



St. Catherine of Siena School

See Christ in others. Be Christ for others.

November 6, 2008

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Throughout the month of November, the Church remembers our relatives and friends, who have died. We ask God to show them the mercy and forgiveness that we all hope and believe Christ has won for us: forgiveness of sin and a share in Christ's eternal victory. We also ask our ancestors and friends to intercede with God for us. We are strengthened by the "communion of saints".

If you have been in the Gym in the last week, perhaps you have noticed the colorful paper chain hanging over the stage. Every child in our school, as well as the Religious Education Program, have written on the link someone that they would like to remember during the month of November. Also, we have told them about the Book of Remembrance at the front of the main church. If there is a deceased friend or relative you would like to have remembered in prayer, please write their name in the book.

Fr. Currie is on pilgrimage in the Holy Land, and the students of Saint Catherine of Siena School are walking with him, as he follows in the footsteps of Christ. With the help of Mrs. Szczebak and the students of the Middle School Student Council, each child has been given a "Mitzvah Calendar". Mitzvah in Hebrew means good deed or prayer for someone. Each morning, we place another set of "footsteps" on the wall. The teachers have been using this trip to teach cross curriculum lessons combining writing, math, social studies and science lessons with the study of theology.

On November 15th, some of our eighth grade students will take the high school entrance examination. Others will take the test in December. We are extremely proud of the graduates.

Last year they distinguished themselves by winning over \$50,000 in merit scholarships. In addition, many have placed in honors and advanced classes. We are quite certain that these students will make us equally proud. With this newsletter, I have also enclosed a letter regarding our middle school.

On Tuesday, November 4th, our teachers were engaged in Professional Development for the use of technology in the classroom. During the course of the year, this will be a topic to which we will devote a great deal of time. The world is changing rapidly and we have a responsibility to be certain that our students are well prepared. With the Mac Mobile Lab and our new Technology Lab, we are offering our middle school students experiences in technology that will prepare them well for high school. Later this year, we will be collaborating with Xaverian HS and the other schools in the partnership to discuss issues of safety on the Internet. I will keep you updated as the year progresses.

On behalf of the entire school community, I would like to thank HASA for the terrific Halloween Party. It was a great time for everyone! The enrichment This Friday our middle school students will hold their first dance.



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