



“And so I say to you, you are Peter,
and upon this rock I will build my Church”

February 24, 2017

Dear St. Ann Family,

We’re less than a week away from Ash Wednesday and the start of Lent. Lent is a special part of the liturgical year that focuses on prayer, fasting, sacrifice, and the little things we do to nurture a disciplined lifestyle of helping those around us. The United States Council of Catholic Bishops is encouraging us to ‘Give Up, Take Up, and Raise Up’ during Lent. They urge us to “Embrace the Lord's call to being the blessed poor by "giving up" material things... "taking up" charitable habits directed to helping and caring for others; and "lifting up" those in need through giving alms, through praying for them, and by participating in devotional practices.” Over the 40 days leading toward the Easter season we’ll transition from the bleak, stagnant world of late winter to the growth and promise of spring. By giving up the unnecessary and sinful and taking up those acts that truly bring us closer to God, we can partake in a sort of spring cleaning for our souls.

This week, our 2nd graders led the All School Mass. We celebrated The Feast of the Chair of Saint Peter, Apostle. In the Gospel reading we heard about Jesus identifying Peter as the “rock” upon which the Church would be built. The St. Ann community is very familiar with the word “rock” as a term of empowerment and a description of a person or persons who act as a stable, strong, and supportive foundation to the world around them. To some degree, we are all called to be a “rock” for those around us.

Last night was the opening of “The Wonderful Oz”, performed by our 8th grade class. Early reviews are extremely positive with even the harshest of critics describing the show as “awesome”, “well-done”, “very humorous”, and “it brought a tear to my eye”. It’s not too late to catch the show for yourself. The fun continues tonight and tomorrow. Both shows begin at 7pm. It’s a special St. Ann tradition, a fundraiser for the school, and a great way to spend the evening!

The Jump Rope For Heart finale is taking place today. Students raised over \$600 for the American Heart Association and that number is still climbing. Many students dressed out in their sportiest clothes to take on the fun and challenging jump rope obstacle course that Mr. Reid has put together in the gym. Long jump, high jump, partner jump, vault, tinikling (look it up), and many other jumping related activities are keeping the students on their toes! Thank you to Mr. Reid, and all of our students, for leading this awesome fundraiser.

Science Fair is approaching quickly. Students and teachers have been working hard to conduct experiments, record results, and make some fascinating discoveries. The projects are to be submitted next Thursday, March 2nd, and they will all be on display Friday night during the Fish Fry.

St. Ann students and families have started raising money for CureSearch for Children's Cancer. CureSearch for Children's Cancer 'is a national non-profit foundation that accelerates the search for cures for children's cancer'. As an added fundraising incentive and an outward show of solidarity, 3 bold 8th grade students have volunteered to have their shaggy heads of hair shaved bald if the school is able to raise our goal of \$500. We're currently about halfway to the goal with \$265. The deadline is next Thursday morning, March 2nd. We'll be administering haircuts that day during morning prayer.

St. Ann's 30th Annual Progressive Dinner is just 1 week away on Saturday, March 4th. Start the evening at one home for appetizers then transition to another home for the main course. End your evening at a third home for dessert! For more information, email Dana Valenti at grade3@sacs-stl.org

To keep costs and waste low, it is extremely important that students and families submit their lunch forms and corresponding payments on time. The lunch program is not funded by any outside sources and running an extremely efficient program is what allows Mr. Dailey to provide students with a nutritious and affordable hot lunch option. If you are short on funds, but would like to order lunch, submit your order form by the due date and catch up on payments later. Beginning in October 2017, a \$5 late fee will be applied to any lunch order submitted after the due date and the order will not be counted until the late fee is paid. You can contact Mr. Dailey with any questions at 314-488-9772.

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 or [314.518-5241](tel:3145185241).

Reminders:

- Monthly calendars and the weekly school newsletter are available on the school website 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

Upcoming Dates For Your Calendar:

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',
Science Fair Projects Due
Incarnate Word Theater Field Trip

March 3-Teacher Professional Development NO SCHOOL

March 4-Progressive Dinner 6 pm

March 10th-Peaceful
Shirt/Jeans day
-End of 3rd Quarter

Blessings,
Jacob Reft

