

JUGGLER NEWS

November, 2009

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

A Thanksgiving Blessing †

- Joyce Rupp -

May an abundance of gratitude burst forth
as you reflect upon what you have received.

May thanksgiving overflow in your heart,
and often be proclaimed in your prayer.

May you gather around the table of your heart
the ardent faithfulness, kindness, and goodness
of each person who is true to you.

May the harvest of your good actions
bring forth plentiful fruit each day.

May you discover a cache of hidden wisdom
among the people and events
that have brought you distress and sorrow.

May your basket of blessings surprise you
with its rich diversity of gifts
and its opportunities for growth.

May all that nourishes and resources your life
bring you daily satisfaction and renewed hope.

May you slow your hurried pace of life
so you can be aware of, and enjoy,
what you too easily take for granted.

May you always be open, willing,
and ready to share your blessing with others.

May you never forget the Generous One
who loves you lavishly and unconditionally.

We are most grateful for the level of
involvement of our parents and for the sacrifices you
make to send your children to Notre Dame.

This Thanksgiving let each of us take the time to
give thanks to God for the many blessings bestowed
upon the Notre Dame Community and each one of us.

Happy Thanksgiving from the Notre Dame
administration faculty and staff.

God bless,

Sister Anna Mae

SPIRITUAL ACTIVITIES

To demonstrate the commitment to others which always accompanies our life of faith, the Campus Ministry Leadership Team has begun our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year, because of the continuing economic problems facing so many in our area both young and old, we are hoping to donate 100 food baskets, complete with turkeys, to the needy of our community. We were able to meet this goal last year through your great generosity, and we know we can do it again. Our motto is, "If you want to see a miracle, be a miracle." (The words of Morgan Freeman playing God in the movie *Bruce Almighty*.) We will be a miracle!

Parents, please remind your children to bring in food. We have asked for at least 4 items from each of them, if at all possible. The items that are needed most are rice, beans, pasta, soups, tuna, sauce, beef stew, cereal, pancake mix, peanut butter, jelly, canned pasta and vegetables. Of course, any food items are appreciated. You may also wish to donate turkeys or money to purchase perishable items. We are hoping to have most items at the food pantry by Friday, November 20th, but will continue to collect food until Tuesday, November 24th. The Drive will culminate with a liturgy celebrated by Father Felix Colosimo at Our Lady of the Rosary Church on November 24th at 9:00 a.m. All are welcome to join us.

On Tuesday, November 10th, our 9th grade students had their retreat at St. John's the Evangelist Church in New Hartford. The program, "U R Worth W8ing 4" focused on the wisdom of abstinence until marriage. It was presented by volunteers from Net Care and was extremely informative and useful for youngsters growing up in today's environment. Busing was provided and lunch was catered by O'Scugnizzo Pizzeria.

Our commitment others extends not only to our local community, but also to our brothers and sisters in Jebel Ladu, Africa. As you will recall, after meeting Moses Agapito, one of the Lost Boys of the Sudan, our students promised to help him raise \$100,000 to build a school in his village, where only 15% of the boys and 3% of the girls are literate. While visiting there last summer, he met with the local bishop and was promised his support and assistance. Also, the chief in his village donated land for the school and promised the young men would clear the land, help dig the foundation and work wherever they are needed.

Moses again visited Notre Dame on Thursday, November 5th, and met with our 7th grade students during their Religion classes. They were our only students who hadn't met him and their enthusiasm was heartwarming.

We have begun the process of bringing Moses' story to the churches and schools in the Utica area. On Sunday, November 8th, students accompanied him to The First Methodist Church in New Hartford. We were warmly welcomed and the generosity of the parishioners was wonderful. On Saturday, November 21st at 4:00 p.m. and Sunday, November 22nd at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30 a.m., we will be at Our Lady of the Rosary Church with Moses. After he tells his story and shares his plans for his village, we will have students accepting donations. Please plan to attend one of these Masses and share this dream with your children.

On Tuesday, December 1st, we will celebrate our first Advent Reconciliation Day. At the suggestion of some of our local pastors, we have decided to offer the opportunity to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation both during Advent and Lent. Our students may come to the chapel during their Religion classes, study halls or lunch periods. Please encourage them to do so.

Following Thanksgiving, we will be conducting our annual Toy Drive and hope to have each religion class adopt a family the way we did last year. Again, donations of toys, cash or gift certificates are always greatly appreciated and needed.

GUIDANCE

Report cards will be distributed to all students on Wednesday, November 18th. A parent/teacher conference will be held on Thursday, November 19th.

Seniors are reminded to have their college applications completed by December 7th so that the guidance office can process them and get them in the mail by the Christmas break.

Financial Aid Night – Wednesday, December 2, 2009 @ 7:00 p.m. in the Notre Dame Cafeteria. This is an information night for Senior parents, however all are welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to the following senior:

DAR Good Citizen Award:

Jessica Strzepek

EARLY DISMISSAL BUS DRILL

On Tuesday, November 24th, an early bus drill will be held. Students will be dismissed about 15 minutes early to accommodate this drill. This is county wide and is considered a “go-home” drill. All students must leave the building at 2:20 p.m. If you normally pick up your child(ren) at dismissal, please be here by 2:20 p.m. There will be no 10th period and no Boys and Girls Club that day.

CLASS REUNIONS

30th -- Class of 1979 – Friday, November 27th – Thornberry’s – 7:00 p.m. Cost: \$30.00
Information: Bill Sunderlin
wsunderlin@yahoo.com
or phone: (716)-830-4653.

MARIAN CLUB

Anyone wishing to join the Marian Club, please contact the Alumni Office for an application. Dues are \$100.00 per year. All monies are deposited into a scholarship fund. Several scholarships are given each year to students in need entering Notre Dame.

UPCOMING DATES

- November 19th ◆ Dismissal – 11:30 a.m.
Parent-Teacher Conferences
1 p.m. – 3 p.m., 5 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.
- November 24th ◆ Thanksgiving Liturgy 9:00 a.m.
Our Lady of Rosary
- November 25th ◆ Thanksgiving Recess Begins

December 9th ◆ Notre Dame Pride Meeting
7:00 p.m.

December 16th ◆ Christmas Concert 7:00 p.m.

December 23th ◆ Christmas Show 9:00 a.m.
Dismissal at 11:00 a.m.

NOTRE DAME PRIDE ASSOCIATION

The November meeting of the Pride Association has been cancelled. The next meeting of the Pride Association will be Wednesday, December 9th at 7:00 p.m.

BARNES AND NOBLES

In an earlier mailing you received vouchers for Barnes and Nobles for Sunday, December 6th. If you purchase items on that day, Notre Dame will receive 10% of the sales. You may share your vouchers with family and friends.

DRAMA NEWS

The Blue & Gold Players will present “Harvey”...a play by Mary Chase on December 10th, 11th & 12th at 7:30 p.m. at Grace Church Auditorium in Utica.

*The Crescent
2010*

CRESCENT 2010

Crescent 2010 Yearbook is on sale – ORDER NOW. The yearbook provides a permanent record of the year at Notre Dame.

Cost is only \$50. Payment in full or a deposit of \$25 will reserve a copy for you or your child.

Please enclose your payment in an envelope and send it to the main office by Thanksgiving break. Please make checks payable to Notre Dame.

