



"Nothing that enters one from outside can defile that person;  
but the things that come out from within are what defile."

February 10, 2017

Dear St. Ann Family,

Attached to this week's email blast should be a memo from the Archdiocese and a brief letter from Fr. Nick regarding some of the upcoming changes that will shape Catholic education in North St. Louis County. The biggest change will impact St. Ann is a realignment of 'deaneries' in the Archdiocese. Currently St. Ann is a part of the Northwest Deanery but after this realignment we will be joining a newly drawn deanery for all North County schools. St. Ann will continue to operate in the traditional parish-school model, an approach that has been successful for us and one that we hope to make successful going forward as well.

Fourth Grade led our All School Mass this week. This week's Wednesday Gospel included Jesus' explanation/parable about the experiences we have and how we encounter the world around us. While the myriad of blessings and challenges that each person encounters shapes their experiences, it is how we react and respond to these experiences that define us. St. Josephine Bakhita is an example of someone who did not allow the horrible challenges of her life define her actions or mission. Fr. Winker spoke to the students about her childhood and life of slavery and eventual liberation. She entered the religious life in Italy and became a nun. St. Josephine is an example of someone whose actions and responses to the world truly illustrated the holy person that she was.

Science Fair Projects are underway for many of our students in 5th, 6th, and 7th grade. If your student/family is participating, don't forget that projects are due on Friday March 2nd. The Science Fair project can seem like a tall task but it's a great way for students and families to work through the scientific process together.

Lent is approaching fast which means our first Fish Fry of the season! Join us Friday, March 3rd, for a great St. Ann tradition. The Lenten Fish Fry in the parish center is a fun family event where you can enjoy a delicious meal with the whole St. Ann community.

The 8th grade play is just a couple weeks away. The students have been working extremely hard under the direction of Kathleen Carter-Groppe. Beginning February 23rd, the 8th grade class will be performing 'The Wizard of Oz'. I have attended several of the rehearsals and their work has been excellent. We are in for a treat on opening night!

### **Volunteers needed for the 2017 Sponsor's Dinner Dance and Auction**

St. Ann's annual Dinner Dance and Auction is scheduled for Saturday, April 29th. Please reserve the date on your calendars today! The Sponsor's Dinner Dance and Auction is St. Ann's largest fundraiser of the year. Volunteers are needed to help with solicitations, invitations, decorations and much more. If you are interested in assisting with the Sponsor's Dinner Dance and Auction, please attend a volunteer meeting **Tuesday, January 24** in the rectory library. Questions - please contact Kate Flatley at [flatleyk@gmail.com](mailto:flatleyk@gmail.com) or [314.518-5241](tel:314.518-5241).

Our annual Jump Rope for Heart event to raise money for the American Heart Association will be held on February 28. Students will participate in a variety of jumping activities partnering with their buddy class. A sponsor donation form will be in the Friday envelope. Students are encouraged to seek donations to help this worthy cause. Every student that raises \$5 will be able to dress out on 2/28. For more information and to register online go to [https://www.kintera.org/site/c.dkLRKbOWLjK4E/b.9387231/k.38A9/Home\\_NEW\\_2017.htm](https://www.kintera.org/site/c.dkLRKbOWLjK4E/b.9387231/k.38A9/Home_NEW_2017.htm)

### Reminders:

- Monthly calendars and the weekly school newsletter are available on the school website [www.sacs-stl.org](http://www.sacs-stl.org). Please notify the office if you would like to receive a paper copy through the weekly Friday Envelope.
- The Protecting God's Children Workshop schedule can be found through this link. [http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg\\_list2.cfm?theOrgID=14498&theme=0](http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theOrgID=14498&theme=0)

### Upcoming Dates For Your Calendar:

February 14-Valentine's Day-Classroom Parties @ 2pm

February 20-President's Day (NO SCHOOL)

February 24-Jump Rope For Heart

February 23, 24, 25-8th Grade Play @ 7pm (The Wizard of Oz)

February 28-Mardi Gras

March 1-ASH WEDNESDAY

March 2-STUCO CureSearch 'Go Bald Event @ 2:30  
Science Fair Projects Due  
Incarnate Word Theater Field Trip

March 4-Progressive Dinner 6 pm

Blessings,  
Jacob Reft