



# THE GATOR GAZETTE

VOLUME 4 - FEBRUARY 2018

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

### CALLING ALL ALUMNI!!!

Do you have funny or amazing old photos or memories from your days at St. Gabe's that you'd like to share? St. Gabriel School Advisory Council needs your help as we add to our memory album. Please email [alumni@stgabrielpgh.org](mailto:alumni@stgabrielpgh.org) to share your memories today!

### "A GREAT PLACE TO BE"

Last November, the School Advisory Council in conjunction with the PTG, shot and produced a video featuring students, alumni, priests, faculty and staff of St. Gabriel School.

Check it out on YouTube at <https://youtu.be/X9XFM7282tc> or by searching "St. Gabriel OSV"



### ARE YOU FOLLOWING US?

You can now follow St. Gabriel School on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter for all of the latest and greatest news about our amazing school!



Hi Everyone,

2018 has gotten off to an amazing start. We had a wonderful Catholic Schools week that started with an exciting Family Dinner Dance. The school was also blessed with a spot on the KDKA evening news thanks to alumnus and parishioner Meghan Schiller.

We also welcomed back some familiar and new faces and said goodbye to some outstanding people. Our 2nd grade teacher, Mrs. Bridget Carozza, returned to the classroom in late January. Her return marked the departure of Sr. Marilyn McMillin who did a fantastic job filling in for Mrs. Carozza. We hope to see her back subbing soon.

Our Middle School Math teacher, Mrs. Julie Huber, welcomed her new son, Lorenzo, to the world on January 22nd. Filling in for her for the rest of the school year is Mr. Brad Franjione. Mr. Franjione is a recent graduate of Duquesne University and completed a successful student teaching semester at Brentwood High School.

Our Music teacher, Mrs. Michelle Keipar, returned from maternity leave right after Christmas Break as well. While we are extremely excited to have her back, we were sad to say goodbye to Miss Sarah Donegan who did an amazing job filling in. We wish her the best of luck moving forward.

God Bless  
Don Militzer - Principal

## A MESSAGE FROM THE PTG



St. Gabriel P.T.G. will once again be holding the March Madness raffle fundraiser, which capitalizes on the excitement of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament. All proceeds from the raffle directly benefit our parish and school. Last year, the profits exceeded \$26,000 and we have the potential to match that again this year. Tickets are \$10 each and can be ordered by emailing Karin Ranft at [marchmadness@stgabrielpgh.org](mailto:marchmadness@stgabrielpgh.org). Orders will be filled in early March and will be sold before and after Mass in early March as well.

Just a quick over-view of this highly profitable fundraiser:

**8 Prizes Totaling \$5,000**

(1st place - \$2k; 2nd place - \$1k; 3rd place \$500;  
4th place - \$400; 5th place \$300; 6th place - \$200;  
7th place \$100; Last place - \$500)

Each scratch-off raffle ticket is printed with 3 teams that are in the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament.

By combining various teams, a limited number of tickets that are individually unique are printed based on random combinations of three of the most likely selected teams.

A point scoring system is used to determine the winning tickets. Tickets are valid for the entire duration of the tournament and the odds of winning are determined by total sales.

Look for more information in the coming weeks!



# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK WRAP-UP



JV/ VARSITY BOYS

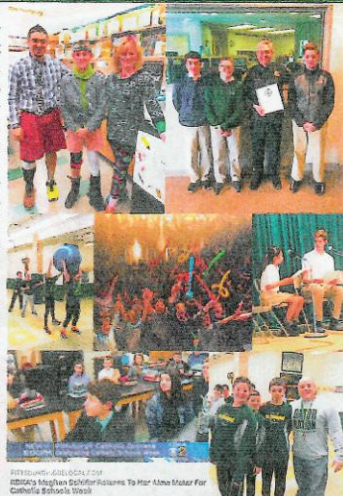
On Friday, February 9, the 8th grade St. Gabriel basketball players and cheerleaders (from back; Luke Campana, Connor Gitzen, Nathan Trainer, Nathan Schenk, Jacob McCandless, Sam Panian, Michael Canavan, Justin Ranft, Daniel Goldbach, Owen Hutchison, Rylee Boyle, Neenie Overn, Lindsay Molinero, Erin Hampton, Ryan Bigley, Ella Palatucci, Ave Kozar and Elianna Sinkule) were honored during 8th Grade Recognition Night at their final home game of the season. The Boys Varsity team clinched the title of South A Section Champs. The JV boys are tied for 1st place and will play a tie breaker in the coming weeks prior to entering the playoffs. Congrats to all of the graduating 8th graders and best of luck to the teams in the playoffs!

## JV/ VARSITY GIRLS

The St. Gabriel JV Girls team is ready to jump into the post-season after clinching first place in their section with an undefeated record in regular section play. They will begin their quest for a Diocesan Championship next week when the playoffs begin. The Varsity Girls will join their younger teammates in the playoffs as well, following a competitive round of regular section play. Good luck to the Lady Gators in the playoffs!



St. Gabriel School kicked off the month of February by celebrating National Catholic Schools week. The exciting week started off with the annual Family Dinner Dance on Sunday, January 28 after 4:30 Mass. Students and their families enjoyed a delicious dinner catered by Calabria's Restaurant followed by dancing, games and raffles. On Monday, students celebrated Super Hero Day by dressing down in their favorite super hero gear. On Tuesday, students sported mismatched clothes and crazy hair, which was a first for St. Gabriel Students. On Wednesday, members of Student Council delivered baskets to community organizations and local businesses that support our school. They even made the Whitehall Police Facebook page! In the afternoon, our student body enjoyed an amazing Forensics presentation that was put on by the Middle School Forensics team in the Parish Hall. On Thursday, alumni, Meghan Schiller from KDKA stopped by to visit her old stomping grounds and brought her camera crew. St. Gabes was honored to be featured on the KDKA news that evening! The festivities wrapped up on Friday, with a School Spirit Day and the annual Gator Olympics where the classes in each grade compete against each other for the title of Gator Olympics Champs! Thanks to the PTG for all they did to make this a fun and memorable week for the students of St. Gabriel!



## 100 DAYS WISER

On Thursday, February 8th, kindergarten and first grade students celebrated their 100th Day of School by dressing as their 100 year old selves. Students and teachers alike had a blast with this fun-filled day!



## Legion of Mary

Our Lady of Fatima, Our Lady of Light

With the second half of the school year start, the Legion of Mary blessed the school with the Epiphany Blessing and also took on the job of placing the blessing on each classroom entrance with teachers as well.

The school year time from September to December was filled with prayer and good works at home, in the classroom and during Mass services. In the second portion of the year, the Legion members will work as Mass servers, take up gifts during Mass, lector, sing in the choir, lead the school in the rosary, as well as perform the Stations of the Cross during Lent at Overlook Green senior living center. In the first part of the school year, the Legion members performed the lives of various saints for All Saints Day and performed the story of the Lord's Nativity in December for the residents of Overlook Green also.

Legionaries, as members are called, are involved in many other school activities and sporting activities and welcome any child in grades 3-8 to join them in prayer each Thursday from 2:45-4:30. They pray and model their lives through action to Our Lady and Our Lord. This is a very prayerful group led by Senior Legionaries Elaine Averbach, Joanne Boyle, Linda Nevins and assisted by Legionaries Linda Agosti and Diann Reiche. If you are interested in joining this group you can join at any time during the school year. Contact a legion member student or ask for a permission slip at the school office to become a member. Remember to keep praying the rosary!



On Tuesday, February 6, the St. Gabriel Spelling Bee program held its first interschool Spelling Bee of the year. Under the direction of school librarian, Kathy, Koltas, students from grades 3-8 participated in the Bee. After many rounds, the finalists were 5th grader, Maria Koltas and 7th grader, Andrew Barrett. In the end, Koltas, finished as first runner-up to 2017 defending champion, Barrett. Andrew will represent St. Gabriel School at the upcoming Scripps Western Pennsylvania Bee at Robert Morris University on Saturday, March 10, 2018, where he was a finalist last year. Good luck in the Bee!