

FRIDAY, MAY 15 2026

THE  
**FRIDAY  
CRUSADER**



**ST FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL**  
414 Michigan Street, Petoskey, MI. 49770  
School Office: 231.348.2360

**REMINDERS**

5/18-5/22 - Non-uniform week (raffle incentive)

5/20 - Middle School Retreat

5/21 - High School Senior walk-thru at SFX

5/22-5/25 - No school Friday & Monday

6/1 - Field Day (parent volunteers needed)

6/4 - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation

6/10 - Last day of school



**SFX Church bulletin for May 17th**

**Sign up for Playground Duty - May and June SignUp Genius is available [HERE!](#)**

**Lunch Menu for May/June found [HERE!](#)**

**Youth Mass Sign-up; it's THIS weekend and we need your help!**

**Virtue of the Month: Humility**

The month of May brings us to our final "virtue of the month"; perhaps the most important virtue of all—**humility**. Today's culture often measures worth by likes and followers. Social media can easily become a spot for self-promotion, comparison, and pride. **Today's world glorifies image and competition, while mistaking humility for weakness or insecurity.** True humility brings freedom, not fear. Pride, alternatively, ties our worth to success or failure—lifting us up when things go well and tearing us down when they don't. It convinces us that we can be "enough" on our own. Humility reminds us that we are not self-sufficient; God is always enough for us.

Bishop Fulton Sheen once wrote, "**Humility does not mean a submissiveness, a passiveness, a willingness to be walked on, or a desire to live in the doghouse. Humility is a virtue by which we recognize ourselves as we really are, not as we would like to be in the eyes of the public; not as our press notices say we are, but as we are in the sight of God when we examine our conscience.**" In contrast, Bishop Sheen described pride as "**the king of all vices and the foundational root of all human unhappiness.**" Pride blinds us to our dependence on God, while humility opens our hearts to grace and truth.

St. Thérèse of Lisieux, known as **The Little Flower**, believed holiness could be found not in grand gestures, but in small acts of love done with great humility. Thérèse wrote that true greatness lies in recognizing one's littleness before God and trusting completely in His mercy.

She once said that she sought “little opportunities, mere trifles, to give pleasure to Jesus,” such as offering a smile, a kind word, or patience in difficulty. **In her simplicity, she reminds us that humility is found in doing ordinary things with extraordinary love.** St. Thérèse’s “Little Way” reminds everyone to embrace humility by accepting our limits and relying on God’s grace.

### Teaching Humility to Children

Humility is not about “thinking less of ourselves—it’s about thinking of ourselves less” (CS Lewis). It helps children see their worth in God’s love, not in comparison or achievement.

Examples of encouraging humility for students:

- **Apologize.** Admit mistakes and show that it’s okay to be wrong. Say “I’m sorry”.
- **Encourage service.** Acts of service remind us that every person has value.
- **Celebrate effort, not just results.** Praise perseverance and teamwork over perfection.
- **Practice gratitude.** Remind children that every gift—talent, success, and opportunity—comes from God.
- **Humility in Athletics.** Losing a game with grace and winning without bragging

What a beautiful way to continue honoring Mother Mary during the month of May—by thinking less of ourselves and more of others. That is exactly what Mary did when she said “yes” to God.. Would you like to learn more about Mother Mary’s understanding of this virtue? [Click here to read the Divine Mercy’s Reflection on Mary.](#)

**“Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.”**  
– Matthew 23:12

Humility is the mother of all virtues;  
purity, charity and obedience. It is in  
being humble that our love becomes real,  
devoted and ardent. If you are humble  
nothing will touch you, neither praise nor  
disgrace, because you know what you  
are. If you are blamed you will not be  
discouraged. If they call you a saint you  
will not put yourself on a pedestal.

Mother Teresa

✧ SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS ✧

**Thank you to all families for your incredible support in selling raffle tickets!** As one of the school incentives, students have earned a **Non-Uniform Week next week (May 18th-22nd).**

**Reminder:** There is still a dress code for non-uniform days. [Click here if you need to review it!](#)

**Another raffle incentive for our younger elementary students will be taking place next week.** They will head to the Petoskey FieldHouse for a field trip full of fun and activities! Thank you to the Petoskey FieldHouse for sponsoring this incentive AGAIN!

**Looking for the May and June Lunch menu? Click [HERE!](#)**

**We only have FOUR students signed up for youth mass and it's THIS WEEKEND! We are in need of lectors, greeters, ushers, and a family to bring the gifts up. This is our LAST youth mass of the school year....help us to make it a success. Please click here to sign up!**

**The 6th grade pancake breakfast is on Sunday, May 17th from 9a-12p in the SFX church basement.** Thank you to our breakfast sponsor, Triumph Custom Builders.

**ATTENTION middle school athletes for next year!** Physicals are required in order to participate in SFX sports, including the middle school co-op sports. The Petoskey Athletic Department will be hosting its annual Physical Clinic on Wednesday, June 3rd from 6-8pm in the PHS Main Gym. Cost is \$15. Middle school parents must be accompanied by an adult.

**A few upcoming dates:**

- June 1st - Field Day
- June 2nd - One Room SchoolHouse (4th Grade)
- June 3rd - Middle School Physicals at PHS Main Gym 6-8p \$15
- June 4th - Revolutionary Days (5th Grade)
- June 4th - 8th grade graduation (all school families welcome to attend!)
- June 5th - Downtown Flower Planting
- June 5th - Pie in the Face (Raffle incentive)
- June 10th - Last Day of School (11:40a dismissal)
- June 22nd - Vacation Bible School week



# 6TH GRADE PANCAKE BREAKFAST



\$12  
PER  
PERSON

SUNDAY, MAY 17TH

\$40  
PER  
FAMILY

9:00AM TO NOON  
ST. FRANCIS CHURCH BASEMENT

HELP SUPPORT OUR 6<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CLASS AS THEY  
SAVE UP FOR THEIR FUTURE 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE TRIP.

THANK YOU TO OUR  
BREAKFAST SPONSOR,  
TRUIMPH CUSTOM HOMES



Sign up to volunteer at Youth Mass on May 17th!



## PTO & GALA UPDATES



**The last PTO meeting of the school year will be held on Monday, June 1st.**

**Voting for your 2026/27 SFX PTO Officers has officially closed.** Thank you to everyone who took the time to cast a vote. Your PTO officers for next school year are:

**Katie Flynn - President**

**Chris Lessuise - Vice President**

**Katy Hansen - Secretary**

**Beth Lieberman - Treasurer**

Thank you to Jessica Stone, Eden Haven and Tisha Cone for their time and support this year.

**Thank you to all of the moms who attended the Mother/Son Skating Party! It was a FUN Friday night...thank you to our PTO for coordinating this fun event**





✧ ✧ OTHER HAPPENINGS.... ✧ ✧

**We still have a few spots open in next year's Developmental Kindergarten class!**

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL Developmental Kindergarten



HEAR FROM  
OUR  
PARENTS!

Call for more info:  
231-348-2360



“Enrolling our children in the DK program was one of the best decisions we made. The extra year provided the maturity and foundational skills they needed to thrive in kindergarten. Mrs. Olson and Mrs. Hoffman are incredible teachers who truly care about every child.”

– Lauren Simon



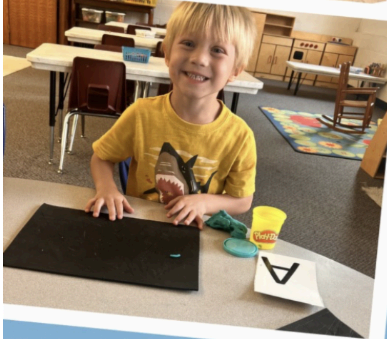
“DK is a true must for families seeking exceptional early childhood education in Northern Michigan. Its strong foundation in essential kindergarten skills, combined with the DK team’s intentionality, experience, and care, has led to tremendous academic growth and gives our family full confidence in our child’s long-term academic success.”

– Maggie Lee

## Young 5s Program – The benefit of an extra year

DK is designed for children with late summer early winter birthdays.

- Letter & sound identification
- Rhyming & word families
- Number recognition & counting
- Patterns & sorting
- Proper pencil grip & letter formation
- Hands-on learning centers
- Faith-based learning through stories & prayer
- Building confidence & social skills



**Now enrolling for 26-27 school year!**

**Helping children grow academically, socially, and spiritually before Kindergarten.**

**Congratulations to our students who won the April virtue of the month award for Self Control!! Way to go!**



**We were excited to welcome our new "Principals for the Day" at SFX last Friday!**

Our guest principals had a very busy and productive schedule. They began the morning by conducting rounds throughout the classrooms to check in with staff and students. Their day also included reading to our DK and Pre-K classes, monitoring Middle School P.E., writing thank-you cards to donors, and assisting with various errands around the school. To celebrate their hard work, they enjoyed a pizza party in the office with two friends. To wrap up the day, they surprised the entire school with a special dance party!



**The 8th graders enjoyed their 8th grade trip this week!** Thank you to all of the supporters who made this trip possible. Their first stop? The Solanus Casey Center where Brother Mike led them on a tour of the center. The students attended the weekly healing service.



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**We have plenty of space in next year's kindergarten class! Spread the word.**



# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL Kindergarten




Mrs. Rash and Ms. Kreft create a nurturing classroom where strong academics and faith go hand in hand. Through differentiated instruction, each child is supported, challenged, and encouraged to grow.

## Our kindergarten students...



- **Grow in faith** through prayer, Mass, and learning about Jesus
- **Build literacy skills** in letter sounds, sight words, handwriting, reading, and storytelling
- **Explore math, science, and social studies** through play, creativity, and hands-on learning
- **Develop confidence and independence** while building friendships, practicing kindness, and following directions



**231-348-2360** 

**NOW ENROLLING 2026-2027 SCHOOL YEAR**

**FAITH-FILLED LEARNING • STRONG ACADEMICS • SMALL CLASS SIZES**

**The chicks hatched! Kindergarten kiddos are having a blast holding the baby chicks.**





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**Sometimes....you just need to spend some time with Jesus.**





**The 1st Annual SFX School Golf outing is this weekend!! There is still time to register. See the flyer below!**

# ST. FRANCIS XAVIER SCHOOL

in **PETOSKEY, MI**

## 2026 GOLF OUTING



**MAY 17, 2026**



**CHESTNUT VALLEY GOLF COURSE**



### 1:30 Shotgun Start

To register your foursome by phone, call Kevin Whitmore: (231)838-7805

Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place teams, as well as closest to the pin, longest drive, longest putt made, and an optional skins game. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and additional prizes.

## Join Us for a Day of Golf & Giving!

Supporting Catholic education and student opportunities at St. Francis Xavier School.

### Registration

**\$125 per golfer | \$500 per foursome**

**Goal: 30 teams (120 golfers)**

12:30-1:00 pm: Free Golf Clinic on range by PGA Professional Kevin Whitmore

### Sponsorship Opportunities

#### Major Sponsor

Title (1) \$7,500

Eagle (1) \$3,000

Birdie (1) \$1,500

#### Course Sponsor

Beverage Cart (1) \$500

Driving Range (1) \$500

Putting Green (1) \$500

Hole (1) \$250

#### Event Sponsor

Boxed Lunch (1) \$2,500

Pay for 1 lunch bag for each golfer (sandwich, chips, cookie)

Dinner (1) \$2,500

Pay for buffet dinner (entree, sides, etc. TBD)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Visa  MC  Amex  Discover  Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_ EXP DATE \_\_\_\_\_

Pay Via Check  Check NO: \_\_\_\_\_ Make check to: \_\_\_\_\_

or scan here



[paybee.io/@stfrancis@110](https://paybee.io/@stfrancis@110)

**Register for the golf outing - THIS SUNDAY!**

# FILL THE Crib

## HELP SUPPORT LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

Join us in caring for moms, dads,  
and babies in our community by  
donating essential baby items.



## MOST NEEDED ITEMS



### DIAPERS & TRAINING PANTS

- Diapers (Sizes 4, 5, 6, 7)  
*Preferred brands: Pampers, Huggies*
- Pull-Ups / Training Pants  
(all sizes)



### WIPES

- Sensitive baby wipes  
*Preferred brands:  
Pampers, Huggies*



### EVERY ITEM DONATED MAKES A DIFFERENCE.

Your generosity helps us meet real, everyday needs—  
allowing us to come alongside families with  
both practical support and compassionate care.

*The Haven*  
PREGNANCY & FAMILY  
RESOURCE CENTER  
OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

♥ THANK YOU FOR HELPING US "FILL THE CRIB"! ♥

SUNDAY  
**MAY 24**  
3:00 PM - 6:00 PM  
**FREE ADMISSION**  
Freewill offerings  
Accepted

3rd ANNUAL

**CLERGY &  
RELIGIOUS  
VS  
STUDENTS**



**TURTLE CREEK STADIUM**  
333 STADIUM DRIVE  
TRAVERSE CITY, MI 49685

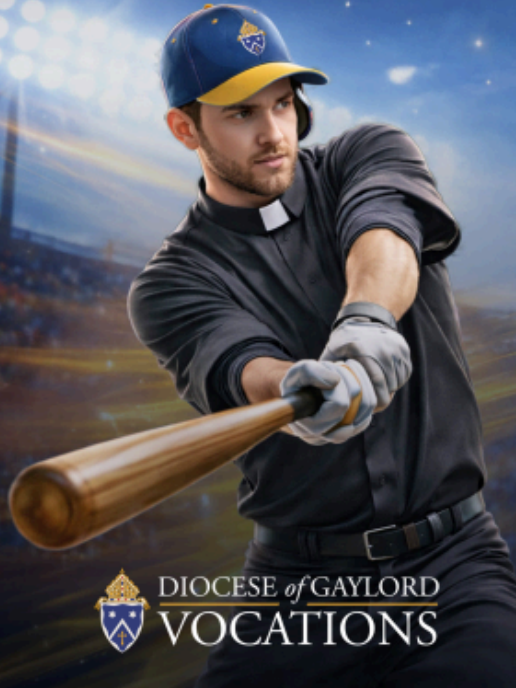
Swing on by and have a ball! Enjoy the afternoon watching the clergy and religious in the diocese battle the Catholic School Athletes in a fun-filled softball game to benefit vocations in the Diocese of Gaylord.

RSVP not required, but preferred. Anyone who 'reserves a seat' will be notified on game day if inclement weather affects the game start or cancellation

To reserve your free seat visit  
[gaylordvocations.org/  
upcoming-events/go-to-bat/](http://gaylordvocations.org/upcoming-events/go-to-bat/)  
or scan QR Code



Let's hit it  
out of the park  
for vocations!



 **DIOCESE of GAYLORD**  
**VOCATIONS**

**Are you a high school student who  
would like to join the fun on the field?**  
Please contact the Vocations Office at  
[vocations@dioceseofgaylord.org](mailto:vocations@dioceseofgaylord.org)  
for more information.



St. Francis Xavier School and Parish | 414 Michigan St | Petoskey, MI 49770 US

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