



# HOME & SCHOOL

## Monthly Newsletter

### Important Dates

#### March

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Ash Wednesday
- 6<sup>th</sup> – All School Mass
- 7<sup>th</sup> – AR prize wheel
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Steffes Scholarship application due
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Deadline to order yearbooks
- 8<sup>th</sup> – Teacher Inservice – No School
- 11<sup>th</sup> – AR Ice Cream Sundae Party
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Faith Rally
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Alive Middle School Youth Ministry
- 15<sup>th</sup> – Parish Fish Fry
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Teachers Luncheon Hosted by 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade
- 20<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Meeting  
\*Sponsor form due
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Deadline to submit your name for Home & School
- 22<sup>nd</sup> – Spirit Wear Day
- 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> – Spring Break
- 29<sup>th</sup> – Parish Fish Fry

#### April

- 6<sup>th</sup> – Spring Used Uniform Sale
- 7<sup>th</sup> – Family Sundays at SVdP
- 9<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade Girls and Moms Presentation
- 10<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Passion Play
- 10<sup>th</sup> – Confirmation Meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> – All School Service Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Grandparents Day
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Alive Middle School Youth Ministry
- 12<sup>th</sup> – Parish Fish Fry
- 14<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday
- 17<sup>th</sup> – All School Mass (Wednesday)
- 18<sup>th</sup> – Holy Thursday Noon Dismissal
- 19<sup>th</sup> -22<sup>nd</sup> – No School Easter Break
- 23<sup>rd</sup> – Teacher Inservice No School
- 24<sup>th</sup> – Teachers Luncheon Hosted by 4<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> – Archdiocesan Art Show
- 26<sup>th</sup> – Spirit Wear Day
- 27<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Spaghetti Dinner

### Archbishop Samuel Aquila Visits SVdP

Mrs. Gerken's 1<sup>st</sup> grade classroom had the exciting opportunity of being a part of Archbishop Samuel Aquila's annual appeal video. The Archbishop's Catholic Appeal (ACA) video will be used as a promotional piece to encourage parishioners to support the works of our Archdiocesan Church. The video will be shown at all parishes the weekend of May 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>.



*Mrs. Gerken is camera-ready!*



*Students enjoy a story from Archbishop Aquila*



*Maria Ramirez, Campaign Manager in the Office of Development at the Archdiocese of Denver, and 6<sup>th</sup> grade daughter Jackie Sevilla*

### Crusader Corner- Meet Mr. Feltes

Perhaps you've noticed a new face around campus - driving the snow plow, up on the roof, quietly moving around making sure our 93 year old building is functioning optimally. On March 19<sup>th</sup>, we celebrate St. Joseph the Worker and the holiness of human labor. It's only fitting we get to know our newest member of the maintenance team!



He's Mr. Erik Feltes, born in Denver and raised in New Mexico and Colorado. Mr. Feltes and his wife are parents to four children ages 9 and under, and belong to Holy Ghost.

Mr. Feltes enjoys being at SVDP, and says, "It's exciting to me to be putting together a plan to keep an old building going. We live in a consumer culture that wants to get rid of the old and replace with the new. What's exciting is also challenging - 93 year old problems and many things coming to the end of their expected life. I like coming up with solutions to deal with issues in an economic way."

The biggest projects Mr. Feltes is handling include a boiler rebuild and the north end roof.

When he's not working, Mr. Feltes loves spending time with his family, and in particular reading with his kids, playing board and card games, working in the family garden and taking care of their chickens. Currently, Mr. Feltes's favorite game is Dominion! He also carves tobacco pipes.

Stumbling through any of G.K. Chesterton's major works? Reach out to Mr. Feltes, a huge fan of Chesterton and resident expert in the places he's been employed! Only at SVDP is the person helping to fix the boiler also a Chesterton devotee. We are lucky to have Mr. Feltes with us taking care of our building inside and out!

## SVdP Award Winning Speech Teams

Do your hands get sweaty and your legs start shaking at the mention of public speaking? Our own Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Sullivan are making sure our students can tackle the art of speaking in front of an audience by offering all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders the opportunity to develop a skill that not only helps prepare them for high school, but they can take with them for life.

Students can sign up for Speech at the beginning of the school year. Eighth grade, coached by Mrs. Sullivan, competes in the fall and 7<sup>th</sup> grade, coached by Mrs. Brown, competes in the spring. Students practice weekly during connections time, before or after school, and may even perform in front of other grades during the school day. If your child comes home with arguments on "how to get out of homework"; you may have our speech participants to thank!

During competitions, students are challenged both on individual speech preparation (in categories of humor, drama, poetry, oratory, speechmaking and impromptu) as well as group speech (using readers' theatre format). SVdP currently holds several team trophies and typically brings home at least one individual trophy.

Parents can further support the program through volunteering to monitor tables or participating as a critic on the day of the meet. Anyone in the school community can be a critic, so please feel free to contact Mrs. Sullivan or Mrs. Brown if you would like to be trained (one time training for life).

*Congratulations to all of the participants in our 7th and 8th grade speech teams! Kate Klennert received a 2nd Place trophy in Oratory this past 8th grade Trophy Meet. Our 7th graders received 13 Blue (Superior) Ribbons and 2 Red (Excellent) Ribbons in their meet on February 23, 2019.*

## 2nd Graders Complete First Reconciliation

On February 23rd, 43 second graders completed their first reconciliation. As Ms. Archer describes, it was "a beautiful morning of mercy and love where amazing SVdP parents, children, grandparents, and siblings all drew close to their Good Shepherd and let Him be their gentle Savior in the Sacrament of Mercy!"

This year, participating students attended three classes led by Ms. Archer that focused on exploring themes of sin, Jesus and forgiveness using fun, age appropriate lessons and activities. While you could see trepidation on their faces prior to reconciliation, the children all left with smiles!



*Ms. Archer conducts a fun lesson to understand confession based on Luke 15:3-7 (The Good Shepherd).*



*2nd Grade students Avery Ogden and Vivian Hutcherson smile after completing their first reconciliation. "You think it will be scary, but it's not. I even did face-to-face!" exclaimed Vivian.*

## Rise Against Hunger- 2019 Faith Rally

On March 14, the entire school will participate in the annual Faith Rally. This is an entire day dedicated to building the students' faith through community and mixes K-8th grade students into household groups. After lunch the 7th and 8th grade students often break away to give them a more age specific experience.

This year the international hunger relief organization, Rise Against Hunger, is coming to SVdP for the junior high to prepare meals to feed 10,000 people across the globe! In just a few hours time members from Rise Against Hunger will come transform the cafeteria into a distribution center. Nativity 8th graders and our junior high students will then work in a fun and fast paced, yet exact, way to mix rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables and a micronutrient flavoring mix into meal packets. The food has a shelf-life of over two years. They will then package these meals up to be loaded onto a truck and shipped out later that day!

Rise Against Hunger provides over 70% of its meals to support transformational development programs such as school lunch programs, vocational training programs, orphanages, and medical clinics.

They work with Catholic Relief Services. There are great videos of their events in progress to check out on YouTube. You can also visit their website [riseagainsthunger.org](http://riseagainsthunger.org) to learn more.

## Home & School Open Chair Positions for 2019-2020

Are you interested in organizing volunteer activities, boosting school spirit, and promoting community-building activities? Then being a Chair on H&S may be the perfect fit for you!

We are looking for 4 parents, who are interested in taking on the Chair positions of Fundraising Co-Chair, Faith and Family Co-Chairs, and Vice President. We will collect names of interested individuals through March 22<sup>nd</sup> and new Chairs will be announced in May.

Please email Stef Liley ([sdliley@yahoo.com](mailto:sdliley@yahoo.com)) if this sparks your interest and check out the Friday Forecast for a document that fully explains the roles and responsibilities of each Chair Position.