

"When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name, your Kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread and forgive us our sins for we ourselves
forgive everyone in debt to us, and do not subject us to the final test."

St. Ann Family,

October 13th, 2017

We've concluded another busy week at St. Ann and the first quarter of the school year is now officially complete. We finished the quarter with the conclusion of 6th grade camp as the class traveled home from Camp Sherwood Forest. It was an enjoyable time for all and a great experience for the students to grow closer to one another. The 7th and 8th graders spent the day at Trinity Catholic High School for the North County Deanery's Confirmation Rally. It was a time of reflection, celebration, small group discussion, and prayer. I want to extend our gratitude to all of those parents and grandparents who accompanied our students at camp and the Confirmation Rally. It's a big commitment and sacrifice that allows all of our students to engage in these special experiences. Thank you!

In an attempt to make our Parent Teacher Conference sign up more efficient and accessible, we'll be trying out an online sign-up system which will be made available soon. Families will be invited to log in to an online schedule to choose the PTC time that is most convenient for them. This will cut down on scheduling conflicts, paper use, and missed conferences as the system sends reminders as the conference day/time approaches. If this online system works smoothly, we'll use it again in the spring. If it is a headache, we'll change our approach. Look out for the email invitation very soon!

The 1st grade class led our all-school Mass this week. Our young students did a really great job presenting the gifts, reading the petitions, and sharing with us a reading from Jonah that was long and tricky. They practiced hard to prepare for the liturgy and did an awesome job! In the Gospel, Jesus taught his followers how to pray. In his homily, Fr. Nick talked about the life of Jonah and the way God cares for all of us, even if we're not always cooperating with God.

On Monday, October 16th we will have the Bobo's fundraising items delivered to our school. We will likely need a couple parent volunteers to help us organize and sort through the items to be sure that students are able to receive the right items in an efficient manner. The delivery is scheduled for 2pm. PLEASE make yourself available to pick up the items at the end of the day near dismissal time, if you can. Many students/families have multiple boxes being delivered and it can be difficult for a student to carry all of those items to the car or to the library on their own. Keeping up with those items during after school activities like choir, Girls Inc., or after-care can also be difficult. Additionally, some items are frozen and likely need to remain that way for freshness. Students who are not able to get their frozen items home in a timely manner risk having them wasted. We do not have room at school to store frozen items that are not picked up.

On Wednesday, October 18th, we will be hosting 8th graders from 3 other Archdiocesan grade schools: St. Cecelia, Our Lady Queen of Peace, and St. Justin the

Martyr (Fr. Bill's new parish). The students will join us for a special 9:15 version of the all-school Mass. This visit is a part of the Faith In Action project identified by Fr. Bill while at St. Ann and continued through his new and old parishes to create opportunities for students of varying backgrounds to come together to pray and learn and focus on what they have in common as 8th grade Catholic school students. Please note: Fr. Nick will be celebrating an 8:00 Mass for those regular time attendees, and the 9:15 school Mass for anyone interested in that liturgy. All are welcome and we encourage our friends and family members to join us for this special Mass to help illustrate the St. Ann school and parish community to all of our guests.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR-Fright Night is another popular St. Ann tradition and the 8th grade has assured me that this will be the most fun and spooky edition yet. Join us next Friday, October 20th for an evening of tricks, treats, games, and a haunted campus experience provided by our very scary 8th grade class.

October 23rd-26th is Red Ribbon Week, a week celebrated by many schools across the nation to help educate students about healthy living practices, diet and exercise, and a drug free lifestyle. The week is highlighted by many fun themes and activities for each day. Look out for a Student Council flyer coming home soon with the details!

Our 2nd grade class will be participating in The Federation's 2nd grade sacramental retreat at the Pallotine Renewal Center on October 25th. We will need parent chaperones for this excursion as well! The students will be riding a bus.

Our 7th and 8th grade students are working to start a school newspaper. The first meeting took place this past Wednesday and they'll be meeting again this Wednesday. If your 7th/8th grade student is interested in becoming a reporter, editor, photographer, writer, cartoonist, or copier for the school paper, let us know!

On October 25th our 5th and 6th grade classes will be visiting Cahokia Mounds in Collinsville IL. Look out for more info and a permission slip on this field trip soon and consider helping chaperone the experience.

As the weather forecast appears to be gradually trending toward a more autumn-like feel, the temperatures may be going down. While the midday recess and P.E. classes will likely be quite comfortable, students may need a light jacket or sweater on the way to school and those students in after-care or gardening club will likely be outside in the early morning and early evening when temperatures are cooler. Please be sure your students have the right attire for the extent of their school day. My understanding is that the sweatshirts are very nearly ready to be distributed. They'll be right on time for the changing weather.

The St. Ann Talent Show is coming soon. If your student would like to participate and showcase their skills, please send your child's name, grade level, and proposed act to Mrs. Harrington at beckyh@remax.net. The first practice is this Wednesday, October 18th, from 3:25-5:30pm. Practices will be held every Wednesday. All acts and their content (props, accompanying music/lyrics, scripts, and costumes) will be subject to review to ensure an appropriate and family friendly performance. While in attendance at both the rehearsals and performance night, students will be expected to sit quietly and wait patiently as other students rehearse their acts. Failure to follow directions or behave appropriately could result in removal from the show's lineup.

In this week's Friday Envelope you should be finding a pink letter against a brief form called the 'Economic Deprivation Survey'. This survey is used by St. Ann to communicate to the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education about the number of students attending our school, in which school districts our students live, and whether or not they may qualify as 'economically deprived' based on the criteria explained by the form. This survey is only seen by me and only used to help us report information to DESE. That information is filtered to our students' respective school districts which will result in determination of St. Ann's state funding for things like Title I funds (additional teaching/instruction services) and Title II funds (staff professional development opportunities). Please fill this brief form in for your family to the best of your knowledge and return to school by next Friday. Your cooperation will help St. Ann students and teachers in the 2018-2019 school year.

•If you still need to complete a Protecting God's Children Workshop, more sessions are available around town. The schedule can be found through this link:
http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theOrgID=14498&theme=0

Mark Your Calendar

October 16th Bobo's items delivery/pickup
October 18th-Faith in Action Mass-9:15
October 20th-Fright Night
October 20th-Report Cards
October 23rd-26th-Red Ribbon Week
October 25th-2nd grade retreat
October 26th-Parent Teacher Conferences 1pm-8pm
October 31st-Halloween classroom parties @2:00pm
November 1st-Saints Mass-3rd grade Saints Museum
November 10th-NO SCHOOL

Blessings,
Jacob Reft

****SCROLL DOWN FOR A FUN GUESSING GAME!****

This week's image is another close-up. Can you guess what this is?!

Email your best guess to principal@sacs-stl.org

The fastest correct response will win a prize!

