

Press Release

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CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

CHEBOYGAN, MI: Sunday January 31st marks the beginning of the 36th Annual Catholic Schools Week throughout the United States. Catholic Schools Week is an annual celebration of Catholic schools and their contributions to their communities and the nation. Nationwide, almost 2.2 million students attend over 7,200 Catholic schools.

The theme of this year's Catholic Schools Week observance is "Catholic Schools - Dividends for Life". The theme highlights four benefits of a Catholic school education - faith, knowledge, discipline, and morals.

Locally, Bishop Baraga Catholic School in Cheboygan is celebrating the week with daily dress up themes, special lunches, a talent show, a food drive, and other activities. The highlight of the week will be "Hands on History of Baraga Pioneer Days" on Wednesday, February 3rd. That day, students will

experience life as a pioneer child. Activities include sleigh rides, snowshoeing, period games, instruction in a one-room schoolhouse, spinning, Native storytelling by Simon Otto, making dream catchers and candles, and tin punching.

February 3rd is also National Appreciation Day for Catholic Schools. As part of the local celebration that day from 4:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m., the Knights of Columbus will host a spaghetti dinner at the K of C Hall in Cheboygan. The menu includes all you can eat spaghetti, homemade sauce, garlic bread, salad, and dessert. The cost of the dinner is by donation. Bishop Bernard Hebda, recently installed to lead the Diocese of Gaylord, will visit the school that afternoon and attend the dinner that evening.

Bishop Baraga Catholic School was established in 1856 by Bishop Frederic Baraga. It has been in its new building located at the corner of Western and Lincoln Avenues in Cheboygan since September 2005.