

# Siena Circular



March 18, 2008

Christ suffered for you, and left you an example to have you follow in His footsteps.  
He did no wrong; no deceit was found in His mouth. When He was insulted, he returned no insult.

When He was made to suffer, He did not counter with threats.

Instead He delivered Himself up to the One Who judges justly.

In His own body He brought your sins to the cross...By His wounds, you were healed.

*1 Peter 2:21-24*

Dear Parents,

We are in the midst of the most solemn times of the liturgical year. The Gospel for Palm Sunday detailed the Passion of the Lord. The sense of betrayal and injustice is overwhelming. The scene opened with: "One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, 'What are you willing to give me if I hand him over to you?'" I remember a life-changing homily about this Gospel I had heard when I was a teenager. The priest's words ring clear in my mind to this day: "Judas betrayed Christ for thirty pieces of silver; how often do we betray Him for much less."

How often do I betray Christ for much less than did Judas, especially when I feel tired, overburdened, unappreciated, anxious. An angry word, the refusal to give someone the benefit of doubt, holding onto grudges, denying someone a second chance, gossip...Yes, how often do we betray Christ for much less than did Judas.

A few weeks ago, our eighth grade students and their parents were invited to an optional viewing of *Passion of the Christ*. I am told, since watching the movie, one of the students has kept the image of the suffering Christ in mind whenever he is tempted to let his temper and impulses get the better of him. Truly, this ultimate proof of God's love for us must be the principle reason for our every choice to be virtuous, even when it costs us dearly, even when it requires us to put others – ultimately God – before ourselves, which is to say, when it costs us our pride. This is what we hope to teach our children: to live the truth in love *because* of Love.

Let us learn from this eighth grade student; let us allow the image of the suffering Christ to illumine and shape all our thoughts, words, and actions. Then will we be able to experience the true joy of Christ's Resurrection – His victory over sin and death – because the love of Christ will truly reign over us.

With prayers,

## Prayer Corner

Please pray for:

- Archbishop Gregory, Father Doyle, Father Terry; our seminarians
- Our second graders as they prepare to receive their First Holy Communion
- Our benefactors
- The Taylor Family
- The McNally Family
- The Conkey Family
- The Ayers Family
- Kel Pirnik

## Calendar at a Glance

### Wednesday, March 19

- School Mass (1A/1B)
- \* SCS Oratorical Contest @ 1:45 (gym)

### Thursday, March 20

- \* Living Stations @ 11:00 (gym)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter report cards to be distributed
- Noon dismissal – *park and pick*
- No Snack and Yak

### Friday, March 21 & Monday, March 24

- No school – Good Friday & Easter Monday

### Monday, March 24

- \* CiCi's Pizza Night

### Wednesday, March 26

- School Mass (6A)
- No Angel Choir

### Friday, March 28

- Spirit Wear Day

\* Please note the corrected date for CiCi's Night – the last *Circular* advertised the date as March 17 – it should be March 24.

There will be no Tuesday Folder on Tuesday, March 25. The next Tuesday Folder will go home on Tuesday, April 1.

### **THANK YOU!**

- To Sister Dominic and our eighth grade students who have been working hard in preparing for the Living Stations of the Cross this Thursday.

### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to Vinnie Paglioni for qualifying for the National Geography Bee at the state level. The competition will take place on April 4. Way to go, Vinnie!

### **BILLS IN SUPPORT OF PRIVATE EDUCATION**

Last Tuesday two bills, SB 458 and HB 1133, which can benefit families who desire to offer private education to their children, made it out of their respective Chambers.

HB 1133 is the tax credit bill which offers individuals and corporations tax credits for expenditures for private education expenses. This bill passed the full House last Tuesday with ninety-two votes – two more than were necessary. This bill now resides with the Senate and it has been assigned to the Senate Finance Committee, chaired by Senator Chip Rogers, who is supportive of school choice options. He has not yet scheduled a hearing on this bill. If you support this bill, please contact him at [chiprogers2@comcast.net](mailto:chiprogers2@comcast.net) or 404-463-1378 and encourage him to have a hearing and a vote.

SB 458 is a scholarship bill which will provide scholarships or vouchers to students in chronically failing schools or school systems which lose their accreditation, as Clayton County might. This bill passed the Senate and is now in the House. It was assigned to the House Science and Technology Committee. SB 458 aims to offer a choice to students in failing schools. If you support this bill, please contact the Chairman of Science and Technology, Amos Amerson, and ask for his support of the bill. Rep. Amerson can be reached at [Amos.Amerson@house.ga.gov](mailto:Amos.Amerson@house.ga.gov) or 404-657-8534.

### **FACTS TUITION ASSISTANCE**

The first round of tuition application closed on February 28. Tuition Assistance letters will go out shortly after April 4, when formal letters of acceptance will be sent to new and re-enrolling students. Families with submitted tuition assistance applications which are missing required information and/or the \$20 processing fee will be notified by FACTS Grant & Aid; they should submit the missing information and/or fee as soon as possible. Incomplete applications cannot be processed. Families with incomplete applications are not eligible to receive tuition assistance. Go to [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com) for further information. For questions, please contact Sister Mary Jacinta or Anna Coppock.

### **BLESSED TRINITY FOOTBALL PROGRAM**

If you missed the first registration for the Blessed Trinity Catholic High School Jr. Titans middle school football program, there will be a second opportunity to register for the upcoming spring practice and fall season on Saturday, March 29, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Athletic Field House on the Blessed Trinity campus in Roswell. Registration is open to rising 6th, 7th and 8th graders (current 5th, 6th and 7th graders) interested in attending Blessed Trinity HS. Call Blessed Trinity Athletic Director/Head Coach Ricky Turner at (678) 277-9083 ext 519 for additional information.

### **SUMMER SPORTS CAMPS**

Information and registration forms for summer volleyball and basketball camps are available on-line and at the front office. The volleyball camp is open to girls currently in grades four to seven. The basketball camp is open to girls and boys currently in grades two to seven. Please contact Mr. Shirley at 770-419-8601 ext. 1416 or [tshirley@scsiena.org](mailto:tshirley@scsiena.org) if you have questions.

### **SNACK AND YAK**

There will be no Snack and Yak this Thursday, March 20 after noon dismissal.

### **ANGEL CHOIR**

There will be no Angel Choir practice on Wednesday, March 26.

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*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.*