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For Immediate Release

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Saint Albert Schools Celebrate Catholic Schools Week

As the only Catholic school system in southwest Iowa, Saint Albert Catholic Schools is proud to celebrate Catholic Schools Week Jan. 25-31. The theme of this year's celebration is "*Catholic Schools Celebrate Service.*"

With service being the focus of this year's celebration, all students will collect gloves, mitten and hats throughout the week. The seniors and Intermediate students (grades 4-6) also will make fleece tie blankets. The items will be donated to Youth Emergency Services (YES), and area agencies to assist youth living on the streets in the Council Bluffs/Omaha metro community.

Other activities are as follows:

Sunday, January 25

Students will participate in Masses at their home parishes. Alumni, students and parents also will speak about the value of Catholic education.

Community Open House from 1-3:00 p.m. at Saint Albert High School, 400 Gleason Avenue. Prospective students will visit the school to learn first-hand about the school's academic and extracurricular activities. Guests also will have the opportunity to tour the school's new Primary School addition and Early Childhood Development Center.

Monday, January 26

Parent/Grandparent Luncheon from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for students in K-3rd grades at Saint Albert Primary School, 2912 9th Avenue.

The Junior High Leadership Group and High School Student Council will write thank you notes to the Foundation Board, Priests, and Area Board of Education thanking them for supporting the school.

Intermediate School Student Council will conduct a Book Sale.

Tuesday, January 27

Students in 4th-8th grades will participate in an anti-bullying program from 9:30-11 a.m., 400 Gleason Avenue.

Parent/Grandparent Luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. for students in 4-6th grades at Saint Albert Intermediate, 400 Gleason Avenue.

Academic bowl for the Junior High students (2-3 p.m.) – students will test their knowledge in a “Jeopardy” game show competition between the grades.

Wednesday, January 28

Parent/Grandparent Luncheon at the Junior/Senior High School from 11:20 a.m.-12:35 p.m.

One Act Play/Speech Performance for Junior/Senior High students from 12:40-1:20 p.m.

Thursday, January 29

All-school Mass at 10 a.m. in the gymnasium at 400 Gleason Avenue; Council Bluffs Mayor Pro Tem Scott Belt will read a proclamation declaring the week Catholic Schools Week in the city of Council Bluffs.

Seniors will assist teachers at the Primary School, 2912 9th Avenue, with classroom activities in PreK through 3rd grades (11:30 a.m.-2:55 p.m.).

Luncheon for faculty/staff sponsored by Booster Club and PSG

Elementary students will participate in 100th Day of School activities.

Friday, January 30

Saint Albert Spirit Day – students in K-12th grades will show their school spirit by wearing green and gold clothing instead of their school uniforms

Junior/Senior High School Dodge Ball Tournament in the gym at Gleason Avenue campus (2-2:45 p.m.)

4th grade students will present their Invention Convention entries (2 p.m.)

Ice Cream Social for PreK-12th grades (2:45 p.m.) at Gleason Avenue and 9th Avenue campuses

High School students will participate in a Winter Dance

“Saint Albert Catholic Schools is a unique part of the educational landscape in southwest Iowa, and we’re proud of the faith-based education we provide,” Saint Albert President Jim Rouse said. “We invite everyone in the community to get acquainted with Saint Albert during Catholic Schools Week.”

Catholic Schools Week is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) for the nation’s 7,800 Catholic schools.

Photo/video opportunities are available at each activity. If you would like to cover one of these events and see first-hand the unique educational experience Saint Albert provides, please call Jenny Van Soelen at 329-9000.