MISSION

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

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The School of SACRED HEART ST. FRANCIS

de SALES

VOLUME I, ISSUE 6

JANUARY NEWSLETTER

Catholic Schools Week 2020

We will begin our week long celebration of Catholic Schools Week on Sunday, January 26. At Sacred Heart St. Francis we continue to build the Kingdom of God each and every day. We proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ because our school community has been enriched by God's gift of faith. We must build on that and create a faith filled future for our children, for our school, and for our parishes.

Catholic Schools Week 2020 provides an excellent opportunity to demonstrate to the community what Catholic school parents, administrators teachers, and students have known all along...that we are truly forming a future full of faith and promise. Our school is strong and vibrant because of the faith that we share.

We invite you to celebrate Catholic education by

participating in the activities that we have planned beginning with the CSW kickoff at the 9:30 AM Liturgy on Sunday, January 26, at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Church followed by our CSW Breakfast at the Parish Center.

A complete calendar of events will be sent home soon. Please note the daily themes listed page 3 of this newsletter.

Come celebrate with us!



Celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020

January 26 -February 1 #CSW1920

A Note of Appreciation



Special thanks for all the many kindnesses the school staff received during the holiday season. We are extremely grateful for the all the notes, cards and gifts that were given to us. Your kindness and

thoughtfulness was over the top. It is, as always, a pleasure to work with your wonderful children.

We would also like to express our appreciation to all those who helped in any way at our annual Christmas programs.

"C.A.K.E" and "Where's

Baby Jesus?" were a lot of fun for everyone and the children performed them amazingly well. Our choral and instrumental concert was also exceptional.

The Christ Child was certainly present as the children sang and played with joy and enthusiasm.

Keeping Up with Assignments

Practicing good study habits can make a big difference.

It seems as though many of the students have not been keeping up with their assignment books. The extra few minutes that it takes to get assignments written down is going to save everyone a lot of

aggravation and hopefully, achieve a better result at the end of each marking period. A little extra effort will make a big difference. It is very easy to forget when you have other things on your mind.

Parents, please try to

stress to your child the importance of writing down daily assignments after every class.

Most assignments can usually be found on our school's website as well.



New Year's Resolutions

For a happy New Year...just stick to some simple and basic rules. Have faith in yourself and your abilities. Count your blessings before you cry about your misfortunes. Learn to take each day

one at a time. Create opportunities for yourself because quitting is never an option.

Above all accomplish all you take under your wings — never abandon without completion.

And then...Close your eyes, say a warm goodbye to the year 2019. Thank God for everything that He has given you. Ask for forgiveness for all your mistakes and at last, wish for an even better year in 2020.

Catholic Schools Week Calendar

Sunday—January 26

Celebrating our
Parishes (CSW Liturgy

Monday—January 27

Celebrating our

and Breakfast)

Community

Tuesday—January 28

Celebrating our

Students

Wednesday—January 29

Celebrating our

Nation

Thursday—January 30

Celebrating our

Faculty, Staff and Volunteers

(Teacher Appreciation Day)

Friday—January 31

Celebrating our Families

Come, celebrate with us







Safe Environment

For the safety of our children, all volunteers, including parents, are required to complete an online certification entitled "VIRTUS." You can access it by visiting www.vermontcatholic.org.

There is a link to the program under Child Safety.

Completion of this is in

accordance with Diocesan policies and is required for anyone who wishes to work with our students in any capacity.

You will receive a certificate upon completion, but It may take a few weeks before you are cleared to volunteer due to the large number of volunteers in all our schools completing the program.

If you should have any questions, please contact Mrs. Gilarde in the main office. She is our Safe Environment coordinator.

There is no cost for any part

Now is a great time to get this

done.

A Wintertime Meditation

by Susan Kramer

of this program.

A little prayer to meditate upon, during the quiet hours of wintertime.

During lengthening days of light may our actions be lighthearted upon right and noble impulses.

During quiet hours beyond dusk, before dawn may we take time to think over events from the day and plan for good in the morrow.

In light of day may we extend our personal borders daring and sharing expansively. So the world glows bright from our presence may we blaze as beacons of harmony lighting the path ahead.

To nurture efforts toward lasting peace may we act with kindness toward all embracing our family and friends wholeheartedly ever gracing our world-wide family lightheartedly.

THE SCHOOL OF SACRED HEART ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

307 School Street Bennington, Vermont 05201 Phone: 802-442-2446

Fax: 802-442-2344



Newsworthy Notes

SCHOOL LITURGIES—We will celebrate Mass at school on Fridays, January 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31. Everyone is welcome.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY— School will be closed on Monday, January 20, in memory of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

CALENDAR NOTE—Public schools will be closed on Friday, January 24. Everyone is asked to bring their own lunch to school on this day.

BOYS' BASKETBALL— If you are looking for some fun activities to do in January, stop by the Parish Center to see our boys' basketball team in action. Game times and locations will be posted in our weekly updates.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK—There will be more information coming soon regarding all the activities we have planned to celebrate Catholic Schools Week 2020.

From the Principal

The beginning of a new year is a time for prayerful gratitude. At Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales, we are especially grateful to you and for you. You are the primary educators in the faith of your children, and you allow us to share in that challenge and privilege. Thank you.

As a Catholic school, we are committed to providing experiences of faith to your children in our classrooms that affirm the experience of faith being lived at home. Making this connection is critical to their faith formation. When you share with us the prayer, conversations, and other

experiences you have with your children, you are giving us the most basic tools we need to make that connection.

In these early weeks of the new year, let us prayerfully renew our commitment to one another to work together in sharing our faith.