

Virtue of the Month: COURAGE

January 15, 2010

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Upcoming Events

- Monday, January, 18th, No School, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- Tuesday, January 19th, Mad Science, After School
- Wednesday, January 20th, School Mass, 8:30am
- Wednesday, January 20th, 6th grade meeting
- Thursday, January 21st, Jump Rope Team Practice, 3:10-4:15
- Thursday, January 21st, After School Spanish, 3:10-3:45
- Monday, January, 25th, Young Rembrandts, After School
- Tuesday, January 26th, Mad Science, After School

Message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

The School Advisory Council met this week. It has been a couple of years since I explained this body and its purpose, so I thought it would be helpful if I did that. I would like to preface this with an organizational overview as it pertains to our school. The Archdiocese of Portland covers all of Western Oregon and the Catholic Schools contained within it. The current Archbishop is John Vlazny who has served our archdiocese since 1997. The Archbishop is appointed by the Pope and is responsible for the spiritual welfare of the Church in the Archdiocese and all programs within the Archdiocese; including the Catholic Schools. He has an assistant bishop, Bishop Kenneth Steiner who incidentally has played in some of our annual school golf tournaments! The Archbishop has a cabinet and one of his cabinet officers is the Superintendent of Catholic Schools. Our school, St. Francis, structures its programs around the policies set forth by the superintendent and the Department of Catholic Schools. At the local level, the pastor is the person primarily responsible for the parish school and generally he delegates responsibility to the principal for the daily running of the school.

This brings me to the School Advisory Council. The pur-

pose of this group is outlined by the Department of Catholic Schools. Its chief function is advisory, unlike a public school board, in that it does not set policy. But its role is very important in that it helps develop the school budget which is its primary responsibility as outlined in the Archdiocesan Policy manual. Included in this would be our fundraising efforts, strategic planning, advancement of the school in the community, enhancing the school's financial resources and endowments, yearly fiscal planning and review and ensuring the Catholicity of the school. It also helps with ideas, and offers sound advice on a host of broad administrative issues that affect the school. The council members are made up of both outside experts in their field as well as parent representatives (members are listed below). They are appointed by Father Tom. The Council is designed to meet four times each year.

This all brings me back to this week's Advisory Council meeting that took place Monday evening. We worked on the Budget and I believe that we are close to finishing up our work on this. We looked at the challenges we face in funding individual programs such as OMSI Science Camp. We also discussed the upcoming

construction project and its impact on our growth and program. Worked into our budget are the projected enrollment numbers and I am anticipating our enrollment going up to 200 next year! This is a real accomplishment for our entire school community.

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,

Principal

School Advisory Council Members:

Fr. Tom McCarthy, SJ

Michael Cantu

Fr. Patrick Stewart, SJ

Kerry Gillespie

Laura Larsen

Chris Corrado

Pam Dennison

Bill Parietti

Todd Bowman



News from the School Office

**Return your
Commitment Forms**

Clothes: Please take the time to check your child's sweatshirts. Since they all look alike it is easy for a child to bring home a sweatshirt that belongs to someone else.

2010-2011 Commitment Forms are in your envelope. Return these as soon as possible with either the \$50 deposit or the full registration fee. This is especially important if you are planning on enrolling new students. Our open enrollment begins January 31st and we like to know how many openings we have.

Kindergarten testing for next year will be February 6th and February 20th. Call now to schedule your testing time. Another Saturday will be added if necessary.

Catholic Schools Week



Catholic Schools Week is Jan 31st-Feb. 6th.
Sunday, Jan 31st, Open House Noon-2:00pm
Monday, Feb. 1st, Pastor and Parish Appreciation Day
Tuesday, Feb. 2nd, Grandparents Appreciation Day
Wednesday, Feb. 3rd, Student Appreciation Day
Thursday, Feb. 4th, Parent Appreciation Day
Friday, Feb. 5th, No School
Tuesday, Feb. 9th, Staff Appreciation Day

Join us in celebrating each of these days and thanking the people that make St. Francis the great school it is.

St. Francis Parish News

Sunday, January 17th, **Knights of Columbus Breakfast**

St. Francis 2nd Annual Crab Dinner, Saturday, January 16th, 6:30-10:00. \$15 or \$25 a couple. Reservations required. This is an Adult only function. Call Arlene at 503-625-7067.

Eat at Stone Cliff Inn between January 15-31 and earn 10% back for St. Francis Parish.

Out of Parish News

Blanchet Catholic School Preview Day, Sunday, January 31, 2010, 2:00pm

Blanchet invites you to learn more about its excellent college prep education for students entering grades 6 – 12

- Tradition of academic excellence
- Tuition assistance available

Families of all faiths welcome.

Blanchet Catholic School, 4373 Market St. NE, Salem, OR 97301. For more information call 503-485-4491

St. Mary's Academy CYO Basketball Night, January 22, 2010, 7:00pm. Free admission for all students and coaches wearing CYO uniforms. For more information call 503-721-7725.

Portland Pilots Basketball:

Sunday, January 17th, Mother/Daughter Clinic, 9am-Noon at Chiles Center

Saturday, January 23rd, Pilot Men vs. Pepperdine, 7:00pm, CYO Night, \$5 game tickets

Saturday, February 6th, Pilot Women vs. Gonzaga, 2:00pm, \$3 tickets



Out of Parish News

St. Mary's Academy Theatre presents "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever".

Friday, December 11th, 7:00pm

Saturday, December 12th, 2:00pm and 7:00pm

\$7.00 includes ticket and holiday refreshments

\$20.00 also includes special couch seating (limited)

Audience participation: Your own little angel can be a part of the Pageant too!

To reserve your ticket, call 503.721.7712 or email theatre@stmaryspdx.org