

# St. Francis School Newsletter

December 1, 2005

## Virtue of the month: GENEROSITY

School phone numbers:  
503-625-0497  
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School Address:  
15643 SW Oregon St.  
Sherwood, OR 97140

### Upcoming Events

- ◆ Nov. 30- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>, Book Fair
- ◆ Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Coffee with the Principal, 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grades
- ◆ Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup>, PSO Family Craft Night, 6:30PM
- ◆ Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>, School Mass, 8:30AM
- ◆ Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, School Mass, 8:30AM
- ◆ Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Program, 7:00PM
- ◆ Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, Noon Dismissal
- ◆ Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup> - Jan. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Christmas Vacation
- ◆ Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>, School Resumes

### FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Families,

I hope that your conference with your child's teacher went well last week. From the teacher's have told me, they were very successful. You have no doubt heard me talk about the concept of partnership between the school and home and certainly the conferences are one of the primary ways we build this partnership. In today's newsletter, I am including a document from the National Catholic Educational Association on this topic with some thought provoking questions. Feel free to respond to these and send in your input to my attention. Incidentally, the teachers and I tackled a portion of these questions at yesterday's meeting.

The book fair is in full swing and will be open after this weekend's Masses. Come out and support the book fair. Our school receives a credit to be used in purchasing books for the dollars spent at the fair. A big thank you goes out to Laura Larson, Jennifer Micich and their helpers in setting up and running the event.

The faculty and I are completing an analysis and report of our Math program. We gathered test results, looked at goals and objectives, studied student needs and now I am in the process of writing a strategy for improvement. A critical component of this recommendation will be ways we can address the needs of each child. For example, I have arranged the first of our in-house in-service seminars for our teachers. This particular seminar will aim at providing information to better assist the teachers who deal with students that are struggling due to some internal issue- processing challenges, lack of concentration/attention, etc.

Advent is a wonderful family season. As we prepare for the coming of our Savior, the benefits of family prayer, going to Mass on Sunday, lighting Advent candles mixed with the setting up of the Christmas tree, decoration and planning parties makes for a joyous time. If I might suggest, also use this time to talk about the message of God's love for all of us, the respect He maintains for His creation through the giving of His Son and how important it is for each of us to model this respect for each other.

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,  
Principal

Scrip Order Dates

There will be just one scrip order in December, Monday the 12<sup>th</sup>. Don't forget that they make great Christmas gifts.

Box Tops

When you clip box tops do not cut off the expiration date. They will not accept them without the date.

E-mail List

Just a reminder, if you have not already done so, to email the school office at: [gretchen@stfrancissherwood.org](mailto:gretchen@stfrancissherwood.org) to be put on the parent email list for school news and reminders.

School Calendar

The PSO Family Night is Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30.

Please note that there will be a school Mass on Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup> (not that Wednesday) to celebrate the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

Grade Level Meetings

The Kindergarten Grade Level meeting will be rescheduled.

Winter Weather

We will follow the Sherwood School District for late starts and school closures.

Student Council Meeting

There will be a Student Council meeting for officers on Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:15-4:15.

Catholic High School Placement Test

Here is the schedule for the Catholic High School Placement Test for this year's 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It is suggested that you take the test at your first choice school. They will send the results to other schools at your request. Call to reserve a spot. The test fee is \$20.

Central Catholic: Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, Paul O'Malley 503-1056x112

De La Salle North: Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, Mateo Bradford 503-285-9385x103

Jesuit High School: Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, Shirley Poppe 503-291-5422

La Salle High School: Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>, Andrea Burns 503-353-1413

St. Mary's Academy: Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>, Julie Stillwell 503-721-7725

Valley Catholic High School: Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>, Claudia Thomas 503-520-4721

Teacher Tips

Being thankful...In writing...

All of us just gathered with family and friends to give thanks for our many blessings. There have been many occasions when others do nice things, share special times, and give gifts to children. Each special event or present should be acknowledged with a written "thank you". Children with pre-writing skills can draw a picture and parents can write a description of what was drawn. It is a life-long habit that cannot be taught too early. As a child grows older, a special hand-written "thank you" should be automatic and sincere. The recipient will be very grateful and pleased with their decision to do something special for your child.

Scholastic Book Fair

- Come see the wonderful selection of books this year for all ages. We will be open:
- **Friday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>** from 7:30AM-9:00AM, 11:30AM-12:30PM, 2:00PM-4:00PM, and 6:00PM-8:30PM.
- **Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>** from 6:30PM-7:30PM
- **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>** from 9:00AM-Noon
- **Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>** from 8:00AM-9:00AM, 11:30AM-12:30PM, 2:00PM-4:00PM
- **Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**, 8:15AM, Cleanup

