

FEBRUARY 2026



NEWSLETTER



ISSUE NO.
TWENTY-SIX

WESTSIDE CATHOLIC SCHOOL

MARKED BY ASH, DRAWN BY LOVE

In this time of Lent, we often ask a series of questions. How should I walk through this season? What should I read or study or give up or take on? These are good questions, but Jesus invites us into something deeper. He asks us what we treasure. Jesus gets to the heart of the matter. Jesus knows that how we spend our moments is how we spend our lives.

What we treasure is what we give ourselves to, how we spend our time, what occupies our thoughts and our energies. Our treasure is a good map for the direction of our lives. Paying attention to what we treasure may be a good question to ask in this time of Lent.

continued on next page

IN THIS ISSUE



CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE

Some treasure is of lasting and eternal value. Some treasure enriches and grows life. Some treasure encourages us to live fully in the present moment. And some treasure needs to be let go of, regardless of how much we think we love or need it. Some treasure accumulated, guarded, and piled up layer upon layer can insulate us and dull us to the presence of God, our neighbors, and the world—actually prohibiting us from the glorious freedom God intends.

The scripture for this day invites us to reflect on what we give our time, our energy, our devotion to. The prophet, the psalmist, the apostle, and Jesus all urge us to pay attention to how we live, how we pray, where what we treasure opens for us this day. We are asked to see what draws us closer to God, to ourselves, and to each other and what causes separation.

Where are you as we cross into the season of Lent? What is the state of your heart? What has taken up residence there over the past weeks, months, years? Are there habits, ways of being, that are keeping you from a deeper connection with God and with others? Are there concerns and worries that cut you off from experiencing God's healing love? Are your "to do lists" keeping you from seeing the delight of this very moment—which is always with us and is the perfect teacher. What gives you life and how is God preparing you to notice and be aware in this season?

The gospel for Ash Wednesday tells us that where our treasure is, there our hearts will be also.

This time of Lent is one of beginning. We start again today, knowing that how we spend our time and energy and what fills our hearts and minds shows what we truly value. May this time of Lent be a time of reflecting on our true treasure—opening our hearts to God who created us and walks with us each moment so that we may become a part of the beauty, the courage, the hope that is present in the world. As we are marked as God's own by a cross made of ash, may we listen for our true treasure, may we enter into God's goodness and dream for us all, beginning this day, beginning right now.

REGISTRATION INFO

Registration is open for current WCS students who have returned their call to participation paper following the Covenant Process Meeting.

If you have not completed the Covenant Process Meeting, please complete that as soon as possible.

Enrollment will open for new families on March 2nd.





We had two outstanding candidates who interviewed for the third grade position for 2026-2027. I'm happy to announce that **Mrs. Emily McDaniels** has accepted the position and is eager to join our WCS family in July. Emily has subbed for us throughout this school year. If you should bump into her, please welcome her to our family.

BREAKFAST

Start the day strong with breakfast! Lately, we've had several students come to the office with stomach aches because they skipped breakfast. Eating a healthy breakfast helps students have more energy, better focus, and improved memory. When children fuel their bodies in the morning, they are ready to learn, participate, and make the most of their day at school. Let's give our students the best start possible!





MARY JO TOWNSEND

**CAFETERIA
MANAGER**

A graphic featuring a green rectangular banner with the words "STAFF SPOTLIGHT" in white, bold, sans-serif font. The banner is surrounded by dark blue shapes, including a megaphone on the left and a circular pattern on the right.

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Mary Jo has been married to her husband, Mike for 57 years. They have 1 daughter and 3 sons who all graduated from Westside Catholic School. They have 9 grandkids and 2 great grandsons.

FEATURED 8TH GRADER



KARTER GRIES

Favorite class: P.E.

Favorite teacher: Mr. Ricketts

What do you want to be when you grow up:

Software Engineer

Favorite food: Sushi

Favorite movie: Boss Baby

FEATURED 8TH GRADER



JACKSON WENGER

Favorite sport: Football

What is your favorite food: beef and noodles

What do you want to be when you grow up:

Construction worker

What do you like best about Westside Catholic

School: "I will miss all the activities we do with school and PTO"

Most of the fliers are “clickable” on the PDF version of the newsletter and will direct you to a larger image of the flier, the associated website, or the forms that are needed.

The Saint Phillip dance is being rescheduled to February 27 at the same time!

Reschedule

Let's Dance!

7th & 8th Grade Dance

St. Philip

Admission: \$5

Drinks & Snacks available for purchase

Don't forget your Dance I.D.

WESTSIDE WILDCAT

BASEBALL TRYOUTS

MARCH 14 & 18, 2026

FACEBOOK.COM/EVWESTSIDEWILDCATS/

7U TRYOUT QR CODE

8U TRYOUT QR CODE

SCAN ME

SCAN ME

LOCATION & TIME WILL BE SENT AT A LATER DATE

Westside Catholic School

2026-2027 Year

August September October

November December January February

March April May

August 6: First day of school

September 7: Labor Day - No School

September 22: Saint Boniface Grandparent's Day

October 9: End of first quarter

October 9, 12, 13: Fall Break

November 23 & 24: Parent Teacher conferences

November 25-27: Thanksgiving break

December 10: Saint Agnes Christmas Program at 6:00

December 18: End of second quarter

December 21-January 3: Christmas break

January 4: Classes resume

January 18: Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School (Potential make-up day)

January 25-29: Catholic Schools Week

February 10: Ash Wednesday

February 12: Professional Development Day

February 15: President's Day - No School (Potential make-up day)

February 25: Saint Agnes Grandparent's Day

March 12: End of Third Quarter

March 22-26: Spring Break

March 29: Easter Monday - No School

April 16: No School (Potential make up day)

April 28: Professional Development Day

May 18: Pre-Kindergarten Graduation at 10:00 am

May 20: Last Day of School

MATER DEI

2026-2027

Cheer Tryouts

MON. 4/6 TRYOUT CLINIC 5:30-7:30 PARENT MEETING @ 7:15 MAIN GYM

TUES. 4/7 TRYOUT CLINIC 5:30-7:30 MAIN GYM

WED. 4/8 TRYOUTS 5:30-? MAIN GYM

Sign up now!

HOLY FIRE

INDIANAPOLIS

Sat., February 28, 2026 - 5:00am to 7:30pm

Pike Performing Arts Center

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

A Collaboration of Evansville Parishes

Holy Redeemer, St. Boniface, Corpus Christi, Resurrection, St. Philip, St Joe Co, St. Wendel, St. Francis Xavier, Good Shepherd, Holy Rosary, St Benedict, Annunciation, St. John the Baptist - Newburgh, St John Evangelist - Daylight

For 6th, 7th & 8th Graders!

Noelle Garcia, Brian Greenfield, Most Rev. Charles C. Thompson, Giancarlo Bernini

REGISTRATION IS OPEN! ARCHINDIYM.COM/HOLY-FIRE

Hosted by the Archdiocese of Indianapolis

TUTORING INFORMATION

Some of our teachers tutor after school, which is a wonderful gift they choose to give. Diocesan Policy states that there must be two adults in the room when one is tutoring after 3:00 p.m. (teachers are technically off contract at this time); this is to protect both the student and the teacher (safe environment). Unfortunately, this policy has not been consistently followed. Beginning on Monday, Feb. 16, we will follow the policy. Those who tutor have several options, they can find an adult who is willing to work in the same room in which they are tutoring. They can tutor off site--the public library has spaces for tutoring. St. Agnes is another option as there is aftercare there and one can tutor in the corner of the gym. I realize this is an inconvenience for some of you--but protecting our teachers and our students is a priority. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sister Catherine

PTO NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Our wonderful PTO is always planning and putting on great events for our students, staff, and families. To make these events successful, they need volunteers. Please click the link and sign up to help out.

[WCS Volunteer Second Semester Sign Up Link](#)



YOUTH FIRST PARENT AND CAREGIVER RESOURCES FOR RESILIENCY



Youth First is empowering parents with monthly talks

February 2026

"Not All Stress is Bad."

Topic: The Difference Between Stress and Distress for Children and Adolescents.

Read the full article [here](#)



SAINT AGNES CHURCH

THURSDAY - 8:00 AM
SATURDAY - 4:30 PM



SAINT BONIFACE CHURCH

TUESDAY - 8:00 AM
WEDNESDAY - 5:30 PM
SUNDAY - 10:00 AM



SACRED HEART CHURCH

MONDAY - 7:30 PM
FRIDAY - 7:30 AM
SUNDAY - 7:30 AM
LATIN MASS
SUNDAY - 12:00 PM



ADORATION TIMES
MONDAY - 6:30 PM SACRED HEART
FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM - SACRED HEART

GROTTO
SATURDAY - 8:00 AM

UPCOMING DATES

- First grade field trip - March 2
- I Read testing - March 2-13
- End of 3rd quarter - March 6
- Family Fun Time At Saint Annes 1-3pm - March 7
- Fish Fry - March 13
- 3rd, 4th, 5th field trip - March 20
- Kindergarten teddy bear picnic - March 20
- Spring Break - March 23-29

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

- Weyland Wetzel - 1
- Beccy Winn - 1
- Loeretta Brickey - 2
- Parker Bateman - 4
- Cecilia McBride - 8
- Tesla VanMeter - 11
- Lettie Garrett - 13
- Levi Brown - 14
- Charlie Nagy - 15
- Veronica Rainey - 16
- Kaisley Cook - 17
- Bernard Zenthoefer - 21
- Kylie Gries - 27
- Jameson Rousey - 27
- Wyatt Reidford - 28
- Aria Wilson - 28

The luncheon that families could attend with their students will be rescheduled for April 17. More details to follow.

ONE FAITH. ONE FAMILY. ONE FUTURE.