

St. Francis School Newsletter

March 8, 2007

Virtue of the month: SACRIFICE

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

Upcoming Events

- ◆ March 5-16th, Standardized Testing, Grades 3-8
- ◆ March 9th, PSO Soup Supper
- ◆ March 12th, Scrip order due
- ◆ March 12th, Auction Meeting for Kinder Parents, 6:30PM
- ◆ March 14th, Stations of the Cross, 2:30PM, in the Church
- ◆ March 16th, 8:30AM, Portland Irish Dance Academy
- ◆ March 23rd, No school
- ◆ March 26th-30th, Spring Break
- ◆ April 4th, 8:30AM, School Mass
- ◆ April 6th, Good Friday, No School
- ◆ April 9th, Easter Monday, No School
- ◆ April 11th, 8:30AM, School Mass

FROM THE PRINCIPAL:

Dear Families,

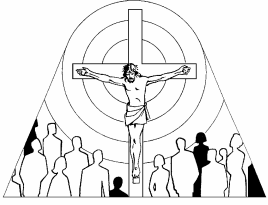
Catholic converts have always fascinated me. Adults who previously held different beliefs or no or little belief that experience a soul moving transformation, makes for a good story! Cardinal John Henry Newman, Mortimer Adler, Evelyn Waugh, Thomas Merton, Malcolm Muggeridge and Constantine are a few of the more notable, but the list is seemingly endless and is being added to every year at Easter-time. Our pastor, Father McCarthy, SJ teaches a class to those seeking to enter the Church on Tuesday evenings.

As a principal and teacher, I also find academic conversions fascinating and rewarding to witness. What, you may be asking is an 'academic conversion'? Well, it is the intellectual version of a spiritual conversion. One of these was described to me during the retreat I participated in last week. The spiritual leader, Father Rick Ganz, SJ did not speak solely about matters of the soul. Or, perhaps he did, in the example I am going to share, but not in a direct way. He told us of his experience back in grade school in which *learning* finally clicked, or better put, when he gained a love of *learning* and never looked back. By the way, from what I witnessed, he was one of the more brilliant and genuine people I have met.

So he is telling the story of how he was a very average student, nothing exceptional- 'C's and an occasional 'B'. Then in 6th or 7th Grade, he had a teacher that was able to convey, the sense of wonder in learning. The teacher he described was a somewhat eccentric veteran of the teaching ranks that captivated the attention of Father Ganz and fostered in him, a change, in which he went on to become a straight 'A' student. A conversion story, yes? I hope and pray we as a school are able to replicate Father Ganz story often at St. Francis School! (By the way, I just hired an additional Middle School teacher that I will tell you more about next week)

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,
Principal



Stations of the Cross will be lead by the 7th and 8th graders on Wednesdays during Lent in the Church. All are welcome to join us.

Auction Reminder

Kindergarten Parents. Very Important Auction meeting Monday, March 12th at 6:30 pm in parish hall. We hope to see every family represented. Contact Mary Parietti or Val Rice with any questions.

Registration News: Registration continues for current families and new families. **Remember your registration fee of \$200/student must be paid in full by Spring Break to hold your spot unless you have made prior arrangements with Mr. Cantu.** Tuition assistance information is available in the school office. Parish subsidy forms will be available soon.

The Portland Irish Dance Academy Mini Team will be here March 16th at 8:30AM to kick off the St. Patrick's Day weekend. Drop off your students and stay for the show. They will also be performing at the Parish St. Patrick's Day Dinner, March 17th at 6:30PM in the Parish Hall.



PSO News

PSO News:

More PSO events are just around the corner. Mark you calendar and get involved for share hours and fun!

Magazine Sale: Don't renew your subscriptions quite yet! The magazine sale is just about to kick-off. This is the PSO's primary fundraiser for the year, and every subscription counts. More information will be following soon. Contact Ralph Mooers if you'd like to help.

Oodles of Noodles: A fun night of spaghetti, games, and St. Francis School hospitality. Why stay home and cook when you can get out for a great meal and good conversation? April 20th, watch for more info. coming soon. If you'd like to help, call Sherri Peden.

Friar Trot Fun Run: Planning is well underway for the 1 Mile and 5K community walk/run coming in May. Let's make this year's event bigger and better than ever! Want to help be a part of this fun event? Contact Shellie Lazo.

Please know that the PSO committee always welcomes your comments and questions. Contact any member of the executive committee regarding community building and/or fundraising issues, and we're happy to help at any time.

PSO LENTEN SOUP SUPPER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

FRIDAY MARCH 9th, 2007 6-8 pm

**Please sign up in the school office or call
Karen Carrera 503 625-2018 and come and join the fun.
Volunteers need come to share no-meat soup recipes
and/or help set up, serving and clean up.**

Remember.... your Parent Service Organization executive committee is:

Sherri Peden - President

Shellie Lazo - Vice-President

Ralph Mooers - Treasurer

Karen Carrera - Secretary

Valerie Dalebroux - Secretary

Art News - Thank you for all the cardboard tubes, we have enough. Keep bringing in the plastic bottle caps and light bulbs.

Campbell's Labels - Please call the school office if you are the volunteer for Campbell's Labels.

Unless you have the proper permit - **do not** park in the handicap parking spots

Parish News

“The Passion According to Luke” performed by Leonardo Defilippis. Tuesday, March 13th at 7:00PM - St. Francis Church

9th Annual “Wearing of the Green” St. Patrick’s Day Dinner and Raffle
March 17th at 6:30PM in the Parish Center. Purchase tickets in advance.

Other News

The play at Jesuit High School is "Beauty and the Beast"

Dates: March 1-11th

Thurs thru Sat @7:30

Matinees Sat and Sun @2pm

All Ages \$9.50

For tickets call 503-291-5468

REMEMBER - to have parents and students sign the signature page in the handbook and return to the school office