



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL

August 26, 2016

Dear Parents, Guardians and Friends of SVdP School,

Welcome back! We have had an excellent first week back at school and are well on our way to building strong routines, which will help us, be successful through the entire year. Good procedures and strong habits make us free to learn in the classroom. Students are doing a great job at practicing.

This weekend at Mass we will hear a series of readings on humility. Humility is a virtue that makes us squirm in our seats just a bit. I think we don't always know what to make of this virtue. We may ask ourselves: Does humility mean I have to think of myself as "bad" all the time? If I strive to grow in humility, will it harm my self-esteem? What if I really am excellent at what I do – can't I acknowledge that?

Humility is not first of all a comparison of ourselves with other people, but the acknowledgement of who we are before God. Humility is recognizing that He is God and we are not. It's easy to say and acknowledge, but it takes practice to live it well. Often we are tempted to take control of things that are not within our jurisdiction or to complain about circumstances or people whom we cannot change (although we keep trying!). Sometimes we live by our own "commandments" dismissing God's plan for us because it requires difficult change. But it is in His will that we find true peace and true happiness. When we accept who God made us to be – both our limits and our inexhaustible capacity for good – we actually build our self-esteem. We become comfortable in our own skin and confident because, as the psalmist says, we learn to believe that we are "fearfully, wonderfully made." This awesome identity comes to us through the virtue of humility. I think humility will surprise us the more we seek it. Scripture says that he who humbles himself (he who acknowledges who he is before God); God will exalt him on high. God wants to reveal to each of us in our inner hearts what our real identity is – an amazing image and likeness of Himself, with a unique soul unlike any other.

Perhaps we can take on one practice for the next week that will help us to strive for this virtue. We could remind ourselves to let go of the circumstances and people that are beyond our control, or begin each day in prayer, simply praying "You are God and I am not" and trying to live that way (This was a prayer Saint Catherine of Siena liked to pray). We could serve someone in need, or ask the Holy Spirit to inspire us with a way best suited to us. Let us strive to enter through this keyhole of humility which opens to us a way of life that leads to truth, peace, and joy.

With prayers for your families,

Sister Dominic, O.P.

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Principal

The following are items of interest and general information:

- 1) Our Business Manager, Peter Ugran, has resigned his position at the parish, in order to address some personal matters. Our Pastor, Father Andrew, has promoted our Director of Accounting, Jeff Babcock, to the position of Business Manager. Jeff has been with St. Vincent de Paul for almost a year and in parish finance for over three years. Jeff's background, both in and out of the church, is in accounting and organizational finance.
- 2) The Ministry Fair at Saint Vincent de Paul Church is this weekend following each of the Masses. If you have been considering becoming more involved in our parish, please come and see what opportunities for service and fellowship we have.
- 3) Our Great Expectations Gala will be held next spring. I am sure you know it takes everybody's hands on this project to make it a success. The Gala directly benefits the children in our school by helping to fund the instructional program and general needs of the school. Please pray about how you can best support this effort.
- 4) Note: All School Mass for the last week of September will be on TUESDAY, September 27th in order to celebrate our patron's feast – Saint Vincent de Paul. There will not be school Mass on September 29th.
- 5) Back to School Nights begin at 6:30 in the gym with a presentation from Fr. Andrew and an address from the Principal. Around 7:10, parents are invited to the school to rotate through children's classes. The evening is scheduled to end by 8:00pm. It is a time to meet teachers and we ask that if you have questions specific to your child that you make a separate time for a conference.
- 6) SVdP Serves is a phenomenal school-wide program that was developed last spring and throughout this past summer. One of the survey items that former Assistant Principal Heather Grams addressed was the need for greater opportunity for service. An ad-hoc committee of parents has been working on this program, which offers grade-level, hands on service to an impressive variety of service and hospitality needs in our local and wider community. More to come at Back to School Night. Look for signup sheets in the homeroom classes on Back to School Night if you are interested in being a grade level liaison for this program.
- 7) Coffee with Sister: Each year I like to take occasion to meet parents in smaller groups by grade level. A schedule of dates for each grade level is forthcoming. For parents who are able to attend, we will meet in the library shortly after morning prayers and announcements, until 8:45. We begin with quick introductions; I will share a little about school initiatives for the year and how they may impact your family and/or child's class, the teachers will join us for about 10 minutes to share curriculum highlights and how to support age-appropriate responsibility and independence, followed by time for discussion/questions.
- 8) Reloadable Grocery Cards/Scrip Cards – A regular practice of purchasing grocery cards and scrip cards costs you nothing and the money it raises for the school enables us to not have multiple magazine sales, chocolate sales, wrapping paper sales and the like throughout the year. We will try to make these purchases as convenient as possible and will offer reminders to you. Please consider participating in the program on a regular basis by purchasing grocery and other retail cards from the school.
- 9) Friday, September 2nd is a half-day, noon dismissal. No extended care is available on half days. "The Extended Care program begins on the first FULL day of the school year, and provides before and after school care *each full day when school is in session.*"

The Vocations Walk is scheduled for Saturday, September 17 at St. John Vianney Seminary. The Walk begins at 10am with Stations of the Cross, followed by Mass and a free BBQ. We would love to have as many Catholic school families as possible attend the Walk.



10AM • STATIONS OF THE CROSS

11AM • MASS AT CHRIST THE KING CHAPEL



NOON • FREE BBQ FOR THE FAMILY!



ST. JOHN VIANNEY SEMINARY

1300 S. STEELE ST. DENVER

FOR MORE DETAILS: WWW.DENVERSEMINARIANS.ORG



KEEP
CALM
AND
BUY RAFFLE
TICKETS

The St. Vincent De Paul annual raffle will be held again this year at the Fall Festival, Saturday September 24th. Each family will receive an envelope of raffle tickets in their folders which will need to be **sold and returned by Friday September 16th**. **Each family is asked to sell 15 tickets @ \$10 each.** ! Prizes for this year's raffle Include:

1st Prize: \$1000

2nd Prize: \$750

3rd Prize: \$500

4th Prize: \$250

5th Prize: 2 Tickets to 2017 Great Expectations Gala

Need not be present to win

These can be sold to friends, neighbors, family, anyone! If you have any questions, contact Stephanie Carreira at stephaniecarreira@yahoo.com

**Raffle Tickets Due Friday
September 16th!**

REGISTER NOW



2016 SVDP Golf Classic modified scramble

Saturday, October 15

CommonGround Golf Course (Aurora, CO)

Tee-off: 1:00 p.m. •• **Cost:** \$125/person or \$500/foursome**

Registration includes green fee, golf cart, range balls, drinks and lunch!

(Early bird discounted rates good until September 15 - \$100/person)

To register visit: <https://svdpch.ejoinme.org/2016svdpgolfclassic>

AWARDS

1st, 2nd & 3rd Place •• Longest Drive •• Closest to the Pin •• Longest Putt

****Note: Any net proceeds will be donated to the Professional Development/Continuing Education Fund for SVdP Teachers.**

Thank you!

We wish to thank all our current golf tourney sponsors!

VanderHeiden Family • Warehouse Liquor Mart (Adam Keier) • Allstate Community & Family Insurance (Mitch McCloseky)
• Ameriprise Financial (Terry Bevan) • Burnham Oral Surgery (Michael Burnham) • InVerify (Joe Tartell)
Machete (Dan Ohlson & John Wallrath) • Perry & Co (Jacob Gram) • Burns Family • Carreira Family • The Dentists on
Pearl (Stephanie Stratil) • Kovalak Family • Could you be our next sponsor? See the website.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
CATHOLIC PARISH & SCHOOL

SVDP Golf Classic
Saturday, October 15, 2016
CommonGround Golf Course
Golfer Registration Form

Please complete the form below in full and return to the **SVDP School Office** with your check attached.

PLEASE PRINT

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Cell phone: _____ Alternate Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

EARLY BIRD RATES BELOW GOOD UNTIL SEPTEMBER 15 ONLY

Foursome Golfer Registration @ \$400 _____

Individual Golfer Registration @ \$100 _____

Dinner Guest Ticket (for any non-golfers joining you at dinner) @ \$25 _____

Tournament Hole Sponsor @ \$500 _____

General Donation (any amount) _____

TOTAL DUE TO SVDP \$ _____

Please make checks payable to **SVDP** and put **SVDP Golf Classic** on memo line.

Foursome Names: (please print)

Golfer 1 Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Golfer 2 Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Golfer 3 Name: _____ e-mail: _____

Golfer 4 Name: _____ e-mail: _____



BETTER HABITS, BETTER FAMILY

GIVING YOU THE TOOLS TO BECOME THE FAMILY YOU WANT TO BE

Families of Character is now available at SVDP!

Looking for...

- A practical parenting tool that will apply to all ages?
- A program to strength your relationship your spouse?
- Ways to growing your family virtuously?
- Help to improve your communication at work?



Several families from SVDP School and Parish have been involved with the **Families of Character** program for the past several years. We have all seen growth and improvement in all of the above areas. Please take a moment to check out this video on the program.

[Families of Character Video](#)

Families of Character program is NOW AVAILABLE through the parish website: <http://saintvincents.org/ministries/families-of-character/>. If you are interested in creating or joining a group to start now or next Fall, please contact Stephanie Carreira (stephaniecarreira@yahoo.com)

