The Sentinel

October 2, 2019

<u>Principal's Message</u>

This week I am pleased to share with you an update regarding our Middle School House System. Launched last year, the mission of the All Saints Catholic School House System is to create a middle school community where students *work together* and *support each other* as they grow in their Catholic faith.

Our middle school is comprised of ten houses, each named after a saint. Each house is facilitated by a faculty advisor and includes students from grades six, seven and eight. Once assigned to a house, students remain a member throughout their middle school years at All Saints.

Each of the houses focuses on four specific areas: *Advising of Students; Faith* & *Service; Leadership; and Community Involvement.* Students are provided opportunities to grow in these areas through weekly meetings during which they complete teambuilding exercises and service projects.

Anticipating the Feast Day of their saint, just last week students from the House of Jerome prepared a brief presentation on the life of their patron saint that they shared with students in second through fourth grade. It is wonderful that the students themselves proposed this classroom lesson. Through their efforts they demonstrated not just their solidarity as a "house" but a great sense of pride in the example of their patronal saint.

So what is next for the House System at All Saints?

On Friday the *House of Frederic* and the *House of Juan* will compete in the first round of the Middle School Kickball Tournament. Games will occur weekly during the regularly scheduled house meeting times and will culminate with the Championship Game on January 10!

We look forward to an exciting tournament as each House rallies for their chance at the Championship!

With God All Things Are Possible!

Virtues in Practice – October

Virtue of the Month: Reverence Definition: Showing your deepest respect for things of God. Saints: St. Hyacinth (PK-2), St. Tarcisius (3-5), St. Margaret Clitherow (6-8)

PTO General Assembly Meeting – October 22 (Reading & Writing Program)

Our first presentation for parents this year will take place on Tuesday, October 22 beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Activities Center. We are pleased to announce that Mrs. Horgan (Assistant Principal) & Mrs. Pryor (Resource Teacher) will be speaking on the topic of our new reading and writing program. Plan to join us for this introduction and overview of the Lucy Calkins' Program!

The Uniform Closet will be open from 6:30 p.m. through the close of the PTO Meeting and the following day, October 23 from 7:40 – 9:00 a.m.

Volunteers Needed for All Saints' Robotics Competition

The excitement is mounting! As announced previously, Robotics will be front and center at All Saints on **Saturday, November 9**, as the parish becomes the site of sideby-side middle school and high school robotics tournaments. All Saints Catholic School will be hosting its first middle school VEX IQ Robotics Competition in the Gym, while Seton School will host a VRC Competition in the Parish Activities Center. Registration for both tournaments is currently open to schools for this day of fast-paced, hands-on STEM learning and discovery.

Volunteers Needed for our Middle School Event

Now in the fifth year of our robotics program, we are pleased to be hosting our first tournament. Participants in the competition, comprised of up to 24 middle school teams, will bring robots that they have designed, built and programmed to compete in the 2019-2020 VEX IQ Challenge: "Squared Away."

To ensure the event is a success, we need all hands on deck. <u>The majority of</u> <u>positions require no Robotics experience</u> and we have divided most volunteer opportunities into shifts, so please join us even if you have just a few hours available!! Volunteer hours will count toward Family Stewardship Share requirements.

Please click on the following link to volunteer:

Volunteer Sign-Up for Robotics Competition

Veterans Mass, Assembly & Reception

Join us as our school community honors the commitment of the men and women who have served our country in the United States Armed Forces. We cordially invite all active duty, reserve, former and retired military personnel to attend our school Mass on **Friday, November 8th** at 8:30 AM. After Mass, there will be an assembly in the PAC, followed by a reception for our honored guests in Father Kelley Hall.

Students will be receiving a packet of information this week about our Veterans Wall of Honor, an annual tradition in which we show our gratitude for those within our school community who have served our nation through military service. Please click on the following for the 2019 Veterans Student Packet link: <u>Veterans Student Packet 2019</u>

IMPORTANT REMINDERS

Pilgrim Virgin Statue Program

Beginning in October, the month devoted to the Holy Rosary, All Saints Catholic School families are once again invited to renew their devotion to Jesus through Mary in a special way. On Friday, October 11, after a blessing that will occur at the school Mass, two statues of Our Lady of Fatima will begin traveling to the homes of our school families for week-long visits.

Families who wish to participate in this program this year may sign up online at the following link: <u>Pilgrim Virgin Statue Sign-Up</u>

While the statue of the Blessed Mother is in the home, families are encouraged to pray together either part of or the entire five-decade rosary for the intentions of our school as well as for their private intentions.

Should you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the rotation coordinator, Mrs. Maricel Pascua at gmpascua@outlook.com.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 2

• Gift of Human Sexuality Program Parent Meeting (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, October 3

• Faculty Meeting (3:30 p.m.)

Friday, October 4

• School Mass – St. Francis of Assisi (8:30 a.m.)

Saturday, October 5

• CYO Track & Field Event

Wednesday, October 9

• St. Paul VI Catholic High School 8th Grade Visit (8:00 a.m.)

Thursday, October 10

• Enrollment Management Team Meeting - Rescheduled

Friday, October 11

- School Mass St. John XXIII (8:30 a.m.)
- Trimester I Interims

Monday, October 14

• Holiday – Columbus Day

Wednesday, October 16

• School Mass – St. Margaret Mary Alacoque (8:30 a.m.)

Thursday, October 17

- 6th Grade Field Trip "The Edge"
- Statewide "Great Shakeout" Earthquake Drill (10:17 a.m.)
- 8th Grade Parent Meeting Cancelled
- Enrollment Management Team Meeting (7:00 p.m.)

Saturday, October 19

• PTO Family Trivia Night (PAC/6:00-9:00 p.m.)

Monday, October 21

- Picture Day (Uniforms)
- Red Ribbon Week sponsored by Student Council Association

Tuesday, October 22

• PTO General Assembly Meeting – Presentation I (Lucy Calkin's Reading & Writing Program – Mrs. Horgan & Mrs. Pryor) + Uniform Sale (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Wednesday, October 23

• St. John Paul the Great High School 8th Grade Visit (10:00 a.m.)

Thursday, October 24

- School Mass (8:30 a.m.)
- Battle of the Books Field Trip (St. Timothy Author Presentation)
- Middle School Activity Night (PAC/7:00 p.m.)

Friday, October 25

• Professional Development Day – No Classes or Extended Day

Newsletter Links

- Volunteer Sign-Up for Robotics Competition
- Veterans Student Packet 2019
- <u>Pilgrim Virgin Statue Sign-Up</u>
- PVI Open House Post Card 19
- PVI Middle School Night 2019
- Help Counter
- Online Application for Diocesan Background Check Application
- <u>VIRTUS</u> use this link to sign up for VIRTUS training sessions