

November 17, 2005

"Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others."

-Marcus Tullius Cicero

As Ms. Sturgeon and I visit classrooms, we consistently observe excellent teaching and on-task, motivated learners. We also regularly hear from parents of alumni how well their students are performing in high school. I have been reading a book entitled, *Best Practice, Today's Standards for Teaching & Learning in America's Schools.* Holy Rosary School is one where "Best Practice" is seen every day. As we approach the Thanksgiving holiday, I am mindful of just how grateful I am to be a part of a school community that values academic rigor, as well as strong faith and character formation. Thank you for all that you do to support your children and our teachers. There will not be an FCE next week. The December calendar is enclosed in today's FCE. I will be remembering with gratitude and fondness the staff, students, and parents of Holy Rosary in my Thanksgiving prayers. May you all enjoy a wonderful Thanksgiving holiday.

FEEDBACK ON CONFERENCES. Thank you for completing and returning the survey on parent/student/teacher conferences. The majority of parents feel the conference week schedule works well. Several parents would like 25 or 30 minute conferences. Some parents would like an opportunity to speak to the teacher with the student present. Your input will be considered when we prepare for conferences next year.

<u>PARENTS' CLUB</u> meets tonight in the school hall with hospitality beginning at 6:15PM and the meeting starting promptly at 6:30PM. This evening's speaker will be Ann Donovan, our new Development Director. She will be presenting an overview of Holy Rosary's Development Program. We hope to see you there.

ALUMNI NEWS. The fall Alumni Newsletter is enclosed in today's FCE. Thank you to Pam Sturgeon who is the editor of this paper. Thanks also to parents-Maggie Lucas and the Brown family for preparing the newsletter for mailing to our alumni. Let us know if you know of someone who would like the newsletter mailed to them. It is issued twice a year –fall and spring.

<u>THANKSGIVING MASS</u>. The students will celebrate Mass together for Thanksgiving on Wednesday, at 10:30AM. The Mass is being planned by our third grade classes. All students must be in perfect uniform, which includes the uniform sweatshirt, vest, or sweater. Thank you for your cooperation. School will be dismissed at noon on Wednesday shortly after Mass. Happy Thanksgiving!

TEEN NIGHT TONIGHT @ WEST SEATTLE BOWL. OLG's youth minister, Kerry Rankins, invites all 7th and 8th grade students to a get together at West Seattle Bowl, Thursday, Nov. 17th at 7 pm. The cost is \$1.75/ game and teens get free shoe rentals. If you have any questions please contact Kerry Rankins @ OLG 935-0338 ext. 113 or kerryr@olgseattle.com or Ginny Kane @ 938-0673

HOLY ROSARY FAMILY HANDBOOK PARENT AGREEMENT FORM. If you have not signed and returned the Family Handbook Parent Agreement Form there is one in your FCE. Please complete and return to the school office as soon as possible. This document is required. Thanks.

<u>TECHNOLOGY FORMS</u> (Student Acceptable Use Consent Form/Parent Acceptable Use Consent Form) If you have not completed the technology consent forms which require both student and parent signatures there is one in your FCE this week. Please complete and return to the office as soon as possible. These are also required documents. Thank you.

MAGAZINE DRIVE CUSTOMER SERVICE Magazines and product orders have been processed and will start to arrive soon! Occasionally a problem may arise, but not to worry. We can solve them all to guarantee 100% customer satisfaction! Here are the steps to take if you need assistance.

- 1) Go to <u>www.4schoolsonline.com</u> and click on the box "check status of order". You'll need to enter either the phone number used on the order form or the customer's first or last name and zip code.
- 2) Call 1-800-847-7898 which is customer service for Spectrum Reading Program. Your first tries should be 1) or 2) as they maintain all the records.
- 3) Contact Youth Enrichment Services in Bothell at 425-483-6713 or toll free at 800-224-1809 or email <u>service@yes-fundraising.com</u>.

Note per the website, product orders arrive in 3 weeks. New magazine orders typically take 10-12 weeks to arrive. Note for next year that if you're in a real hurry to receive your order- online items are processed much faster! ...<u>and SOMETHING NEW... you can email your friendly Holy Rosary representative at magazines@holyrosaryws.org with any questions or concerns.</u>

<u>CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS.</u> Please plan ahead for the Holy Rosary School Christmas programs. Grades kindergarten through 4th grade will perform on Tuesday, December 13th, and grades 5 through 8 will perform on Tuesday, December 20th. Both programs will take place at 7:00PM in the Church. Student participation is required, as performance is an important component of the music curriculum. Thank you for planning ahead and marking your calendars. Ms. Mudge needs parents to help take down the sound system after each show and parents to collect the programs after each show. She also needs one parent to assist with the 5th grade solo singers. They can contact her directly if they are willing to help. Thank you.

BAND NEWS. The band practice charts have been handed out. Every student has a minimum required practice responsibility. Ask your child for details! School Band (gr. 6-8) will be performing in the Christmas Program, December 13th! Mark your calendars!

TREE LOT NEWS. Ten (10) days and counting until the 17th Annual Holy Rosary Tree Lot opens! Words cannot express how thankful we are to EVERYONE in the parish, school and community who have volunteered and helped with this event. Almost 70% of shifts are filled!! A large portion of open shifts are the afternoon 2:45 - 6:00 shifts. If you are able to earn your

volunteer hours during this time period -- on even one day -- it is a great help and greatly appreciated. Thank you! In the FCE today is your special Tree Lot flyer with the WS Food Bank coupon. Bring in a can of food for the West Seattle Food Bank when you visit the lot and receive \$1.00 off your purchase. Additional flyers are available if you would like to distribute them in your workplace, preschool, book group, etc. Just let us know and we'll get you some right away! A very Happy Thanksgiving from all the Tree Lot Elves! (Volunteering at the Tree Lot is a great way to work off that third helping of turkey and dressing!) www.treelot.holyrosaryws.org to sign up or call Scott & Allison Willhite 935-8999.

THANK YOU SAFEWAY! There was a little more "excitement" than usual this week at the tree lot location at the Admiral Safeway. It was discovered that due to very recent management changes at the Admiral store, Safeway had inadvertently double booked the California/Lander parking area to an Eastside tree farm. Yikes! Thanks to the quick response of the new store manager at the Admiral Safeway in communicating the error to his corporate office, the situation was resolved immediately and it will be business as usual in the California/Lander location for our Holy Rosary Tree Lot. **Please join us in thanking Safeway for their tremendous support** and welcoming Bryan Hively, store manager, to our wonderful community. Send a card or note to: Bryan Hively, Manager, Admiral Safeway, 2622 California Ave SW, Seattle WA 98116. Or if you see Bryan in the store please thank him in person!

<u>8</u>th GRADE PIZZA LUNCH. The 8th graders are sponsoring a pizza lunch on Wednesday, December 14th. The order form is in this FCE. Please fill out one form per child and return with the payment by Friday December 9th. We appreciate your support. All proceeds from the pizza lunch help to fund the 8th grade graduation events. Please remember to attach payment with your order. Thank you.

THE USED UNIFORM EXCHANGE/SALE will be open for business right before Parents' Club on November 17th. Please stop by anytime between 5:30 and 6:30—we are on the 2nd floor of the convent. Please note that we won't be open again until 2006 so this is your chance to stock up before the New Year!

SWEETS AND TREATS FOR THE GULF COAST. Girl Scout Troop 890 is having a bake sale to support hurricane victims. Please join us after all three masses in the school hall on November 20th. Great ideas for hostess gifts and Thanksgiving treats. Donations are gladly accepted. Questions? Call Sandy Koszarek @ (206) 938-3869.

WANTED. 2 bedroom house/apartment to rent (or house sit) for January and February 2006 while our house is being worked on. Please contact Maria Parks @ 937-8264 or <u>mariasp@comcast.net</u>

HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSES:

- Blanchet: Tonight, Thursday, Nov.17, 5:30-8:00PM
- Kennedy: Sunday, Nov. 20, 2:00-4:00PM

INCLUDED IN THIS FCE:

- December Calendar (gold)
- December Lunch Menu
- December Lunch Order Form
- "Have a Heart" Spirit of Giving Campaign Flyer
- Christmas Tree Sale Flyer (greed, red and white)

- Scrip Order Form (lavender)
- Alumni Newsletter (tan)
- Heart Auction Flyer (goldenrod)
- Pizza Lunch Order Form (pink)
- See's Candies Holiday Chocolate Sale Flyer
- Pied Piper Art Sale Flyer (turquoise)

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Grade 7 & 8 Bowling with OLG, Nov. 17, (tonight) 7:00PM West Seattle Bowl
- Prayer Service by 4B Friday, Nov. 18, 8:30AM School Hall
- Mad Hot Ballroom Movie Showing for Grades 7 & 8, Fri., Nov. 18, 8:00PM School Hall
- Thanksgiving Mass Wednesday, Nov. 23, 10:30AM FULL PERFECT UNIFORM
- Noon Dismissal Wednesday, Nov. 23, Thanksgiving Holiday Begins
- Thanksgiving Holiday Nov. 24 & 25 NO SCHOOL
- Holy Rosary Christmas Tree Sale Begins at Admiral Safeway Saturday, Nov. 26
- First Sunday of Advent Nov. 27

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CANNED FOOD DRIVE. ALL FOOD MUST BE BROUGHT IN BY WEDNESDAY, NOV. 23. FOOD WILL BE DONATED TO THE WEST SEATTLE FOOD BANK.