and dedicated group of community members who are committed to strengthening the future of Catholic education in the Diocese of Rochester," said Superintendent of Catholic Schools Anne Willkens Leach.

The following members have been appointed to the board:

### ANN MARIE DEUTSCH

*Principal, St. Mary School, Canandaigua*

### COREY RUTZKE

*Researcher, Cornell University*

### THOMAS GOUGH

*President, Gough Holding Corp.*

### EDWARD BUTTACCIO

*News Director, YNN, Rochester*

### REV. ROBERT RING

*Pastor, Penn Yan*

### WAYNE LECHASE

*Chairman, LeChase Construction*

### TIMOTHY CULHANE

*Partner, Deloitte and Touche LLP*

### TIMOTHY LEAHY

*Principal, Siena Catholic Academy, Rochester*

### JAMES GOULD

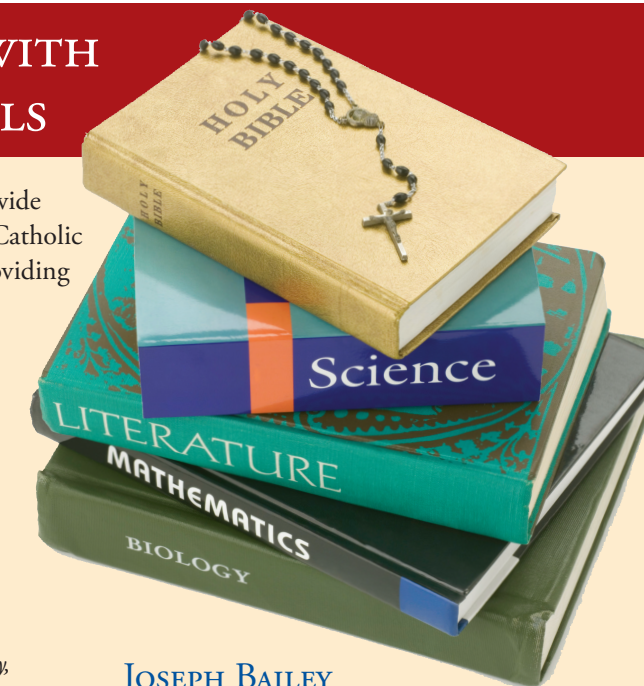
*Alesco Advisors, LLC*

### REV. ROBERT WERTH

*Peace of Christ, Rochester*

### KEVIN MCCARTHY

*Corrections Counselor, Southport Correctional Facility*



### JOSEPH BAILEY

*Associate Dean for Enrollment Services, Genesee Community College*

### SUSAN STOEV

*Manager, Global Marketing Planning, Kodak*

### BERNADETTE McCLELLAND

*Principal, Holy Family Elementary, Elmira*

### LINDA WOJCIECHOWSKI

*Executive Director, Gregory Kunde Chorale*



*Sister Margaret Mancuso*



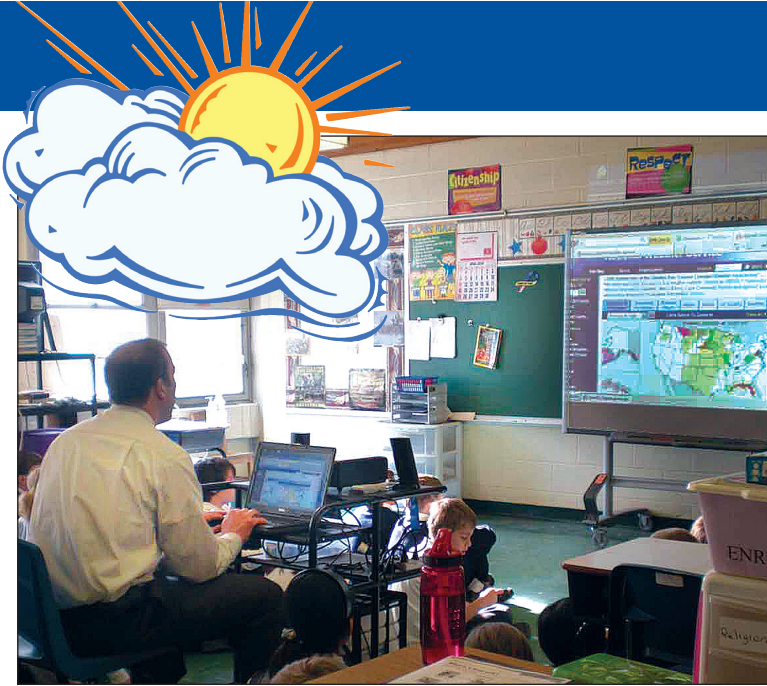
*Mary Ellen Wagner*

## Sister Margaret Mancuso Heading to Nazareth Hall

Sister Margaret Mancuso, our beloved Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum and Instruction for the past 17 years has accepted a new position as Co-Administrator at Nazareth Hall Elementary School. Sr. Margaret will be missed for her extraordinary dedication to the mission of Catholic schools, her exceptional knowledge base in curriculum, and her love of our students, parents and staff.

Mary Ellen Wagner, principal at Nazareth Middle School and Nazareth Hall, will be joining us as our new Assistant Superintendent. Mary Ellen brings a plethora of experience in Catholic education as well as a deep commitment to our mission. Please join us in welcoming her.





## Weather Wisdom

ST. MARY OUR MOTHER SCHOOL, HORSEHEADS

Third and fourth grade students recently enjoyed a visit from Joe Pasquarelli, chief meteorologist at WETM-TV in Elmira. Mr. Pasquarelli presented a program called Weather Wisdom. Over two days, students learned about ways meteorologists collect weather data, how important weather information is sent to the public and information about some dangerous storms, particularly hurricanes. Using interactive whiteboard technology, Mr. Pasquarelli brought important weather websites right to the students. The classes particularly enjoyed learning about hurricane hunters. At the end of his presentation, Mr. Pasquarelli filmed a short video of all the third and fourth grade students, which was aired on his morning television weather report.



From left to right: Sr. Clare Francis Mogenhan, teacher and principal 1951-1971; Diana Oravec, current principal; Sr. Campion Bush, principal 1978-1986.

## Celebrating 125 Years AT IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL, ITHACA

A standing-room only crowd turned out on Saturday, April 17, for the annual benefit auction at Immaculate Conception School in Ithaca, which this year celebrates its 125th anniversary as Tompkins County's only parochial school.

Highlights of the evening included a special recognition of Sr. Clare Francis Mogenhan, teacher and then school principal from 1951 to 1971, and Sr. Campion Bush, principal from 1978 to 1986. The two nuns currently reside with 17 other former ICS teachers at the Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in Rochester, N.Y., and made a special trip to Ithaca for the anniversary occasion.

Also honored were ICS alum Marc Albanese and ICS parent Mary Gonyea, who have served 18 and 10 years, respectively, as volunteer coaches of the school's long-standing basketball program.

Attending the celebration were many

alumni, parishioners, and current and former parents of the school. Syndicated "Ask Amy" advice columnist Amy Dickinson hosted the lively fund-raiser auction program and was joined by two local personalities: WHCU operations manager Chris Allinger and WHCU program director Geoff Dunn. Supported with donations from businesses throughout Tompkins County as well as artwork and handcrafted items created by children at the Immaculate Conception School, the auction raised over \$25,000 for the school.

Immaculate Conception School currently has 105 boys and girls enrolled in prekindergarten through sixth grade. The school's roots trace back to Sept. 5, 1884, when seven Sisters of St. Joseph arrived in Ithaca by train from Rochester to prepare for the school's opening. Immaculate Conception was officially dedicated by Bishop Bernard J. McQuaid three days later.

## Sixth-Grader Attends Conference

OUR MOTHER OF SORROWS SCHOOL, GREECE

During the week of April 10th to 15th, Kelly Menna, a Sixth Grade student at Our Mother of Sorrows School, had the privilege of attending the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington, DC which is sponsored by the Congressional Youth Leadership Council. The Council seeks scholars who demonstrate leadership potential. Nominations are submitted by school administrators, teachers or community leaders. Kelly was nominated by Mr. Samuel Zalacca, the principal of Our Mother of Sorrows School for her academic excellence, outstanding leadership potential, and maturity. Kelly joined 243 students from all over the country at this conference.



During her stay in Washington, DC, Kelly participated in workshops designed to practice leadership skills. She met leaders from America's past and interacted with leaders of today. Included in the week was the opportunity to visit many national monuments, memorials, historic sites, and museums. Kelly was able to see the Korean War Memorial, the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial, the National Museum of American History, the Lincoln Memorial, the White House, the Capitol, the Newseum, and Harper's Ferry.

Having participated in this conference, Kelly is now eligible to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Alumni Conference in Boston, the High School National Young Leaders Conference, and the International Young Leaders Conference.

## On Track HOLY FAMILY MIDDLE SCHOOL, ELMIRA

The Holy Family Middle School track team is off and running for the 2010 season. The season began the end of March, with five meets being scheduled in April and May. The HFMS team competes in triple meets with five different public school teams. The last meet was the Snapple Invitational on Wednesday, May 19th. It involves over twenty middle school teams from the Southern Tier.

The team has 37 members, which is over fifty percent of our seventh and eighth graders. The numbers are well-balanced with twenty boys and seventeen girls, nineteen eighth graders and eighteen seventh graders. While the students compete as a team, the emphasis is on each individual striving to improve their own personal record and, also for some, to break our school records. The team members have a wonderful sense of spirit and support for each other.

All our coaches are volunteers: Dr. Mary Muse and Dr. Kevin Coughlin, and their assistants, Mr. Joe Cleary, Mr. Joe Kosmicki, Ms. Maureen McGlenn, and Mr. David Tuma. They encourage our students to continue to run because it can be a lifetime pursuit leading to a healthy lifestyle.



## Odyssey of the Mind

ST. JOHN NEUMANN SCHOOL, ROCHESTER

Six teams from St. John Neumann School received ribbons for their participation in the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition. The students pictured won 2nd place in Division II in Return to the Gift of Flight. The Division I teams – Food Court and Discovered Treasures – each took 5th Place. The school had 3 teams in the Primary Division Surprise Party – more than any other school.



## Fun With Science AT ST. RITA SCHOOL, WEBSTER

Sixth grade students at St. Rita School recently dissected a squid during science class.