

"BE THE LIGHT!" February 24, 2023

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, and Friend of Gibault Catholic High School,



**ARE THE ASHES STILL THERE?** They could be in a spiritual way if we make this Lent special. What does it take? Do something. Maybe commit to your Sunday obligation. Read a spiritual book as part of prayer. Use the Rice Bowls from Catholic Relief Services for your alms. Observe the fast and abstinence and maybe exercise routinely. Fr. Carl reminded our students this week that Lent is like "Spring Training" for baseball. We want to be prepared and ready for the Three High Holy Days that are coming and the joy of Easter. Easter will feel so much better for us if we have a good spring training.

### A PRAYER FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Eternal God, on this day of ashes, even before they touch my forehead, I can taste them in my mouth. The taste of things I should not have said, of my own foolishness, of pride, unkindness, of ignorance. I feel them in my throat, the silence where I should have spoken and the grief that lives there. I feel their rumble in my stomach, the upheaval of ashy injustice that I too easily banish with a cookie or a pile of chips. This day, I pray, let the ashes lead to repentance, and then to more... In Lent's stillness, may an image of your fullness for all of us arise.

In the name and path of Jesus, Amen. —Mary Austin

### PRAY FOR THE PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

Bishop McGovern invites you to join him in a minute of silent prayer for the people of Ukraine.

Friday, February 24 at Noon The first anniversary of the war in Ukraine.



We joined Bishop McGovern today in prayer. One year: hundreds of thousands dead, hundreds of thousands injured, millions displaced, food shortages, economies upended, **When elephants fight, the grass suffers.** (African Proverb) Not just Ukraine and Russia are suffering. Us. Hatred spewed in all directions. A re-emphasis on the arms race. Global markets. Pray for the Russian people who are victimized by this war. Grant us peace Lord!



**Trevor Davis '17,** reminded us why we have the **Gibault Senior Project** last Friday. I was so proud of him and how he wove service and Scripture into his remarks. He still has the thank you cards the little ones gave him when he finished his project! Trevor also coaches for us and represents us well! Thank you Trevor! The Class of 2023 will offer future testimonials to this great program!









Congratulations to a pair of K's (Kaden and Kam) on getting a pair of 1,000 points this year. Kaden Augustine scored 40 points against Lebanon to hit the coveted 1,000 mark last Saturday. 1,000 points in a high school career is a rare accomplishment. And we have two in Kaden Augustine and Kameron Hanvey! And the Hawks are 26-7 and play tonight at 7:00 in the Regional Championship at Dupo vs. Lovejoy. Let's have a great turnout and good sportsmanship to support our high flying Hawks!





**CONGRATULATIONS** to **Konnor Cartee** on placing 6<sup>th</sup> and medaling in his event last Saturday at the IHSA Meet in Edwardsville. His time of 1:44:12 was his best by 7 seconds! He was 6<sup>th</sup> of 19. **Hudson Blank** was 11<sup>th</sup> of 39 in his event and they then doubled up for the hard court that night! We are proud of them for representing us.

**eSports** The Gibault VALORANT team played their "first" match last night (our real first match had technical issues). Two players played in-person and the other three participated remotely. It was a close match with a similarly sized school in Texas, with rounds going back and forth all the way through the very end. Unfortunately, victory evaded us in a triple-overtime to defeat with a score of 14-16 to Lamar Academy in McAllen, Texas. Nonetheless, each of us had lots of fun, and we were already talking about how we can be better for next time as soon as the match ended. The whole game was recorded, so we will be sure to look at what we did right, what we did wrong, and come back stronger next time. Secondly, one of our key members will not be able to play next week as he will be out of the country on senior service. We are still searching for a substitute for this match on March 1st and any help with this would be appreciated so we do not have to make it up. Thanks to Nate Nevois for reporting!

**Scholar Bowl** Varsity and Jr. Varsity won two last night vs. New Athens JV 240-70 and Varsity 380-160! Our next match is against the Faculty and then Regionals at Metro East Lutheran on March 6. Thanks TEAM and Coach Pat Hurst and all our faculty who have stepped up to help!

<u>The TRUCK</u> One big Ford heavy-duty thank you to Gibault sophomore John Bollone for repairing the wiring and tubing and replacing a pressure regulator for our Gibault community. Around here, you want something done, put your students to work! Thank you, John!

<u>OERTER PARK CLEAN-UP FROM 9:00 TILL NOON TOMORROW.</u> You don't have to be an athlete or environmentalist to love Oerter Park. This could be a non-monetary almsgiving project for you. We have three signed up but 33 would be better! Thanks to the Maple Grove Board for making our home field one of the best in the Metro area!

**Yesterday marked the day in 1779** that George Rogers Clark launched his campaign to recapture Ft. Vincennes from the British during the American Revolutionary War, a campaign which was assisted by our namesake Fr. Pierre Gibault. Fr. Gibault was a "patriot priest" who convinced the French in Vincennes and the "Illinois Country" where we live to side with the Americans over the British. Clark was the older brother of William Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. We scratched our heads when Fr. Ed chose our namesake. But it was a very good choice! (Thanks, Mr. O'Brien!)

Want to Make A Difference in the Life of a Child? Retired too soon and still want to teach and/or lead? Why not collect your retirement and work in a Catholic school? We want you and our students need you! Come share your expertise and passion in a faith based setting! Contact the Diocese of Belleville, Office of Education at officeofeducation@diobelle.org for more information!

Month's Mind PADEN Thanks to everyone's incredible generosity, the National Honor Society has so far raised over \$1,000 for Paden's campus memorial. We will add a tree to new Memorial Cross Patio. It has been a month next week since we lost Paden. We will have the Cheeze-Its out in his memory. "Month's Mind" is an anniversary date and it calls to mind the 30 days the Hebrews waited, out of respect, to take Moses body into the Promised Land for burial. Because he struck the rock twice, we didn't make it into the Promised Land alive. But he got there!

Our condolences to Bonita Lieb of our cafeteria on the loss of her husband <u>Russ</u>. Please lift up Bonita and her family in your prayers. Our consolation is that Russ's life is changed, not ended, and our Good God sits with us on the mourning bench.



**Time to think** about broadening your horizon, helping the world, and making a lifetime difference for a motivated youth seeking to learn in America. Please contact so we can start to meet the needs of students who want the Gibault advantage. Their tuition helps us keep our costs down so we are a little selfish, too, and we do have the room!

**RAFFLE-MANIA!** With a purchase of a \$25 ticket, you are entered for:

- \$30 Daily Drawings on Monday-Friday from January 1 May 31
- \$100 Bonus Winner the last day of each month (January April)
- GRAND PRIZES in May for \$2,000, \$1,000, \$500, and \$250!

If your ticket is pulled for a prize, it goes right back in, so you have the chance to win again! Tickets can be purchased online at: <a href="https://one.bidpal.net/rafflemania">https://one.bidpal.net/rafflemania</a> or by contacting any Gibault student, or by calling the school office at 939-3883.

**EMPOWER ILLINOIS** Yes, I find the process cumbersome. (But only for the first year.) I am tired of hearing about it. But now I know how vital it is for our students. We have over \$200,000 in approved requests right now. We only received \$157,000 last year. We cannot handle everyone's needs. But it is tax time, and I love my credit for State taxes taken off my bill. Give \$1,000 to Empower. Get \$750 tax credit. Only costs me \$250 to get a \$1,000 worth of good for a deserving student. Try it and see if you feel better at tax time next year!

We have a dollar for dollar match up to \$10,000 that just started and goes until April 15. The match is the perfect time to reach out to potential new donors as it is an extra incentive to jump through the hoop of: requesting a letter ID, signing up on MyTax, reserving a tax credit, and donating.

4.95% of your income is paid to the Illinois government due to income taxes, and this program redirects those tax dollars. If you usually get a refund tax after filing their taxes and if your income

remains the same, your refund would be larger. <u>For Illinois citizens who work for a company in MO but do so remotely, they are now paying state of Illinois income taxes rather than MO.</u>

This program allows donors to:

- 1. Control what their tax dollars fund
- 2. Choose what city their tax dollars go to
- 3. Help your school grow in ability to be financially independent of the church/Diocese (if attached to one)
- 4. Reduce the ask of the church/Diocese subsidy (if attached to one)

If potential new donors are concerned that their donation must go to a scholarship when they would prefer it to go to the athletic fund, technology fund, a building campaign, etc, then you can explain that by donating through TCS, they can actually help those respective funds **more** since they can donate what they would have out of pocket **plus their income taxes**. Empower Illinois. Go to our website. Apply for your unique ID. Then make your donation designating Region V and Gibault as your choice! Thank you from a believer!

**PRAYER LIST:** Dave Brauer, Keith Jackson, Seth Watters, Julie Doerr, DeLayne Doerr and all who are suffering from major health issues...We pray to the Lord.

THIS SUNDAY'S GOSPEL: Who of us doesn't prepare for a major life change or even going on a trip? Jesus heads to the desert for 40 days of prayer and fasting. His Mission has begun. Yet, in all his humanity, he suffers from the temptations of the devil. Creation is the first Incarnation. Jesus is the second. Jesus who was always God is now in human form, takes the nature of a slave, to complete creation by saving us and showing us how to live. Get to the Mass this weekend. Make your Lent count!

Mike Kish Principal

Gibault Catholic High School

michael L. Kish

Gibault Women's Club

## Saturday, March 18th

5:00 - 9:00 \$30/person



# Enjoy an evening of food and drink tastings from our local vendors.

Entertainment by the Gibault Jazz Band and Lanny and Julie

- · scan the QR code for details and to purchase tickets online
- visit https://ghs-womensclub.square.site
- tickets can be purchased by cash or check at the school office 8:00-3:00 M-F
- Tickets will also be available to purchase at the door.



Over 20 vendors already! Come tickle your pallet and the joy of fellowship! This would make for an All-School Reunion Night! Get our classmates together!





Glow Volleyball:

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0d4caba729a0facf8-jrhigh#/





Come and see why Gibault is here for you!

Blessings on our sponsors---what a night awaits us!



Don't miss FF! The endorphins will flow!



TOR/Poker Run – <a href="https://ghs-womensclub.square.site/">https://ghs-womensclub.square.site/</a>

Card swaps \$5 each!

more info, call (618) 660-6703 or email bcpapenberg@g



#### Decree of Dispensation

Given the penitential nature of the Season of Lent, the Bishops of the United States have preserved in our dioceses the tradition of abstinence from meat on each of the Fridays of Lent, "confident that no Catholic Christian will lightly hold himself excused from this penitential practice" (National Conference of Catholic Bishops, Statement, November 18, 1966, n. 13).

The law of abstinence binds those Catholics who have completed the fourteenth year of their age (can. 1252).

"During the Lenten season, certain feasts occur which the liturgy or local custom traditionally exempts from the Lenten spirit of penance. The observance of these will continue to be set by local diocesan regulations..." (Statement, n. 16).

This year, the Memorial of Saint Patrick falls on Friday, March 17. It is well known that Saint Patrick's Day is a day of convivial celebration for many American Catholics.

I therefore decree that on Friday, March 17, 2023, all Catholics of the Diocese of Belleville, no matter where they may be, and all other Catholics actually present in the Diocese on that day, are, by my authority, dispensed from the obligation (can. 87 §1).

It is not required that anyone make use of this dispensation. Those who do wish to make use of it are encouraged to abstain from meat on some other day as part of their penitential practices during Lent.

Given this twenty-third day of February two thousand twenty-three in the Diocese of Belleville.

Most Reverend Michael McGovern

Bishop of Belleville

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One exciting Monroe County educational venture is the Startup Program. Please join in their fun fundraiser! See "Swooshin 3" below.

