

The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales

Bennington, Vermont

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF INFORMATION

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.



THANK YOU

A special note of gratitude to all who participated in our Bags2School. The response was outstanding. We collected 2540 pounds of clothing and material.



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THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE

It has become a yearly custom for the students at The School of Sacred Heart St. Francis to collect canned goods during the month of November (the 5th through the 20th) for the needy in our parish and in our community. If every child would bring in two, three, or four cans, it would provide much happiness for those who are less fortunate. This is a particularly good time to give thanks for what we have and share

with those that have little. Our contributions in past years have made a significant difference in this mission of service.

There will be a box placed in each classroom during the month. We would like to have a significant amount of canned goods ready to be given to His Pantry (a local food shelf located at our parish church).

SAFETY UPDATE

We must continue to practice good safety habits if we want to keep everyone healthy. Please remind your children about wearing masks appropriately, washing or sanitizing their hands frequently, and social distancing.

You are also asked to check the travel maps to determine places that are and are not safe when having to travel anywhere. You

may end up having to quarantine if necessary. Keep that in mind when planning any future trips.

If your child isn't feeling well, please keep him or her home and definitely check with your health care professionals.

We thank you for your cooperation in keeping our school community safe.



CALENDAR NOTES FOR NOVEMBER

We have several dates in affecting the month calendar. They are noted below:

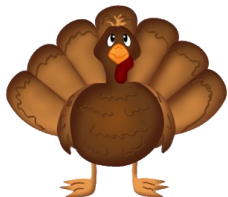
NO SCHOOL

**WEDNESDAY,
NOVEMBER 11**

VETERANS' DAY

**EARLY DISMISSAL
(NOON)**

**FOR FACULTY IN-SERVICE
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20**



**EARLY DISMISSAL
(NOON)**

**ON WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 25**

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY
NO SCHOOL**

THURSDAY & FRIDAY

NOVEMBER 26 AND 27

BIG MONEY RAFFLE



There will not be a Harvest Bazaar this fall due to COVID, but we will still have our HARVEST/HOLIDAY Big Money Raffle. This year's

drawing will be held on the third Sunday of Advent, "Gaudete" Sunday. This is a day to rejoice; and if you win, you just may be doing that.

Two books of tickets will be

sent home to every family. We are asking you to sell or buy your two books for \$10. You can always ask for more books and we would be happy to get them to you. Thank you for helping our school.

THANKSGIVING MASS LIVESTREAMED

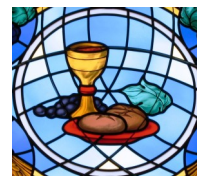
We will be live streaming a THANKSGIVING Liturgy for our school community on Tuesday, November 24, at 9 AM. You will be able to watch it as well on YouTube and we will send you the link as we get closer to the

actual event.

Father Bob and Father Hugh will be concelebrating the Mass at church.

We have not been able to share in Liturgy together this year due to COVID, so

this will be a wonderful time to celebrate Mass together in a different way.



REPORT CARDS/PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Our fall trimester ends on Wednesday, November 23. Report cards will be emailed to you this year. Parent Teacher Conferences will be held virtually or by phone (this year only) on the days scheduled on the school

calendar. Conferences will take place on an "as needed" basis. If you feel it is necessary to meet with any of your child's teachers, please reach out to them. If the teachers feel the need to meet

with you, they will contact you.

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.

THANKFUL FOR EACH OTHER

Dear Lord,

As we gather together around this table laden with your plentiful gifts to us, we thank You for always providing what we really need and for sometimes granting wishes for things we don't really need. Today, let us be especially thankful for each other--for family and friends who enrich our lives in wonderful ways, even when they present us with challenges.

Let us join together now in peaceful, loving fellowship to celebrate Your love for us and our love for each other. Amen.

By Joanna Fuchs





FROM THE PRINCIPAL

“Pray always,” Jesus said (Luke 21:36). But our lives are filled with activity. There is never enough time. We find ourselves “saying prayers” rather than praying. True contact with God in prayer requires lifting the heart and mind to Him. Our children need to learn the real joy and peace that prayer can bring. What, then, can we do? And when is a better

time to do it than the approaching Advent season.

As always, the best teaching—in your home as in school—is done by example. Share periods of silence with your child, silence that will give you both a chance to listen to God. Open your hearts and minds to His presence. Let Him lead you to a deeper awareness of His love. Time

spent with Him is priority time. Setting the alarm a bit earlier can give your family a chance to be together to join in asking God’s blessing for the day and filling your hearts with His love.

A short time each evening reading from the lives of the saints can introduce children to

the special friends of God, better models to follow than many of today’s “stars.” The sense of community with those who have responded to the love God offers so bountifully will strengthen us, Our trust in God will grow, and we will find it easier to talk “with” rather than “at” God as we pray.

**THE SCHOOL OF
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