



FEBRUARY 2023

Join the St. Charles and Holy Ghost students at Mass every Wednesday in the churches at 8:30 a.m.
Notre Dame/McDonell Chapel Mass Tuesday, Thursday, Friday at 7:15 a.m.

January 29 – February 4 National Catholic Schools Week

- January 29** St. Charles students sing a thank you prelude song at St. Charles Parish Mass 10:30 a.m.
- January 29** Kids Winter Carnival with guest Mayor Greg Hoffman (see last page of newsletter)
- January 29** Enrollment for the 2023-24 school year begins. Families enroll through Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Fee \$150, pay by March 3 get a \$50 discount. (See page 2 for details)
- February 1** Enrollment for Wisconsin Parental Choice opens. [View income chart for qualification](#)
- February 1** Most Rev. Bishop William Callahan will be joining the area Catholic schools at Mass celebrated at 9:30 a.m. at McDonell Central Catholic High School. The public is welcome to attend the Mass; please arrive early to sign in at the office. Look for the live stream.
- February 2 - 5** McDonell Musical: *School of Rock* tickets available online; \$10 adults | \$6 students
- February 7** Little Macks 3K, 4K and Kindergarten Registration for 2023-24 | 5-7 p.m. at St. Charles
- February 8** McDonell Athletic Booster Club (MABC) monthly meeting at McDonell 6:30-7:30 p.m.
- February 10** Mid-Winter Mardi Gras setup. Turn in all raffle ticket sales.
- February 11** Mardi Gras MACS community wide fundraiser | 4:30 doors open at McDonell Central
- February 16** MACS Education Commission
- February 17 & 20** No School Teacher In-service
- February 22** Ash Wednesday; Fast and Abstinence. Mass with ashes:
 - 6:00 a.m. St. Peter (Service of the word and distribution of ashes)
 - 8:00 a.m. Notre Dame
 - 8:30 a.m. Holy Ghost; St. Peter
 - 12:10 p.m. St. Charles Borromeo
 - 5:30 p.m. St. Charles Borromeo; Holy Ghost
 - 6:00 p.m. Notre Dame
 - 7:00 p.m. St. Peter
 - 7:00 p.m. St. Bridget (Service of the word and distribution of ashes)

#TheMackWay



Improvements

Advancement and fundraising is something you may only hear about when you are asked to volunteer, buy something, or attend an event. As we approach our biggest fundraising event of the year, Mardi Gras on February 11 (see below for more information and we hope to see you there!), I also wanted to take the opportunity to share more about our comprehensive advancement program and the improvements we've been able to make in the last two years.



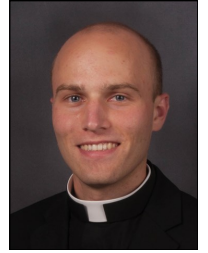
Mrs. Molly Bushman
MACS President

- * Increased focus on fundraising as an extension of our mission, fundamentally relational rather than transactional
- * Soft launch of a Planned Giving program in winter of 2022, hoping to build on this and grow the McDonell Foundation corpus
- * Successful completion of our \$3.7 million Witness the Difference capacity campaign in 2022
- * Changeover to new database in summer 2022, which will help improve constituent relations through better tracking and communication
- * Refreshed our annual fund as the new A.B. McDonell Vision Fund fall of 2022
- * Continued progress to improve stewardship, events, and more

We will also be launching a new Volunteer Handbook and process in the coming months, so stay tuned! We could not keep the doors open without the generosity of our benefactors and community members in sharing their time, talent, and treasure. We thank you and thank God for you!

Embracing the Cross

This year the liturgical season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on February 22. Lent invites us to embrace the cross of our Lord through penance, abstinence, and deeper prayer. Although it's a few weeks off, now is a good time to begin thinking ahead about what you will do this Lent to draw closer to the Lord. I highly recommend unplugging from unnecessary technology use and filling that time with more prayer. Here are a few suggestions for prayer for you and your family to grow this Lent.



Fr. Ethan Hokamp
Chaplain

- Pray a weekly rosary as a family or pray a decade a day together throughout the week.
- Prepare for Sunday Mass as a family by reading the Scripture passages you will hear that day. (Mass readings can be found at the USCCB website.)
- Take ten minutes to reflect on Sunday Mass as a family by talking about how God spoke to you through the prayers, the readings, the homily, etc.
- Take turns leading prayer at the end of a meal and having the leader ask God for something and thank Him for a gift.
- Go to church as a family monthly for confession.
- Pray the Stations of the Cross together on Fridays.
- Sign up for a family holy hour at Goldsmith adoration chapel or just go for half an hour together on a certain day.
- Spend a few minutes in silence before bed reflecting on the week behind, sharing lows and highs, and asking God for graces for the week ahead.

May God bless you and your families with the spirit of true contrition this Lent so you can receive the joy of Easter more fully.

MACS Advancement: Fundraising News



Mrs. Libby Leinenkugel

Libby Leinenkugel, Advancement Director
715.723.0538 ext. 3306 or
l.leinenkugel@macs.k12.wi.us

Mardi Gras is right around the corner! We set the bar high this year to make it a great experience for attendees. A huge thank you for your support of the event, whether it was by selling/purchasing raffle tickets and event tickets, signing up to volunteer, or engaging with us on the MACS Mardi Gras Facebook page. Keep it up! We have a few more weeks to reach our goals. I am beyond grateful for the time folks have offered for planning the details and thinking about all the little things that we need to consider, and in particular, the new ideas that have been brought to the table. Our MACS Community truly is like no other.

Here is what you can expect at Mardi Gras:

1. your event ticket will get you some great food, drinks, and entertainment for the evening.
2. Plan to arrive by 4:30pm for social hour and listen to music performed by our McDonell Jazz Band students.
3. Dinner will begin at 5:45pm. During dinner, we will be entertained by MACS students who starred in our musical *School of Rock* as we work to raise some additional money for our Arts program.
4. After dinner, we will head into the gym to be entertained with some lively music performed by Troppo Big Band. The Mardi Gras Games Subcommittee members have been working their tails off to create some new games and to bring life back to some of the games that have been a part of Mardi Gras for many years, including the life-size roulette game, The Big Wheel, and a silent auction.
5. At 9:00, we will turn our attention to the raffle drawings to see who won the big bucks.

continue to page 2

Education Technology & Media



Val Knobloch

IT Consultant/Media Coordinator
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Mr. Josh McCormick

Josh McCormick

IT Coordinator
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Mr. Val Knobloch

MACS on the Move (#76) Addendum

December through March is a busy streaming time. In December we streamed six concerts and as many basketball games in one week and the last week of 2022 we streamed 10 games in 2 days. And in January we streamed 7 in one day. That is not unusual. What is different is some changes in our TV channels and some new resources. We installed a HUDL Focus camera unit in the Steve and Deb Roesler Gymnasium. We can schedule the system to automatically stream volleyball and basketball games or for coaches to record practices. These will be available on two new channels we are developing: either the MACS TV2 (Youtube) Channel or the TV4 (Hudl server) channel.

We are now just testing the new system. Our recent December concerts can be found on their calendar entry found on the [Live Stream](#) MACS TV web page found at the bottom of the MACS web site pages.



For sports events and most gymnasium events will be on either TV2 or TV4 found on the Live Stream MACS TV page. We will update the directions after we complete the testing. Our video archives are also transitioning from the Ensemble server to a Kaltura server. They have not indicated when the Ensemble Server will go off line. The new server (Kaltura) has all the old videos. Look for more info coming.

And finally, we are so thankful for your participation and the resources you provide to help us join you in the education and care for your children.



Continued from page 1

There are more surprises in store that we can't share quite yet, so make sure you are following us on Facebook. Search for MACS Mardi Gras Fundraiser. In the meantime, keep selling those raffle tickets so that you get entered into the drawing for that special prize drawing on January 27! #MACSMG

Enrollment 2023-24



Ms. Kathleen Adams

Kathleen Adams,
Executive Administrative
Assistant, Enrollment and
Scrip Coordinator
715.723.0538 ext. 3301
k.adams@macs.k12.wi.us

MACS Enrollment 2023-24

4K-12 Enrollment is now open!.

Enrollment is a three part process:

1. Infinite Campus

Current families register for the 2023-24 school year through Infinite Campus.. If you need your username or password please contact me directly through email or phone.

New families please register on the [MACS Website](#) Admissions/Enrollment/New 4K-12 Registration Link

2. MORE Form

Once registration is complete in Infinite Campus it will prompt for the MORE Financial Form to be sent to your email. Please complete the form **as soon as possible.**

3. Enrollment Fee

The enrollment fee is \$150 however, if you pay by Monday, March 6, 2023 the fee is discounted to \$100. *Families that **qualify** for the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program do not pay the annual enrollment fee.*

****Enrollment is not approved until the entire three part process is complete.**

Wisconsin Parental Choice Program (WPCP)

Review the income requirements on our website under ADMISSION - WPCP to see if you qualify for the program. If you do qualify complete the application available at [WPCP Application 2023-24](#). The application opens Wednesday, February 1, 2023 at 8:00 a.m. and the deadline is Thursday, April 20, 2023. at 4:00 p.m. Per DPI, there are no exceptions to the deadline.

Families currently in the program are required to re-enroll each year. For detailed questions regarding WPCP please contact Teresa Dachel at t.dachel@macs.k12.wi.us.

4K or Kindergarten Referral

Current families can earn 10% off their students tuition for one year by referring a new 4K or kindergarten family into the MACS system. The incoming new family will receive 10% off their tuition for three consecutive years. The current family must complete the Kindergarten Referral Form (website under Admission) **before or within one week** of the new family registering. [MACS Kindergarten Referral Form](#).

Home and School Association (HandS)Email: macshomeschool@macs.k12.wi.us**Snowflake Dance**

Friday, February 3 | 5:30



The dance will be held in the St. Charles School Gym. This annual family event closes out a faith-filled and fun academic Catholic Schools Week for St. Charles and Holy Ghost students.

As always there will be dinner available for purchase, dessert and dancing!

This year, we will be asking for *gently* used books to fill our Holy Ghost library in exchange for a free dessert!

March 8, 2023
May 10, 2023

Parent Meetings 6:00 PM at Ojibwa Golf Club.

All parents and staff/teachers are welcomed and encouraged to attend and get involved.

Have questions? Email President Abby Petefish. (see email above)

National Catholic Schools Week

January 29 - February 5

Community Catholic Mass February 1

Most Reverend Bishop William Callahan of the La Crosse Diocese will be joining us and the area Catholic schools at Mass celebrated at 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, February 1. The public is welcome to attend the Mass; please arrive early to sign in at the office. This will be followed by a fun CSW Rally for all the Chippewa Falls Deanery schools at McDonell Central Catholic High School.

**McDonell Musical: School of Rock February 2 - 5**

Tickets available online through our MACS website or call the high school 715.723.9126. Cost is \$10 adults, \$6 students. Director of the production is Mr. Frank Rineck. Show is recommended for middle school age and up.

MACS Mission McDonell Area Catholic Schools are committed to the formation of **community, academic excellence** and the **spiritual** and **physical well-being** of each student in the **Spirit of Jesus Christ**.

MASS INTENTIONS

Would you like an intention said during Mass at the middle or high school in the chapel or with the entire student body? It may be in memory/honor of a friend, family member or in thanksgiving for the girls winning volleyball team, an anniversary or birthday. Contact Fr. Hokamp in school or email at e.hokamp@macs.k12.wi.us. Mass stipend is \$10.

MACS Athletic Booster Club - Grades 5-12Email: mcdathboosters@macs.k12.wi.us

McDonell Central Catholic High School and Notre Dame Middle School Sports Fans,

What a tremendous year it has been thus far for our athletes and fans. We are so very proud of our athletes and coaches for all the successes thus far in the 2022-23 school year. We want to thank our fans and entire Mack family for cheering loud and proud for our teams this year and we are excited to see how the winter seasons finish for our young athletes.

Make sure to keep up to date on game schedules on the [athletic calendar](#) on the McDonell website and watch for live stream of the home games. Go Macks!



Mr. Greg Misfeldt
President

MACS Faith Booster ClubEmail: faith@macs.k12.wi.us

Join us as we kick-off National Catholic Schools Week (CSW) with 10:30 Mass at St. Charles Borromeo. Our St. Charles students will be singing a thank you song so come early before Mass to hear them sing. Following Mass is our Kids Winter Carnival. Our special guest is Chippewa Falls Mayor Mr. Greg Hoffman.

Cost is \$3.00 per person | \$10 limit per family
GAMES * Bouncy House * FUN
Food available for purchase

**Haverim Tea Society**

Our monthly women's group at McDonell Central have tea, scones, snacks and discussion on the Faith. This semester we have been learning about women in the Bible and having discussion on how we can use their example in our lives. We have been ending each meeting praying with a different Psalm and Night Prayer. Please encourage your daughters to attend.

Prayer requests:

- Middle School Students coming to EDGE
- Our Winter Athletes
- Open hearts for our high school students during Mack Time
- Fruitful conversations in the Lounge with students
- Our 2024 trip to Casa Hogar



PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Eric Wedemeyer, NDMS & MCCHS Principal
e.wedemeyer@macs.k12.wi.us
715-723-9126 ext. 3309

Mr. Eric Wedemeyer

Advent and Christmas seasons are over, and our thoughts move towards the celebration of our Catholic schools during the end of this month. I know our students

look forward to this week and I think it is so important that we dedicate that time to celebrate the existence and opportunity for a Catholic education for anyone that desires one. We have a great week of activities planned!

As we move toward the end of the second trimester, please keep a close eye on the calendar as there are several important dates and events coming up. This includes the beginning of enrollment which begins Sunday, Jan. 29. The 2023-24 online enrollment will be active on January 29 for new and current families.

Current families can re-enroll by logging on to [Infinite Campus/Campus Parent](#). There is a non-refundable enrollment fee of \$100 if paid prior to March 6, 2023. The fee increases to \$150 beyond that date. Contact Admission Coordinator Kathleen Adams at 715.723.0538 x3301 for any questions.

I've received several inquiries regarding the number of recent school cancellations due to poor weather and potential effects it has on our school calendar. I am fully aware of the issues that losing these days of instruction have raised. In an attempt to balance out the remaining days between the second and third trimester, we have moved the end date of the second trimester to March 3. This pushes the third trimester to begin Monday, March 6. We are looking at a few options to prepare for any additional weather cancellations between now and the end of the school year. In the meantime, it's never too early to hope and pray for springtime weather!

Thank you all for supporting our schools and may God be with you!



NOTRE DAME

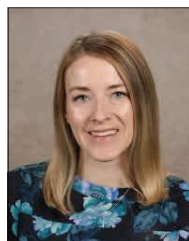
Justin Kuehl, English
j.kuehl@macs.k12.wi.us
715.723.94777 ext. 3319

Mr. Justin Kuehl

Eighth grade students presented their "People in History: Famous Duos and Duels" projects just before Christmas break. Topics included sports figures like Michael Jordan and Scottie Pippen, musicians like Paul McCartney and John Lennon, and historical figures like Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr.



Students spent a month researching their topic, documenting their research, and producing creative ways to teach their audience.



GUIDANCE NEWS

Mrs. Kelsey Jimenez
k.jimenez@macs.k12.wi.us
715.723.9126 ext. 3318

Mrs. Kelsey Jimenez

Upcoming Scholarships

PARENTS and SENIORS

Please check out the Scholarships page on the MACS site for upcoming scholarship due dates. Many scholarships require a writing sample, essay, or even an oral report. Each Scholarship is unique - some are turned into myself, others to the organization. **Not all our posted scholarships have links - check the companies website for more details with these ones. If you have questions, please contact me.

PARENTS

Are you monitoring your students' social media apps?

While we work towards media literacy with students here at school (in class or conversations), we also want parents to be aware of their students' activities online.

- Many students use "Snapchat," which was created to connect students in creative ways but also there have been a lot of cyberbullying instances recently, along with texts or images that are inappropriate. With this phone app, students have had access to delete inappropriate content that becomes irretrievable. (Here is helpful overview <https://www.verizon.com/about/parenting/parents-guide-snapchat>)

The Snapchat company did update their family settings recently and I **HIGHLY recommend reading through the following link / information so you can have access to your students account.** <https://www.scarymommy.com/parenting/new-snapchat-feature-family-center>

By accessing your students account, there is accountability, especially when situations arise related to bullying, or inappropriate content. *We want to protect all of our MACS students.*

ACT Dates - Testing Site: Menomonie

If your student is looking to retake the ACT (or take it for the first time) please register here: <https://my.act.org/account/signin?location=https://my.act.org>

Students with accommodations will also need to register, then connect with Monica Laux about finalizing registration needs. (please note, the writing section of the ACT is OPTIONAL - many universities and colleges are not requiring students to take it. Questions?

2022-2023 Yearbooks:

Orders are due February 28, 2023.

If you want a yearbook, please check Infinite Campus to verify you have paid the fee.



MATH DEPARTMENT NEWS

Carrie Erickson, McDonell Math
c.erickson@macs.k12.wi.us
 715.723.4777 ext. 1101

Ms. Carrie Erickson

We are studying conic sections in precalculus right now (circles, parabolas, ellipses and hyperbolas). I had them attempt the Pringles Challenge. Students were definitely engaged and it took them a few tries to figure it out! *See... math can be fun!!*



MUSIC DEPARTMENT NEWS

Amy Vogt, Choral Director
a.vogt@macs.k12.wi.us
 715-723-9126 ext 2216

Mrs. Amy Vogt

McDonell students Isabelle Keck and Megan Hanson attended the Dorian Vocal Festival at the Luther College campus in Decorah, Iowa, on January 8-9. The festival features a 1000-voice mixed choir made up of selected students from across the midwest,

including Minnesota, Iowa, South Dakota, Illinois, and Wisconsin. Music professors from Luther teach the music and conduct the choir; the festival culminates in a

concert featuring the Dorian choir, auditioned soloists, and Luther's flagship choirs.



Notre Dame students Mason Grant, Xavier Stepp, and Evelyn Doyle attended the Middle Level All-State Choir



as organized by the Wisconsin Choral Directors Association. The choir festival was Jan. 13 and 14 in Appleton, WI. The guest conductor, G. Philip Schoultz III, comes from Minneapolis and is the conductor of professional ensemble Vocal Essence. Mason, Xavier, and Evelyn were a part of 120 other seventh and eighth graders from across Wisconsin; a concert highlighted their efforts and ended in a (deserved) standing ovation.

The Cloverbelt All Conference Band and Choir Festival was Saturday, January 21 in Gilman. The annual festival sees selected choir and band students from Cloverbelt Conference and honors these students as great contributors to their home ensembles. Dr. Frank Watkins from UWEC was the featured conductor for the choir. Students representing McDonell were Elyse Bushmann, Delaney Smiskey, Scott Tetrault, Matyas Chovancik, and John Herron.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Greta Jorgensen, Advisor
g.jorgensen@macs.k12.wi.us
 715.723.4777 ext. 2203

The Student Council will be holding a food drive during Catholic Schools Week to benefit Agnes Table. There is a competition between classes to see how much each class can donate.

The winter carnival dance was held on January 21 and over 140 students from the high school were in attendance.

The theme was Beach Party, and it was sponsored by both the Freshman Class and Student Council.



Ms. Greta Jorgensen





Principal's Corner



Mr. Jerry Smith Principal
St. Charles/Holy Ghost Schools

Catholic schools week is near and we have a full week of fun activities scheduled at our schools. I know our students look forward to that week and I think it is so important that we dedicate that time to celebrate the existence and opportunity for a Catholic education for anyone that desires one.

As we move closer to the end of 2nd Trimester please keep a close eye on the calendar as there are several important dates and events coming up. One is that enrollment begins Sunday, Jan. 29.

The 2023-24 online enrollment will be active on January 29 for new and current families on our MACS website home page

(www.McDonellAreaCatholicSchools.org).

Current families can re-enroll in their Infinite Campus Parent Portal. Contact Admission Coordinator Kathleen Adams at 715.723.0538 x3301 for any questions. Please also remember our Referral program and the discount possibility that provides.

In my mind, it's never too early to start thinking about spring. However, while there is snow on the ground, please remember to send snow pants, boots, hats and gloves with your child so that they can enjoy the snow piles on our playgrounds. We want our students to take as many opportunities outside during these winter months as we can and it is important that they are prepared for the weather.

Thank you!

Hat Day at Holy Ghost



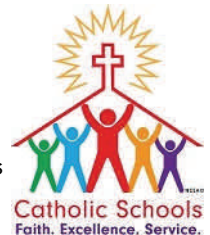
These two third grade boys (above) are showing their football team spirit. One cheers on the Green Bay Packers while the other boy cheers on the Minnesota Vikings.

UPCOMING EVENTS

St. Charles and Holy Ghost Schools – February 2023

January 29 – February 4
Catholic Schools Week

Jan. 29 Kids Winter Carnival
Enroll for 2023-24
Thank You Mass at St. Charles
Parish 10:30 a.m.



Feb. 1 SC/HG Mass at 9:30 a.m. with Bishop Callahan at McDonell Central Catholic High School. Open to the public to attend

Feb.3-6 McDonell Musical School Rocks

Feb. 3 HandS Snowflake Dance 5:30 p.m.– 7:30 p.m.

Feb. 5 HG Thank you Mass 11 a.m.

Feb. 7 SC 4k open house 5pm to 7pm

Feb. 8 SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 11 Mid-Winter Mardi Gras

Feb. 14 100th Day of School

Feb. 15 SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Feb. 17&20 NO SCHOOL – Teacher In-Service

Feb. 22 SC Mass at 8:30 a.m.
HG Mass at 8:30 a.m.

Kindergarten students learn about math and writing



Mrs. Krista Misener's Kindergarten class works on their math project (above) as a team.



Kindergarten students (above) are having fun learning to write.



Miss Courtney Okerglicki's first grade class root on the Green Bay Packers (above).



St. Charles staff are proudly wearing their Packer clothes to cheer on the Green Bay Packers (above).



**Catholic Schools
Week 2023**
January 29-February 4

www.NCEA.org/csw
#CSW23



A medley of styles, jumps, hops, and skips . . .

St. Charles and Holy Ghost Jump Rope for Heart Challenge



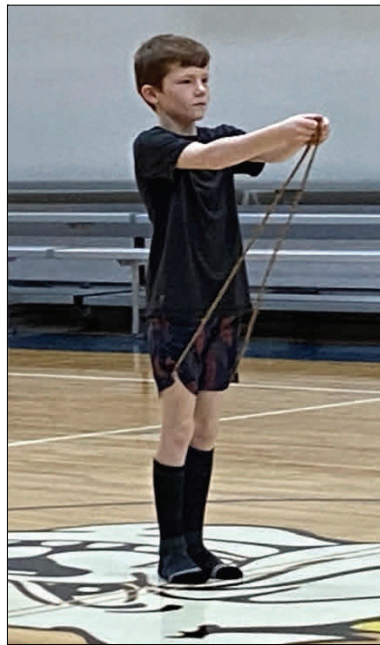
St. Charles students are getting set to compete in the Kids Heart Challenge. While taking part in the jump rope competitions and raising money for the American Heart Association.



Principal Jerry Smith presents an award to a second grade boy.



Fifth grade girl is concentrating on jump roping. She hops, skips and jumps without missing a beat (above).



This fourth grade boy is patiently waiting for the timer to go off to start his jumps. Ready, set, go! (above)



Principal Jerry Smith is congratulating this fifth grade student on his rope jumping skills. (below) These are the wonderful awards children received.



Sunday, February 19, 2023

1st Annual Holy Ghost

CHILI

COOK-OFF



Fun for the Whole Family

Come eat all the chili you can! One chili entry per person. Judges include area Priests. Card games, open gym for the kids.

Your family eats for free if you bring a chili, \$3 per person without a chili entry.

**Time: 12:30pm-3:00pm,
Judging begins at 1:00pm**

Location: Holy Ghost Catholic Church, 412 S. Main St. Chippewa Falls

RSVP:
<https://bit.ly/3VuWXj5>



3RD ANNUAL
KIDS WINTER
CARNIVAL

JANUARY 29, 2023
11:30AM-2:30PM
ST. CHARLES SCHOOL GYM



\$3 PER PERSON
\$10 LIMIT PER FAMILY

GAMES  **BOUNCY HOUSE**  **FUN**



FOOD AVAILABLE
FOR PURCHASE

SPECIAL CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK ADDRESS
FROM MAYOR HOFFMAN



SPONSORED BY MCDONELL AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS
FAITH BOOSTERS CLUB