

October 7, 2011

Dear Parents,

We enjoyed celebrating the Feast of St. Francis with our annual blessing of the pets. Many thanks to the Student Council for leading us in prayer and to Father Rossi for blessing these special family pets.

The students gathered in their St. Pius School "Families" on Wednesday. Families are made up of one student from each grade, K-8. The students were excited to get to know their new kindergartner and other new students. After playing a name game, the students decorated lunch bags for Sandwiches on Sunday.

This coming week the classes will be learning about various mission countries and some of the social justice issues that occur in third world countries. This is all part of a supplement to our religion program provided by the Columban Fathers. Often, through these lessons, the students learn how blessed they are to be living in our country.

Again this year, we will be holding school tours for parents who are looking for a school for their child. The first tour is this coming Wednesday, October 12th at 8:30 am. If you know anyone who might be interested, please extend this invitation to join our tour and see all the wonderful things happening at St. Pius School!

If you are able, please join us on Friday, October 14th at 9:30 am for a School Liturgy. The third grade students are planning this liturgy for us and they will be leading us in song and prayer.

Students are invited to wear a costume to school on Halloween, Monday, October 31st. Costumes must be age appropriate, non violent (no "blood", no weapons), and not revealing. There will be red and white free dress for those students not in costume. Please remember to follow the guidelines for Non-Uniform Dress Code Days detailed on page 22 in the Parent/Student Handbook.

This year we will have our costume parade at the beginning of the school day. All are welcome to join us around 8:15am in Fitzsimon Center. Sometime during the morning, each class will have their own Halloween activities. Before lunch students will change out of their costumes and into red and white free dress for Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart. Those choosing not to wear a costume or red and white free dress need to be in school uniform. The students will learn more about Jump Rope/Hoops for Heart next week.

Attached to this newsletter is a form to complete for Parent/Teacher Conferences. Please download the form, indicate what times are best for you and return the form to the school office by Friday, October 14th. We will do our best to give you the time(s) you request, but this is not always possible. Times will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

A few words regarding the parking lot...

I ask everyone to please review the parking lot procedures in the Parent-Student Handbook. There are parking spaces along the grass field for Parish Events. We do not use these during the school day since that area is a walkway for the students. The space in front of Fitzsimon Center should also be left empty to allow for more space in our traffic pattern. We also ask that you always park facing the lawn so you can pull forward to exit, never having to back up. Obviously, these are all requests for the safety of the students. One final request, please **do not** use your cell phone while driving in the parking lot. I appreciate your attention to this since it is for the safety of all the students.

One final parking lot request...

There is a parking space marked "Auction" that was purchased last year at our PTG Auction. Please do not park in this space.

Important dates this coming week are:

Monday, October 10
Wednesday, October 12
Friday, October 14

Saturday, October 15

Columbus Day Holiday
School Tour at 8:30 am
School Liturgy at 9:30 am
Junior High Dance 7:00 to 10:00 pm
Men's Club Golf Tournament & Dinner

Enjoy the three-day weekend!

Sincerely,



Rita Carroll
Principal

CLASSROOM PARTIES: If you have not yet turned in your class party money, please do so immediately. Send your \$15.00 per child fee to the office in an envelope marked with your family name. Thank You.

LIBRARY TRAINING: Thank you to everyone who has signed up to volunteer in the library this year! We would like to ask **ALL** volunteers, new and returning, to attend a training session. We will be offering group sessions on **Wednesday, October 12th at 2:30 PM and again at 3:15 PM.** The sessions will be approximately 20-30 minutes each. If you are unable to attend either session, please contact **Carolyn Moyer** (Carolyn.moyer@sbcglobal.net or 299-1656) to set-up a time that would work best for your schedule.

PTG HOEDOWN: Yeeeeehaw! Gather round St. Pius families for this year's Hoedown. It's going to be another great night of dancing, games and family fun! This year, we are also offering dinner in Homer Crouse. Please join us for some delicious Hoedown Hospitality! Attached please find an order form to submit to the office with your check. We hope you'll all join us! See ya there!

FAMILY GIVING NIGHT: Save the date and your clothing for the annual **Family Giving Night on Nov 29th in Homer Crouse from 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm.** Bring the whole family and join in the spirit of giving! On this special night our St Pius family gives to our sister school - Holy Family School located at the St. Francis Center in Redwood City. The St. Francis Center serves over 3,000 families in need and their school educates under served new immigrant children. Donations can be simply dropped off or stay for a while and enjoy caroling, hot cocoa, raffle, kids crafts and catching up with friends. Closer to the event more details will be given on specific items to donate. For further information contact **Siobhan** at srsurraco@att.net.

ATHLETICS UPDATE: Mark your calendars... Fall sports picture day is **Tuesday October 18.** Picture packets will be given out by the coaches. The St. Pius Athletic Board is now accepting applications for a **Secretary/Communications Director**, as well as at least two **At Large** positions on the board. Applications can be found on our school website and should be turned in by **October 14** to have your application considered for the current school year.

HALLOWEEN COSTUME DRIVE: The 2nd grade Brownie Scouts are holding a Halloween Costume Drive to benefit less fortunate families. Please bring in your gently used Halloween or dress-up costumes on **Tuesday October 11th and Wednesday October 12th**. All donations will be given to the St. Francis Center in Redwood City. If you have any questions, please contact **Courtney Caccia** at courtneyc@gmail.com.

ST. PIUS BY THE BAY, CLASS PROJECT DONATION: Every year, each class collectively creates one artistic item for purchase at our annual PTG auction. Your children will be working on their items over the next few weeks, and we hope you can support the PTG by helping to underwrite the materials used to create them. If you can help, please send your donation of \$5 to help pay for the materials needed to create the priceless class gifts for the November 5th, St. Pius by the Bay fundraiser. Please send cash or checks made payable to St. Pius PTG to the office. Every contribution is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS: Not to be missed... "The Hocus Pocus"! Calling all women to a fun evening filled with witchery glam! See attached flier for the details. If you need babysitting please RSVP for babysitting by calling **Michelle** at **364-6966** so we can make sure that we have enough babysitters onsite. If you get her voice mail please leave your name and the number of children who are coming. We will not be providing dinner for the children, but will have a snack available for them.

TOILETRIES & WRAPPING PAPER COLLECTION FOR PARISH SERVICE

RETREAT DAY: Bring small toiletries & disposable razors and place in the SVDP bins at the doors of the Church. Also, bring rolls of Christmas wrapping paper for St. Francis Center. Please bring to Church or the Parish Center by October 21st.

**ST. PIUS SCHOOL
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE
2011-2012**

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES (K-8)

Monday, November 7 th	5:00-7:30 pm
Tuesday, November 8 th	1:30-3:15 pm
Wednesday, November 9 th	5:00-7:30 pm
Thursday, November 10 th	1:30-3:15 pm

Family Name: _____

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>GRADE</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Please list your preference for conference times and return this form through your child's classroom (oldest and only) by FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14th. We cannot accept faxes or e-mails. We will try to accommodate you, but all scheduled conference times are on a first-come, first-serve basis.

We will have minimum days November 7th through November 10th for all grades (K-8) and children should be instructed to leave the school grounds immediately after school.

If you are unable to keep your appointment times, please call the school office as soon as possible (368-8327). Thank You.

Dear Parent,

On Monday, October 17 a pumpkin patch will be visiting St. Pius School during the Harvest Festival. Pumpkins will be \$5.00. If your child/children would like to purchase a pumpkin, please send in the form below with \$5.00 by Wednesday, October 12.

Thank you,

Student Council

Cut and return

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Grade _____



PTG AT A GLANCE

~ "Race to Nowhere" special screening at St. Pius School

Tuesday, October 18th

St. Pius Gym – Fitzsimon Center

7-9pm

Tickets online @ <http://rtnstpiusschool.eventbrite.com>

Cost : \$ 11.54

**This is sure to be a great night and is open to family and friends!
Refreshments will be served.**

"Race to Nowhere" is an award-winning documentary that highlights the unintended consequences of our pressure cooker culture and education system. An eye opening call to action, the film challenges our deepest held assumptions about how we can best prepare young people for the future. (plagiarized from www.racetonowhere.com)

Buy your tickets now!

~ Mark your calendars for the **St. Pius Hoedown** Friday October 21st! An exciting evening for the whole family! This fun night takes place in the gym!

~ **PTG Hot Lunch** on Thursdays is looking for more helpers! No experience necessary and they can be flexible with your schedule. Please contact Tisha Costantini @ tishacostantini@comcast.net if you are interested.

~ **Our annual auction will be Saturday, November 5th in Fitzsimon Center.... "St. Pius by the Bay."** This will be a great evening for shopping, eating, dancing and visiting with friends. Donations for wine/spirits, goods, services, jewelry, parties and activities are always needed. Please contact Kelli Crowley at Kelli.crowley@cnb.com, or Heidi McLalan at heidimclalan@yahoo.com to contribute to this event. Thanks in advance for your support with our largest fundraiser of the year!

St. Pius by the Bay, Class Project Donation:

Every year, each class collectively creates one artistic item for purchase at our annual PTG auction. Your children will be working on their items over the next few weeks, and we hope you can support the PTG by helping to underwrite the materials used to create them.

If you can help, please send your donation of \$5 to help pay for the materials needed to create the priceless class gifts for the November 5th, St. Pius by the Bay fundraiser.

Please send cash or checks made payable to St. Pius PTG to the school office. Every contribution is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

Family Giving Night- Save the date and your clothing for the annual

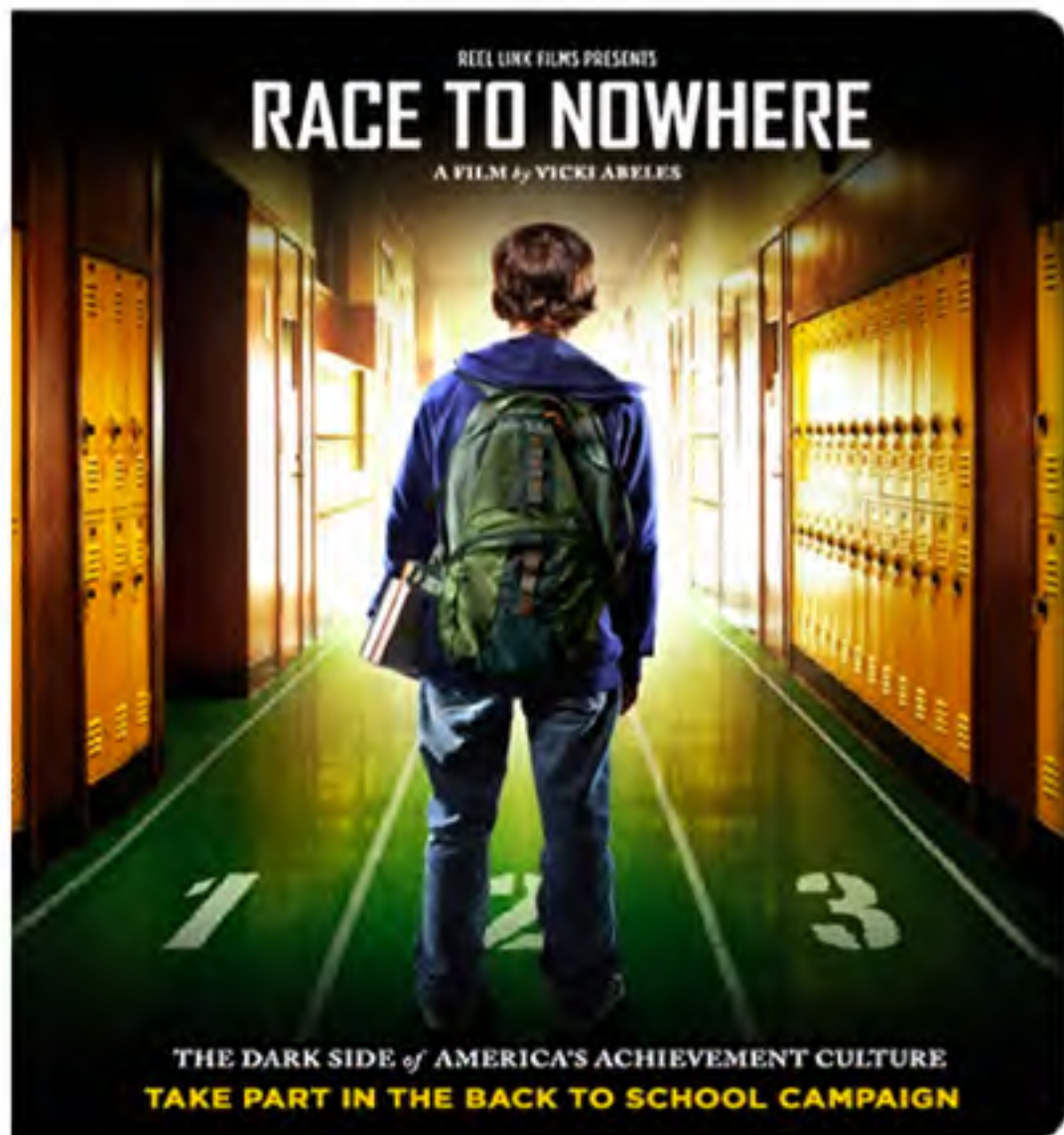
Family Giving Night on Nov 29th in Homer

Crouse from 6:30pm-8:30pm. Bring the whole family and join in the spirit of giving! On this special night our St Pius family gives to our sister school- Holy Family School located at the St Francis Center in Redwood City. The St Francis Center serves over 3,000 families in need and their school educates under served new immigrant children. Donations can be simply dropped off or stay for awhile and enjoy caroling, hot cocoa, raffle, kids crafts and catching up with friends. Closer to event more details will be given on specific items to donate. For further information contact Siobhan at srsurraco@att.net.

SPECIAL SCREENING AT ST. PIUS!

Tuesday, October 18, 2011—Fitzsimons Center
Tickets Online @ RTNSTPIUSSCHOOL.EVENTBRITE.COM
Cost: \$11.54

This is sure to be a great night and is open to family and friends!
Refreshments will be served.



WANTED

ALL ST. PIUS FAMILIES

For the

**ST. PIUS FAMILY
HOEDOWN**

OCTOBER 21, 2011

6pm-Fitzsimon Center

6pm-7pm-Dinner available in Homer Crouse

BRING YOUR OWN FAMILY BEVERAGE!!!

Please tear off and return to office with your
check:

Name _____

HOEDOWN DANCE TICKET (one per family) **\$20**

Adult pasta dinner ticket-\$7 _____ x \$7.00= _____

Child pasta dinner ticket-\$5 _____ x \$5.00= _____

TOTAL= _____



Date Night

Fundraiser for 8th grade Yosemite trip

This is your excuse! Time for a Date Night
with that cute spouse of yours!!
Drop your child(ren) off at Homer Crouse
and go out on the town!

Cost: \$20/child & \$10 for addl. sibling (FOR THE WHOLE NIGHT!!)
(Can you find a cheaper sitter??? I didn't think so!!)

When: October 22nd
Where: St. Pius School, Homer Crouse
Time: 6-10pm
For Grades K-5



There will be fun and games, dinner and a movie
for the kids!
So really, don't worry, just go out and have some fun!!!
Run by 8th graders and their parents!

HOCUS POCUS

Calling all witches
**Bring your brooms
and leave the grooms**

*Join us if you can
In your best glam!*



Host: St. Pius Women's Club
When - Wed. October 12th 6:30
Where: Bewitching Hall, Homer Crouse
Babysitting Needed call Michelle at 364.6966
to let us know. The cost for dinner is \$15.00
RSVP Women's Club
Hotline at 364-5204 or email us
at womensclub@pius.org.



Shop at Safeway to earn money for our group

Renew or sign up with your Safeway Club Card today!

Renew by Nov. 1

If you participated last year, renew so our group continues to earn contributions.

- Go to eScrip.com
- Click on "YES RENEW!"
- Enter either your phone number, email, or Club Card number

OR

Sign up

Your participation can mean hundreds of dollars for our group.

- Go to eScrip.com
- Click on "1-Sign Up"
- Enter your Club Card number

What's new!

Safeway wants to do what we can to help every child stay fit and have access to nutrition programs. So we are asking schools and groups that receive Safeway donations to allocate 20% toward fitness and nutrition activities.