



Look for these Friday Notes on the school web site and in your email as well. -- www.aquinas-catholic.com

Virtues and Volunteers

I have had the chance to get to know our students better through popping in to lead the Virtues in Practice lessons. This has been wonderful! This program strives to help us to grow in virtue and to help our students grow as well. The point of this program is that students take what they know in their **head** and move it to their **heart** so that it guides their thoughts and actions—at school and at home. From the survey, **over half (58%-4 or 5, 28%-3) of the responses indicated some improvement at home and parents excited about the lessons.** I hope we can increase those numbers so that you will **all** see the benefits at home, too. I have definitely seen them here at school.

I am looking forward to kicking off the **next** style of virtues which will be one longer session on the virtue and then the teacher touches on it the rest of the month. Teachers and staff would recognize students practicing the virtues and jot a note to hang up in the hallway. Spirit Club will be donating some prizes to award randomly for a little more incentive. We will continue to send information home so you will be able to support the practice there as well.

We would like to have a parent or community member present the Virtue lesson this time. We are hoping that hearing the message from yet another voice (in addition to the teacher, principal, parents, and religious) might help to affirm it. They might see one

THANK YOU

...again for all of your help with the **Book Fair**. That is the largest and smoothest-run fair I have ever seen at a school! It would not have been possible without all your many hours of support and Sr. Michaelene's great vision.

more person in their life who believes this message.

To do this, I will need some volunteers. If you have read to this point, you are a great candidate! It would take one hour on one day (just once or each month, if you like). We are hoping to get enough men and women volunteers to split the classes boy/girl to help tailor the message a bit to their interests and struggles. The lessons are very easy to follow, well-written, and scripted. Then, students would work on a related activity that helps to cement the lesson and give an opportunity to interact in a fun way with peers. If you'd like a copy of the lesson to review first, just e-mail or call and I can send it to you.

Thank you for prayerfully considering this opportunity. I am very grateful for your help.

— Mrs. Zook

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 30: Trunk or Treat. 6-7:30 PM – may move to a table in gym in case of bad weather.

Oct. 31: All Saints Dress-Up Day. Dress as a Saint or an angel. Ideas on Pinterest or CatholicCling.com.

Oct. 31: All Saints Party (KofC) 4:30-6:30 PM in St. Mary's gym. Please bring one large bag of candy per family. Food/Games

Nov. 1: No School -- All Saints Day – Holy Day

Nov. 2: All Souls Day / Bank of the Valley

Virtue for Nov/Dec

Respect: recognizing the dignity of all people –

St. Jean Jugan (gr. 1-2),
St. Damien of Molokai (gr. 3-5)

Winter Dress Code Starts Thu, Nov. 2

- No more shorts
- Pants, skirts, or jumpers with navy or white tights or leggings (*Legs must be covered so they don't leave skin exposed to the cold.*)
- In class, they can wear the navy St. Mary's sweatshirt, or a navy or white solid sweater or vest over the uniform shirt. (no hoods)



Prayers ...for new baby, **Tessa**. Born to **Brad and Michele Smith** and siblings Taylor (3), and Tanner (1).

Congratulations!

Please feel free to let us know of your prayer needs and joys to share with school families (email or call).

HOME PROJECTS FOR OCTOBER

FRIENDSHIP—sharing a mutual love that seeks the good of the other

Grades Pre-K-2—Saints Benedict & Scholastica

1. Practice sharing your friends. Tell someone else how fun it is to play with your friend and invite them to join you.
2. Do you copy any bad things that your friends do? Break that habit yourself and help your friend practice the good habit that is the opposite. Good friends copy good habits from each other.
3. Practice making friends. Smile and ask the other person what things he or she likes to do.
4. Are any of your friends sometimes mean to you? What do you do when they are mean to you? Practice politely telling them, "I don't like that" and "please stop".

Grades 3-5—Saints Basil and Gregory

1. Who are your closest friends? What virtues are strengths for them? This month, make a goal of telling your friends which virtues you admire in them the most. This is a great way to encourage them to grow even more in that virtue.
2. Each night this month, pray for your friends by name.
3. Discuss: Who are your friends? Do you talk about important things together, and help each other to do what's right? Try doing that once per week.
4. How often do you talk to people who do not eat at your lunch table? Set a goal number of times per week and discuss your success.

WIN A FREE JEAN DAY!

A free jean day will be awarded to each student in November who has \$200 or more in Scrip purchases by family members in the month of October. So let your family members know to check out scrip and inform the scrip team member who sells you the Scrip which family gets credit for your purchase. This can be brothers & sisters, parents, grandparents, or even aunts & uncles!!

The team members are looking for your purchases and will be asking which family to give credit for each purchase. Go to the Aquinas website: <https://www.aquinas-catholic.com> and Scrip is located under the Development Tab. It tells you what scrip is, who the team members are and how to sign up for



ordering scrip on line If you choose to sign up! Or contact Nancy Vrbka at 402.545.2025 (Home) or 402.367.8835 (Cell) or Kelli Augustin 402.527.5669 (Home) or 402.910.1303 (Cell).

THANK YOU! FOR BUYING SCRIP!!

Pictures from the Week –Rosary-making, chess, coding, Baptism Mass

Rosaries in the making... to be sent to Catholic Relief Services for the victims of Hurricanes.

Our tally for the Coin War Donation is nearing \$700 and will be sent off next Thu with the rosaries.

3rd Grade, working away...



...and 4th Grade working away...



And the beautiful finished products with the 5th graders! Many prayers for those who receive them.



Mr. Mark Masur teaches chess to students in the after school Extended Care program with Mrs. Anita Sisco. They remembered a lot from last year!



Computer students started coding this week! It was challenging, but they were very engaged! Thanks, Mrs. Blowers!



Friday's Baptism Mass! Such a blessing!



TRUNK OR TREAT



Monday, October 30th
6:00-7:30 P.M. (Set-up begins at 5)
St. Mary's School Parking Lot

Trunk or Treating will start promptly at 6:00 pm, so all cars must be in the parking lot by 5:45 pm.

Prizes for best decorations

Free Photo Booth

Open to all St. Mary's School families

Concession will be available, so plan to grab a hot dog and enjoy the night with your St. Mary's school community.

What Is Trunk-Or-Treat?

Adults decorate cars and hand out treats from their trunks. Children go from car to car collecting candy while enjoying your creativity. Children may dress in their Halloween or Saints costumes. A great opportunity to try out their Saints costumes for school on Tuesday!

How Do I Decorate My Trunk?

Anyway you like! You can go with a Biblical theme, animals, Halloween, sports, etc – whatever gets your creativity flowing. It can be as elaborate or simple as you wish.

Please nothing too Spooky or Gruesome.

For more information please contact:
Joanie Brecka - 402-367-8331

Sponsored by the St. Mary's Spirit Club

Send treats to the troops!



Bring your unwanted, wrapped candy!

**All donated candy will be sent
to our troops overseas!**

Please bring your donation to:

St. Mary's School

Thursday November 2nd • Friday November 3rd

Monday November 6th

St. Mary's church presents

The Bells of St. Mary's

Dinner / Variety show

Sat. Nov. 18 show starts 7pm Aquinas Gym - David City

Pork Loin and Maple Bacon wrapped chicken will be served at 6pm.

\$25 Dinner and show \$12.50 12 and under

~~Show only tickets sold at the door~~

\$8 adults \$5 students

RSVP for Dinner tickets by Nov. 13

Contact Deb Dinkelman 270-1983 or the Rectory 367-3579

Tickets for Dinner also sold at the Harvest Festival and after Mass

Cash Bar & Mystery Raffle

The show includes a variety of comedy and performances by parishioners, and special guests the Swinging Nuns. Acts include the Church Lady, Accordion playing, Black Illusion, Tim Conway, Shaving Cream Singers, and a special Grand Finale!

Proceeds to St. Mary's church for bell and clock repairs.

Brought to you by Ding A Ling Productions

