

May 28, 2010

Dear Parents,

We completed our Student Council elections today and I am proud of the many students who ran for a student body office. Many wonderful ideas were promised during the campaigning! The election results were too late for today's newsletter so they will be printed in next week's newsletter.

I would like to extend a very sincere thank you to Kelli Crowley and the PTG Board members who do so much to support the staff, subsidize the budget and provide for many extras for the students. This year the PTG netted approximately \$80,000 of which \$45,000 is given to the operating budget of the school. The balance remaining as well as the Walk-A-Thon money has resulted in the new play structure and 36 new laptops for our junior high mobile computer cart.

Again, this year, 2% of the PTG money will be donated to the Endowment Fund. We encourage donations to the Endowment Fund as a part of the every fundraiser. With a donation to the endowment, every family benefits.

Welcome to the new PTG Board members for the 2010-2011 school year:

President	Christine Healy
Vice President	Carolyn Reich
Treasurer	Terri Bedel
Secretary	Kelli Kellerman
Resource	Julie Pierce
School Operations	Gina Carle and Kathy Perazzo
Spirituality	Siobhan Surraco
Head Room Parent	Gina Morales
Historian	Amy Reynolds
Hot Lunch Trustees	Jenny Cuneo and Lisa Cortopassi
Pizza Lunch Trustees	Cristina Lawrence and Eileen Reedy
Health & Safety	Kathy Wright and Mary Salom
Publicity	Dena Chesler
Past President	Kelli Crowley

Members-at-large:

Kindergarten	Jennifer King
1 st grade	Lisa McGuire
2 nd grade	Candi Thompson
3 rd grade	Julie Luttringer
4 th grade	Michele Bilafer
5 th grade	Michele Sweeney
6 th grade	Heidi McLalan
7 th grade	Nadine Kappeler
8 th grade	Diane Descalso

Next Thursday is graduation day for our eighth graders and, at this time, we also say goodbye to 19 families. Thank you, and many blessings to the following families who together have been at St. Pius School for 181 years.

Glen and Lucy Alvarado	8 years
Ben and Tia Baur	11 years
Rich and Lisa Blanton	3 years
Artemio and Magali Bracamontes	4 years
Kerry and Betsy Bradford	15 years
Dave and Julie Brand	15 years
Gary and Debbie Castelli	12 years
Peggy Chavez-Resendiz	9 years
Tom Del Selva and Kate Del Selva	11 years
Paul and Jenee Domenichini	9 years
Ron and Lisa Ferrari	12 years
John and Carol Fioresi	9 years
Rick and Paula Freschet	13 years
Joe and Michele Hession	11 years
Rick and Sheree Luttrell	6 years
Trinh Vuong	3 years
Jim and Patty McFadyen	11 years
Elizabeth Polek and Kate Davis	10 years
Kevin Prentice and Karen Prentice	9 years

I am grateful to all these families for their many years of support to our school. Although they are graduating, they will always be a welcome part of our St. Pius community.

This week we will begin seeing signs of the Festival. Booths will be arriving and the tent will be going up to be ready for the annual parish festival. Festival hours are:

Friday, June 4	6:00PM - 10:00PM
Saturday, June 5	1:00PM - 10:00PM
Sunday, June 6	1:00PM - 8:00PM

This coming Wednesday, June 2, Notre Dame High School will be holding their graduation in St. Pius Church. This will be at 5:00PM. I tell you this because some of those attending the graduation may be arriving close to our dismissal time. Be prepared for possible extra traffic.

This coming Tuesday will be the last day pizza will be sold at lunch. Very special thanks to Cristina Lawrence and Eileen Reedy for coordinating this weekly treat for our students and to the many parent volunteers who helped make this possible. Wednesday, June 2, will be the last day for Divine Catering. The last PTG hot lunch will be provided next Thursday, June 3.

Tuition agreements were sent home earlier this month. After May 31, families who have not fulfilled their service hours and SCRIP commitment will be moved to Tier 2 and given new tuition agreements. If you have not yet done so, please return the white copy of this agreement by Tuesday, June 1. The yellow copy is for your records. If you have not yet re-registered for the 2010-2011 school year you have not received a tuition agreement.

Important dates for this coming week are:

Monday, May 31	Memorial Day Holiday
Tuesday, June 1	Graduation Party for Graduates and Parents 7-10PM
Thursday, June 3	Graduation Awards Assembly 11:00AM Graduation Mass and Reception 7:00PM
Friday, June 4	12:45PM Dismissal - Festival Set-up St. Pius Festival 6:00-10:00PM

It is hard to believe we are at the Memorial Day weekend, the unofficial beginning of summer!

Enjoy the three day weekend.

Sincerely,


Rita Carroll
Principal

REGISTRATION FORMS: All of the paperwork to register for next school year was due **May 14th**. If you have not turned in your completed forms, please do so **ASAP**. Thank you!

2009-2010 YEARBOOK ORDER FORM: It's time to order your 2009-2010 St. Pius Yearbook. Please make your check payable to St. Pius School for the amount of \$15 per yearbook. Please return forms as soon as possible. Thanks!

UNIFORM EXCHANGE BLITZ DAY: Mark your calendars now for the "Uniform Blitz" on Saturday, August 7th from 10:00 AM to 1:00 PM. This is a great way to have your child outfitted for the new school year for a great price! All sweatshirts, pants, shorts, skorts, PE shorts, shirts and blouses are \$2.00 each. You can also bring in your outgrown items (in good, clean, wearable condition, Dennis brand only) for a trade. The address is 1535 Valota Road between Carlton Court & Palm Ave. You can reach me at 364-1768. Uniform Exchange is available all year. The regular hours are Mon-Sat 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Have a great summer, Kristin Bright.

FESTIVAL RIB DINNER: Friday night festival rib dinner! 1/2 slab ribs, coleslaw, corn bread and beans - \$13. Contact: Mark Engelhart at 365-4029 or send in money to Parish Center by May 28th. Please put your orders in before that date as we **MUST** pre-order this!

FESTIVAL FRIENDSHIP BOOTH: The Women's Club is again hosting the Friendship Booth at the Festival and we need your help! We need volunteers to donate time to help run the spinning wheel and hand out prizes. We also need gently used or unopened household items... Someone's pink elephant is another's treasure! And, lastly, we need plants - a popular prize this booth is best known for! Please bring your donated household items to the Parish Center clearly marked "Friendship Booth". We will take plants the week before the Festival, also at the Parish Center. To volunteer, or if you have questions, please contact Yvette Gilardi @ 369-0138 or yvettegilardi@comcast.net, or Chris Swan @ 365-8511 or cswan94063@yahoo.com. Thank you!

FACE PAINTERS NEEDED TO PAINT FACES OF ALL AGES: If you would like to volunteer to get your inner artist out, sign up for the Face Painting Booth for the St. Pius Festival. The booth will be open throughout the Festival, so artists are needed for all time slots. Paint supplies will be provided. Call Laurie or Dan Stillmaker at (650) 587-1546 to volunteer to paint.

STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE BOOTH: Get a head start on you service hours for next year by working in the **STRAWBERRY SHORTCAKE BOOTH** at the Festival. We have hours available on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. We also have hours available on Thursday, June 3rd, starting at 3:30 p.m., when we will be cleaning/hulling the strawberries at the picnic tables by Homer Crouse Hall. Please contact me at bridgetker@comcast.net or (650) 366-4138 if you are able to help. Thank you. Bridget West

Partners in FAITH™



Helping our children grow in their Catholic faith.

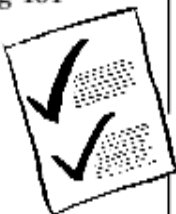
June 2010



Thoughtful Moments

Goal Setting 101

The skill of setting and meeting goals is critical for a successful life. Start by helping to set small goals – a good grade on a test, learning to throw a ball a certain distance, or organizing a bedroom. When they learn to set and meet the small ones, adopt longer term goals and meeting them will become a habit.



Too busy?

We want our children's lives to be perfect so we coach the team, volunteer in the classroom, lead the scout troop. In fact, we may spend more time around our children than with them. If so, it's time to let something go. Their lives aren't perfect without you.

Make it clear

Parents have to do more than just state disapproval of alcohol and drug abuse. A recent study found that teens who have seen a parent drunk are more likely to get drunk themselves as their peers who haven't.



Celebrate the saints of summer

School may be ending this month but the summer can be a great time to learn more about the saints. For example:

St. John Francis Regis – This saint traveled through the mountains of France converting souls. Take a family hike and imagine St. John

spreading the word of God on his travels. (Feast day: June 16)

Blessed Kateri Tekakwitha (1680) –

Born into the Mohawk clan in New York, smallpox left Kateri orphaned, disfigured, and half blind. She became Christian and grew in her faith in a Christian village. Kateri worked hard in the fields, so tending plants would be a fitting tribute to her. (Feast day: July 14)

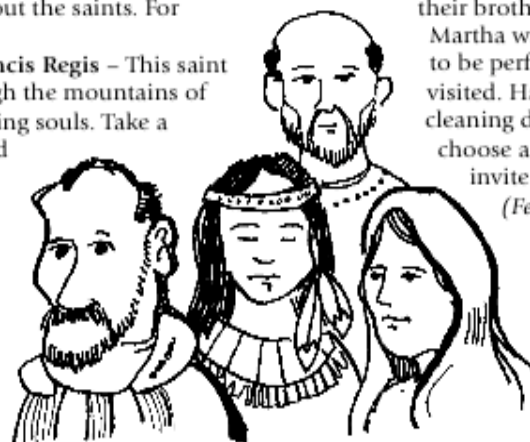
St. Martha (1st century) – Jesus was a dear friend to Martha, Mary, and their brother Lazarus.

Martha wanted everything to be perfect when Jesus visited. Have a family cleaning day and then choose a special guest to invite over for dinner.

(Feast day: July 29)

St. Dominic (1221) – Unlike other priests of his day, Dominic became a traveling preacher in

the tradition of the Apostles. His holy life style and inspiring preaching won back many to the Church who had left to follow false teaching. He founded the Order of Preachers (Dominicans). Spend time gazing at the night sky together in honor of the patron saint of astronomers. (Feast day: August 8)



Why Do Catholics Do That?

Why is the altar special in our churches?

In the early Church, the altar came to symbolize Christ himself since it is the site of his sacrifice in the Mass. Relics of martyrs used to be (and sometimes still are) placed in the altar so that the Mass was



celebrated over them. This made the altar a special place in the church.

The priest has a special relationship to the altar through his connection to Christ. He begins his celebration of Mass with a kiss on the altar.

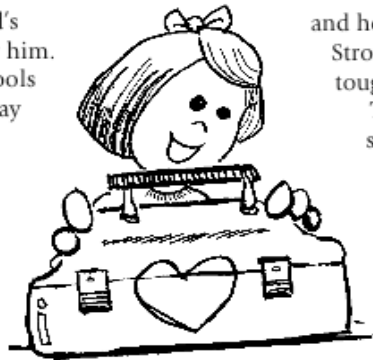


Fill children's faith toolbox

It can be hard to raise children in God's friendship in a world that doesn't know him. Our best strategy is to give youngsters tools they can use to stay close to him and pray they use them as adults.

Tool #1 – love. Children first learn about God's love from their families. We must act out of love, teach love, and model love so that children learn to love.

Tool #2 – prayer. In prayer, God counsels us, teaches us, comforts us,



and helps us persevere. Teach children to pray. Strong prayer habits will carry them through the tough times of their lives.

Tool #3 – service. No child is too young to do something helpful for the family, and each should do as much as he can. Contributing to the family is the first step in contributing to the larger family of God.

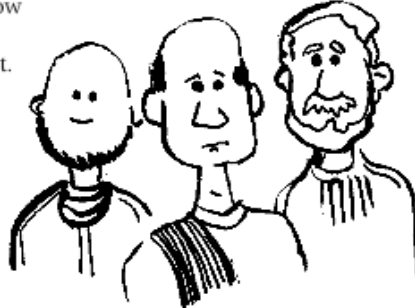
Tool #4 – trust. With God, all things are possible. Let your children witness your trust in God. Show them that you love him with all your heart.

Scripture LESSON

Luke 9:51-62, What does it take to be a disciple?

In this Gospel reading, the first man wanted to follow Jesus but wasn't prepared for the cost. Jesus pointed out that he has no home, no shelter, no family – none of the things people normally want for a happy life. It may not always be comfortable to follow him.

Burying one's parent was considered a binding religious duty among the Jews, so the second man wanted to fulfill that duty before setting out with Jesus. Jesus' answer pointed out the importance of acting when he says it is



time. In the third story, Jesus explained that looking back while plowing can ruin the row. He wanted the third man to understand that we need to have a singleness of purpose to be his disciple.

What can a parent do? Remind your children that it isn't always easy to be a follower of Jesus. There are things we have to give up and comforts we may have to sacrifice. But the rewards will be unimaginable

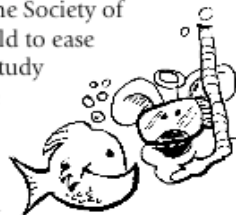
Feasts & Celebrations

This month we honor the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary. The unquenchable flame of the Sacred Heart symbolizes Christ's unending love for us. Mary's pure mother's heart follows her son's, and goes out to everyone he loves.

June 1 – St. Justin (165). When ordered by a pagan judge to renounce his faith or die, St. Justin responded, "Nobody in his senses would give up truth for falsehood." He was beheaded as a result.

June 3 – St. Charles Lwanga and his companions (1886). While serving Ugandan King Mwanga, St. Charles and 21 of his friends were executed for refusing the evil king's immoral demands. They were all baptized before they died.

June 21 – St. Aloysius Gonzaga (1591). St. Aloysius prayed vigorously and fasted from age 7. Upon joining the Society of Jesus, he was told to ease up in order to study and spend time with the other students. He died while nursing the sick.



Parent TALK

Toby and Alden fought over everything. I tried mediating, negotiating, even punishing, but nothing worked. I decided to step out of it.



The next night, the fight was about who got to pick the next television show. I calmly turned off the TV and told the kids that when they agreed on what to watch, they could turn it back on. Instead, they stomped out.

The next fight was about which book I should read at bedtime. Again, I calmly got up and walked to the doorway. I said that when they could agree on a book, I would be back, but they better hurry. It was 15 minutes to bedtime.

A few minutes later, Toby came to get me. "We decided that you should read a book we both wanted to hear," said Alden. "This way, we both win." Needless to say, I read that book with great enthusiasm.

Our Mission

To help parents raise faithful Catholic children

Success Publishing & Media, LLC
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(540)662-7844 (540)662-7847 fax
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(Unless noted Bible quotes and references are from the Revised Standard Version and the New American Bible.)

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AVAILABLE JUNE 10

**ST. PIUS
YEARBOOK**

\$15⁰⁰

Order forms due A.S.A.P

Please make checks payable to St. Pius School. If affordability is an issue, please see Miss Carroll.

**ST. PIUS
YEARBOOK**

Name: _____

Grade: _____

Total number of yearbooks: _____ x \$15.00 = _____
(Amount Enclosed)

THANK YOU!!

2009-2010

Ciao!

*Just about a week left before the festival is here!!
Don't forget to buy your raffle tickets for a chance
to win cash!! Friday night at 8 pm there will be a
DJ on the center stage. So come out and bring
your dancing shoes!*

Festival Hours

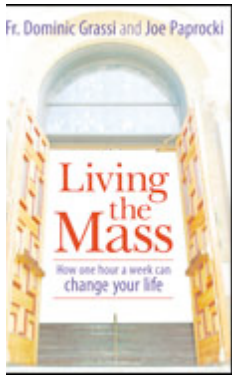
*Friday 6/4 6-10 pm
Saturday 6/5 1-10 pm
Sunday 6/6 1-8 pm*

*Some booths still need volunteers. Please contact
us to find out which ones are in need.*

Grazie,

*Kim Velez
368-6481*

*Russ Vavuris
255-5010*



ST. PIUS SUMMER BOOK CLUB

June 15th, 22nd, 29th, July 6th, 13th, and 20th
(you do not need to attend all meetings)

7:00 pm in the Parish Center

Join us for our first annual book club—we will gather to share ideas and thoughts about the book “Living the Mass: How One Hour a Week Can Change Your Life.” This isn't so much a book about the Mass itself as it is a book about how to LIVE the Mass. We are meant to live the Mass, not merely attend it, write authors Fr. Dominic Grassi and Joe Paprocki, a priest and a layman who fervently believe that the central worship event of the Catholic faith is meant to transform our world.

Living the Mass will stir a new passion for the Mass and a greater understanding about the Mass. The authors help us recall that at the end of every Mass we are charged to go forth and transform our families, our communities, and our world; *Living the Mass* inspires us to do that! You can purchase the book at the first gathering on **June 15th**.

Call or email Laura at laura@pius.org or 361-1411