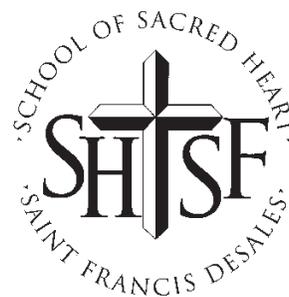


SHSF NEWS



Monthly Newsletter

February 2017

Tuition Assistance

Tuition assistance applications for next year will be sent home the week of February 27. These are due to FACTS Tuition Management by March 27. A few key points to keep in mind:



- If you are seeking scholarship assistance, you must file these forms by the stated due date. Scholarship amounts will be announced in April and each family applying for assistance will receive a letter announcing their scholarship amount. FACTS has a toll free number if you need help filling out your application. You may also file on-line.
- Families who believe they need financial aid are encouraged to take advantage of the assistance that is being offered. Grant Aid applications assure fairness to all our families.

If you have any questions, please call Mr. Estes and he will gladly answer your questions.

Mission Statement

Providing excellence in academics and a deepening faith in God and Gospel Values in an environment that is caring, challenging, and respectful, striving to develop in every student the habits of thinking critically and acting responsibly in daily life.



In This Issue

- Catholic Schools Week
- Valentine's Day
- Wintertastic Auction
- Winter Break
- New Roof

Enjoy basketball? Check out one of our games at the Parish Center this month.



Celebrate Liturgy with us every Friday at 10 AM in our Multi-Purpose Room.

Happy Valentine's Day!

Valentine's Day is Tuesday, February 14. There are no actual parties scheduled for this holiday, but students in all grades will have the opportunity to exchange Valentines with their classmates and have light refreshments at the end of the day. Room Parents will be contacting you to help out once plans have been made.

Roof Project Complete

Alas! We have a new roof on our school building. Contractors finished the project this past month and we are good for another twenty years or more. Thank you to our parish for financing this much needed capital improvement.

Winter Break

Our school will be closed for "Winter Break" the week of February 20. Enjoy this time with your family.

Safe and Sacred

Have you completed your on-line training? Are you up to date? All volunteers, including parents, are required to comply with the school's request for a Vulnerable Record Check for the safety of our children. This is in accordance with Diocesan policies and is required for anyone who wishes to work with our students in any capacity. Fingerprinting is not necessary for this background check.

In addition, all staff members, coaches, and volunteers (new and old) who work directly with children (including field trip chaperones, lunch room helpers, etc.) must complete the on-line program called **"Safe and Sacred."** New volunteers need to do it right away. Don't delay, do it now.

To log on, go to VermontCatholic.org and follow the links for completion.

Catholic Schools Week 2017

Highlights

Sunday—January 29

Faith, Knowledge and Service: In Our Parish and In Our Families

Monday—January 30

Faith, Knowledge and Service: In Our Community

Tuesday—January 31

Faith, Knowledge and Service: In Our Students

Wednesday—February 1

Faith, Knowledge and Service: In Our Nation

Thursday—February 2

Faith, Knowledge and Service: In Our Vocations

Friday—February 3

In Our Faculty, Staff and Volunteers (Teacher Appreciation Day)

Wintertastic Auction

Join us for a fun evening with your friends and colleagues and help us raise funds that will benefit the educational programs at The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales.

DATE? Saturday, March 4

TIME? 6 PM Hors d' oeuvres and Cash Bar
7 PM Live Auction

WHERE? Mount Anthony Country Club
80 Country Club Drive—Bennington, Vermont

GREAT ITEMS!

Catholic Schools Week 2017

We are celebrating with other Catholic schools across the nation this week. So far, our activities have been a great success, even a snow day treat. We are certainly pleased to see so many people taking part in the festivities. Everyone seems to be having a great deal of fun celebrating the week. It is in the true spirit of Christ that we all rally together to show our faith in each other and in our school.

Calendar Note

Public schools in Bennington will not be in session on Wednesday, February 8. We have an early release that day. Since this is the case, there will be no lunch at school. Dismissal will be at noon.



From the Principal...

Am I my brother's keeper? As Christians, our answer to that age-old question can only be "Yes." As parents and teachers, we have a responsibility to lead our children to the same acceptance.

Our words and example can help even very young children recognize that compassion is the appropriate response to those who have been hurt or who are in need. Older children can learn to see Christ in those less fortunate and to understand the true meaning of community. Compassion should be accompanied by an active response to the needs of others.

Sharing our material goods may mean giving a favorite toy to a child who has none. It may mean giving up treats and contributing money saved to a worthy cause. It may mean that the whole family will sacrifice in order to help a child that is in a third world country or to assist a needy family in our own community.

Sharing our time may mean reaching out to someone who is lonely or in need of emotional support. It may mean becoming more knowledgeable and more active in the area of social justice. We recently went through an election in which much was said about economic justice, civil rights, and family values. The time for rhetoric has passed. As a school community and as a nation, we must respond to the needs of our brothers and sisters.

With Lent approaching soon, let us join together to make our commitment to serving all of God's creation and make it an ongoing part of our commitment to Christ.

We are always seeking new students. If you know of any family who may be interested in enrolling their children, please let us know or have them give us a call. Word of mouth is a great marketing tool.

Maintaining our enrollment is crucial to our existence. Please help your school community.



The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales

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Happy
Valentine's
Day