

February 16, 2010

Dear Parents,

Mass: Please join us for our **10:00 Mass tomorrow, Ash Wednesday**, planned by Mrs. Griffin and the seventh graders of Room 18. Your prayer presence is very important to us. All in attendance will have the opportunity to receive ashes. Your strong singing and answering of the prayers is a great help, too.

Lenten Theme: We will build and expand on our year long theme of ***Our God Is Here*** throughout the season of Lent. More information will be given as we journey together through these next 40 days.

Campus Expansion Update: Thank you to the 57 families who have sent in their pledges for the Campus Expansion Capital Campaign. That is a great start! Let's keep the momentum going. Remember, **our goal is 100% participation**. Please be considerate of the classroom captain's time and e-mail/call back promptly as they reach out to you. Let them know the best time and way to make contact. If you have already said yes to your classroom captain, fill out your pledge card and drop it off at the school office today. More pledge cards are available in the office.

Have you noticed the two large thermometers, one near the school office and one in the circle in the east lot, depicting money amounts and participation? Have you seen the sign "Pledged Yet" being waived as you enter the east lot in the morning?

Many people are asking what amount they should give or are expected to give. The goal has always been about maximum participation and not how much is given. Current pledges range from \$50.00 to \$20,000.00. Surely there is a number in there that fits your budget. Don't forget you have several options: a one time gift, 5 quarterly payments, or 15 monthly payments.

Check the website, www.stcs.us for more information on the project and/or take a look at the renderings which are displayed on the wall near the Library. Thank you. Questions? Contact James Zorn, On-Site Parent Liaison for the Campus Expansion Project at james.zorn@cox.net

Father/Daughter(s) Dance: Our annual Father/Daughter(s) Dance is this Friday in the McMahon Center Gym, 6:30-9:00! The **registration form is attached** or you can pay at the door. Don't miss this special evening. Remember all eighth grade girls in attendance will be honored.

Lenten Fish Fry: Join other parish and school families each Friday of Lent, February 19-March 26th, 5-7pm in Fr. Feeney Hall for the weekly Lenten Fish and Faith. There is even a special cheese pizza menu for children! **See the attachment** for more information.

Lenten Stations of the Cross: Join other parish and school families in church for the traditional Catholic custom of the Stations of the Cross each Friday, February 19- March 26th, 7pm.

Survey: Each family is asked to participate in a brief survey relative to the mandatory fees and school sponsored fundraisers. Your input is valued and appreciated. You can access the survey at <http://www.quia.com/sv/377425html>. It will be live from early morning Wednesday, 17th until the evening of the 19th. Thank you.

Dads' Club Campout: Don't forget the Dads' Club sponsored campout on our field Saturday/Sunday, February 27/28th. Check in time for pitching your tent starts at 3pm. Mass will be at 5pm in the Ramada followed with a BBQ dinner, games, and many more "happenings". Check out will be about 9am Sunday after the continental breakfast. Questions about details and cost? Contact Mike Hernandez, Dads' Club President at hernfamaz@gmail.com.

Sacrament Meeting (Gr. 3): Reminder of the upcoming Parent/Child Confirmation/First Eucharist meeting Monday, February 22nd, 6:00pm in the church. Children need to attend with their parents and bring their assignment to turn in. Questions? Contact Gina Keating at 602-840-0850.

Scrip Program: Have you bought groceries or filled your car with gas this week? Probably yes. Did you use Scrip? Every family is encouraged to participate in our Scrip program. It is a win-win deal. You pay no more for the gift card(s) and because the school buys in volume we receive a percentage of the profit.

Auction News: The **Yellow Brick Road** is getting shorter. We are less than four weeks away from our annual school Auction. Please help us make **Following the Yellow Brick Road** a success with your donations and/or financial support with underwriting. We will be at afternoon pick-up starting Wednesday, 17th with the underwriting board.

We want to thank Jay and Christine Francis of Right Toyota and Right Honda for their Live Auction Tent sponsorship and their generous support towards our school's Auction this year.

Tuesday button days are a big hit with the kids. Please bring in your item donation or financial donation and receive a button for one free dress item each Tuesday until Auction.

The Ding Dong Witch posters have generated lots of enthusiasm. Please remember if you choose not to participate in "planting" the poster in someone else's yard you are very welcome to return the poster(s) to the school office.

A very unique Live Auction item of a week at a camp on Catalina Island has been donated. Did your older children love CIMI? Are your younger children itching to spend some of their summer on the beach? If so, come and learn about Catalina Island Camp (www.catalinaislandcamps.com) before bidding on this summer adventure. **See the attached flyer** for details. Questions? E-mail Lynn Cassidy at seclec@aol.com.

Please visit our website, <http://sttheresaphx.maestroweb.com/>, and see our great item donations. The list grows each day. Remember to hurry and make your reservations and table selections. You can register on-line and have a fast pass to check in the night of Auction. You will then have more time to spend in the Silent Auction as well as move to the head of the line. Auction will be starting at 5:30 sharp this year; you don't want to miss some new surprises in the Silent Auction. Don't be late.

Thank you to the families and businesses who have already donated to our Auction. Your participation is greatly appreciated. There are many underwriting and corporate sponsorship opportunities available. **See the attached lists.**

Hike for the Homeless: Would you like to help homeless individuals gain employment and have some outdoor fun at the same time? Join the St. Theresa Broncos Hike for the Homeless team! The Hike for the Homeless will take place at Estrella Mountain Regional Park on Saturday, March 6. All proceeds support St. Joseph the Worker's employment program for the homeless. Registration is \$25.00 (\$15.00 student rate) by March 1st and includes trail options for all levels, a tee-shirt and breakfast burrito. After March 1st, registration is \$30.00 (\$20.00 student rate). Learn more about the event and sign up on-line at www.hikeforthehomeless.org. Select the St. Theresa Bronco team! *With our help, St. Joseph the Worker is Working to End Homelessness!* Questions? Contact Amy Caffarello acaffarello@sjwjobs.org

Buck-a-Jeans: Our Student Council sponsored monthly buck-a-jeans day will be this Friday, 19th. All proceeds will go to Sister Adele's Circle the City project for the homeless.

CIMI Fundraiser Opportunity: **See the attached flyer** about the opportunity to enjoy an A's spring training baseball game on Sunday, March 21st. Batter Up!

Diocesan School Board Membership: The Diocesan School Board is accepting applications for membership on their Board. Are you interested in being considered for a position of service on the Diocesan School Board? If interested please go to www.diocesephoenix.org/catholicschools or contact MaryBeth Mueller, Superintendent, directly at 602-354-2345.

The mission of St. Theresa Catholic School is to prepare students spiritually, academically, and socially to assume responsible and productive roles in society while living out the values of the gospel. (STCS Mission Statement)

Sincerely,

Sister Patricia

Sister Patricia Gehling, SSND
Principal