



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

September 15, 2011

Dear Families,

More than a century ago, well before Holy Rosary School was founded, Archbishop James Gibbons of Baltimore wrote in response to the question of the role the Church plays in the education of the young: "Popular education has always been a chief object of the Church's care. It is not too much to say that the history of the Church's work is the history of civilization and education". Much later, the American bishops issued a joint document in which they stated, "Community is at the heart of Christian education, not simply as a concept to be taught but as a reality to be lived".

A noted professor from the University of San Francisco, the late Reverend Edwin McDermott, SJ, added to these thoughts when he wrote in his book, *The Distinctive Qualities of the Catholic School*, "To form community in a school is to teach as Jesus did. Jesus the teacher, had one main lesson to bring from the Father for all people to learn, namely to be one with one another as he is with the Father". This in turn coincides nicely with the vision of the Holy Rosary Parish Pastoral Council with their idea to stress the scriptural dictum that we love God with all our hearts and minds and that we love our neighbor as ourselves.

Well, with that said, we can certainly imagine how nicely our community does this by starting with the Celebration of the Eucharist on Sundays or with the School Masses and Prayer Services. Each of the grade level classes form smaller learning communities within the whole that focus on academics and faith formation but we should not forget that we also come together to celebrate as community. We will be in celebration mode when we come together to participate in this year's Westfest event. This will be my first

and I am looking forward to it; I even get to call a Bingo game at 4:00 on Saturday!

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,
Principal

Growing Our Faith

Dear Holy Rosary School Families,

At a recent parish Pastoral Council meeting, when we were planning for the year ahead, one of the council members asked me what would my fondest dream for this year be? I didn't even have to pause before saying: I would dearly love to see the buzz of excitement that I experienced around the school on opening day between parents and children and that regularly happens as parents drop off and pick their children could happen around church on the weekend. Or, that the camaraderie between parents and children that I hear reported from poolside during the summer swim season could be seen at church on the weekend. Imagine, if we could see the contagious excitement and support that happens at our home basketball games in the gym and carry that over to our church gatherings at Mass on the weekends that would be splendid indeed. This was what the feeling was like in the early church in the experience of the risen Christ who had conquered sin and death and brought new hope to people. It is something that is in us to make happen on any given weekend.

The Creator who put such energy in us invites us to spend some of that energy in worshipping him with the faith family just as any parent hopes that in all the good things they provide for the children's well being and success – that all of the gratitude will not be spent outside the family but some would be spent in giving back to the family.

What would it take to nurture the faith family?

I asked this question of a number of people over the summer and one response that came back most often was the need to rediscover or grow in faith. It would be easy to blame the priest, the music, the design of the church, the parking, the times of masses, our busy lives and a host of other things but we all know that if we love something enough or in this case, “love God with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength, and our neighbor as ourselves” nothing will prevent us from showing up to worship with God’s family.

I am writing to ask you to make it happen this year. I stand ready to put forth all the help needed to make it possible and I ask all our families to be accountable for what we signed on for in coming to a Catholic school.

I am beginning with GROWING OUR FAITH sessions the week after our Back to School Open House. These sessions will be aimed at growing faith and renewing faith. The schedule is as follows:

MONDAY September 26th- 2-3PM IN THE CHAPEL IN THE PARISH CENTER
(FOR THOSE WHO COME EARLY FOR STUDENT PICK-UP)

WEDNESDAY September 28th- 7-8PM IN THE Chapel, PARISH CENTER

FRIDAY, September 30th- 8.30 -9.30 AM CHURCH “PRAYING FOR OUR CHILDREN”.

SUNDAY, October 2nd-6.15 –7.15 PM (AFTER SUNDAY EVENING MASS)

All these dates and times will be continuous for as long as they are helpful. We will offer similar if not the same things so that you can pick one or vary from one time to another depending on your week. They will all be experiential aimed at heart and head and all will be finished within an hour.

The School Commission is in the process of setting out its plan for the year and the first expectation listed in our Schoolwide Learning Expectations in our Strategic Plan states:

I. KNOW AND PRACTICE THE FOUNDATIONS AND TRADITIONS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH.

II. PARTICIPATE IN A PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD AND AS A MEMBER OF A FAITH COMMUNITY THROUGH WORSHIP, PRAYER AND STEWARDSHIP.

As the Gospel says, “Now is the time” and I am adding, this is the year of “Growing Our Faith”.

I look forward to this time.

Fr John.

eFC Communications: Please send all eFC submissions to <mailto:efc@holyrosaryws.org> The Deadline for submissions for the eFC is Tuesday afternoon at 2:00 pm. Anything received after that time will be included in the next week's eFC.

Back To School Night for Parents is scheduled for Thursday, September 22nd. We will begin at 5:30 pm for food and fellowship. This is a change from the original date printed on the school calendar. Also new this year is the general meeting location, which will be held in the church. Please mark the new date on your calendar. The evening provides the best opportunity for you to meet your children's teachers and find out about classroom goals and learning expectations.

Individual School Photos will be taken on Tuesday, September 20th. Students may wear free dress this day.

Discovering Chess 2010-2011

I am pleased to offer an after school chess class again this year. Besides being a very fun game to play, I believe that Chess teaches us many

cognitive lessons as well. Did you know that Benjamin Franklin wrote a paper espousing the beneficial effects of chess on our morals; teaching us Foresight, Caution, and Circumspection? In my own play I enjoy the lessons of Spatial Organization, Planning, and the blending of both sides of our brain with the Logic and Artistry of the game.

Discovering Chess is open to all Holy Rosary students. The only requirement is that a student needs to be able to sit and concentrate for 45 minutes after an entire school day. Some young players can do this, but not all are able to. I'm counting on you parents to gauge this. I am happy to teach kids that are new to the game or those that are wanting to get back into it.

We will meet in my classroom (7A) from 3-3:45 on Tuesdays and Thursdays starting in October. The cost is \$20 per child per month. If you are just attending one day a week then it's \$10. That's it! There's no formal sign-up, just come and have fun while you learn. See you October 4th,
Mr. Ritscher

Teacher Wish List: Thank You!! The teachers would like to express their appreciation to all who donated to the Teacher Wish List Auction item last year. With those funds we were able to purchase a one year subscription of World Book on-line, (be on the lookout for your access code from Sue Harris,) 'green' pencil sharpeners for each classroom - these are AWESOME, and a playground equipment cart on wheels. A portion of the funds raised will be used by the Preschool teachers for items on their wish list. Again, thank you for your generosity!

After School Study Hall will begin on Tuesday, September 27th. Sign up information will be available in next week's eFC.

PowerSchool Parent Access – Attention all parents of students grade 5-8. There is a new login procedure for PowerSchool Parent Access. Currently all access has been disabled, however the new login procedure will be detailed in a parent letter for grades 5-8 next Thursday at Back To School Night. Look for it in your packet. Thank you.

Parent Commitment Hour Trackers

The new Parent Commitment Hour Trackers are:

A - H is Claire Fitterer @ cfitterer@bblaw.com

I - Q is Katie Corl @ corlkat@netzero.com

R - Z is Gabriella Neske @ gcneske@gmail.com

Hours can be emailed directly to the trackers or turned into the office.

Starting this school year, hours will be counted on the same calendar cycle as registration and tuition: July 1st - June 30th. This year only hours performed March 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 will count for the 2011-2012 school year.

Wanted Two Lunchtime volunteers

We are looking for two volunteers to help out during school lunches. Our first position is to dispense milk each Monday from 11:00-12:45. The second position is to help our students pick up their hot lunches Monday-Friday from 11:00-12:45, especially for our 1st and 2nd graders at 11:50 each day. It is a wonderful way to get to know the students and see our great hot lunch and milk program in progress. Thank you.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

-BLOW UP Rides worked after 6pm will earn 1.5 hours for every 1 hour worked!!! Kids' Games needs some more folks to man those booths as well! -Set up and Take Down needs you! Sign up online!

CAKES & TASTY TREATS NEEDED

- Made or bought, we need those goods (covered, please!!) delivered to the school hall on Friday afternoon, Sept. 16th. Contact Krista Zeissel (picinichkrista@gmail.com) with questions. As a bonus, one baked good equals 1 volunteer hour (with a max of 4 baking hours) so get your oven hot!

DONATE GENTLY USED BOOKS, CDs, DVDs, etc.

- Drop books and other media in good condition by the stage in the school hall or to Lisa Mosher on Friday afternoon. Book Sale begins Friday night!

GET READY TO B-I-N-G-O

- Come join us at WestFest BINGO for our best and greatest year ever! We've planned lots of surprising, new twists as well as many of your old favorites. New this year, we'll have Power Hour Blackouts. With these hourly blackout games, as the hour increases, so does the jackpot. Don't miss our Principle Blackout at 4pm on Saturday. Come watch as

we initiate Principal Cantu into this WestFest BINGO tradition. And of course, the highlight of BINGO will be the Father John Blackout at the end of the evening. Make sure to arrive in time to have a chance at the huge jackpot, since last year's was a sellout.

WESTFEST MAIN STAGE ENTERTAINMENT IS BACK! HERE'S THE EXCITING LINEUP:

Friday

6:00pm - 9:30pm **DaCoda** with special guests **Take 27** - Classic rock and vocal pyrotechnics.

Saturday

10:00M **"Best In Show"** Cavalcade of Pets – BRING YOURS TO SHOW OFF TO ALL YOUR FRIENDS IN THE WESTFEST CROWD! All pets welcome, with prizes for everyone.

11:15 **Spira Power Yoga** – Demonstrating the wonders of the eastern art form.

11:30 **Magician Raymond Ejarque** – Magic to astound and amaze you.

12:00 **Castbound** – Young alt rockers back by popular demand.

1:00 **The Ellis Brothers** – A talented trio of pre-teen jazz musicians.

2:00 **West Seattle Idol 2011** – Open to all kids and teens and every type of talent.

3:00 **Marco Polo** – Music for learning and laughing, from the star of **Team Marco Polo**.

4:00 **West Seattle Big Band** – More than a dozen amazing musicians on one stage.

5:00 **Intermission**

7:00 – 9:15 **Full Life Crisis** – A rockin' WestFest tradition.

8:00 **Raffle drawing** – Dozens of prizes, dozens of winners!

RAFFLE TICKETS ARE FOR PRESALE IN THE OFFICE

- You can also buy 2, 3 OR 50 more during Westfest (by the games area) so come by and check out the prizes! Please contact Nazleen at nazpejarque@yahoo.com for more information.

HELP KEEP OUR SCHOOL GREEN: SIGN UP FOR RECYCLING, COMPOST & TRASH CREW

- It's easy duty and a great cause—our grounds will be clean and safe thanks to your efforts!

CHECK OUT OUR SPONSOR LINK IN THIS eFC—AND SUPPORT THOSE WHO HELP SUPPORT WESTFEST!

TURN IT UP WITH MAGAZINE ORDERS! Are all of you turning up the volume on those magazines sales? We are getting into the swing of things with our first Turn In Tuesday sales totaling \$11,969...a very solid start but we still need to TURN IT UP! We are hoping for a **Record Breaker** next **Tuesday** on our way to our goal of \$125,000. **GO GATORS!** We certainly know that our fantastic new Kindergartener's know what they're doing – they were in 1ST place in total magazines sold in week one! Way to go Kindergarten! Our opening assembly last Friday was awesome – everyone enjoyed watching our wonderful teachers and 8th grade volunteers TURN IT UP for “*Holy Rosary Magazine Drive Idol*”! We'll have to wait for our closing assembly on October 14th to see who will be crowned! A huge thank you to **Jody Shields** and everyone who participated and made everything so much fun!

As always, check out the school website for *all* magazine information, but remember...you can **order online** by going to **www. aphearst.com** and entering school code **wc2897**. Type in the student name and grade. No need to submit paperwork for online sales, we've got it all counted. **We have 3 more Turn In Tuesdays left!** For paper orders, please remember to keep the pink copy and submit the white and yellow copies along with any coupons and money to your student's classroom. Also, please double-check your math so we don't have to follow up with you and your customers.

Reminder: PAPER ORDERS ON TUESDAYS MUST BE TURNED IN BY 8:30 A.M. If orders come in later, they will be included in the following weeks count.

Lastly, another **HUGE** thank you to everyone for all the time and effort that is put in to prepare, decorate, tally, sell, etc.! Without everyone contributing large and small, we would not have a successful fundraiser.

Sports Page

Cross Country

Cross Country registration is **STILL OPEN** and will remain open until September 30th. We would

like to have more participants from all classes - stay tuned for a contest to see which class can field the biggest team! Even if you can't make the practices due to other time commitments we would still love you to have you join us for the Cross Country meets. Remember we run rain or shine! Questions? Please email Heather Slee, Head coach, at hrrxcountry@gmail.com

Soccer

We have a great season of Gator Soccer starting NOW. We already have 180 students participating on 16 teams. We are still accepting player registrations based on availability of roster space for particular teams. Please see our online registration site for more details. If you have any questions regarding soccer, please contact Sean Coleman Soccer Coordinator at hrrscyosoccer@gmail.com

Greeting Sports Fans,

Do you enjoy sports and appreciate all that goes into making youth athletics happen? Would you like to be more involved, but don't know where to get started? There is a great opportunity for you right here with the Holy Rosary CYO program! We are looking for a person interested in taking over the Holy Rosary CYO Athletic Director position. The Athletic Director is the leader of CYO sports here at Holy Rosary. It is a big responsibility, but an organized and detailed person can make it a manageable ministry. The rewards are beyond measure knowing you help facilitate the enjoyment of our Holy Rosary youths' CYO experience. One measurable benefit is that as the HR CYO AD, you would fulfill your annual HRS service hour commitment. If you're interested in learning more about the position, please give me a call and we can discuss the position further.

Thank you and God Bless,

Albert Rangel rangel.a@comcast.net 206 935-7720

Golf Tournament

Sign up today for the 10th Annual Holy Rosary Golf Tournament on September 24th. There are less than 30 spots left so sign up now in order to secure your spot! We will have a great day of golf at the West Seattle Municipal Golf Course. The event will include a 4-person scramble, lunch and awards receptions following the golf. And remember all proceeds benefit the Father James Mallahan Endowment Fund. Please join us and help celebrate all the great work Father Mallahan has given our community. You can register now on-line by going to: <http://golf.holyrosaryws.org>

Online CYO Sports player and coach registration is available on our Holy Rosary Parish website. <http://www.holyrosaryseattle.org/>

CHANGES TO THE MASS

Beginning this fall, the Mass as we know it will change for many English-speaking countries. Perhaps the primary reason for the changes to our sung and spoken responses lies in being unified with the whole Church, no matter what language is spoken. The English translation of the Mass that we currently use does not accurately represent the meaning of the original Latin. The new English translation will be a closer version of the Latin text. Over the next few months, we will highlight

different aspects of the Mass, as well as try to explain what some of the changes are. Keep up with the e-FC and the parish bulletin for articles explaining the Mass and the changes that will be taking place. By the beginning of this Advent (November 27), Holy Rosary will have implemented all the changes to the Mass. To learn more, go to <http://www.usccb.org/prayer-and-worship/roman-missal/index.cfm>

Back to School- Fall Family Fun Retreat:

"I can be a Saint, You can be a Saint!"

October 23 from 1-4:30 p.m. 5pm Mass 6 pm Potluck

Camp Long here in West Seattle (map)

\$20 a family. One parent/adult must attend per family. Open to children ages 4 and older.

(Covers the cost of refreshments. Scholarships are available please contact

jwong@holyroaryseattle.org)

Potluck dinner to follow Mass: Parish will provide main dishes of pasta and fried chicken, families are welcome to contribute side dishes.

Sample of Retreat Schedule: 12:30 - arrival and sign in at Camp Long 1:00 gathering songs and introductory skit family activity & introductions of families 3:00 Camp Relays 3:45 Camp Fire, S'Mores, & Rosary 4:30 Departure for Holy Rosary Parish 5:00 Mass 6:15 Potluck dinner

Register here: [click here](#)

Growing Faith/Parent Back-to-School Nights! Parish/School Hall - Sept 28th & October 2nd 7pm-8:30 pm

All parish parents of school aged children are invited!

Want to know how the CLOW - Children's Liturgy of the Word will work?

Want to get Volunteer Service/Ministry hours?

Pastoral Assistant for Adult Faith Formation will be available to answer any questions you have about developing your personal faith journey.

(Will include a separate orientation for Sunday Faith Formation Parents.)

*9:30 Children's Mass and Children's Liturgy of the Word
A Future full of Hope... and Love!*

Free to all Parish Families!

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Starting October 2nd at the 9:30 mass.

Children leave mass and return for the second part of mass.

If you would like your preschooler or Kindergartener to stay in class for the remainder of mass please contact jwong@holyroaryseattle.org

Children's Liturgy of the Word ("CLOW")

9:30 Mass

THIS INCLUDES CATHOLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS!!!

IT IS NOT A REPEAT OF WHAT THEY ARE GETTING IN CLASS.

Who: Entire family attend mass together

CLOW: During the months of October through May during the 9:30am Sunday Mass. After the opening greeting and prayer, all* school age children of the parish are dismissed together to celebrate their own Liturgy of the Word which is written and taught in a manner that is appropriate for their age level and all children (except Preschool and Kindergarten) will return to the Mass and rejoin their families following the Homily. *Regardless of their primary faith formation i.e. Catholic School, Sunday School, Home school etc.

Family Mass: When Faith Formation is not in session the 9:30 mass will still continue to be a "family friendly mass." We will try our best to use the children's lectionary and student lectors. We are currently registering for Sunday Faith Formation "Core Lessons" these are Sunday School Lessons for Children that do not attend Catholic School. If your family is interested in participating, please click here. In order for CLOW to be successful we need parent volunteers.

Parent volunteers are guaranteed Holy Rosary Commitment Hours and will be provided with training. All that is required is the desire to share your faith and to work with children.

All materials will be provided for each CLOW class.

Children's Liturgy Mass runs October thru May and will not occur over Holiday weekends. Our desire is to have enough volunteers that parents will only need to assist once a month or other flexible volunteer arrangements see below. The more volunteers, the more flexible the volunteer schedule.

Here are sample schedules to demonstrate the flexibility (should we get all the volunteers we require):

* Jane Brown volunteers on the 1st Sunday of every month for the year. She gets 7 volunteer









hours.

* Jeremiah Bullfrog volunteers every week for the months of November and December. He gets 7 volunteer hours.

* Elizabeth Darcy volunteers for every other week for 4 months. She gets 8 volunteer hours.

Your volunteer time is about 20-30 minutes during mass, and less than 1/2 hour to prepare before Sunday. If you are attending 9:30 mass with your children this would be an easy way to get hours.

Upcoming Events And Important Date

	Sept 16	NO School – Teacher In Service
	Sept 16/17	Westfest
	Sept 19/20	7th Grade Pilgrimage
	Sept 20	Individual School Pictures
	Sept 20	2nd Turn in Magazine Day
	Sept 22	Back to School Night - 6:30pm- Begins in Church
	Sept 24	Golf Tournament
	Sept 27	3rd Turn in Magazine Day