NOrk



of Catholic School Families



Usha Rosidivito, Southern N. J. Network Director

Are you ready for your close-up? This space could be yours!

We are looking for good news to share about our schools in the Trenton Diocese and we would like to feature your school, your parent group, and the difference you make in the city or town where your school is located. Contact me, Usha Rosidivito, with the information you would like to share.

Forty nine private schools were among the 2011 Blue Ribbon Schools announced by U.S. Sec. of Education Arne Duncan. To view this list visit <u>www.capenet.org</u>

On Saturday, Sept. 24th 2011 the Trenton Diocesan Council of Parent Teacher Associations celebrates its **86th Annual Conference at** *St. Rose Church in Belmar*, NJ. This years' theme is **"Lamp of Learning—Light of Faith."** Best wishes to all those who will come together in prayer and to share in fellowship.

Dear Catholic School Families,

Greetings to all of you and a warm welcome back to yet another exciting school year after, hopefully, a wellrested and fun vacation. This summer while enjoying lavish sunshine and the gift of family and friends, many of us were sadly affected in some way by the outcome of the earthquake and hurricane Irene. Our prayers go out to those who have lost loved ones and for the quick recovery of material loss and damages incurred. While your state network directors have also managed to grab some free time, we have been busy planning our strategy for the upcoming year. We are most grateful for the opportunity to have met with our new principals and school faculty and we wish our outgoing staff safety, health and best wishes in all their endeavors.

In addition to all the services that we offer and advocate for on behalf of our Catholic schools, this Fall our first and foremost priority will be pursuing our legislature for their support on the **Opportunity Scholarship Act [S-1872/A-2810]**. The OSA is modeled after the successful Educational Improvement Corporate Tax Credit Bill, enacted in 2001 and serving over 42,000 students in the state of Pennsylvania during the 2010-2011 school year. We look forward to your continued support to fulfill the passage of the bill. You will be kept informed by way of regular updates from us. We stand ready with you to face the joys and challenges that lay ahead as we seek to pursue the best educational

Usha Rosidivito and Your State Network Directors

experience for our children. God bless you.



January 29 - February 5,

Explanation of Theme

The theme for Catholic Schools Week 2012 is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Academics. Service." The annual observance starts the last Sunday in January and runs all week, which in 2012 is January 29 to February 5. Schools typically celebrate Catholic Schools Week with Masses, open houses and activities for students, families, parishioners and the community at large.

The Catholic Schools Week 2012 logo is a rectangle, with the words Catholic Schools in red across the bottom of the rectangle. The "t" in Catholic is a purple cross and from the right top corner of the T/cross is an undulating green banner with words in white lettering that proclaim, "Faith. Academics. Service."

The theme focuses on three priorities that Catholic schools establish that make them stand out from other educational institutions. Children are taught faith – not just the basics of Christianity, but how to have a relationship with God. Academics, which in Catholic schools are held to very high standards, help each child reach his or her potential. Service, the giving of one's time and effort to help others, is taught both as an expression of faith and good citizenship.

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Under the auspices of the New Jersey Catholic Conference <u>www.njcathconf.com</u>