



From the Desk of Mrs. Leahy

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Students Attend Ordination



At 6:30 am, on Saturday, May 8, eleven, excited grade eight students, dressed in full uniform from Saint Martin de Porres School boarded a bus in route to New York City. These eleven students volunteered to spend their Saturday witnessing a very special event that would provide memories that are sure to last a life time. The destination of these young adults was the ordination of Christopher Argano.

special people that mean so much to them from Saint Martin's; Monsignor Sullivan, Father Gui and of course, the soon to be Father Chris. This Sacrament of Holy Orders was lead by our new Archbishop Timothy Dolan and was full of many special moments that made many positive impressions on these children from our parish school.

represented Saint Martin de Porres School in Poughkeepsie, the BEST catholic school in the Archdiocese of New York.

After a fun and long bus ride into the city, the children arrived at Saint Patrick's Cathedral and took their seats and awaited for the special event. As soon as the ceremony began all eleven sets of eyes were focused on the procession looking for those three

After the ceremony was over, the children waited in line to receive a blessing from Father Chris. While waiting in line these students had the opportunity to meet our new Archbishop and enthusiastically and proudly told our new Archbishop Dolan and everyone else that was near that they were there for Father Chris and that they

By joining in prayer, as they witnessed the ordination of Father Chris, these children experienced an emotionally, up-lifting event that was truly inspiring. An event that they are all grateful to be a part of. An event that touched their hearts just as Father Chris has.

Items for June 2009

<i>Celebration of the Eucharist-Clergy day</i>	5
<i>"Field Day</i>	9
<i>Grade 8 Graduation</i>	12
<i>New Student Orientation</i>	15
<i>Early Dismissal</i>	15-19
<i>Last Day of School</i>	19

ITBS Results Reach New Heights

In April 2009, all students in grades 1 through 8 took the Iowa Test of Basic Skills. The ITBS Test is a standardized test that measures a student's ability at their grade level and compares them to others locally and nationally. The results of this test also provides our school with individual results that allow us to develop an individual instructional plan for all students that helps us

to meet their individual needs.

For the 2009 school year Saint Martin's results showed an overall increase from the 73 percentile in 2008 to the 84th percentile for the current school year. This is an outstanding improvement! With the national and local averages at the 50th percentile, Saint Martin's students and faculty have much to be proud of. Our results validate that

Saint Martin's is a school of academic excellence. A school that continues to challenge ourselves to be the best we can be. Congratulations to our students and their teachers for working so hard and reaching new heights as well as for setting goals that will challenge our school to continue to improve each year while keeping our faith and children first.

Grade 4 - New York State Science Test Results Are Fantastic

On Tuesday, May 4 our grade 4 students took the 2009 New York State Grade 4 Science Test. At this time it is my pleasure to report the results of this exam to you. 25 of our grade 4 students took the New York State Exam and all 25 passed. Out of our 25 students, **22 of our grade 4 students scored in the highest performance level with a score of a 4** which indicates that those children meet the New York State Standards with distinction and showed evidence of superior under-

standing of the content, the concepts, and the skills required for elementary level achievement in each of the



Caption describing picture or

learning standards and key ideas assessed in Science.

Three of the students scored in the performance level 3 which indicates that they meet the New York State Standards showing knowledge and understanding

of the content, the concepts, and the skills required for elementary achievement of the learning standards that are assessed in Science.

We are extremely pleased with the work of all of our students in grade 4 as well as their science teacher, Mrs. Pam Van DeWater. Congratulations to these students, all their current and former teachers, and you, the parents who are our partners in your child's education.

Barnes & Noble Day a Success

Due to the overwhelming support of both our school and parish community our spring Barnes & Noble day held on May 7th was a huge success. Under the coordination of Mrs. Jen Scarpati, this event raised more that \$647.00 dollars for our school.

The day would not have been a complete success if it were not for the involvement of many of our families, students and seniors,

parishioners, and friends of Saint Martin's parish. For the first time, the seniors of Saint Martin's shared their artistic talents and displayed their art work and offered art lessons to those who attended. Others read to our children and were involved in ways that allowed them to share their talents with others. Our children in grades 1 through 4 brightened our evening with songs

of joy as well as many of our older students who also shared their musical talents with all who attended.

Please know how grateful we are to all who supported this event as it was truly another example of how Saint Martin's community works together and supports each other. How blessed we are to be a part of such a loving and supportive parish!

A Few Upcoming Events

Clergy Day-This Friday we will join together with the clergy of our parish to thank them and celebrate the Eucharist together at the 9:00 am mass. This mass is being prepared by our grade 2 students and all are welcomed to attend.

Early Dismissal-Friday, June 5 is an early dismissal at 11:30 due to a

faculty meeting. After care is available for all who are in need of this service.

Field Day will be held on Tuesday, June 9th. If lunch is needed for that day all orders must be in by Friday, June 5th.

Grade 8 Graduation will take place on Friday, June 12th at 7:00 pm.

This is sure to be a special evening as this class has touched our hearts in so many ways.

New Student Orientation will take place on Monday, June 15 from 9:00 to 10:30 am. On this day we will welcome all new students and their families to our wonderful school community.