

ST. ANDREW CATHOLIC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
MARCH 24 - APRIL 10, 2018

Dear Parents,

With the celebration of Palm Sunday, the Church begins the greatest liturgical week of the year. The heart of Holy Week is the Triduum, the three day period of Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday that leads to the great Feast of Easter. During these three days it is a good time to clear the extras from your schedule, to watch less television, spend more time together as a family, and to spend some additional time in prayer. May this truly be a holy week for our Christian brothers and sisters as we unite and join with one another in prayer and worship of our God.

Since this newsletter will also lead you into the great celebration of Easter, let me be the first one to say Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! **We now prepare for a 50 day celebration of the Easter Season.** We catch the spirit of this season and let the Good News of Christ sink in: Death has been conquered and new life awaits us. Blessed be our God who has raised up the Lord Jesus! Thank you God of new life for bringing us together in this mission of Catholic education.

Our Seder Meal is scheduled for Holy Thursday, March 29th which is a PARENT DRIVE DAY. I think the best part of the Seder Meal from the kids perspective is to eat “family style” with seconds and thirds as requested. From an adult’s perspective, it is a lovely way to begin the observation of Holy Week by singing and praising our God together as we gather at table. It really is very touching and meaningful to have the full participation of the children in reading, singing, and sampling of the ritual meal. Our thanks and gratitude in advance to Julie Steuter and Laure Hipsag for making all of the extras (homemade rolls, dirt cake, unleavened bread, moror, bitter herbs, etc.), as well as what promises to be a spectacular meal! It is A LOT of extra work for our cooks to host a meal like this, and we are grateful for all they do each and every day to feed and care for all of us at St. A’s! **(See more about the Seder Meal in the newsletter)**

FAIR TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS ARE ALMOST DUE! *If you are in need of tuition assistance, you must complete the tuition assistance on line application from FAIR BY APRIL 15TH. Parish members and those who do not attend St. Andrew Church are eligible to apply, however assistance is given only to the K-5 program applicants. All applications must be completed by the April 15th deadline to be processed for the 18-19 school year.*

Ms. Scipioni

- **Lenten Soup and Sacrificial Meal, Saturday, March 24; Last one!**- Join your parish family in uniting for the disadvantaged and poor of the local and global poor by having a sacrificial meal. Soup and Sacrifice is an opportunity

to have a meal of soup and bread – a small, sacrificial meal – and donating the amount that you would have spent to make or purchase dinner for you/the family.

MARCH 25 - APRIL 10, 2018

SUNDAY, MARCH 25 – PALM SUNDAY. HOLY WEEK BEGINS -

- Masses for Palm Sunday at usual, scheduled times
- If you had been collecting money as a family for the “rice bowl” (Catholic Relief Services) you may turn it in at church today.

MONDAY, MARCH 26 - MONDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- Lenten Monday Meeting – Collection of food for the CAER food shelf will end today. Thank you for your generous support of this endeavor.

TUESDAY, MARCH 27 - TUESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- Band and Instrument lessons for Grade 4
- 6:00 PM – Gala Meeting

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 28 - WEDNESDAY OF HOLY WEEK

- **10:00 Mass - Join us as we celebrate Eucharist** as a school community. The students in grade 4 will assist with this Mass.

HOLY THURSDAY, MARCH 29- PARENT DRIVE DAY -

11 – 12:30 – Seder Meal at a glance

- **Children in grades K-5 are encouraged to take hot lunch today**
- **Students may have a “relaxed” dress code today (no uniform) but are encouraged to wear shirts that are floral prints – or very colorful!**
- **We are unable to have any guests in the lunchroom today.**
- *(A more thorough explanation about the Seder Meal and all expectations is in the note section).*
- No Band and Instrument lessons for grade 5
- School dismisses for Spring Break at our usual dismissal time.

Holy Thursday is the beginning of the Paschal Triduum. Mass of the Lord’s Supper begins at 6:30 p.m. at St. Andrew Church. For all of the students who attended the Seder Meal, attending Mass tonight helps to better understand the Jewish traditions of the Seder that have led to our Christian celebration of the Mass, and the institution of the Eucharist.

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30 -

Good Friday services consist of the reading of the Passion, Veneration of the Cross, and Eucharist. Make some time on this day for Jesus.

- **Services are at 12:00/noon and at 6:30 PM at St. Andrew Church**
- School is not in session / Tackle Box is not open today.

HOLY SATURDAY, MARCH 31 -

Attend the Vigil of the Holy Night of Easter at 8:30 p.m. Join our parish family as we extend our parish family by welcoming new Catholics through the sacraments of Baptism, Eucharist and Baptism. We welcome our own friends and school community members – **Liliane Abongwa and John Houlton** as they embrace Catholicism and join our faith family today.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1 -

Alleluia! **Masses of the Resurrection of our Lord are: 8:30 and 10:30 (Bilingual)**
Speaking on behalf of all the faculty and staff, we hope you have a relaxing and fulfilling Easter holiday. We love and appreciate all of you – most especially your wonderful children – and thank the God of new life for bringing us together in this mission of Catholic education.

MONDAY, APRIL 2 – MONDAY, APRIL 9TH - SPRING BREAK!

Enjoy the time away from school with your family. Tackle Box is open all week on Spring Break (April 2 -9) for students who registered. Drop ins are welcome.

SUNDAY, APRIL 8TH - Fifth Grade fundraiser!

- **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS BREAKFAST** - The students and parents of grade 5, in conjunction with the Knights of Columbus, will be hosting the monthly breakfast for the Church of St. Andrew on Sunday, April 8th from 8:00 a.m. until noon. All families are encouraged to attend to support the 5th grade as they plan for their graduation and end of year activities.

TUESDAY, APRIL 10 – SCHOOL RESUMES AT THE USUAL TIME.

SEDER MEAL – THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH - The Seder meal is a ritual meal in the Jewish tradition, where our school family (Grs. K-5) gather at table to sing and praise God together. Since it is not an “authentic” Seder observance, we use this meal to tie together the Jewish traditions of the Seder that have led to our Christian celebration of the Mass. We won’t have an authentic Seder menu, as this event is more about order and ritual, and less about what we are eating. Here are a few reminders:

- **We encourage all the kids (K-5) to take hot lunch on this day.** We try and pick a menu that is more like a “dinner” as we serve the meal family style on plates. Students do not have to take lunch to participate in the meal. Even if students don’t take lunch, they will still partake in the unleavened bread, bitter herbs, moror (baked apples), grape juice, jelly beans, etc.
- Since our “theme” is “A Season of Growth” – our dining area will be decorated in beautiful new growth. **The students will be encouraged to wear shirts or Tshirts that are floral print or very colorful.** This isn’t a “have to” but does help us remember that it is a special meal because we wear special clothes. Blue jeans are fine for this day.

- Due to space limitations and food limitations, **we ARE UNABLE TO HAVE ANY GUESTS/PARENTS IN THE LUNCHROOM ON THIS DAY.** This is a must. The children can tell you all about their day when they get home, but we only have space for the kids and the staff today.

GALA UPDATE / YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

*My gratitude and thanks are extended to all members of the St. Andrew Gala Team who are working so diligently to plan and bring to fruition a wonderful night of fun, socializing and fundraising for our school community. We are a bit behind on our ticket sales so far, so if you are waiting to purchase a ticket for this wonderful event, **NOW IS THE TIME!!** Please plan on a big night out with your friends and family to support your favorite cause – **YOUR KIDS!***

Still need to purchase your tickets for this year's Gala, on Friday, April 27TH? Don't wait much longer... Space is available, and we want you to be part of the fun-filled event that supports our great school. Pick yours up today via the [Parish Website](#) or visit the school office. Tickets are \$70 each, and include dinner, dessert, dancing, and the opportunity to bid on lots of great items, tickets and experiences in the live and silent auctions. Like and visit the Gala Facebook page for all the details:
www.facebook.com/SACSGala.

We need each family to contribute to the success of the Gala by giving a few things. Here's what's needed/expected:

- 1. We need 1 bottle (or more) of good wine, to sell in the "Wall of Wine." Napa Liquor is giving 25% off all purchases if you mention the Gala for St. Andrew.*
- 2. We need gift cards - all denominations, all locations. Restaurants that kids like are popular, but "date night" restaurants are nice options as well.*
- 3. Themed Baskets - If you would like to put together your own basket of gifts around a theme - Kitchen items, car cleaning items, kids games, family night activities, movie tickets/treats, sporting event/theater tickets, etc. that would be great. If you and a few other families want to go in on something, even better!*

Bring your donation to the school office ASAP, or contact the Gala Committee at standrewgala@gmail.com to arrange pick up.