

SFA PTO NEWSLETTER 3-9-11

ATTENTION 7TH GRADE PARENTS

Please plan on attending an informational meeting about fundraising for our Washington D.C. trip next year. The meeting will be held Monday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the school library.

Our first fundraising event is the last school dance scheduled for Friday, April 15th and we need to organize volunteers. Any questions contact Sue Matticoli 440-256-8980 or Lesley Deegan 440-684-0464.

COSI ON WHEELS

Looking for Volunteer Hours? COSI On Wheels is coming to SFA Wednesday, March 16, 2011!

This year's program for grades K-5 is "The Incredible Human Machine". Volunteers are needed to help out with the hands-on activities that day. Interested in helping out and earning some volunteer hours? Contact Audra Norton at (440) 446-0711 or audnorton@yahoo.com

COSI ON WHEELS SET UP

A few volunteers are needed to help set up COSI in the gym on Tuesday, March 15th after school. If interested, please contact Audra Norton at (440)446-0711 or audnorton@yahoo.com

MALLEY'S TIME

Don't forget to sell Malley's Easter Candy. 33% of sales go towards the 8th grade Washington DC trip. Last year, Malley's raised almost \$3000. Orders are due with payment by March 25th. Checks should be made out to SFA PTO. The 8th graders thank you for your support! If you have any questions, contact Lisa Atkinson (Spech) or Gina Corcelli.

STUDENT FAITH FORMATION COMMITTEE

Today, March 9th is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the Church's season of Lent. For ideas to do with your children visit Our Sunday Visitor's website at www.osv.com. Click on OSV4ME on the top bar and follow the link to 'Teaching Catholic Kids'.

POPE BENEDICT XVI 's LENTEN MESSAGE: In this section the Holy Father teaches us to be "guided by the word of God." He describes the significance of each Sunday's Gospel during the Lenten season. Here, he addresses the Gospel of Matthew for the first Sunday of Lent this weekend in which we read about Jesus being tempted by the Devil in the desert.

"In order to undertake more seriously our journey towards Easter and prepare ourselves to celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord - the most joyous and solemn feast of the entire liturgical

year - what could be more appropriate than allowing ourselves to be guided by the Word of God? For this reason, the Church, in the Gospel texts of the Sundays of Lent, leads us to a particularly intense encounter with the Lord, calling us to retrace the steps of Christian initiation: for catechumens, in preparation for receiving the Sacrament of rebirth; for the baptized, in light of the new and decisive steps to be taken in the sequela Christi and a fuller giving of oneself to him.

The First Sunday of the Lenten journey reveals our condition as human beings here on earth. The victorious battle against temptation, the starting point of Jesus' mission, is an invitation to become aware of our own fragility in order to accept the Grace that frees from sin and infuses new strength in Christ - the way, the truth and the life (cf. Ordo Initiationis Christianae Adulorum, n. 25). It is a powerful reminder that Christian faith implies, following the example of Jesus and in union with him, a battle "against the ruling forces who are masters of the darkness in this world" (Eph 6: 12), in which the devil is at work and never tires - even today - of tempting whoever wishes to draw close to the Lord: Christ emerges victorious to open also our hearts to hope and guide us in overcoming the seductions of evil.

READINGS FOR SUNDAY MARCH 13TH:

Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7

Romans 5:12-19 or 5:12,17-19

Gospel :Matthew 4:1-11

You can find readings for every day of the year on the United States Bishop's website:
www.usccb.org.

PTO BOARD POSITIONS

The positions of Vice President and Treasurer are up for nomination for the 2011-12 and 2012-13 school years. It is a two year term. If you are interested in the positions or have any questions please contact Kelly Sargi or Toni Carr.

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

The following committee chairs are available for next year: Santa Shop, Chess, Ladies Night Out and Hospitality. If you are interested in chairing one of these (it's a great way to get volunteer hours and get involved!) please contact Kelly Sargi.

PTO BREAK THE ICE

This is a new feature where we get to know the faculty, staff, and parents of SFA a little better! If you are interested in participating, email darvina@yahoo.com!

This week we learn a little about Ms. D (Ms. D'Alessandro 8th Grade) :

1. Family: I am the oldest of four children. My sister, Michelle, is 22 months younger than me. She is married to Matt and they have 2 children—Jonathan (my godchild who is a graduate of Ohio State) and Ashley (who will be graduating from Ohio State in 2 weeks)—both SFA alumni. My brother, Joe, is 6 years younger than me. He is married to Kirstin and they have 3 children-- Joey (a senior at OU), Samantha (a freshman at OU), and Vinnie (who is 6 and loves to wrestle). My youngest brother, Brian is 10 years younger than me. He is married Lori and they have 2 children—Alison (a 6th grader who is a wonderful gymnast) and Nick (my godchild, a 4th grader who is a whiz at soccer). My mom was widowed at 44 when my father passed away of a heart attack while at work on Valentine's Day. My brothers, sister, and I continually tell her what a wonderful job she did raising 4 young children. I am Italian through and through. My mom's family is from Foggia; and my father's family is from Ripalimosani. I have a wonderful, large, extended family with plenty of aunts, uncles, and cousins. It's great when we all get together for those special holiday occasions!
2. What did you want to be when you were little? I always wanted to be a teacher and a coach! I was, and still am, a sports enthusiast; and thought teaching/coaching would keep me involved and close to the games I loved!
3. If you could be given any gift, what would it be? The gift I would love to receive would be to have my father back for even 5 more minutes. I was a senior in high school when he passed away; and because my dad died at work, I never got the chance to say goodbye. It would be so wonderful to see him, talk with him, laugh, and just do all the crazy, fun, family things we used to do. Plus, I would love for him to see, and get to know, my nieces and nephews,
4. Favorite book/author? I have many favorite books—I love Tim Russert's Big Russ & Me and Wisdom of Our Fathers, plus Charles Dickens A Christmas Carol, and Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus by Francis P. Church.
My favorite author is Nicholas Sparks and my favorite series is the *Murder She Wrote* mysteries.
5. Favorite ice cream flavor? Mixed berry gelato and pralines and cream.
6. What is 1 word that describes you best? Faithful...to my family, my friends, my teaching vocation, and most importantly, my Catholic religion!

FAMOUS QUOTE

A Lenten Reflection

- Give up complaining—focus on gratitude.
- Give up pessimism—become an optimist.
- Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.
- Give up worry—trust Divine Providence.
- Give up discouragement—be full of hope.
- Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness.
- Give up hatred—return good for evil.
- Give up negativism—be positive.
- Give up anger—be more patient.
- Give up pettiness—become mature.
- Give up gloom—enjoy the beauty that is all around you.
- Give up jealousy—pray for trust.
- Give up gossiping—control your tongue.
- Give up sin—turn to virtue.
- Give up giving up—hang in there!

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE PTO NEWSLETTER

If you wish to include something in this newsletter, please email Darvina Knaggs at darvina@yahoo.com or send your info through school mail addressed "NEWSLETTER c/o Natalie Knaggs 2-9". To be included in Wednesday's envelope, all submissions must be received by email no later than 3:00 pm on TUESDAYS or school mail on TUESDAYS.