

Wednesday e-Folder



To Jesus through Mary

St. Francis de sales school

March 7, 2018

To pray and ponder

To Jesus through Mary

March Focus – Sorrowful Mysteries

March Virtue of the Month – Mercy

How long, O Lord, how long? Such an expression is often found in lamentations seeking God's intervention in the circumstances of humankind. The Third Sorrowful Mystery – the Crowning with Thorns – brings the same thoughts to mind. After enduring desertion by friends, humiliation by authorities, and scourging by soldiers, now our Lord is crowned painfully with thorns. How much can one man bear? Sometimes, the same thought occurs in the minds and hearts of all of us. How long, O Lord, how long? Sickness, suffering, unemployment, domestic issues, addictions, wars – the list goes on. The human condition is filled with circumstances that cause us to pray, "How long?" Perhaps, we are praying the wrong prayer. Perhaps, the better prayer is, "Be with us, Lord." Through the presence of Christ, we shall endure whatever comes our way, and, in the end, rise from it to a new and different life. This week, let us pause and ponder, "What does our prayer really ask of the Lord?"

Calendar Events

Thursday, March 8

Math exam grades 7 and 8

Friday, March 9

Science exam grades 7 and 8

Stations of the Cross Prayer in church 2:30pm

Saturday, April 14

6:30 pm School Auction in the Parish Center

Friday, May 11

HSA Family Night in the Parish Center

Saturday, May 12

8:30 am Penguin Run

Wednesday, May 23

Band and Choir Spring Concert in Parish Center

Saturday, June 2

7:00-9:30 7th and 8th grade Dance at Holy Redeemer

Tuesday, June 5th

5:30pm Sports Banquet in Parish Center (grades 5-8)

Friday, June 8

Field Day-noon dismissal

Saturday, June 9

11:00 am 8th grade confirmation Mass

Sunday, June 10

2:00 pm 8th grade graduation Mass-awards ceremony afterwards

From the Principal

Standardized Testing-This year our school in alignment with Diocesan expectations will not be participating in the week long Terra Nova testing as we have in the past. Instead, we are moving to a benchmark assessment. These tests are given 3 to 4 times per year and focus on reading and math. Please [Click here](#) to read the letter with more details from our Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Lou DeAngelo.

Stand Up and Pray to End Violence-We have all been moved by the tragic violent events happening in schools in our country recently. On Wednesday, March 14th our school will pray a rosary to end violence. We will gather in the Parish Center at 10:00am to pray together. Our Catholic traditional prayers offer us strength, confidence and hope. All are welcome to join us.

School Safety

Parents should know that administration, faculty and staff continue to receive training in order to ensure the safety of children while at school in all emergency situations. To this end I attended the Active Shooter Training offered by the Wicomico County Sheriff and the Maryland State Police Departments. I will be sharing this information at our Professional Development on Wednesday. Please make sure that you come to the school office, sign in, and wear a badge when you are visiting or volunteering in the building.

Uniform Swap- There will be a uniform swap on Tuesday, March 27th from 3:00-6:00pm and again on Wednesday, March 28th from 11:00 am -1:00pm in the HSA room on the third floor. Remember that we will switch to the spring uniforms upon our return from Easter break. If you have uniforms to donate, please bring to school with a voucher to get credit on future purchases. [Click here](#) for voucher

School Uniforms-We will be switching vendors for our school uniforms. Landsend will be our provider for uniforms and most of our spirit wear. We are finalizing the shopping list and it will be available soon. This company will give us 6% cash back and if you purchase with a Landsend scrip card, we will get an additional 16% as well. Don't panic! We are not changing colors or plaid, etc. A few items may be slightly different in style and we will add several choices especially in middle school. Students may continue to wear what they have and anything else that you may purchase from the uniform swap.

Soccer for PreK and K-Sweet Feet will be providing a soccer program for our tiny students. Please [click here](#) for more information.

Home and School Association

Skate Night Spirit Night

Our next spirit night is scheduled for Friday, March 16th from 6:30-8:30 pm at Skateland/Mitchell's Martial Arts. Tickets will be \$4/kids; \$6/adult and children under school age are free. Please check out the flyer on the link below for more details and plan to come out for a fun night of family fun benefiting our school!

[Click Here](#)

Kids Bingo

Save the date for Tuesday, March 27th for the Annual Kids Bingo in the Parish Center. More details will follow next week!

Wall of Giving

This newest super easy fundraiser is now in the school office - stop by to pick up an envelope for your contribution! There are more than a dozen prizes still tucked away on the board. All funds raised go directly to cover the buses for this year's field trips. Weather pending...look for us at pickup line on Fridays as well.

Auction Tickets BOGO

We are starting the sale of the tickets for the HOTTEST event of the year! From now until the end of February (or until we sell out), we are offering Buy One ticket and Get One FREE to the Hollywood Nights Auction. The auction is scheduled for Saturday, April 14th. Please use the link below to buy your tickets now....and hurry before they're gone!

[Click Here](#)

Auction Help Needed

Our school auction is only 7 ½ weeks away. The committee is working very hard to prepare for a fabulous night but we need your help! If you're interested in being on one of the auction committees or just being a busy bee worker, please let us know. You can sign up by using the link below:

[Click Here](#)

You can also visit our Facebook page to stay up to date on great auction items, sponsors and specials. Please use this link to check it out!

[Click Here](#)

HSA DUES

If you haven't paid your dues yet for the year, please send in your check to the school. The dues are set at **\$15/child** this year and the money goes directly to our homeroom moms to use for class activities and the auction project. Please make all checks payable to SFDS HSA. We will also be collecting at afternoon pickups on Fridays and during all our school events.

AFTERCARE

1.Payment is expected for aftercare at the end of each week that your child attends. Families who find themselves more than two weeks behind in payments will no longer be able to use this service and may lose their place to someone on the waiting list. You can pay for aftercare on the parish website, visitstfrancis.org

2. **Aftercare is currently full.** We will take names for a waiting list should space become available later in the year.

LENT

Fasting-As a community we observe the Catholic tradition of fasting on Fridays. This simply means that we will not serve any meat options or treats such as ice cream on Fridays until Easter break. Children under 14 and adults over 60 are technically exempt from this practice but are encouraged to participate as families see fit.

Prayer-We participate in Stations of the Cross along with the parish community each Friday in the church at 2:30 pm. All are welcome.

Almsgiving-Families are encouraged to give to Operation Rice Bowl or to bring in canned goods for the Joseph house Ministries on Wednesdays.

Parish Community Partnership

Lenten Penance Services:

Tuesday, March 13th 4:00pm (review at 3:30 in Infant Mass room)

7:00pm (review at 6:30 in Infant Mass room)

Parish App-Don't forget to download the Parish App to your mobile device. It's a great way to stay connected!

Upcoming Youth Ministry Events:

Confirmation Retreat-Saturday, March 10 at 2:30 in the church

Appalachia Service Project: There will be several Lenten dinners held in the Parish Center.

Fish Fry- March 9

Crab cake-March 23.

Loving Life Committee Lenten Crib Project: [CLICK HERE](#) for flyer

Carriage House Ministry: The Carriage house Store is in need of volunteers! Please consider volunteering one morning a week! Please call 410-546-6221 in the mornings for more information.

9:00am-12noon Mondays and Fridays-merchandising

9:00am-12noon Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays-selling