

SHSF NEWS



Monthly Newsletter of Information

March 2015

The Glory of These Forty Days

These are some things you could do as a family during this Lenten season to bring you closer to Jesus.

- ◆ Go to Mass.
- ◆ Donate clothing to the needy.
- ◆ Help feed the poor.
- ◆ Pray together.
- ◆ Volunteer for a good cause.
- ◆ Help one another.
- ◆ Visit the sick and the lonely.
- ◆ Read scripture together.



Stations of the Cross will take place on Friday afternoons (2/27, 3/6, 3/13, and 3/20) in our multi-purpose room beginning at 2 PM. All are welcome.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation for students in Grades 3 through 8 will take place on Tuesday and Wednesday, March 10 and 11.

Please journey with us during this season of renewal and prayer.

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.



The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales 307 School Street Bennington, VT

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Tuition Assistance Forms due in March

Each year the Applications for tuition assistance are due to FACTS . This year's date is March 27
Please get your forms in on time.

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.

Next year's tuition rate has been set. Tuition for the first child in the family will be \$4550. Tuition for the second will be \$4350 and tuition for the third will be \$4150. This represents a modest 2% increase or 57 cents per day.

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.

***BASKET BINGO***
Tuesday, March 17 at 6:30 PM - Doors Open at 5 :30 PM
Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales Parish Center

Casual Picture Day

Casual Picture Day for Sacred Heart St. Francis School will be Thursday, March 19. Students in all grades will be photographed in their casual attire. Purchasing pictures, however, is optional. More details will be sent home soon.

**WELCOME
BISHOP COYNE TO
OUR SCHOOL!
TUESDAY, MARCH 3
LITURGY at 10:30 AM
Parents are welcome
to attend Mass.**



**EASTER EGG HUNT
on SATURDAY,
MARCH 28 at 10 AM
School Grounds
DON'T BE LATE!**



**Important Calendar
Dates**

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

**Bring Your Own Lunch
Day!**

SUNDAY, MARCH 22

**MIDDLE SCHOOL
YOUTH RALLY**

Parish Center

MARCH 26-27

Early Release Days

Noon Dismissal

Winter Trimester Ends

REPORT CARDS COMING

Our winter trimester ends on Friday, March 13. Report cards will be distributed at Parent Teacher Conferences on Thursday, March 26, and Friday, March 27, for Kindergarten through Grade 4 only and on Wednesday, March 25 for students in Grades 5-8. Parent Teacher Conferences for middle school are optional, but they can be requested if thought to be necessary.

It is always important that we praise our children for what they have done well and encourage them to do better in areas where they may be having difficulty.



As you know, our students are participating in a program that helps increase an awareness of the suffering that many people in countries overseas and in our own community are facing. It is called "Operation Rice Bowl."

Using the rice bowl as a symbol of poverty and hunger, each child was given one to take home and should be using it during this season of Lent. They have been asked to place a sacrificial offering in the Rice Bowl whenever it is possible. Rice Bowls will be collected on Holy Thursday during the school day.

You might also want to check out the Catholic Relief Services website as it offers a number of Lenten activities.

Let us reach out to those in need in a positive way during this season.

From the Principal's Desk

As spring greets us with budding flowers and renewed spirits, we are reminded that our children are growing and blooming through our guidance and through our own experiences. One of the most important aspects of childhood is experiencing life and growth through imagination and inspiration. Having a positive outlook and seeing and celebrating the intriguing differences in each and every one of us is so important to development and growth, especially in childhood.

Having an active imagination wakes up your brain to new possibilities and ideas. Imagining new possibilities can inspire you to be more innovative in approaching challenging problems. This can lead you to discovering creative solutions that you may not have thought of using. Seeking inspiration involves having an open mind to new ideas and appreciating small things which you may not otherwise have noticed. How can you help your child develop and use imagination to seek out inspiration?

- ◆ Encourage and celebrate your child's uniqueness. This helps children grow to feel comfortable with themselves and helps them have confidence in their thoughts, ideas, and different ways of thinking.
- ◆ Have your child doodle a drawing. Close your eyes and draw two or three simple lines (curvy, straight, diagonal) on a blank page. Then open your eyes and figure out what you can turn those lines into. Will it create a scary monster? A landscape? A spaceship? An animal? It's all up to your imagination!
- ◆ Ask questions, in the car, at the store, or at the dinner table. Ask your child questions to spark imagination and creativity, "What do you think birds sing about?" "What would it feel like to walk on the moon?" "How do you think cars work?"

Encouraging imagination, uniqueness, and inspiration in your children will help them be innovative thinkers and curious individuals.



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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.