



# SHSF MARCH NEWS

Experiencing Joy through Faith, Family, and Community

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## LENT

Each year, the church sets aside 40 days as a special time we call LENT. This year's Lenten season begins on Ash Wednesday, tomorrow, March 2nd. Students will be receiving ashes during our Ash Wednesday service that will be in place of Morning Prayer on Wednesday.

Stations of the Cross will take place on Fridays during lent (March 4th, 11th, 18th, and April 1st) at St. John the Baptist Church in North Bennington. There will be a Family Stations of the Cross on Friday, April 8th at 5:30pm at Sacred Heart St. Francis de Sales.

Each child will receive a packet of Lenten goodies to share with their families. The packet will include a 'Peeking Through the Palms' activity book and Lenten boxes to help support Operation Rice Bowl. Please reinforce the importance of sacrificing for others with your children during this time. It is important for us to journey together and remember all the sacrifices Jesus made for all of us. The boxes will be collected during Holy Week.

## Wintertastic Fundraiser

Wintertastic Fundraiser is in high gear! Don't miss your opportunity to be part of the fun and support our school and have a chance to win one of the amazing prizes we have. Forms for sponsorship and raffle ticket sales are due on March 18th. Forms have been sent home, emailed, and can be found on our school website. Share with your friends and family!

## Tuition Assistance for the 2022-2023 School Year

Tuition assistance applications will be done online this year. You may begin the application process **today**—March 1st! Families who are currently enrolled and seeking tuition assistance must have this application done by March 31st, 2022.

If you are seeking assistance, please keep in mind:

- 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 the amount of assistance our school is able to offer.
- FACTS has a toll free number if you need help filling out your application.

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, do not hesitate to contact Mrs. McKenna.

# End of Trimester and Conferences

Our winter trimester ends on Friday, March 18th. Parent Teacher Conferences can be held in person, virtually via Zoom, or by phone during the week of March 28th-April 1st. Teachers will reach out to families to schedule conferences.

We will have half days of school on Thursday and Friday, March 31st and April 1st. Students will be dismissed at noon. If you did not hear from a teacher regarding a conference, please reach out to them to schedule one if you feel one is necessary. Your participation and collaboration in your child's learning is essential to their success. 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.

Report cards will be emailed to families on Friday, March 25th. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to ask at your conference.

## SCHOOL DOORS OPEN AT 8AM

If you are not utilizing the morning care program, please **do not** drop off your children or send them to school prior to 8am. It is still cold outside (hopefully getting warmer soon!) and we cannot let them in without proper supervision. If you sign up for the morning care program, that allows us to be sure there is sufficient staff available to monitor any students that are in the school early. Remember, our school doors open at 8am.

If you have any questions about the morning care program, please do not hesitate to ask. If you're interested in volunteering as a crossing guard our outdoor supervisor, please call the school and that can be organized.

### Important Dates for March

Wednesday, March 2nd—  
Ash Wednesday

Friday, March 11th—  
Inservice Day  
(Noon Dismissal)

Friday, March 18th—  
End of Second  
Trimester

Thursday & Friday,  
March 31 & April 1—  
Parent/Teacher  
Conferences  
(Noon Dismissals)

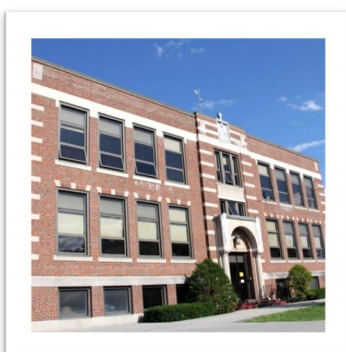


### From the Principal:

John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life."

As we enter into the Lenten season, let us think about the ultimate gift we have been given in the forgiveness of our sins.

It is important to remember the sacrifice and the reason behind it. Let us give alms to those in need during this time. This gift gives us, as people of God, the opportunity to live and love as Jesus would. What will your almsgiving look like?



Let us also see Easter as a joyous celebration. It is the most beautiful sign of unconditional love. With Easter comes the opportunity for new life and growth. Work on your relationship with God. Make time for prayer and give all your worries, while counting all of your blessings, to Christ knowing that He forgives you. He loves you.

I challenge you all to engage in the activities in the "Peeking Through the Palms" book as a family.

This will bring you closer to God, will center your thoughts around the true meaning of Lent, and will bring you closer to your family.