



SCHOOL NEWS

Holy Rosary School Family Communication Newsletter

February 14, 2013

FOR LENT FOR LIFE WHAT YOU GIVE UP FOR LENT CHANGES LIVES

Dear Families,

I wanted to give you an update on our curriculum planning. As you probably know from previous communications, our faculty has been engaged in realigning to the Common Core in Language Arts and Math. In case you missed it, the Common Core is the newest development in the standards movement. We are transitioning from the State of Washington standards to the Common Core. There will be some adjustments in our assessments and the new standards have adjusted some areas of emphasis, but because the Washington State standards are pretty solid already, the transition will go pretty smoothly.

Textbook/Program Adoption

You have probably heard me say that we are going to be adopting new textbooks to both upgrade the textbooks we are currently using in Math and Language Arts as well as in matching up with the new Common Core Standards. Our faculty curriculum committee work is ongoing and quite extensive and we will be in a great place when it comes to evaluating and selecting a series and program. However, the publishers are still developing their new series, thus the deliberate choice to wait until we see the full offerings. I checked with both curriculum experts and the Department of Catholic Schools and both agree that this is the right thing to do. Budget planning to accomplish this began last year and I expect we will begin adoption of some Language Arts materials in time for the start of next year. We are currently examining Algebra texts, also for next year. New Math texts are planned for the 2014-15 school year.

Earlier this year, I had our faculty take a look at Singapore Math. Many of our teachers were already familiar with this program. It is still being considered and I will be sending a team of teachers to visit a school in our deanery that I have been in contact with regarding their adoption of this program. That said, there are other programs we hope to explore especially those that are currently under development to see how well they align with the Common Core. I think it is very important to note that our current Math curriculum has produced very positive results as proven out in our interactive study of graduates and standardized test data. We have made some adjustments to the pace of our Saxon Math instruction, which has been very effective. These changes will take us from a position of strength to an even higher level of curriculum excellence.

We are planning a spring Math parent meeting to present more on all this as well as any developments that emerge in the near future.

Thank you,

Michael Cantu,
Principal

THE BLESSING OF REST.

*GOD BLESSED THE SEVENTH DAY AND MADE IT HOLY,
BECAUSE ON IT HE RESTED FROM ALL THE WORK HE HAD DONE IN
CREATION.*

Genesis 2:3.

This is a life giving reminder from the Creation story in the Book of Genesis that it is blessed to rest from our work. In life today we are constantly under pressure to do more and more to keep up with the multi-tasking trend. The result is that we find ourselves too tired to pray or worship.

Rest makes a profound difference in prayer.

When we are totally on the run it is very difficult to quiet down for prayer; in fact it is impossible. We may say words or read scripture but such prayer has a very hard time getting through to the heart. Even short rests with some deep and slow breathing can help one return to the awareness of God's presence.

When deciding what to do for Lent: consider rest! I heard of someone who every year gives up staying up after 10 pm for Lent; she prays herself to sleep instead.

GOD LOOKED AT EVERYTHING HE HAD CREATED AND FOUND IT VERY GOOD. Genesis 1:31.

We have been wonderfully created by our Heavenly Father but when we stay too busy and go too long and too hard without enough rest in Him who created us we lose the goodness he put in us. The result is that we speak and act and react in ways that even we don't like in ourselves. When impatience, anger and frustration come out of us we are not being the best version of ourselves that God created.

If prayer has become hit and miss in your life, allow Lent to invite you to start again: consider first thing in the morning and last thing at night as well as shutting off as many technological things as possible at home and in the car for these weeks. Pack a rosary in the car instead! If you have not been too consistent with Mass give yourself a chance to break through the barrier of boredom or getting nothing out of it by planning to go every day for Lent! Like exercise, something repeated for 21 days straight makes it a habit you get more from.

If you have not frequented the Sacrament of Reconciliation in some time consider making a comeback; it is a sacrament that can offer the most immediate impact in your spiritual life if you give it a chance.

Don't wait for the end of Lent, go now ---- and go again for Easter! If you need someone who doesn't know you ---- check out the next two Saturdays from 3:30 –4:30 when there will be a visiting priest. Also on Friday March 1st and Saturday March 2nd after the morning Mass, confession will be available with a visiting priest. Restore your peace of soul.

If you need something to read, pick up our Lenten booklet from church and give yourself some extra minutes to ponder what you read. The greatest and most refreshing rest you can get is to rest in God. Resting your spirit will pay greater dividends than just resting the body. Test it for Lent and rest in it!

DEAR GOD, IN THESE NEXT FEW WEEKS, INSTEAD OF ADDING MORE THINGS TO DO, HELP ME TO OPEN MYSELF TO REST, BLESSED BY YOU SINCE CREATION.

Fr John.

Adapted from an article by Patricia Livingstone

In The Living Word.

LENT: Brown Bag Fridays for St. Martin de Porres

Once again this year Holy Rosary students are looking forward to providing lunches, (*see note below,) and toiletry items to the men at St. Martin de Porres shelter on Fridays during Lent.

We will have our first collection day on Friday, Feb. 22nd.

Please refer to the list below for specific toiletry items being collected each Friday.

We need Parent Volunteers to drive the lunches and a few students to deliver the lunches each week. If this is something you would like to do, please contact Jennifer H. or Janise in the Main Office.

****Since lunches can be refrigerated and are often eaten on the same day, perishable items such as sandwiches and fruit are OK.***

**Fri. Feb. 22: Brown Bag Lunch and lotion and soap
(sample sizes)**

**Fri. Mar. 1: Brown Bag Lunch and
Toothbrush/Toothpaste (sample size)**

Fri. Mar. 8: Brown Bag Lunch and men's socks

**Fri. Mar. 15: Brown Bag Lunch and
deodorant/shampoo (sample sizes)**



Family Procurement Calendar

**Last day to make your donation is February 22
Family donation commitment \$125**

How to donate?

- 1) Click on the auction link on the HRS site or <http://heart.holyrosaryws.org>. It will take you to our new auction software BidPal
- 2) Click on “Donate today”

Need Ideas?

Go to our Amazon wish list (link in the eFC and BidPal site)
Auction-procurement@holyrosaryws.org

- ♥ **Donate by February 15 (2 free dress passes per child)**
- ♥ **Donate by February 22 (1 free dress pass per child)**

Tickets are available online now! Get the early bird discount.

Dates to remember:

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| ♥ First curbside drop-off | March 1st |
| ♥ Second curbside drop-off | March 8th |
| ♥ Wine drop-off | April 15th-19th |

Wine Drop Off – Please bring a bottle of wine to drop off in the school office for our Instant Wine Cellar - April 15-19

♥ **April 20, 2013 – Holy Rosary HEART Auction**

If you do not have an item entered by **February 22**, we will only accept a \$125 cash donation to fulfill the family auction procurement obligation.

PARENT'S CLUB CORNER

Join us Thursday, February 28th for the next Holy Rosary Happy Hour! Enjoy REFRESHMENTS and an ART WALK from 6:30pm - 7pm. Stroll through the school and see what our creative students have been up to lately. The parent's club meeting will follow from 7pm-8pm.

- Executive Board members and our School Commission will discuss the Future of Fundraising at Holy Rosary School.
 - Holy Rosary tree lot donation checks will be presented to West Seattle Food Bank, West Seattle Helpline and Salvation Army Hickman House.
 - LegoRobotics program discussion
 - Yearbook program discussion and an opportunity to order a yearbook.
- Do you have any questions you'd like to have addressed at our meeting? If so, please submit your question in writing to the Parent's Club box in the office *no later than Wednesday, February 27th*.

Our February raffle prize winner will receive a **\$25 Menchie's gift card!**

The classroom with the highest number of parents in attendance will earn **ice cream floats!**

DON'T FORGET! Free child care is always provided in the school library and each parent earns a general volunteer hour for attending.

For more information on Parent's Club or to access meeting minutes, visit the [Parent's Club page](#) or the [Parent's Club Archives Page](#).

Holy Rosary Volunteer Opportunities

For more information on available positions:

<https://gator.holyrosaryws.org/parentsclub/volunteer-opportunities/>

School Commission

The School Commission held its February open meeting on Thursday, February 7th and welcomed Luke Slee and his dad John. Luke attended as part of a merit badge requirement and added very insightful commentary to some of the issues discussed. We approved the January meeting minutes which can be found *here*:

<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/commission.html#minutes>. We also recognized John Guthrie who donated and installed the new cubbies in the kindergarten hallway. Thanks John for your generosity to the school; the cubbies are a great addition. Each committee gave its half-yearly update and these can be found *here*

[<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/commission.html#committees>](http://www.holyrosaryws.org/commission.html#committees) under each committee hyperlink. Of particular interest is the work that the School Building and Grounds committee has done to study the feasibility of improving the playground:

[<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/forms/2013-](http://www.holyrosaryws.org/forms/2013-BigToyReplacementReport.pdf)

[BigToyReplacementReport.pdf>](http://www.holyrosaryws.org/forms/2013-BigToyReplacementReport.pdf). The School Commission agreed to move forward with creating a small group consisting of parents, staff, Adcom, and SC members to further analyze the different possibilities. Look for more information on this to come later this Spring. Also, we will be having the annual School Budget and Tuition Meeting on March 19th from 6:30-7:30 in the School Hall. It is an open meeting and all are welcome to come and learn more about next year's budget and tuition. This is a very busy time of year and thanks to everyone for your continued support of HRS – I am continually impressed by the generosity of our families. As always, if you have any questions, ideas, or suggestions, please reach out to me or any member of the *School Commission*

[<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/contact.html?to=commission>](http://www.holyrosaryws.org/contact.html?to=commission) .

Thanks,

Patrick Kennedy

School Commission President

2013-2014 School Budget & Tuition Meeting

Mark your calendars now for the 2013-2014 budget presentation. School Commission will present next year's budget on March 19th from 6:30-7:30 in the school hall. We will go over where our revenue comes from, what it gets spent on, and how things are changing for next year. I look forward to seeing you there! Childcare will not be provided. Thank you.

Patrick Kennedy
School Commission President

Milk Volunteer Needed

We are looking for a volunteer that can help with dispensing milk from 11:00 – 1:00 on every Monday and Friday. We're looking for one person to take both days or two people to take one day. If you're interested, please contact the front office.

One for One:

Thanks so much for your generosity . We collected \$309.67. 1st grade came in first place (for the fourth straight month!) collecting \$76.13, Kindergarten came in second place collecting \$47.12 and 2nd grade came in third place collecting \$40.15. Thanks again for supporting our students in Uganda!

Father Daughter Glow Bowl

Friday, March 8th

Download the Flyer here:

<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/fce/12/attachments/2013-01-31/Father-Daughter-GlowBowl.pdf>

Holy Rosary Irish Dinner

The leprechauns are hard at work again preparing for the Holy Rosary Irish Dinner and they need your help!

This year's dinner will be held on Sunday, March 17th (St. Patrick's Day) – and we need your help with the following:

Saturday, March 16th - 6:30pm-8:30pm – Set Up

Sunday, March 17th – 3:00pm – 7:00pm – Set up, Greet, Serve, Additional Help

Sunday, March 17th – 7:00pm – 8:30pm – Clean up

If you are interested in volunteering for any of the above, please go to the volunteer website at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084DA4A82FA02-holy>.

We are also looking for someone who would like to shadow us this year and take over the Irish Dinner next year. If you are interested, please reach out to Christy and Jodi at HolyRosaryIrishDinner@gmail.com.

In the meantime, stay tuned for more information about the Irish Dinner!!!

Jodi Foisy & Christy Tobin-Presser

Adult Confirmation: Bishop Elizando will be here Monday evening, April 22nd to confer the sacrament of Confirmation on our teens and adults. If you are an adult who has not yet been confirmed, you are invited and encouraged to prepare for and receive this sacrament. Catholics are fully initiated into the church with the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist. We would love to have you be a part of this process. Our sessions will begin Wednesday evening, January 23, 2013 and continue on Wednesday evenings, with some slight variations, up until April 22nd. Please give me a call at 206-937-1488, Ext. 203 to register or you may email me at jtobin@holyrosaryseattle.org. **JoAnn M. Tobin**

Our Principal Mr. Cantu has asked you to consider this opportunity. Please see attached link.

<<http://www.holyrosaryws.org/fce/12/attachments/2013-02-14/StrategicPlanforCathSchools-Arch.pdf>>

Community Postings

West Seattle Girls Softball Ages 6-15

Hello parents and coaches - just a reminder that registration is open and runs thru February 28th. Even though the season itself does not start for a few months, it is important for everyone to register their daughter(s) so we can sort out teams, uniforms, schedules, etc. This will ensure a smooth start to the season. Below you will find key dates for the season. We are also working on final dates for a pitching clinic and time for the league at the K-Center batting cages. Although updates will be sent via email you can also find them on the league website and our Facebook page. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to email the league at wsgsregistration@hotmail.com. Below is the link to our website.

www.westseattlegirlssoftball.com

Don't forget to like us on Facebook.


2013 dates

Registration Ends - Feb 28 Practice Begins –
week of March 25

Season Opens - April 22

Upcoming Events

🌸 Feb 14	Red, White & Pink Day
Feb 15	Half Day Magazine Drive Reward
🌸 Feb 17 -18	Winter Break
🌸 Feb 22	Kindergarten Testing
🌸 Feb 28	Parents Club Meeting
🌸 March 8	Father/Daughter Glow Bowl
🌸 March 8	End of Second Trimester
🌸 March 12	Pizza Lunch
🌸 March 14-15	Drama Play "The Pied Piper"

 **March 19 Budget & Tuition Presentation (open to all parents) 6:30-7:30**