

Siena Circular



November 27, 2007

Brothers and sisters: Let us give thanks to the Father, who has made you fit to share in the inheritance of the holy ones in light. He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. Corinthians 1:12-13

Dear Parents,

This past weekend we celebrated the glorious feast of Christ the King, which marks the end of the liturgical year. I wonder how many of you ever felt “surprised” at the Church’s choice of Gospel for this feast – it is the same as the Passion narrative on Palm Sunday, detailing the crucifixion and death of Christ.

As a teenager, while on a retreat, I remember being challenged by the priest to reflect on the fact that Christ’s Kingship was most manifest as He hung on the Cross. I remember being touched by the idea that true kings exercise their office most fully when they give their lives for their people, the good and deserving ones as well as the wicked. And finally, I remember being challenged to reflect on how well I was serving as a soldier in this King’s army.

Yes, serving in the King’s army ultimately demands our willingness to give all, even our life. There are days when I wake up in the morning and ponder (after my first cup of coffee) the fact that this day could be my last in this world. What if today or tomorrow were to be my last day? What would I put on my “things to do” list if I were to know I must leave this world and face God within the next twenty-four hours?

I do not know what would be on your “things to do” list, but mine would include the following: thanking those who have done good to me, encouraging my family to keep their faith, taking a good look at my life so that I may acknowledge and thank God for all His blessings, and, perhaps the most difficult yet most necessary of all: forgiving those who have hurt me and asking forgiveness from persons whom I have hurt. After all, on the Cross, while He reigned as the King of Love, Christ forgave.

As we approach Advent, the beginning of the new liturgical year, let us meet God’s challenge to make a “things to do” list which would be worthy of the invitation to serve in the army of the King of Love.

With prayers,

Prayer Corner

Please pray for:

- Our deceased family and friends
- The souls in purgatory
- Victims of the Bangladesh cyclone
- Recovery from surgery for Archbishop Gregory
- The Taylor Family (Mr. and Mrs. Mark Taylor)
- The McNally Family

Calendar at a Glance

Wednesday, November 28

- School Mass (1B); parent coffee

Friday, November 30

- Spirit Wear
- 2nd Quarter midterm

Monday, December 3

- Family Fellowship Fund presentation @ 6:30 p.m. in the cafeteria

Wednesday, December 5

- School Mass (5B); * parent coffee for 5B and 5A

Thursday, December 6

- Academic Fair @ 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 7

- 1st Friday Exposition in school chapel (8:30-2:30)
- Scrip orders due @ noon

* Parent Coffee for 5A will be combined with 5B on Wednesday, December 5.

GRANDPARENTS' DAY

Thank you to Mrs. Huddle, Mrs. Lebrun, and their wonderful team of parent volunteers who helped to make Grandparents' Day a very special event for our grandparents. Thank you to Ms. Khan for the lovely musical program and 5th grader Joseph Schretzmann for the very well-written narrative.

CHOIR

In order to prepare better for Advent and Christmas music, Ms. Khan will be holding extra, *optional* SCS School Mass Choir (grades 4-8) practices. The practice schedule for the next few weeks will be as follows:

- Thursday, November 29 (*regular practice*)
- Friday, November 30 (*optional practice*)
- Thursday, December 6 (*regular practice*)
- Friday, December 7 (*optional practice*)
- Thursday, December 13 (*regular practice*)

Angel Choir will be cancelled on Wednesday, December 19

ARCHDIOCESAN POLICY MANUAL

The newly approved and published Archdiocesan Policy Manual, which contains some updated and/or new policies for all archdiocesan Catholic schools, is now available in the Media Center. Parents are welcome to access the manual by visiting the Media Center.

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP FUND

All families who are interested in learning more about the Family Fellowship Fund are invited to an informational meeting on Monday, December 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the school cafeteria. Please note that this fund supports students from pre-K through Grade 12. Go to www.familyfellowshipfund.org for more information. Applications and other required forms for this fund can be accessed by the "Join" tab on the website.

FIRST FRIDAY ADORATION

Parents are invited to drop by the school chapel on First Fridays for Adoration. Each class spends some time praying in the presence of Christ exposed in the Blessed Sacrament on First Fridays. What an excellent way for parents to model prayer and devotion to the Eucharist to our students. Our next First Friday Adoration will be December 7. Please contact Claudia Chandler (hcchandler@yahoo.com) for more information.

Saint Catherine of Siena Catholic School unites with family and community to provide an excellent academic and religious education, developing the whole child while encouraging individual talents and abilities in a Christ-centered environment.

In imitation of Saint Catherine, faithful daughter of the Church, we provide a formation grounded in truth through which we engage the culture, setting the world ablaze with the love of Christ.