



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

March 29, 2012

Dear Families,

While I was studying at the University of Portland to earn my post-masters advanced administrative license, my professor was invited to Europe as part of an exchange program to interact with educational leaders and ministers of various European countries including Great Britain. When he got back, he shared some interesting information he had gained. For example, he and his fellow visitors had asked a high ranking minister of education in Great Britain what the overarching goals were in that country and the answer was refreshingly, clear and simple-they sought to provide an experience that promoted happiness and creativity in the students. My professor asked why and was given a two-word reply- "China and India". There is a good deal of wisdom in that!

In today's newsletter, I would like to complete our look at the Arts at Holy Rosary and share with you an interview with Ms. McLaughlin, who recently showed off her work with the students in the performance of the Wizard of Oz.

Ms. McLaughlin, where did you go to University and how long have you taught at Holy Rosary? Have you always taught 6th grade?

I earned my BA in psychology and gender studies at the University of Notre Dame. I graduated from Loyola Marymount University two years later with a MA in elementary education and recently earned a post-MA from Seattle University in educational administration.

This year marks my 10th year of teaching, the last five of which have been spent at Holy Rosary School. In Los Angeles I taught 6th and 7th

grades, in Dubai 8th and 9th, and here at Holy Rosary I teach 6th, 7th, and 8th.

I understand that you completed an administrative program last year at Seattle University, what were the highlights of that?

Graduating! ☺ No, I would say the highlight of my experience was the internship year I completed at Holy Rosary with Dr. Peters acting as my mentor. I learned a great deal, completing a number of administrative tasks and was able to get a feel for some of the joys and challenges an administrative role presents. I am grateful for the patience demonstrated and support offered by HRS staff and parents...it was definitely a busy time!

Another highlight was working with Michael Silver, my advisor at Seattle University, who demonstrated a clear passion for educational administration and was tireless in his efforts to guide his advisees toward success.

You seem to have a great love of teaching drama, were you involved in Drama in school yourself?

I was only involved in drama my 8th grade year at St. Monica School. Our 7th grade teacher, Mrs. Smith, directed a play with the 8th grade students every year. My class performed the Wizard of Oz and I played Dorothy. I remember loving the experience; I planned on pursuing theater at Seattle Prep but academic/social demands prevented me from doing that.

I actually became a drama teacher through a fluke! The beginning of my first year of teaching in Los Angeles, a theater student from LMU visited and promised to direct the Wizard of Oz in the spring of that year. I was excited by the idea and encouraged my 6th graders to participate. When she retracted her promise in March, I felt so badly I decided to take it on. I'm sure that first play was a bit of a zoo but after the students saw it, a group of 5th graders approached me,

asking what we were going to put on next year 🌟 And so it began...

My love of directing led me to pursue a theater arts endorsement through the University of Washington, which will hopefully be completed in the fall.

As you know, the Arts have been drastically reduced or eliminated in schools across the country, why do you think this is a mistake?

Yes, I think that's unfortunate. Ideally all of the art forms are offered in grade and high schools, allowing every student a chance to shine and succeed in his/her own way. Theater is a magical art in that it provides an outlet for the expression of numerous talents. Some of my greatest actors, set designers, choreographers, sound techs and singers have been students who discovered these hidden talents. Theater provides these students with an opportunity to excel; it can be life-changing in this respect.

The more structured, classroom instruction doesn't necessarily compliment the learning style of every student; it's essential that the arts are offered as part of the curriculum, in my opinion.

What value does having an annual play bring to the students of Holy Rosary? Do you think that it fosters happiness and creativity?

I think the value our theater program brings to Holy Rosary is difficult to measure because the experience touches each student in such unique, unpredictable ways – from actors to audience members. I value the process of putting on an annual play for a number of reasons. First of all, theater is, in my opinion, the most collaborative of all the arts. This year there were seventeen names listed on the "Special thanks to..." page of our program. I feel honored to work with incredibly talented set designers and costume makers, all Holy Rosary parents and grandparents.

Every year my drama elective students surprise and impress me. When

we start out, many are mumbling, looking everywhere but at the audience, struggling with adopting the voice/gestures/personality of their characters. In six month's time they pull off a stellar performance, completely in character, interacting with the audience, demonstrating their unique talents and strengths. Those two performance days are my proudest/happiest of the year.

Thank you. I hope you enjoyed my focus on the Arts over the past two weeks, let me know what you think.

Sincerely,

Michael Cantu,
Principal
Holy Rosary School
SNAKES ALIVE!!!

As you know we recently had the annual celebration of St Patrick and the one thing I can be absolutely sure of is that if I asked the children in our school what is the best known thing about St Patrick you know what they would say? He drove the snakes out of Ireland!!

Ok there are some who might say that St Patrick started the custom of drinking green beer or that he was the first one to eat corn beef and cabbage!! You just never know how things get jumbled together over time and bear little or no resemblance to the original facts.

This can happen to all aspects of our faith practices; the present practice may have moved very far from the original intent. The history of St Patrick driving out snakes has much more to do with the power of God to conquer sin by driving out the Serpent than trying to visualize how he might have driven out imaginary snakes even if there are no snakes in Ireland to this day --- only two legged ones!

Reconciliation or Confession was originally a very welcome opportunity to the early Christians to speak to the priest the sins that were lodged in the heart and that caused a very palpable rupture of their new found relationship with God. They welcomed the introduction of this way to

forgiveness following what Jesus had said “what is hidden the dark must come into the light”. They experienced healing, forgiveness and a refreshing new beginning in confessing and experiencing the words” Your sins are forgiven, go in the Peace of Christ”.

This is still happening two thousand years later. It will happen this Saturday morning in Holy Rosary from 10 – 11.30 am when I will have the assistance of several priests. For those who have said it would take more than a priest to deal with all my sins, I’ve got that covered also because I have an Archbishop coming! Archbishop Brunett our retired Archbishop will be here also to assist the toughest of cases armed with the love and mercy of God!

Every year when the parents of First Reconciliation experience the Sacrament again after a lapse of some years so many say this was really helpful and I should do it more regularly: this is the chance to keep that regularity going --- come and join us this Saturday morning.

If there are old or new snakes alive in your soul that are biting you, we are driving them out this Saturday!

Be in that number when the saints go marching in and the snakes go flying out!!

Fr John.

2012-2013 Registration

Registration packets for the 2012-2013 school year have been sent home with the youngest student in each family. Please remember that in order to retain a spot for the 2012 -2013-school year, you must be current with all tuition, tithing, band and other parent commitment obligations. Also, if you are a member of the parish you must have a “2012 Parish Stewardship....time, talent, treasure” card completed and on file at the parish office. These cards are available in the school or parish office. Questions, please call Thea De Francesco at the rectory office at 937-1488, ex. 211. Registration papers are due in the school office by Wednesday, April 18, 2012. If you do not plan to return to Holy Rosary school next fall please call the school office.

Important ITBS Update

The ITBS standardized test will be administered from April 17 - April

30. It is especially important that students arrive to school well rested and on time during that 2-week testing window. Please make every effort to avoid morning appointments during those last two weeks in April if at all possible. Thank you.

Donation Update

LAST CALL, DAMES AND GENTS! We'll be Puttin' on the Ritz in no time at all, but before you dust off your glad rags, be sure to turn in your auction items TOMORROW, Friday, March 30th. Please turn in your donation to the school office, marked with your donation and donor information. With every family's help, this year's HEART Auction will be a ROARING 20's success.

A big thank you to all of our generous Holy Rosary families.

Auction Tickets

Ticket sales are available through the [HEART Auction](#) website or by returning your RSVP card with payment to the main office.

Early Reservation prices are \$75/person until Friday, April 6th...

Reserve your seat today! Remember, reservations are made on a first come first serve basis.

Your reservation specialists can assist you with questions at: auction-reservations@holynosaryws.org

Auction Party Presale

The PARTY PRESALE has begun! Get a wiggle to the HEART Auction website to sign-up for this year's fabulous Auction Parties.

For kids: Bingo Bash (grades K-5) (PDF), Bingo Blast Plus (grades 6-8th) (PDF), Dance Party (grades K-8th) (PDF).

For Parents: 2nd Grade Mexican Fiesta (PDF), 4th Grade Fish Fry (PDF), 6th Grade Wine Tasting (PDF), 8th Grade Boat Trip (PDF).

...And much, much more! Go to the ticket sales page of the HEART Auction website, once you have purchased your Auction tickets, select the party you would like to purchase.

Auction Raffles – Who's Feelin' Lucky?

Bootleggers Loot 50/50 Raffle: Winner receives half of the proceeds from ticket sales. \$25/ticket. Winning amount will be announced before the drawing.

Tuition Raffle: Winner receives In-Parish tuition for one child! That is a \$5,078 prize!!! \$100/ticket.

Go online now at the HEART Auction website to download both of these raffle ticket forms. Return completed forms and payment to the main office. Drawings will be held during the Live Auction, need not be present to win. Please contact Laura Douglas at auction-raffle@holyroaryws.org with any questions. Good Luck!

Sweet Charity – Dessert Auction

The Puttin' on the Ritz affair is fast approaching and we are seeking your sumptuous creations. If you would like to donate a dessert for the auction, check your Auction fliers that came home with your eFC carrier earlier this week or go online to the HEART Auction website and download the Sweet Charity form. Please complete and return the bottom portion to the main office. Questions please email Deyette Swegle at auction-dessert@holyroaryws.org. Thank you!

Sponsor of the Week

Thank you to **Atlas Supply**, this week's "Sponsor of the Week", aren't they swell!

Parish members since 1980, the Ittes family have been long supporters of Holy Rosary Parish and School. Jan Ittes attended Holy Rosary Elementary and won the **Distinguished Alumni Award** in 2008. As President of **Atlas Supply**, John Ittes can help support your family or business with years of building expertise. Please visit the Atlas Supply website today.

CYO TRACK starts next Tuesday at 4:30 Hiawatha Track. Brooks Truck will be there at 5:30. Head Coach Shelley will NOT have forms this year at practice. You will have to go to the link (below) and sign your athlete up in order to participate next week. Please do this! Contact Shelley at achildbecomes@gmail.com

Parish Reconciliation Day March 31:

Catholic Church practice from earliest times has been to confess to a priest at least once a year but more often if there is serious sin so that it does not get a hold on us. The Sacrament is available every Saturday from 3:30 – 4:30 pm in church in a confessional that allows for anonymity on one side and open to the priest on the other side – as posted on the doors.

On March 31 Reconciliation will be available from 10:00---11:30 am with several priests available to choose from.

3:30 – 4:30 Regular Confession time.

At 8 pm there will be a live dramatized Stations of the Cross followed General Reconciliation with no priests available.

Take time to experience the wonderful experience of the forgiveness of God in this way if you have not done this for some or many years.

Holy Week Triduum Celebration and Easter Sunday.

Thursday April 5 --- Sunday April 8. Join us to celebrate the highlight events of our Liturgical year.

Parish All Hands Gathering.

Wednesday April 18 in the Gym. 6 pm Food and Beverage: 6.30 --- 9 pm The Life and Ministry of Holy Rosary.

Math-a-thon updates

Many thanks to the 57 students who are participating in the Math-a-Thon, solving math problems and helping to raise donations for the children at St. Jude Research Hospital. It is still possible for other students to join the Math-a-Thon group. If the sign up sheet was misplaced, parents may complete a note giving the child permission to participate. Mrs. Harris will give them the grade level book and they can begin. You can also register, complete the math problems, and make donations online by following this link.

<https://waystohelp.stjude.org:443/sjVPortal/public/event/page/displayEventPage.do?eventId=291481&programId=551>. If your child participated online in the past, they will need to register and choose a new login and password each year. The first batch of donations will be forwarded to St. Jude on March 30, the second on April 27 and the final group in mid-May. If you have any questions, please email Mrs. Harris. Thank you for supporting the children at St. Jude.

Ultrakey for Purchase - Parents can purchase the keyboarding software Ultrakey for the reduced price of \$24. Visit the HRS Technology webpage (<http://gator.holyrosaryws.org/tech>) for more information.

2A Prayer Service - This week's prayer service presented by 2A will be streamed live at: <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/holy-rosary-west-seattle>. It can also be viewed later at the same address.

Be an Ambassador Family

If you would like to be an ambassador family for our new incoming families for the 2012-2013 school year, please sign up online here. Thank you to the families who have already volunteered! We still need many more! If you have any questions, please contact Kamila Kennedy. You can find more information regarding Holy Rosary Ambassador Families through this link. Thank you.

Community Service

DeAnna Fredrickson, an 8th grade student, is helping out the Pediatric Interim Care Center in Kent Washington by collecting donated items. There will be donation bins around the school for your kids to drop off supplies that you would like to donate. Here are some of the items they need:

White or pastel cotton or terry sleepers w/ snap front. Size: preemie, small, medium Extreme Need!

Latex Examination Gloves (powdered / non-powdered) Medium size Extreme Need!

White or pastel Gerber 30" x 40" Cotton Thermal Receiving Blankets
Johnson's Baby Shampoo or Baby Powder with cornstarch

If you want to know more about the Center, please visit their website at <http://picc.net>.

Community Postings

A Child Becomes announces it's 14th year of Summer Science Camps. Sign Ups are available now and camps begin the last week of June. Please go to achildbecomes.org and download a registration form and mail back to the school if interested. Age cut off is: your child must turn 5 by June 2012 up to age 8 or end of 2nd grade. New camps, loads of fun, outdoor experiences...come join us this summer! Teacher Shelley Neal, Director

Kennedy Catholic Booster Club invites you to their annual Italian Dinner.

Famiglia Cena Italiana will be fun for the entire family!

Sunday May 6th, 1-5pm in the Kennedy Cafeteria.

Door prizes and activities for the kids.

Tickets are \$15 adults, \$8 Seniors & kids 6-12, free for kids under 5. Price includes Pasta entree, wine, bread, salad & dessert. Beer will be available for purchase.

Register online at www.kennedycatholiclancers.org/booster or ticket forms available at the parish office.

Come have some fun! Bring Mama, Poppi & Nonna!

See Attached Flyer

The Drama Department of Seattle Lutheran High School will present "Don't Drink the Water" by Woody Allen.

Synopsis: Axel Magee is the bumbling son of a U.S. ambassador in a small communist country in the 1960's. When a family of American

tourists is targeted by the government, Axel must spring into action to set them free. With help of a priest, who also happens to be an amateur magician, and the rest of the colorful staff at the embassy, Axel works to attempt a daring escape.

The performance times will be on the evening of Friday, April 27, at 7:30 p.m. and the afternoon of Sunday, April 29, at 2:30 in the Seattle Lutheran High School gym, located at 4100 SW Genesee Street. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$2.00 for children ages 7-14, and children under 7 are free. For more information call the school office at 206-937-7722.

FUN & FITNESS

Children's Irish Dance Lessons

Registration now open for spring session of Irish step dancing classes. Lessons at the West Seattle VFW—just “down the street” near the West Seattle YMCA

Mondays at 4:00-4:45 p.m. OR Thursdays at 5:30-6:15 p.m.

For more information: celticartsnw@hotmail.com 206-935-3225
www.tonycomerford.com

Attend a Fun, Educational STEM Summer Camp Held at the University of Washington!

This summer, students can gain a competitive edge at a fun, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) technology program, iD Tech Camps. Ages 7-17 create iPhone apps, programs with C++ or Java, robots, video games, websites, and more. These weeklong, day and overnight programs are located at over 60 universities including the University of Washington, UC Berkeley, Stanford, UCLA, Harvard, Princeton Also for teens are 2-week immersive, pre-college summer programs: iD Programming Academy, iD Gaming Academy, and iD Visual Arts Academy (filmmaking and photography).

Visit www.internalDrive.com for more info or call 1-888-709-TECH

(8324) to speak to a Program Advisor. Save \$60 with code SCHOOL2012 when you register and pay in full by May 2nd.

Mar 30	All Auction Donations due to School
Mar 30	Father Daughter Glow Bowl
April 4	Lenten Prayer Service
April 6	Good Friday – Stations of the Cross 11:00 AM (12:00 Dismissal)
April 9 -13	Easter Break –No School
April 17-27	ITBS Testing
April 27	Noon Dismissal (Auction Set-up)
April 28	HEART Auction