



For Immediate Release
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Messmer Students Host Rally for Peace

Messmer Preparatory Catholic School students will honor four Milwaukee community members at a Peace Assembly at 9:30 a.m. on April 5, 2007. The event was the brainchild of Messmer Preparatory middle school students who wanted to promote peace in their community.

The goal of the assembly is to encourage peaceful student actions and recognize leaders of peace in the Milwaukee community. This year's awardees include:

- **Dr. Thomas Baskin**—An assistant professor in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Wisconsin—Milwaukee, Dr. Baskin's research interests include how belongingness relates to academic achievement for K-12 students in multi-cultural schools. Based on his research, he created the Forgiveness Program and brought it to schools like Messmer Preparatory Catholic School.
- **Fr. John Celichowski, O.F.M. Cap**—A Capuchin priest, Fr. Celichowski provides spiritual and legal service to Milwaukee as a lawyer and priest for St. Martin de Porres parish. He currently serves as President of Franciscans International—a non-governmental organization to the United Nations. He is being honored because of his work with the poor.
- **Dr. Margaret Martin**—A pediatric doctor at LaFollette Pediatrics since 1999, Dr. Martin and her office attend to the community's health care needs in a low-income neighborhood. As Co-director of the School Health Services Program, this medical service is now offered to thirty-three schools including Messmer Preparatory Catholic School.
- **Dr. Patricia Safavi**—A pediatric doctor at Next Door Pediatrics since 1999, and Co-director of the School Health Service Program, Dr. Safavi serves children from premature newborns through 18-years-old in low-income neighborhoods and is increasing access to comprehensive primary and

preventive healthcare for medically underserved children. Dr. Safavi is a co-director of the School Health Services Program through Children's Hospital and Health System that provides medical services at Messmer Preparatory Catholic School.

In addition to the award presentations, students from Messmer Preparatory will award classrooms with prizes for top place in the Peace Art Contest and students from the Campus Ministry group of Messmer High School will host a skit promoting peaceful actions.

The event will be held at Our Lady of Divine Providence—St. Mary's of Czestochowa site, the church adjacent to Messmer Preparatory Catholic School. For more information on the event, please contact Jane Koepke at 414-264-5440 ext. 1235.

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