

“Behold, I am sending you like lambs among wolves.”

St. Ann Family,

October 21st, 2017

Another fast paced week has concluded at St. Ann. The week was highlighted by our Faith In Action Mass, Fright Night, and 1st quarter report cards. Families will have roughly a week to review report cards and test scores to help prepare for collaborative and productive Parent Teacher Conferences this Thursday.

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 have been 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. So far the online approach has worked smoothly and we have most families signed up already. If you still need to sign up, follow the link that was sent last week, or request another email and I can send you the information you need. We're looking forward to a busy and very useful evening of conferences on Thursday, October 26th.

The 8th grade class led our all-school Mass this week. They had the special privilege of hosting 8th grade classes from Our Lady Queen of Peace in House Springs, St. Justin the Martyr from Sunset Hills, and St. Cecelia from South City. As an added bonus, Fr. Bill Kempf returned to celebrate the all-school Mass with Fr. Winker! It was a treat for all of our students. After Mass our St. Ann 8th graders participated in a campus scavenger hunt with their visiting guests to help share more about our school/parish campus, culture, history, and more.

Last night was Fright Night and I think the event was really nice. The 8th graders and their parents worked very hard to put together a series of fun activities for our younger students and their families. It was well attended and provided a spooky and fun conclusion to our school week!

This week, 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. Monday's theme is a full dress down day. Wear your St. Ann spirit PLUS crazy shoe and sock combinations.

Our 2nd grade class will be participating in The Federation's 2nd grade sacramental retreat at the Pallotine Renewal Center this Wednesday 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!

This Wednesday, October 25th, our 5th and 6th grade classes will be visiting Cahokia Mounds in Collinsville IL. Please pray for these classes as they travel off campus to learn more about ancient cultures and local history!

***This Thursday is a noon dismissal day as we have Parent Teacher Conferences from 1pm-8pm. There is no after school care this Thursday. On Friday there is NO SCHOOL!***

Tuesday, October 31st is Halloween. We will have classroom parties hosted by each classroom's respective room parents. Each classroom part will begin at 2:00pm. Students are not to wear costumes to school on Halloween. It will be a regular, in-uniform day, but students are encouraged to add some simple Halloween accessories to their normal uniform (Halloween glasses, headbands, jewelry, bracelets, hats, etc.).

Wednesday, November 1st, is All Saints Day, a holy day of obligation. School will be in session and the all school Mass for that Wednesday will be led by our 3rd graders who will be participating in an annual 3rd grade tradition, the Saints Mass. Each 3rd grader will be dressed in costume to represent the saint they have chosen to learn about and emulate. In the afternoon, the 3rd graders will host the Saints Wax Museum, an interactive presentation in the gym for students and parents to tour and meet the saints.

On November 9th we will be hosting an informational Confirmation Meeting for 7th and 8th grade parents. Please make yourself available to come and learn more about the preparation students, sponsors, and staff will be engaging in before the sacrament is completed in April. The meeting will begin at 6:30pm.

The St. Ann Talent Show is scheduled for Saturday, November 18th. 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](mailto:beckyh@remax.net). Practices will be held every Wednesday after school until 5pm. 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. We're also bringing back a chili cook-off competition in conjunction with the Talent Show. We're calling all student, parent, teacher, and parishioner chefs to submit an entry! Dust off that old cookbook, jump on Pinterest, or utilize that old family recipe passed on for generations. Bring in a 5-meat chili, a vegan chili, the spiciest chili in the world. Whip up some Coney dogs, a Chili 5 way, Chili Mac, whatever you like! There will be prizes and we'll have the book fair open before the show and during intermission.

Many families have returned their 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 ASAP. 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](http://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/reg_list2.cfm?theOrgID=14498&theme=0)

#### Mark Your Calendar

October 23rd-26th-Red Ribbon Week  
October 25th-2nd grade retreat  
October 25th-5th & 6th grade field trip  
October 26th-Parent Teacher Conferences 1pm-8pm  
October 27th-NO SCHOOL  
October 31st-Halloween classroom parties @2:00pm  
November 1st-Saints Mass-3rd grade Saints Museum  
November 10th-NO SCHOOL  
November 18th-Talent Show

Blessings,  
Jacob Reft

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

This week's image is another close-up. Can you guess where this Crusader is located?  
Email your best guess to [principal@sacs-stl.org](mailto:principal@sacs-stl.org)  
The fastest correct response will win a prize!

