

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC SCHOOL

August 30, 2011
Volume 9, Issue 2

www.sfawolves.org



Monsignor Peter P. Buchignani, Pastor
Mrs. Beth York, Principal
Mrs. Vicki Boyd, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Mary Annette Keating, Assistant Principal

Wow, can you believe August is over? The year is already flying by! We hope your students are getting settled into their schedules and daily routines and having a great year so far. As always, feel free to contact us as needed.

SFA Administration

DATES TO REMEMBER...

September, 2011

- 2 *Donation Out of Uniform Day; First Friday*
- 5 *Labor Day – NO SCHOOL*
- 13 *First Quarter Interims posted to Edline; Home & School Lunch & Meeting 12:00 Noon, PLC*
- 14 *School Pictures (in Uniform) – PK-K & 6th-8th Grades*
- 15 *School Pictures (in Uniform) – 1st – 5th Grades*
- 19 *Silver Rose Fun Run; SFA Homecoming & Pep Rally*
- 20 *CiCi's Pizza Night*
- 25 *5th – 8th Grade Basketball Registration, PLC 1:30-3:00pm*
- 29-30 *SFA FALL FEST*

October, 2011

- 4 *St. Francis Feast Day & Field Day*
- 6 *Parent-Teacher CONFERENCES - 11:30 a.m. DISMISSAL*
- 7 *Diocesan Faculty Conferences – NO SCHOOL*
- 14 *End of First Quarter*

www.sfawolves.org

Phone: 388-7321

Absentee: 381-2555

EXT.CARE: 381-2595

Sodexo: 381-2551
sandra.cole@sodexo.com

From the office of the Admissions Director:

Our total enrollment for the 2011-2012 school year is 870 students! The long-standing tradition of Catholic education is to instill in students the faith, knowledge, morals and discipline that will enable them to fulfill their future roles in life. Now, more than ever, a Catholic education is truly an investment in the future that is worth the consideration of every family.

Please share with your family and friends that we are now accepting applications for the 2012-2013 school year. For more information or a tour of our school contact Director of Admissions, Susan Fetz at 381-2548 or susan.fetz@sfaschool.cdom.org

THANK YOU

We would like to acknowledge the generous donors who made contributions during the 2010-2011 school year. We truly appreciate your generosity!

Donations made to the Monsignor Peter P.

Buchignani Endowment Fund:

Marlene Demchuk

Jim and Maureen Conley in

Memory of John Pera

Bill & Nanetta Hecht

Louis Pera

Frank J. Sanpietro & Kathryn A. McVicar

Melody D. Schnieder

Paul & Ann Stoddard

Monica Tillman

Ronny & Teri Anderson

Patty Rottgering in Memory

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Bill & Helen Hargest

Horatio B. Ebert Charitable Foundation

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Paul Shiue

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General donations made to our school:

Deacon and Mrs. Chuck Lightcap

Mr. Tim Chandler/

Chandler Wrecking Company

Mrs. Rachel Sejas/The Painted Lady

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Mrs. Patty Ryan

Mrs. Patricia Averwater Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. Ken M. Spain/

Phillips Auto Body

*Ms. Carol A. Percival in Honor of the
50th Anniversary of Bill & Mary Knight*

*Mr. and Mrs. John O'Conor in Honor of
Owen Paul Fermi on the occasion of his*

First Holy Communion

Grace Bible Class in Memory of

Mrs. Marjorie Cooper



"Start by doing what's necessary, then do what's possible; and suddenly you are doing the impossible."

St. Francis of Assisi

SPORTS NEWS...from the desk of Kareen Baird

5th – 8th grade BASKETBALL Registration is open and available through the church office, athletic director's office or online:

http://www.cdom.org/Web_Sites/StFrancis/YouthAthletics/YouthAthletics.htm.

A printable form can be found at the www.sfawolves.org website. WALK-UP registration (and DEADLINE) will be Sunday, September 25th in the St. Francis Parish Life Center- 1:30pm – 3:00pm.

IF YOU WANT TO PLAY THEN DON'T DELAY – REGISTER TODAY!

The \$50.00 participation fee is due with the registration form. Late registration forms will only be accepted if space is available. All 5th – 8th grade athletes must have a physical prior to participation. The orange medical form can be picked up in the church office, main school office, and just outside of the gym in St. John Neumann Hall. The medical form must be on file in order to participate in the evaluations.

BASKETBALL Evaluations will be on the following dates:

Sunday, October 23rd:

2:00pm - 3:30pm for 7th grade boys

3:30pm - 5:00pm for 8th grade boys

Monday, October 24th:

5:30pm - 7:00pm for 7th grade girls

7:00pm - 8:30pm for 8th grade girls

Tuesday, October 25th:

5:30pm - 7:00pm for 5th grade boys

7:00pm - 8:30pm for 6th grade boys

Thursday, October 27th:

5:30pm - 7:00pm for 5th grade girls

7:00pm - 8:30pm for 6th grade girls

SFA Swim Team: Any 6th – 8th grade student interested in participating on the swim team should contact Mrs. Baird to pick up a registration form and informational sheet.

LOST & FOUND

For your convenience, **Lost & Found** bins are located in the School Gym and in the Multi-Purpose Room

Please check these bins often for missing items!

Remember to

LABEL, LABEL, LABEL
ALL ITEMS BROUGHT TO
SCHOOL!

Timberwolves Spirit Shop

We are open every **Tuesday** and **Thursday** before and after school - located in Maria Hall, Room 319. The Spirit Shop can be accessed from the playground or main school entrance.

SFA Turvis Tumblers are now available....stop by and take a look at all the cool spirit items!

HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Come and Join your Home & School Committee for the first Meeting of this school year **Tuesday, September 13th 12:00 Lunch; 12:30 Meeting**

We will be discussing Fundraising Proceeds, and new Social Events – **All are Welcome! Please join us!!!**

City Saver Deadline:
Friday, September 9th

Coming Soon:
Boosterthon Fun Run –
October 18th-27th ...more details to follow.

CAMPBELL'S LABELS FOR EDUCATION

Yes, we know it's HOT outside, and soup may not be what you're buying at the store, but there are lots of other brands you can purchase that participate in the Labels for Education program and support our school: Emerald Nuts, Glad Food Storage, Pop Secret Popcorn, Bic pens, Campbell's Supper Bakes, Franco-American, Pepperidge Farms, Post Cereals, Prego, Spaghetti-O's, Swanson, V-8, and Wolfgang Puck. And did you know you can get double points by registering your Kroger shopper's card online? Simply go to

www.elabelsforeducation.com and register your card's number, and we'll get your double-points electronically!

Remember to keep saving the UPC codes only (the part that beeps at the cash register scanner) – as we can no longer submit the front label from any products. Keep watching the newsletter for more details on when to turn those UPC codes in to your child's teacher throughout the year.

We appreciate your continued support of this fun program!

From the Desk of Mrs. Alicia Brown, Director of Student Affairs...

If you remember from last year, as part of our discipline program, we try to reward 5-8th grade students for showing “positive” behaviors and being good examples of what SFA students should be. The guidelines for this program were given to the students at the beginning of the year meetings. The students in the entire grade are rewarded when they reach certain Positive Point Goals and this ends up being like a grade level “compliment party.”

Well, all we can say is, “WOW!!!” The year is off to a wonderful start and the positive points are rolling in. It looks like the 100 point goal may be reached by a few of the grade levels very soon! Students can keep up with the grade level positive point totals as they begin to add up. The 5th grade totals are posted outside of Ms. Clemens’s classroom and the 6th, 7th, & 8th grade totals are posted on the bulletin board right next to the elevator in St. John Neumann Hall. The current positive point levels for each grade are as follows:

- 5th Grade - 50 points
- 6th Grade - 75 points
- 7th Grade - 75 points
- 8th Grade - 75 points

Here are some of the great things that the kids have be “caught” doing:

Noah Kurtz, Jacob Timmins, Isabella Giddens and Tyler Richards have all earned points when they volunteered for extra table washing duty in the cafeteria for other classmates who were absent.

Two 6th grade girls, Cara Bascom and Katharine Farler were “caught” going OUT of their way to help new student, Somer Smith, with cafeteria/lunch procedures and overall campus whereabouts. They have made her very welcome here at SFA. Way to go girls!!

Andy Holtwick was “caught” when he stopped to help the Coke delivery man pick up the delivery he spilled in the gym. He did this out of the kindness of his own heart, without being asked.

When a student dropped her books and her binder broke open all over the floor while they were changing classes, Blair Outlan was right behind her and immediately stopped to help her put everything back together. It’s great to see one student so generously helping another.

Mrs. Prus said she had to send in a request for positive points for the entire 5th grade. In her request, Mrs. Prus said, “*I was working at the computer and heard the slightest of sounds – thought it was a squirrel on the porch. But No, it was the 5th grade, walking without a sound – like deer in the forest- to their music and art classes. They were soooooo quiet outside my portable.*”

These are just a few of the great things happening throughout the 5th, 6th, 7th, and 8th grades. Well Done Timberwolves, you make us proud!



St. Francis of Assisi Extended Care News...

Welcome to a new school year and to Extended Care. We are looking forward to a great year with your children. In order to use Extended Care at any time during the school year, your child must be registered. Packets are available from the Extended Care office or Front Office.

The Extended Care program provides your children with a quality program in a safe, nurturing environment. Registered students participate in a variety of activities including homework rooms which are supervised by SFA teachers. Homework room teachers are: 1st & 2nd Grade – Mr. Don Thompson; 3rd & 4th Grade – Mrs. Diana Kozlowski; 5th Grade – Mrs. Eydie Tyer & Miss Lauren Smith; 6th – 8th Grade – Mrs. Terry Bradley & Mrs. Mary Prus; Mrs. Lisa Hutchins & Mrs. Mandy Hunt work 3 days/week with PreK, JrK & K. We are blessed to have such an experienced and talented staff working with the children. We also attempt to employ St. Francis faculty and staff to add continuity to the program and we are equally blessed by those SFA faculty members who are willing to add their expertise.

Extra-curricular activities are also offered during the Extended Care hours of 3:00p.m. – 6:00p.m. for an additional charge (Costs vary from class to class). Classes include: Playhouse on the Square After School Acting Program, Cheer & Tumbling class, Drawing Made Easy, Cool Crafts, Mad Science, Chess Club, Guitar Lessons, Creative Writing Courses, & Bartlett Dance Factory. For more information contact Dena Chavez at dena.chavez@sfaschool.cdom.org.

Upcoming Dates to Remember: *September 5* – Labor Day – NO SCHOOL - Extended Care CLOSED; *October 6* – Parent/Teacher Conferences – 11:30 Dismissal - Extended Care OPEN (bring lunch & drink); *October 7* – Diocesan Faculty Conferences - NO SCHOOL- Extended Care OPEN, IF 20 registered Extended Care students sign up.

Please know I am always available to answer any questions or concerns you may have during the school year.

Mrs. Dena Chavez



St. Clare Rosary Club

Will meet in Mrs. Lenahan's room JNH 111. Next meeting -

Wednesday, September 21
Time: 3:05 to 3:40

Bring your personal intentions and your rosary. Extra rosaries will be provided.

7th and 8th graders will receive 30 minutes of Eucharistic Adoration time. All are welcome to attend. For more information, see Mrs. Lenahan

During the summer, St. Francis 7th grade students, Max Thielemier, Matthew Hammond, James McGregor, and Jack Conroy, were the overall winners of a Robotics Challenge at the NASA Space Academy in Huntsville, Alabama. During this week long event, the students, who are also Boy Scouts of St. Francis Troop 457, were responsible for designing, building, and programming a Robot to complete a series of tasks. The boys scored highest in all of the above categories including team work.

We are extremely proud of all of these boys!



SFA FALL FEST

This year's event is **Friday, September 30th and Saturday, October 1st**. We are currently taking applications for **BBQ Teams** and **Corn Hole Teams**. If you are interested, please stop by the church office or contact Chris Lomasney at candelomasney@comcast.net or call 901-756-6822.

Volunteers and Crafters wanted too!

For more information, visit www.sfafallfest.org.

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

September 2011

St. Francis of Assisi Parish



Thoughtful Moments

Religious education

During the new school year, treat faith formation and religious education with the same importance as your child's academic education. Be sure to supervise religion homework or assignments. Reading, writing, and religion are important life skills your children will always need.



Heal together

The most effective way to convince our children of the value of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is to seek it ourselves. If you haven't been to Confession in a while, your priest will be happy to remind you of how it is done. Welcoming a penitent sinner back to God's forgiveness is one of a priest's greatest joys.

Volunteer early

Getting children involved in parish life makes it more likely that they will want to come to Mass regularly. Ask if young children can perform small jobs such as handing out bulletins or acting as greeters. Even minor roles can help children feel a part of the parish, too.



Make your family top priority

Strong schools, sports teams, and hobbies all make important contributions in our children's lives. Experts agree, however, that the most important lessons come from loving parents who spend time with their children. The best way to make family time a priority is to schedule it and make it happen.

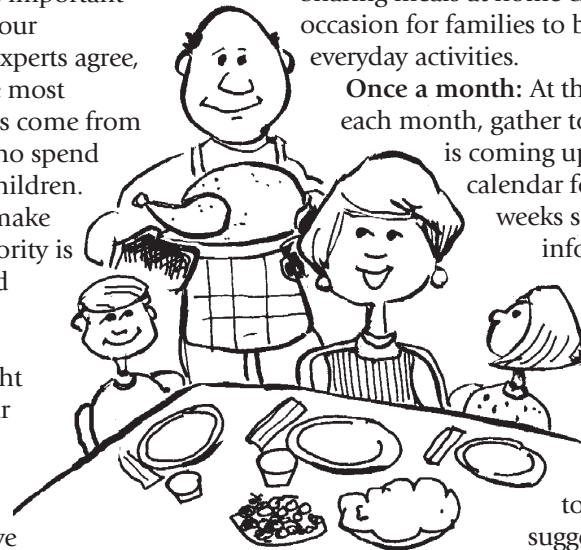
Once a week: Dedicate one night each week to your family. Make it something fun like playing board games, have a talent show so children can demonstrate progress in music or dance lessons, make popcorn and watch a movie from the library. Protect it on the calendar and let nothing interfere.

Several times a week: Bring your family together at mealtime whether for

microwaved or home-cooked dinners. Sharing meals at home creates an occasion for families to bond over everyday activities.

Once a month: At the beginning of each month, gather to review what is coming up on the calendar for the next few weeks so all are informed. Also discuss family issues and problems. Let each person be allowed to bring up topics or give suggestions for solutions.

Once in a while: Introduce a learning opportunity. Have a short lesson to teach a virtue or a life skill you want your children to learn. Or, bring home an outsider such as a priest or sister to visit and learn from.

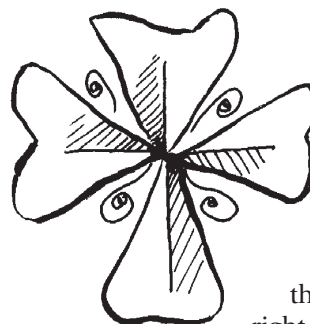


Why Do Catholics Do That?

To help us live a holy life each day, the Catholic Church has identified four necessary virtues we all need to acquire, called Cardinal Virtues.

They are: *temperance* – the virtue that helps us to control our impulses and desires, *justice* – to help

What are the Cardinal Virtues?



us respect the rights of others and give God his due, *fortitude* – which gives us the resolve to resist temptation and the courage to do right, and *prudence* – the virtue that helps us to make the right choices.

Help children find time for prayer

One way to help children remember to pray throughout the day is to combine prayer with regular daily activities. For example:

On your knees. To remember to say morning prayers, put shoes under beds the night before. When youngsters bend down to retrieve them in the morning, children can stay on their knees and say a quick prayer offering the day to God.

Buckle up. Each time you buckle up a seatbelt in the car, offer a prayer together



asking that you remain aware of God's presence in your life. Or, perhaps pray the Guardian Angel Prayer asking for protection during the journey.

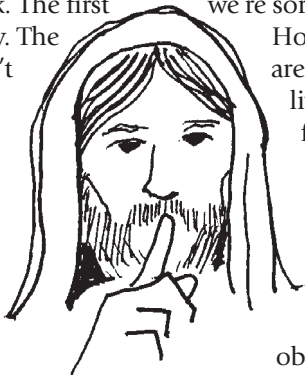
Special intention jar. Keep a jar in a central place in your home, such as a kitchen counter or near a main door. Throughout the day, each person can write prayer intentions on slips of paper and put them in the jar. Before going to bed at night, family members can pull a note from the jar and pray for that need with their regular nighttime prayers.

Scripture LESSON

Matthew 16:21-27, How can I gain salvation?

Jesus tells of the man who sent two sons to the vineyard to work. The first said, "No," but went anyway. The second said, "Yes," but didn't go. Jesus asked which son did as the father asked. Obviously the first son did.

If we say, "Yes, God, I believe in you," that's not enough. If we presume that the Lord will take us into heaven just because we say that, we'll be disappointed. Words are not enough. True obedience is shown through actions. When we realize we are in a state of sin, we have two options. We



can say we're sorry, or we can show we're sorry.

How can we show God we are sorry? We can go back to living as Jesus taught us by following the Commandments and the Beatitudes.

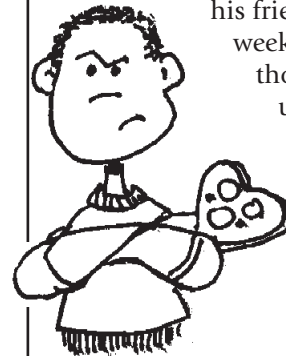
What can a parent do?

Use this Gospel to show children what obedience is all about, both

obedience to God and obedience to parents. We can teach our children that doing what Jesus asked us to do is the most important way to live our lives.

Parent TALK

Jamal isn't allowed to play video games during the week so when Friday comes, he quickly disappears to meet his friends online. Last weekend was different, though. He came upstairs after only a few minutes because his friends were playing a new game that my husband and I don't approve and won't buy. We won't even let him use his own money to buy it. It's very violent.



It was hard to see him sad but this wasn't the first time we have forbidden something allowed by other families. In this case, my husband and I feel strongly that violent video games hurt children and we won't accept them just because other parents say they are okay. Our standards are different.

Jamal doesn't like feeling left out. But, as Catholics, we have to do what we think is best even if it isn't always easy or popular. God is watching.

Feasts & Celebrations

Sept. 12 – Most Holy Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope Innocent XI extended this feast to the entire Church after the King of Poland, with Mary's protection, defeated an advancing Muslim army in Vienna in 1683.

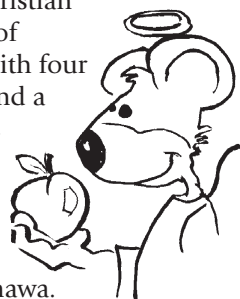
Sept. 16 – St. Cyprian (258). A theologian and orator, Cyprian was bishop of Carthage. He helped defend the Church against heretics and set guidelines for readmitting lapsed Christians. Cyprian was arrested for refusing to worship idols, was exiled and martyred.

Sept. 28 – Saint Wenceslaus (929). King of Bohemia, Wenceslaus worked

to end the persecution of the Christians in his country. He encouraged German missionaries, built churches, and cared for the needy. Political conflict led to his assassination by his brother. The "Good King" was immediately recognized as a martyr.

Sept. 28 – St. Lawrence Ruiz (1630). Lawrence was born in the Philippines to Christian parents. Accused of murder, he fled with four Catholic priests and a leper to Nagasaki, Japan, but came under violent persecution.

They were martyred on Okinawa.



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