



# HOME & SCHOOL

## October Newsletter

### Important Dates

#### October

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Gala all-hands meeting
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> - Confirmation/First Communion
  - 4<sup>th</sup> - Adoration K-4
  - 6<sup>th</sup> - Family Sundays/ Family Lectors
  - 7<sup>th</sup> - Junior Great Books Meeting
  - 7-11<sup>th</sup> - Scholastic Book Fair
  - 10<sup>th</sup> - Conferences- No School
  - 11<sup>th</sup> - Conferences- No School
  - 13<sup>th</sup> - THRIVE Youth Group
  - 14<sup>th</sup> - No School
  - 16-18<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Retreat
  - 18<sup>th</sup> - 8th Grade Speech Meet
    - Spirit Wear Day
    - Father/Daughter Dance
  - 21<sup>st</sup> - First and Second Grade Field Trip
    - Junior Great Books Meeting
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> - Picture Retake Day
    - Wahoo's Dine-Out
    - Open House
  - 23<sup>rd</sup> - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon- 7<sup>th</sup> grade
    - Confirmation/First Communion
  - 26<sup>th</sup> - Robotic Club Competition
  - 27<sup>th</sup> - THRIVE Youth Group
  - 31<sup>st</sup> - Dress Down Day
- All School Mass moved to Nov 1*

#### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> - All Saints All School Mass
  - Harvest Parties K-4
  - Noon Dismissal
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Family Sundays/ Family Lectors
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Junior Great Books Meeting
- 5<sup>th</sup> - *Screenagers* Next Chapter Showing
- 5<sup>th</sup> - Gala All Hands Meeting
- 8<sup>th</sup> - MS Adoration
  - Veterans Day Assembly
- 10<sup>th</sup> - THRIVE Youth Group
- 12<sup>th</sup> - End of Trimester 1
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Confirmation/First Communion
- 16<sup>th</sup> - 8th Grade Trophy Speech Meet
- 18<sup>th</sup> - Junior Great Books Meeting
- 19<sup>th</sup> - Teacher Appreciation Luncheon- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Spirit Wear Day
  - Noon Dismissal
- 24<sup>th</sup> - THRIVE Youth Group
- 26<sup>th</sup> - All School Service Projects
- 27<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> - Thanksgiving No School

**Check out the Volunteer Calendar on the Parent Portal for more information on events and to find links to sign up.**

### Crusader Corner- Father Doug Grandon

When Father Doug Grandon was a young teenager growing up in Sterling, Illinois, he made a seemingly trivial decision that in fact would forever change the course of his life. His parents had dropped him off with a friend to see a movie downtown, but they soon realized they were late and had missed part of the movie. Rather than pay to see only part of a movie, Father Doug and his friend wandered to a nearby coffee shop, where unbeknownst to them, a local church was hosting a free gathering in hopes of sparking a religious revival, a common practice those days. Growing up in an atheist household, Father Doug had very limited exposure to religion and when he stumbled upon this gathering, he fondly recalls it was his first time hearing the Gospel. After a few more visits, he met Dan, an individual who became his teacher, religious mentor, and lifelong friend.



If you have attended Father Doug's masses, you likely are familiar with parts of his story. In defiance of his parents, who eventually relented, he studied the Gospel with Dan and began attending the local church. The church was also where Father Doug met his wife, Lynn, as a teenager, although he would travel to Yugoslavia and back before they would marry and begin their life together. After serving as a Protestant missionary and pastor and then Episcopal priest, Father Doug began to explore Catholicism. He credits mentor, friend, and Episcopal Bishop Ed McBurney with helping and encouraging him to explore his interest in the Catholic faith. In 2003, Father Doug became Catholic and was ordained a Catholic priest in 2008.



**Students offer notes of thanks at the appreciation Mass September 22nd.**

Father Doug's journey is inspiring and we are fortunate that he brings his vast life experiences to Saint Vincent de Paul. A husband and father of six children himself, he is committed "to providing assistance to any family. To help them know God better, learn how to share faith better, live the kind of life that would cause outsiders to want to be Catholic," he explains. His hope for the children of SVdP is the same for everyone he says, "to help them understand how much God loves them."

When you ask a student at SVdP about Father Doug's masses, you will often hear of his infamous "props". Father Doug has always loved sharing the gospel visually and will often bring something representative of his message. You may even meet his beloved parrot, Petey, or his lab, Lucy. Father Doug fondly recalls at his parish in Illinois when he used to always carry in something in a red bag. The students would ask with anticipation "what is in the red bag this week?" Upon running into a young student outside of school, he overheard him tell his father, "Look, there's Father Red Bag!" We are thankful for Father Doug's leadership and look forward to what the future, and his bag, holds for SVdP!

#### Mass Schedule by Grade for 2019-2020

This year, each grade will be assigned a 6-7 week continuous opportunity to be Lectors, Altar Servers, Gift Bearers and to be the Choir. All School Masses are typically on Thursday mornings at 8:10am and all parents, friends, and younger siblings are welcome and encouraged to celebrate together with the SVDP students and staff. The students love seeing familiar faces in the pews and in the Communion Procession!

8 <sup>th</sup> Grade	9/12, 9/19, 9/26
5 <sup>th</sup> Grade	10/3, 10/9*, 10/17, 10/24, 11/1*, 11/7
4 <sup>th</sup> Grade	11/14, 11/21, 11/26*, 12/5, 12/9*, 12/19
6 <sup>th</sup> Grade	1/9, 1/16, 1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, 2/20
3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade	2/26*, 3/5, 3/12, 3/19, 3/26, 4/2
7 <sup>th</sup> Grade	4/8*, 4/23, 4/30, 5/7*(May Crowning), 5/14, 5/21, 5/28*

(dates in April and May are tentative)

\*indicates mass is not on a Thursday or not at 8:10 am

## No "Easing In" for Middle Schoolers!

September marked a busy month both inside, and outside, of school for our Middle School students! Extra-curricular clubs such as Robotics and Speech have started meeting after school with competitions coming up soon in October. Student Council representatives have been elected for grades 5th-8th. Each year, Student Council is responsible for organizing a variety of events to promote school spirit and Christian values, such as the Veterans Day assembly, the annual Thanksgiving turkey competition, St. Nicholas Day, and Catholic Schools week.

Outside of the school walls, students had the opportunity to mingle with other Catholic middle schools at the first dance hosted at Christ the King on Friday September 13th; Thank you to Laurel Barsa and Monica Bradac for volunteering to chaperone! Also in September, the St. Vincent de Paul parish THRIVE youth group conducted it's first meeting with over 70 middle schooler and high schoolers in attendance! The year ahead is sure to be full of activity and fellowship.



Students Lucy Sparks, Anne Klennert, Alice VanderHeiden, Emily Desautels, Avery Crabtree, and Joe Crisham (back) enjoy the middle school dance!



- President:** Matthew Tartell
- Vice President:** Charlotte Hass
- Secretary:** Winnie Fenton
- Treasurer:** Patrick Buckley
- Activities Coordinators:** Josie Crabtree and Scarlett Davis
- 8th Grade Representatives:** Meghan Ennis and Grace Hoyt
- 7th Grade Representatives:** Sophia Simoes and Henry Doyle
- 6th Grade Representatives:** Tatum Johnson and Annabelle Turner
- 5th Grade Representatives:** Brady A. Wright and Owen Meyer

## Pilgrim Virgin Mary Statue



The Handley family enjoys a visit from the Pilgrim Virgin Mary

**Have you heard about the Pilgrim Mary Statue?** Several years ago, a group of children met in Fatima, Portugal and decided to carry a statue of Our Lady of Fatima through Europe and end in Russia. This statue was called the Pilgrim Virgin Mary because she would travel like a pilgrim from place to place. Many people and countries received special graces and favors when this statue of Mary visited them.

**Did you know** that SVdP school has 3 similar Pilgrim Mary statues that you can "check-out" to visit your home one week at a time? Many in our community enjoy praying the rosary and sitting in Mary's presence in the privacy and comfort of their own home. In fact, the Handley family has recently had the privilege of having Mary visit their house. "Our family gains a sense of restored peace and calm while hosting The Pilgrim Mary," explained Katie Handley.

To have the Pilgrim Mary visit your home, simply sign up using the link the **Volunteer Calendar listed every Monday.**

## Family Sunday Lectors

**We would like to invite families to lector at the masses on the first weekend of the month.** A parent and child could do the two readings, siblings, two parents - any combo would be cherished! Simply sign your duo up for one or multiple dates. Kathleen Osher will contact you with the readings and to help practice at church.

This is a great way to spread the beauty of the Gospel and fill a huge need. You can find the sign up genius on the **Volunteer Calendar** on the Parent Portal at the first Saturday and Sunday of the month.

## Gala News

Keep an eye out for our **2020 Sponsorship opportunities coming to Tuesday folders NEXT WEEK!**

Also, a **HUGE thank you to Gina Sawyer** for chairing our fall raffle so effectively and for all the families who contributed in various ways. We raised **\$29,640**- the largest amount in her four years as chair. Thank you all for the support!

Save the date for our **next monthly gala meeting November 5th, at 8am.** Come learn how to get involved. All are welcome!

## Community Involvement/Fundraising

### Community Dine Out

Please join us at **Wahoo's Fish Tacos, on October 22nd** for a Community Dine Out. Conveniently located to school on Colorado Blvd and Arizona, Wahoo's will provide **50% back** on all proceeds from SVDP

### Spirit Wear

THANK YOU to all of the families who purchased Spirit Wear! Our first campaign raised over \$340 for SVdP with over \$2,000 in sales!

A special thank you to **Ashley Stevens and Courtney Wells** for their work to get Spirit Wear running this year and adding some fun, new styles!

### Scholastic Book Fair- October 7-11

**We need your help** with set up, having the children make wish lists, operating the cash registers and cleaning up! Go to October 7th on the **Volunteer Calendar** to sign up today to help make this wonderful