

ST. MICHAEL'S SCHOOL HUDSON TO JOIN IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL IN MARLBOROUGH IN FALL 2011

The Catholic School Office for the Archdiocese has announced that St. Michael's School in Hudson has been invited to join Immaculate Conception School in Marlborough beginning in the Fall of 2011. Despite its vigorous efforts, St. Michael's School has been unable to increase its enrollment, resulting in severe financial pressure for the parish. With this in mind St. Michael School will be unable to effectively continue its mission of Catholic education in September 2011.

Enrollment for St. Michael's School is currently 133 with only 94 students registered for the Fall 2011. Overall the school has realized a decrease of 48% since 2006/2007. Enrollment at Immaculate Conception has held firm and is currently 191.

In separate letter to their school communities, the pastors informed parents that an open house will be held for St. Michael's families on Tuesday, May 17th from 6-7:30pm.

Reflecting on the announcement, Rev. Ron Calhoun, pastor of St. Michael Parish said, "As Christians we believe that Easter always follows Good Friday and, so, today along with this sad news, I am able to share some good news. Beginning in September 2011 our students, who so choose, will be welcomed to attend Immaculate Conception School in Marlborough." He praised the Immaculate Conception community stating, "please know of my enormous gratitude to Rev. Michael W. MacEwen of Immaculate Conception for his generous assistance and strong leadership in ensuring that we are able to continue to provide Catholic education to our families. I also want to thank Mrs. Martha McCook, Principal at Immaculate Conception, for her gracious welcoming of our school community. To make the transition smoother for families of St. Michael's, Fr. MacEwen has graciously decided to offer the Immaculate Conception in-parish tuition rate for the first year (2011/2012 school year)."

In welcoming the St. Michael's community to Immaculate Conception Rev. Rev. Michael W. MacEwen, Pastor, and Mrs. Martha M. McCook, Principal, stated, "We have much to offer the families of St. Michael's and they have much to bring to our school community. Our teachers, staff, parents and especially our students make us immensely proud and we have no doubts that the manner in which new students and families will be assisted in the weeks to come will continue to do so."