

JUGGLER NEWS

March/April 2010

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Farewell Tear

a feast of friendship
a story of betrayal
a memory of gifts given

you look with such intense love
on each one gathered there,
mist covers your deep brown eyes
as you hold each one in your gaze,
you close your eyes and I see
the farewell tear of friendship
as it follows the curve of your cheek.

you take the bread,
bless it gently, profoundly,
with old words and new.
(do you mean to say it is yourself?)

and then the wine,
again with words old and new.
(do you meant to say this, too,
is now yourself?)

you look again at each one there
and give the eternal gift:
“remember me and do the same”
like those around the table then,
so with us who gather now,
if we knew how close our hearts
are held inside of yours,
we would always be amazed
that you meant this for us, too.

how shall we ever be brave enough
to do what you have done,
when grief engulfs our every breath
and each memorial word
is laden with our loss?

-- Joyce Rupp

God, help us to lean on you, to learn from you,
and to trust in your presence which strengthens us.
Remind us of our resurrection and help us to keep our
vision focused on life and growth. Amen.

May you and your family each experience the
joy and blessings of Easter.

Sister Anna Mae

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES/ CAMPUS MINISTRY

Notre Dame celebrated Vocation Week from Monday, February 8th to Friday, February 12th. The week began with a liturgy at Our Lady of the Rosary on Monday. During the week Father Joe O'Connor visited each Religion class and discussed God's special plan for each of them. On Friday, we had all day Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the chapel.

Twelve of our Juniors and Seniors began Lent by spending four days serving the poor in the South Bronx. They returned realizing that they had received more than they gave, and they willingly shared their experiences with all our students. They also asked each student to use their own money to purchase a jar of peanut butter or jelly during Lent and place it on the altar in the chapel. They will be given to the friars they visited to be used for sandwiches for the poor. Encourage your child to make this sacrifice.

Our Living Stations continue during this Lenten season. The following presentations of *Jesus' Way of the Cross Through the Eyes of Mary, His Mother* remain:

Friday, 3/12 - Our Lady of the Rosary - 7pm
Friday, 3/26 - Holy Family, Vernon - 7pm
(Social Justice Stations)
Tuesday, 3/30 - Our Lady of the Rosary - 9am
Friday, 4/2 - St. Mary's, Clinton - 7pm

During Lent last year, our students were introduced to Moses' Agapito, one of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, and joined him in his dream to build a school in his village of Jebel Lado. Since then we have visited local churches with him, sold tee shirts and run dances to raise money for wells to begin the project. We have since been joined by students from Whitesboro Junior High School, Whitesboro High School, Hamilton College, MVCC, Utica College and SUNYIT, as well as many adults from the community. We are happy to announce our first fund raiser dinner to introduce Moses and his dream to them all. It will be held at The Blue Flag Room in the Utica Train Station on Sunday, March 21st, from 4-7. For your donation of \$30 you will enjoy an elegant buffet, music by Whitesboro students, African dancing lessons from Moses' friends, hear Moses share his story and dream, and learn about this project and our next big fund raiser, a walk for wells in May. You will also be making a donation to the cause. To obtain tickets or to make a donation, call Carol Troy at Notre Dame - 724-5118, ext. 25. Please support our students in their dream to make a difference in the lives of other students, who now learn sitting under trees.

Our annual Lenten Day of Reconciliation will be held on Thursday, March 25th. All our students will have the chance to receive the sacrament in the chapel during their Religion classes or study halls. Priests from local parishes will be available. Encourage your child to take advantage of this opportunity.

On Tuesday, April 13th our 10th graders will have their annual retreat. It will be presented by Kelly Colangelo, the Youth Minister at Immaculate Conception parish in Fayetteville. It will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Church and their lunch will be catered by O'Scugnizzo in Utica.

RE-APPLICATION

We have several families who have not yet submitted the forms for re-application for the 2010 school year.

Guidance Counselors will soon be meeting with students to determine courses for next year. If your child's re-application forms are not submitted, they will not be able to sign up for courses.

The Diocese has asked me to submit a budget by April 20th. In my budget preparation, I can only include those students who have submitted their re-application forms. The number of students re-admitted determine the number of sections for each course, which then determines the number of staff. As you can see, re-application sets off a domino effect. Please, if you have not done so already, send in your child's re-application forms.

I know that we are in very difficult economic times. If your child is not returning to Notre Dame due to finances, please contact Sr. Anna Mae. We do not want your child to leave Notre Dame due to finances. Sr. Anna Mae can work with you so that doesn't happen.

MARIAN CLUB DINNER - APRIL 10TH

The Marian Club Recognition Dinner will be held on Saturday, April 10th, at Twin Ponds Golf & Country Club. Social hour is at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. Tickets (\$40.00) may be purchased from the school office @ 724-5118 ext. 10 or 29. Deadline for reservations is Wednesday, April 2nd.

Honorees are: Raymond (posthumously) and Lorna Perry, Capt. Charles Schmidt, and Claire Van Waes. Proceeds will benefit the Scholarship Fund.

Each year the Marian Club donates \$15,000 in scholarships to Notre Dame families. This dinner is their main fundraiser. Please be supportive of this endeavor.

PHYSICAL

All 7th and 10th grade students are required to have a physical in this school year. If we do not have a physical on file for your child, he/she will be given a physical by the Utica District doctor during May. If you have a copy of your child's physical and have not previously sent it to school, please do so before May 5th.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Juniors: Now is the time to begin planning for college. All students need to take either the SAT or the ACT test for college entrance. If your child has not signed up for the May 1st SAT deadline March 25th, then they should plan on taking the June 5th test. Registration is online at www.collegeboard.com. The registration deadline for the June 5th SAT is April 29th, and for the June 12th ACT the deadline is May 7th. You may register online at www.actstudent.org. **When registering for either of these tests, you must use our school code (335-687)** in order for the scores to be reported back to us and used for their college applications.

The Guidance Counselors will also be available from now through June to meet with parents and students who would like an individual session to discuss plans for selecting and applying to college. Please call your child's counselor to arrange for this meeting. It is very important that this process begin during the last part of the junior year so that visitations to college campuses can be made this spring or over the summer. In the fall of the senior year, counselors will begin working with the students on the college application process.

On Monday March 22nd we are sponsoring an *Optional* trip for Juniors to the **National College Fair** at the On Center in Syracuse. Information has been given to ALL Juniors and permission slips should be returned by March 15^h to participate.

Seniors are reminded to bring in to Guidance your letters of acceptance and scholarship notifications. There are still some scholarships available in the guidance office for students who have *extensive community service*, leadership skills and solid academic standing. Please check on the Notre Dame web site or with Mrs. Kirkham, the Guidance Secretary.

AP Exams will be given on May 5th, 6th, 7th and 13th. Students taking these exams have been given the

dates of their exams. The fee of \$86 per exam is due by March 19th.

Course Selection: The Guidance Department will soon be holding group sessions with all 7-11 graders to discuss course selection for next year. At that time students who are *registered* will be given a course directory and they will fill out a course selection sheet. During the weeks following these sessions, counselors will be meeting individually with *registered students* to discuss their courses for next year. Students **must** be registered in order for their courses to be entered into the computer for processing. Therefore, if you have not re-registered your child, please do so **immediately**. This will help ensure that they will be able to take the courses they want for the 2010 - 2011 school year.

Congratulations to:

- Thomas Appleton on his appointment to the Air Force Academy.
- Amanda Sabet on her selection as a Rotary Exchange Student to Thailand.
- Sean Hulser for making the NYS All-Star Football Team.

NEW YORK STATE SCHOLAR ATHLETES

Congratulations to all three teams of the winter season, each was named a New York State Scholar Athlete Team. Boys and girls basketball plus bowling, qualified for the award by having a team average of 90 or above.

ASSEMBLY

We will have an assembly on Wednesday, March 31st at 1:45 p.m. to distribute honor roll pins for the second quarter and winter sports letters and pins. All are welcome to attend.

NOTRE DAME PRIDE MEETING

The next Notre Dame Pride meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 7th, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. All parents are welcome to attend.

PLANT SALE MEETING

Please plan to attend the Plant Sale meeting on Wednesday, April 7th, at 6:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. We need help at this meeting to prepare a mailing and help with signs.

We need people to put lawn signs in front of their home or business. If you or someone you know is willing to do this, please fill out the enclosed form and return it to the main office as soon as possible. Thank you ☺.

GREAT NEWS!

Jessica Strzpek, grade 12, is one of the finalists in the 2010 Fireside Essay Scholarship competition.

From the 430 qualifying scholarships, the first round of judging has narrowed the field to forty finalists. Jessica's essay has been sent to the three national judges. Their scoring will determine the five winners of the \$1,000.00 scholarship awards to be announced in April.

Congratulations Jessica!

NYS ELA AND MATH TESTING GRADES 7 & 8

The following are dates for the 7th and 8th grade ELA and math testing for the state. The dates were not on the original calendar due to the fact that the state didn't release the dates until school had started.

Tuesday, April 27th -- 8th grade ELA (Part 1)

Wednesday, April 28th -- 8th grade ELA (Part 2)
7th grade ELA (Part 1)

Thursday, April 29th -- 7th grade ELA (Part 2)

Wednesday, May 5th -- 8th grade Math (Part 1)

Thursday, May 6th -- 8th grade Math (Part 2)
-- 7th grade Math (Part 1)

Friday, May 7th -- 7th grade Math (Part 2)