

# The Sacred Heart Beat

Sacred Heart Elementary School

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

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December 2011

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## SH cookbooks: A great gift idea

*Order forms due Dec. 2; Proceeds benefit computer lab*

*By Megan Spak  
Cookbook Committee*

There is still time to order copies of "The Heart of Pittsburgh" and "The Heart of Pittsburgh II" in time for Christmas gift-giving! These cookbooks, which were compiled and published by the families of Sacred Heart to benefit the SHES computer lab, make wonderful hostess gifts and stocking stuffers.

Order forms were sent home with students in November and are due back to school, along with payment, by December 2; the cookbooks will be sent home with students during the week of December 12-16.

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All of the proceeds from the sales of these books benefit the SHES computer lab, AND 10 percent of your total purchase counts toward the school's Family Assessment of \$350 (along with gift card and Market Day purchases).

If every family purchases two copies this holiday season, we could raise over \$10,000 for the computer lab, and reduce our stock of the books by almost 10 percent—both worthy goals!

Please consider supporting the school while doing your Christmas gift shopping—order your copies of "The Heart of Pittsburgh" and "The Heart of Pittsburgh II" today! Contact Melissa Woodward ([keith.melissa@verizon.net](mailto:keith.melissa@verizon.net)) with questions.

**Important dates**

**December 4-7**

*Middle States visit*

**December 7**

*11:30 dismissal*

**December 8**

*Feast of the Immaculate Conception; Holy Day*

**December 9**

*Gingerbread House event*

**December 11**

*Loretta's Cookie Walk*

**December 14**

*Christmas play, grades 3 and 4  
"It's Christmas, Carol"*

**December 20**

*Christmas Band Concert*

**December 21**

*11:30 dismissal; No afterschool*

**December 22-January 2**

*No school; Christmas break*

**Jan. 3**

*School resumes*

**Jan. 15**

*Second tuition payment due for families paying by semester*

# FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S PEN

By: Sister Lynn Rettinger, S.C.

Dear Parents,

## Gala Attitude of Gratitude

The 2nd Annual Green Tie Gala was everything we had hoped for. The plans for the Mark Krotec Science Lab are moving in a positive direction.

MJ Ryan, author of *Attitudes of Gratitude* and *Random Acts of Kindness* and foundress of Thinking Partnerships said....

"Consciously cultivating thankfulness is a *journey of the soul*, one that begins when we look around us and see the positive effects that gratitude creates."

I look around and say "Thank you" to teachers and staff, past and present. Your calling to serve the church in her ministry of education at Sacred Heart School has infinite value. ...*thankfulness is a journey of our souls.*

Thank you to the sponsor who valued his elementary years at SH so much that he made it possible for the Sisters of Charity who taught here over many years, as well as all the present teachers and staff of our school to attend the Gala. ...*thankfulness is a journey of our souls.*

Thank you to the Gala Committee members, chaired by Carrie Zenkevich, whose enthusiasm and talent we enjoyed....and to their spouses for sacrificing so much family time over these last few months. ...*thankfulness is a journey of our souls.*

Thank you to all of you, parents, alumni and parents of alumni,



benefactors, friends all...whose involvement speaks volumes for Catholic education, commitment to the Jesus and his beloved children....*thankfulness is a journey of our souls.*

## Parent Painters

A team of eight painters arrived for Work Day at Sacred Heart on Saturday, November 19.

A dingy hallway was transformed into a clean, bright and renewed space.

Thanks to Carrie and Ken Zenkevich, Marius Guirgi, Randy Hebert, Jason Spak, Jeff Rose, Sam Rothstein, and Jim Scanlon.

## New Family Ornaments

You still have time to send in a family ornament with the family name and 2011 on it. The children will hang it on one of our four trees. Please send it to the office next week.

I hope everyone had a beautiful Thanksgiving Day with family and friends.

# Loretta's Christmas Cookie and Candy Walk is Dec. 11

By Melissa Evans  
PTG Level Rep

What is Loretta's Christmas Cookie and Candy Walk? It is a bake sale with a twist! Over thirty different types of cookies, candies, and Christmas treats will be displayed for sale. Buyers will be given a box or boxes to fill with as many different kinds of cookies they would like. The cookies will then be weighed and will sell for \$8 a pound. The talented bakers of Sacred Heart are making biscotti, pizzelles, thumbprints, peanut blossoms, rum balls, and cut-outs, just to name a few.

Please come and support this parish fundraiser and purchase some of the delicious homemade treats!

**When: Sunday, December 11**

**Time: 9 a.m. until 1 p.m.**

**Where: School cafeteria**

Attention Cookie Walk Bakers! Don't forget to get the name of your cookie/candy to Melissa Evans by December 2. Contact her at 412- or

[melissamcpeak.evans@verizon.net](mailto:melissamcpeak.evans@verizon.net)

Also, please include if you use ANY peanut or nut products in your cookie. Cookie drop-off will take place in the cafeteria between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. on Saturday, December 10. Your cookies should be labeled and in a sealed container.

## Food of the month

### Canned tuna

*The school is collecting canned tuna to contribute to the food bank run by the East End Cooperative Ministry.*

**Notes from the office**

**Drink Pouch Program**

Here is an update on the now-discontinued Terra Cycle Program. Sacred Heart accumulated 1,730 points through the drink pouch program. On behalf of the school, the points were donated to:

- give clean water to two third world persons for one year
- plant a tree in an American forest
- adopt wildlife land
- give chickens and honeybees to needy families
- support Doctors Without Borders

Thanks for your support of this program and thanks to the group of Brownies who cleaned and packed the pouches for mailing.

**Scrip Program**

Remember, Scrip cards make great gifts! Be sure to order in time for the holidays. The Scrip holiday schedule is:

**December 1**

Scrip pick-up and drop-off.

**December 8**

Scrip pick-up.

LAST drop-off before Christmas.

**December 15**

Pick-up only. No new orders.

**December 22 and 29**

Christmas break. No Scrip.

**January 5**

Scrip resumes pick-up and drop-off.

**Scrap paper needed**

One-sided scrap paper is always needed.

**Diocesan Honor Band named**

Many Sacred Heart band members have been chosen for the 2012 Diocesan Honor Band.

Congratulations to:

**Trombone**

Isabelle Schmeler

**Flutes**

Erika Amemiya  
 Francesca Bowser  
 Molly DeLuca

**Clarinets**

Lindy Brennan  
 Francesca Morgano  
 Siena DeAngelo  
 Sophia Salvi

**Trumpets**

Mackenzie Brickley  
 Rory Brennan

**Saxophone**

Joshua Frey  
 Sylvia Sterling-Angus

**Book Fair raises \$1,000 for library**

*By Cristy Spino  
 PTG Level Rep*

The 2011 Scholastic Book Fair was a huge success! The sale generated a profit of more than \$1,000 for the library to purchase new books.

I want to thank all the volunteers for helping make this happen. More than 20 moms, dads, and siblings volunteered to help set up the book fair, help the children select books, check out the merchandise, balance the cash register at the end of the day, and break down the fair at the end of the week. I truly appreciate each of you, thank you!

**Contact information**

**Sacred Heart Elementary**

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 412-441-1582  
[info@shes-pgh.org](mailto:info@shes-pgh.org)

**Principal**

*Sr. Lynn Rettinger*  
 412-441-1582

**PTG President**

*Andrea Leavitt*  
 412-

**www.sacredheartpgh.org**

*The newsletter, handbook, and other information are on the website.*

# 2011 First Quarter Honor Roll

Below is the Honor Roll for the 1st quarter of the 2011-2012 school year.

The six major subjects that are scheduled four or five days each week are listed below (Numbers 1-6). These core subjects are weighted more heavily than subjects scheduled once or twice a week. The subjects listed under Number 7 count as the 7th subject. Students with a D, E, or F in any subject are not eligible for Honor Roll.

1. Religion; 2. Reading; 3. English; 4. Social Studies; 5. Science/Health; 6. Math; 7. Handwriting, Spelling, Spanish, Physical Education, Computer, Art, Music.

A=4 points B=3 points  
C=2 points D=1 point

Highest Honor: 4.0  
High Honor: 3.6  
Honor: 3.2

## Highest Honor

Lindy Brennan  
Laura Condon  
Luke Deasy  
Molly DeLuca  
Sydney Hagmann  
Claudia Hebert  
Kelly McCulloch-Beatty  
Francesca Morgano  
Aidan Towsley

Julia Lewand  
Nathan Lucchino  
Maia McCabe  
Liliana Namestnik  
Olivia O'Connor  
Thomas O'Connor  
Natalie Palastro  
Abby Paytas  
Grace Poillucci  
Madalena Psillidis  
Alexander Rajakovich  
Alexandra Runco  
Isabelle Schmeler  
Jordan Schmitt  
Mark Shehady  
Sylvia Sterling-Angus  
Susan Trotter  
Isabelle Valcarce  
John Wearden  
Luke Wearden  
Catherine Zenkevich  
Julia Zenkevich  
Emma Zentarsky

Cecelia Cromer  
Jonah Deasy  
Quinn Deasy  
Teresa DePasquale  
Brody Dillon  
Caroline Fogarty  
John Gleason  
Ashley Grady  
Allyson Gruver  
Margaret Halferty  
Meredith Herndon  
Peter Hirst  
Kathleen Horner  
Renee Kramer  
Bridgit Lawler  
Anne Mastriano  
Dominic Means  
David Mitchell  
Shinka Mori  
Maura O'Connor  
Julia O'Hare  
Abigail Pechin  
Kiera Pleska  
Isabella Salvi  
Sophia Salvi  
Avery Santella  
Vinicius Santos  
Yo Sasatomi  
Sophia Stone  
Blaine Storey-Snyder  
Sydney Stromberg-Gallagher  
Nathan Terrick  
Luka Van De Venne  
Tess Zentarsky

## High Honor

Erika Amemiya  
Sydney Barlow  
Paul Bence  
Francesca Bowser  
Rory Brennan  
Isabelle Cromer  
Amy Culig  
Leah Culig  
Siena DeAngelo  
Jakob Denham  
Andrew Derda  
Tanell Franklin-Phillips  
Mary Nicole Gentile  
Madeleine Gormley  
Sophie Grebinoski  
James Hill  
Jessica Huang  
Mara Keen  
Olivia LeBlanc

## Honor

Shawna Broda  
Lark Davin-Blackson  
Giovanni Blanciak  
Isaac Boodoo  
Mackenzie Brickley  
Rori Cain  
Francisco Carattino  
Natalia Carballido  
Mollie Ciak

# Mass at Cathedral for Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe

The Parish of Saint Regis together with the Latino Communities of the Parish of Saint Paul in Butler and Holy Rosary in Muse invite everyone to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe at 7 p.m. on Monday, December 12 at St. Paul Cathedral in Oakland.

The principal celebrant will be Bishop David Zubik. A reception will follow the Mass in the Cathedral Social Hall.

For more information, call 412-681-9365.

# During Advent, make time for Reconciliation

The Catholic children of Sacred Heart Elementary will be offered the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (confession) during the weeks of the season of Advent.

Please be aware that the children (and their parents) should be receiving this sacrament regularly as a part of their Catholic formation.

# Tuition Reminder

A reminder to all parents, your 2nd tuition payment, for families who chose the 1P2P option, is due on January 15, 2012.

Please also be aware that January 20, 2012 is the end of the second quarter. All tuition payments, including late fees and bank fees, must be up-to-date at this time. If you are paying by check, please allow extra time for payments to post to your account.

# Kathy's Cranberry-Raisin Pie

(by Patty Just from *The Heart of Pittsburgh II*)

## Filling

2 cups uncooked cranberries	1-2 tablespoons brandy, to taste
1 1/2 cups golden raisins	1 teaspoon vanilla extract
1 1/2 cups sugar	Grated rind of 1 orange
1/4 cup maple syrup	
2 tablespoons butter, softened	1 (9 inch) unbaked pie shell

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

In a large mixing bowl, combine all filling ingredients; mix well. Pour filling into unbaked pie shell.

Bake for 15 minutes. Reduce temperature to 350 degrees; bake for an additional 30-40 minutes until set.

This rich pie is an attractive holiday dessert.

*Yield: 6 to 8 servings*

## First grade visits pumpkin farm

*By: Mary Wozniak and Ashley Linnelli  
First Grade Teachers*

First grade had a fantastic day at Triple B Farm! The children were able to observe farm animals, take a ride on a hay wagon, and coast down two large tunnel slides.

Mrs. B, the farmer's wife, helped the children to understand how very important bees are to farmers who grow our food. She also presented a lesson in the big barn on how pumpkins grow from a small seed into a large jack-o-lantern.

The children strolled through pumpkin village, which was full of their favorite nursery rhyme, storybook, and movie characters--- all with pumpkin heads! Every child was able to take a special pumpkin home to celebrate the fall harvest.

### SACRED HEART ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COOKBOOK ORDER FORM

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Send home with my child - Room No. \_\_\_\_\_

Family to Credit (for Family Assessment): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: SACRED HEART SCRIP PROGRAM

Item	Cost	Quantity	Total
Heart of Pittsburgh I (10%)	1 for \$15 2 for \$25		
Heart of Pittsburgh II (10%)	1 for \$15 2 for \$25		
Heart of Pittsburgh I and II (10%)	\$25		

Please return order forms and payment to school 12/2/11. Orders will be sent home during week of 12/12-12/16.

# Gala 2011 a lovely evening

*By Carrie Zenkevich  
Gala Chairperson*



Heinz Field's East Club Lounge glowed green on Saturday, November 12, at the second annual Green Tie Gala. This year's event was another huge success with 430 Sacred Heart parents, alumni, and friends who gathered to help raise money for the Mark C. Krotec Science Lab.

The evening kicked off with cocktails and feverish bidding on 100 exciting silent auction items. Then it was on to a delicious dinner and another bidding war at the live auction. Throughout the night, guests danced to the great sound of Swingtet Eight, and caught up with friends old and new. They also lined up to buy 50/50 raffle tickets and keys to open a treasure chest filled with \$1,000. Many also bought items from a festive "science equipment tree" that were on our science teachers' wish list for the new lab.



Four distinguished alumni and dear friends of Sacred Heart were honored at the Gala: William Mischler '38, Sr. Mary Clark, SC '53, John Tierney '67 and Tim O'Toole '69. Each alumnus was recognized by MC Mike Harvey, WTAE's chief meteorologist, and offered a special memory of their time at Sacred Heart. Honorary Chair, Poet Samuel Hazo, also graced us with his memories.



Thanks so much to our honored guests and the many generous sponsors, donors, volunteers, and friends who made it a fun and successful evening.