



St. Francis de Sales Catholic School Wednesday Newsletter

December 5, 2018

Dear St. Francis Families and Friends,

We have begun the season of Advent. It is fitting that we begin the process of re-enrollment during this time of hope and waiting for Jesus. Pope Francis has described Catholic education as providing a solid basis on which to build young lives and a springboard for all students can be. This is what we do. We prepare hearts and minds for the future. I humbly submit, that we do it well.

I can remember my first experience as a parent of a first grader at St. Francis. My husband and I felt trepidation about whether we were making the right decision in choosing a Catholic education. About two weeks into school, I asked Michael if he liked his new school. I expected to hear about fellow students, his teacher or about the amount of homework he had daily. His answer was, "I love this school, we talk about Jesus every day."

People often want to compare schools. We worry so much about "what" students are learning. I proudly say that we can't be compared with other schools. At St. Francis we are about growing through a journey of faith. Academically our students soar because we are about the "how" of education. We teach responsibility and discipline. More importantly students learn to think of others through service and prayer partnerships.

We aren't perfect, but we believe that each student is a gift from God. I pray each day for those new students that have not yet begun the journey with us. Their gifts will build up our community and make us stronger.

Choosing a school for your children is an important and very personal decision. Our mission resonates with many families searching for caring educators and a structured environment. Our consistent focus on scholarship, faith, dignity and service provide a welcome haven in a confusing world. A new student this year shared, "My teachers care about me and encourage me to work hard."

During Advent, I am praying that God will continue to bless our school and all families as they contemplate their school choices for the 2019/2020 school year.

With Joy,

Mrs. Debbie Traum

Lunch for the next week:

Thursday, 12/6	Friday, 12/7	Monday, 12/10	Tuesday, 12/11	Wednesday 12/12
Mac and cheese	Choices from all week	Pizza!	Chili	Ravioli

Reminders

*In order to apply for **tuition assistance** from the Diocese of Wilmington, families must have their student registered for the 2019/20 school year. [CLICK HERE](#) for link to application

***Report cards** will be emailed to families on December 11th. Please be reminded that financial obligations should be current in order to receive this document.

*It's pajama time! The 5th and 1st grade classes are leading a wonderful **service project**. They are collecting new pajamas for children in need.

*Ms. Upshaw is looking for animal costumes for the **Christmas Pageant**. Please send in any Halloween costumes etc. that you might be able to give up. Please contact her with questions. For more music news see also:

<https://stfrancisdesales.net/our-school/faculty-and-staff/mary-tyler-upshaw/>

Important Dates

- Thursday, 12/6-7th grade **Christmas Ball** at Parson's Assisted Living
- Sunday, 12/9-**Santa Social**, 8:30-1:00 pm-Don't miss out on pancakes and crafts!
- Wednesday 12/12-Choir **Caroling** at Anchorage Nursing Home
- Thursday, 12/13-**Christmas pageant** 6:00 pm in the Parish Center
- Wednesday, 12/19-**Band and Choir Concert** 6:00 pm in the Parish Center
- Thursday, 12/20-All School Performance of the **Nutcracker** 1:30 pm in the Parish Center
- Friday, 12/21-Kid's shopping, **noon dismissal**, Christmas break begins-**NO AFTERCARE**
- School reopens January 2, 2019

Home and School Association

Script Fundraiser

Want to earn tuition credits and volunteer hours just by doing your regular shopping??

Sign up now and do your Christmas shopping with Scrip!!

You can purchase gift cards and set up your mobile account - it's so simple!

See Kris Reilly after school on Friday in the pick-up line or email her at onehoyarn@yahoo.com

Five Below fundraiser

Need stocking stuffers for Christmas or a gift exchange? Then come to Five Below between Monday, 12/3 and Saturday, 12/8 from 10 am – 6 pm and SFDS earns 10% back! What an easy way to help SFDS earn money towards the school's technology needs.

Santa Social

Our annual Santa Social & Pancake Breakfast is quickly approaching! Mark your calendars for Sunday, December 9th from 8:30 am – 1:00 pm for a morning filled with good food, holiday shopping with local vendors, crafts for kids, and of course, pictures with Santa.

Volunteers are needed to make this event a success. Shifts are short, with plenty of time to eat, shop, and mingle with friends. Sign-up here for your shift(s):

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60b094aa8a929a2ff2-santa>

And don't forget, Mrs. Claus' Workshop (our kids shopping event) takes place on Friday, December 21st for our students to select and wrap gifts for their family. More details coming soon, but please don't forget to send in your donations to the school office. In addition to wrapping supplies, we'd love old ornaments, costume jewelry, books, Christmas décor, and whatever other hidden treasures you have to put in our shopping event.

Contact Heather Hillaert with any questions about Santa Social at hhillaert14@gmail.com

Bull & Oyster Roast - February 1, 2019

This is a new fundraiser for the HSA and is certain to be a fun night out!! All you can eat menu, casino games and trivia, plus a cash bar featuring a signature drink and all you can drink souvenir mug!

All proceeds will benefit the Athletics program and playground improvements. Tickets will go on sale December 1st. If you are interested in volunteering please email Will Braxton at William_braxton@comcast.net or Andy McBride at Andrew.mcbride@longandfoster.com

Auction 2019 Theme and Date Announced!

The SFdS Annual Auction will be held on April 6th*. This year's theme is Havana Nights!

We are looking for volunteers to chair the decorations and provide support on several committees. If you are interested in volunteering please email Kate Bounds at Boundskate@gmail.com

*please note this date has been moved from March 23rd.

HSA Dues

Families who haven't paid dues or completed volunteer hours will be billed. If you are unsure whether you have paid your dues, please email us at HSA@sfdscs.org

Youth Ministry St. Francis de Sales Parish CYM - Catholic Youth Ministries Grades 7-12

Connecting with God, friends, and the community.

Thanks to all that helped with the Blue Christmas dinner! We made approximately \$1400 toward our youth ministries after expenses!! It was a great night of music, food, and tree lighting with our church family!

A few quick announcements:

Friday, Dec. 7th at 7:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party in the Youth Room located in the basement of the church. Bring a gift to exchange that is good for girl/guy and less than \$15. Games and food! At 8:00 p.m. we will play the Scrooge Movie. We will end at approximately 9:30 p.m. Email to RSVP and we need a couple of parents to stay with a background check! Please let me know if you can!

I have ONE ticket left for the Newsboys concert on Saturday, Dec. 8th at 6:00 p.m. at the Wicomico Civic Center! Let me know as soon as possible! Ticket \$28.

OC Youth Rally, Jan. 4-6 will be held in the Convention center. Join 4,000 other youth to be challenged and inspired! Late Registrations will be taken until Dec. 14th. A few tickets left at the \$100 price, (once those are sold, increase to \$120) for the weekend, which includes, concerts, speakers, and hotels. You will have to bring money for meals or any gift items at the marketplace. I need two more adults to come and drive with a background check! DUE to the holidays, please let me know as soon as possible!! If you would like the extended paperwork sent, please email me. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60b094fa9ad2ba5f85-ocean>

Have a blessed Advent season! Liza

Liza Alvarado - Mutchler
Director of Youth Ministries
St. Francis de Sales Parish

Trust the past to God's Mercy, the present to God's love, and the future to God's providence.
St. Augustine of Hippo

Download our Parish APP

I-Phone: text SFSP1 to 555888

Android: text SFSP2 to 555888

Follow the link-choose your notifications