

February. 2018

Parent News

"Learning to love God and Each Other."

*Learning to
Love God and
Each Other*

Living Faith –

Engaging Minds
–

*Embracing
Community –*

*Inspiring
Integrity-*

*Learning for
Life!*

*Individual
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Holy Trinity Catholic School 10901 St. Henry Lane St. Ann, MO 63074
Phone: (314) 426-8966 Fax: (314) 428-7084 e-mail holytrinitystann@gmail.com
Visit our website at holytrinity-stann.org/

Re-Enrollment for 2018-19

We are enrolling for next year! We have a new re-enrollment form for students that went home last week

Scholarship applications opened on Monday, January 29! All families must now apply on-line and have a unique e-mail address. This is for new scholarships and scholarship renewals. We will be glad to help anyone apply. Call school and speak to Margaret,

Elizabeth or Delia to set a computer time. **Families who already receive a scholarship will reapply now as well.**

The Beyond Sunday Campaign has additional scholarships so you may get more money than last year. **These scholarships will not be available after February 23 and may run out before that time so please apply early!**

As we move into the future of Catholic Education in our Archdiocese we are very grateful for the support that Holy Trinity School receives from the Archdiocese. We will receive \$500,000.00 from the Archdiocese next year, before any scholarship money.

Thank you so much for your support as well!

Catholic Schools Week and Open House

Catholic Schools Week started off with our **Open House here at school on Sunday, January 28. We had a good turn out for students already in the school and for prospective students.**

On Mon., January 29, our eighth grade students participated in a regional eighth grade Mass and the students had questions they asked Father Ronnie about vocations.

On Tues., Jan. 30, students were invited to send cookies for courage,

that Student Council members donated to local police and fire stations.

On Wed., Jan. 31, students either attended the Billiken Girls Basketball game or played basketball games in the gym.

On Thurs., Feb. 1, parents are invited to **our Virtue Night Open House at 6:00 pm.** The times and places for each classroom presentation are being sent home today and will be available at the Open House. The evening will be over around 7:30

Finally, on Friday we have Trivia in the afternoon. Students from Kindergarten through eighth grade have been divided into groups, headed by an eighth grade student, and will answer 100 questions! The winning group gets ribbons!

It looks like a full week. Happy Catholic Schools! Thank you for your trust and support.

Catholic Schools Week Mall Display

Holy Trinity Catholic School was invited to send eleven student art works to be displayed at the Frontenac Mall during Catholic Schools Week.

Art work from one or two students per grade in grades two through eight was chosen to represent our school. Mrs. Eckelcamp, our art teacher and other volunteer teachers, chose the works to be displayed

from many beautiful pieces of art that the students have created this school year. The students whose work is being displayed are:

These are the students whose artwork is being displayed:
2nd grade - Danica Langdon
3rd grade - Rocio Reyes and Gaby Munoz
4th grade - Eva Smith

5th grade - Alex Neumann, Elizabeth Sanchez-Rodriguez, Mya Cates, Sam McCarty
6th grade - Mia Munoz, Shea Duncan, Natalia Bucio, Gonzalo Avalos
7th grade - Lexie Hahn and Will Gloriod
8th grade- Katherine Macdonald and Olivia Reyes

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SAVE Foundation Chess and Checkers Feb. 10

As you know, Holy Trinity Catholic School was one of the first in the Archdiocese of St. Louis to begin implementing VBRD, Virtue Based Restorative Discipline. We think that this comprehensive approach to growing in virtue and making up for harm has been a great gift for our school. In an effort to share VBRD with others in our area, Ms. Ahle and several teachers have

been active in the Archdiocesan Program. In the past year a non-profit organization was created, called the SAVE Foundation, to further efforts in this area. **SAVE stands for Social Action and Virtue Education.** Several Holy Trinity teachers, parents and the principal are active members of SAVE and are working to bring virtue based restorative

practices to the school community.

A fundraiser is scheduled for **Saturday, February 10 at the St. Ann Baptist Church Fellowship Hall.** It is a family sponsored chess and checkers tournament beginning at 1:00pm. Please join us for a fun family afternoon for only \$5.00 per ticket, available in the school office.

No Valentines at School this Year!



This year Valentine's Day, February 14, falls on Ash Wednesday so we are asking that no Valentine Cards be distributed at school this year. Because Valentine's Day falls on the first day of Lent, a time when we ask the children to focus on prayer,

repentance and sacrifice, we felt that celebrating with cards and candy would be inappropriate.

Many of the children have chosen to give up treats and or candy during Lent and so many of the cards

include candy or a treat, we felt it would make their resolutions difficult to keep. Thank you for understanding!

Kindergarten and First Grade Musical Feb. 20

We are looking forward to the Kindergarten and First grade musical presentation at Holy Trinity Parish Center on **Tuesday, February 20th at 7:00pm.**

Students will practice for the musical in the morning at the Parish Center so please **drop students off at the Parish Center between 7:30am and 7:50am for practice on the morning of Tuesday, February 20.**

If the students are in before Care they will be taken over at the correct time.

Students will leave from the Parish Center for a fun afternoon at the Magic House. **Please send a bag lunch!** Don't forget to return your Field Trip Permission forms that will be sent home in February.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at 7:00 pm at Holy Trinity Parish Center gym on February 20.



Dancing Classrooms

Holy Trinity School is again bringing Dancing Classrooms to our fifth grade students. This year we are adding in the fourth grade because we have so few girls in the fifth grade this year. Both grades will learn different dances originating in several countries and will show off their skills with a school-wide performance.

The students get twenty lessons in all and then hold a culminating performance for parents and other students here at school. Dancing begins

in mid January and continues through our parent performance which is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 24 at 2:00.** Everyone is invited.

Another fun part of the program is a dance competition held in the spring after our performance. The fifth grade students, Mrs. O'Neill, Mr. Dabek and any parents (certified through the Safe Child Program) who would like to come will dance in the morning and then go to lunch to celebrate. All of

the children dance with each other at the beginning of this performance and then a boy and a girl from our school, who have been preselected to dance in the competition, will perform each dance. **I will let you know as soon as this is scheduled!**

If you would like to find out more about the program you can visit the web at www.americanballroomtheater.com click on the National Network at the top and then scroll down to Saint Louis.



Lent Begins February 14

We always try to add more prayer to our lives during the Lenten season and we have scheduled several extra prayer activities during Lent here at school.

Every Friday afternoon that we are in school the children will lead the Stations of the Cross at 2:00. On Good Friday, March 30, our eighth

grade students will lead us in the Living Stations of the Cross at 10:00 am or at 12:00 noon. It is worth coming during a lunch break to join us in the holy prayer activity.

Every Monday morning we will have a special lenten prayer service, again led by various grades in the school. We

are also adding extra daily prayer in each classroom and giving alms to the poor during lent. Look for your Rice Bowls that come home on Ash Wednesday, February 14 We suggest keeping a rice bowl on your dinner table and adding change throughout Lent.

Mardi Gras Parties February 13

Mardi Gras this year is Tuesday, February 13. Grades Kindergarten through eight will celebrate Mardi Gras here at school with luncheon parties from 12:00 until 1:15. During our Mardi Gras parties we celebrate with food and games in a way that we will not during Lent, which begins the

following day, on Wednesday, February 14. Students may wear beads with their uniforms to celebrate on our party day. No cafeteria lunch will be served on Mardi Gras. We will also have a 1:30 dismissal on Tuesday,

Feb. 13 for students in K through 8 and an 11:00 dismissal for preK.

If you have a preschool child in Extended Care on Feb. 13 please remember to send a lunch. The following day, Feb. 14, we will have a Mass at 9:00am with ashes distributed.

Prayer Circles for 5th & 6th Parents

All 5th and 6th grade parents and students are invited to donuts and a circle at 8:00am on Saturday, February 10. This circle will be led by some of our fifth and sixth grade students and will give you an opportunity to meet and talk to some of the other parents in our school.

Generosity our Virtue this quarter

As we head into our third quarter and Lent we have begun studying and practicing the virtue of generosity. The children begin each new virtue by defining the virtue and finding examples of people who practice that virtue in their life. We have many parents who exemplify the virtue of generosity, in your time and talent, so they already have great examples.

If you have not yet taken a picture of your family and gentleness, the frames are still coming around. Be sure and email us the picture.

At school we are making generosity hearts for our main board. This week we are sending home a heart that we would like every family to decorate and return. Please say one or two ways that your family practices generosity and return the heart by February 9.

Almost every Thursday we have Mass in the school chapel and students have the opportunity to put a small offering in our collection basket. All this money goes to the St. Vincent DePaul Society in one of our merged parishes. The money is used to pay emergency

bills, buy food and items not covered by food stamps such as laundry detergent etc., and help families through crisis situations. Explaining this to your child and allowing him/her to make a small donation will help your child experience the virtue of generosity. Another way to experience this virtue is putting money in your rice bowls during Lent.

Thank you!

Fish Fry Begins

We need help during the Fridays of Lent with our weekly Fish Fry at Holy Trinity Parish Center. This fundraiser is necessary to keep our school running smoothly. **Every Friday we will need cakes,** which can be delivered to school on Friday morning, as well as workers during the day and evening. There is also set-up on Thursday evening at the Parish Center if that day works better for your volunteer time. The Fish Fry runs from 4:30 to about 7:00 on the dates below, although if you come to eat past 6:30 we

may run out of the most popular foods.

I would also like to invite parents to attend a Fish Fry and buy some of the delicious fish to eat there or carry out! People come from as far away as Illinois and miles away in Missouri to enjoy our food.

The Fish Fry dates for this year are:
February 16
February 23
March 2
March 9
March 16
March 23

The final plea for volunteers is going out with this newsletter, although people are needed every week and can still show up to work. Students in grades seventh and eighth may also volunteer with parents and their work counts towards the 30 hours. Younger students may help clean tables.

Students may not be dropped off at the Fish Fry without adult supervision.

Thank you.

Holy Trinity Catholic School

10901 Saint Henry Lane
Saint Ann, MO 63074

PHONE:
(314) 426-8966

FAX:
(314) 428-7084

E-MAIL:
holytrinitystann@gmail.com

FastDirect:
[http://www.fastdir.com/
holytrinityschool](http://www.fastdir.com/holytrinityschool)

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Retreats in February

Second grade parents and students are invited to the Communion REAP retreat on **Thursday, February 22 at 6:30**. The retreat will be held in the school chapel and will be over about 8:00.

Eighth grade students are invited to a Confirmation Retreat on Wednesday, February 7th in the school chapel. It begins at 5:00 and ends about 8:30. It includes dinner, but the students are asked to bring a two-liter soda to share, or a dessert.

Early Dismissal & Free Day

Holy Trinity students will celebrate President's Day with a free day on Monday, February 19.

We have a long weekend when you combine the free day on Monday with our early dismissal the Friday before, February 16. The 16th is our Faculty Meeting Day, 11:30 dismissal for grades K-8, and it is a free dress day. Students coming to Extended Care should bring a lunch.