

Friday, October 30th, 2009

Dell Rapids St. Mary Teacher In-Service

The St. Mary staff gathered for a day of inservice on Friday October 30th. After beginning the day with prayers and fellowship, the group discussed upcoming events, including Catholic Schools Week which will be the first week in February. They soon ventured into the computer lab and Mrs. Marsha Weiland facilitated a session on shared websites that can be used for addressing 21st century skills, state standards, and spirituality. This was followed by discussion of websites and resources for teachers to utilize when communicating with parents, students, and staff members, including Microsoft Outlook 2007. Later in the morning, Kate Chapman of Volunteers of America, gave a tobacco presentation in the lunchroom. The teachers were informed of the dangers tobacco has on students and how easily students can obtain tobacco products, as well as the creative marketing and packaging currently used by the industry. Ms. Chapman brought several products that teacher viewed and asked questions about. Later, Father Tschakert spoke to the teachers about "The Roman Missal" and upcoming changes to the Catholic liturgy. He also presented a video for further faith instruction. The morning session ended with a wonderful meal provided by a generous donor. The afternoon was spent with Mrs. Marsha Weiland instructing staff on web page design and using internet resources to build and personalize the staff web pages.