

JUGGLER NEWS

October, 2009

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FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Parents/Guardians,

Prayer †

- Joyce Rupp -

God of the seasons, there is a time for everything: there is a time for dying and a time for rising. We need courage to enter into the transformation process.

God of autumn, the trees are saying good-bye to their green, letting go of what has been. We, too, have our moments of surrender, with all their insecurity and risk. Help us to let go when we need to do so.

God of fallen leaves lying in colored patterns on the ground, our lives have their own patterns. As we see the patterns of our growth, may we learn from them.

God of misty days and harvest moon nights, there is always the dimension of mystery and wonder in our lives. We always need to recognize your power-filled presence. May we gain strength from this.

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God of harvest wagons and fields of ripened grain, may gifts of growth lie within the season of our surrender. We must wait for the harvest in faith and hope. Grant us patience when we do not see the blessings.

God of geese going south for another season, your wisdom enables us to know what needs to be left behind and what needs to be carried into the future. We yearn for insight and vision.

God of flowers touched with frost and windows wearing white designs, may your love keep our hearts from growing cold in the empty seasons.

God of life, you believe in us, you enrich us, you entrust us with the freedom to choose life. For all of this we are grateful.

Amen

The first few weeks of school have been a time of adjustment and transition for all of us. The seventh graders and new students in grades 8-12, have learned their way around the building and now seem comfortable in their new surroundings.

We are grateful for the many parents who were able to attend Open House. Parents were able to meet with teachers and learn the expectations for the school year.

The seniors and juniors have had very successful retreats. Retreats are scheduled for grades 7-10.

Please know that I am very grateful for all of your efforts in support of Notre Dame.

God bless each of you,

Sr. Anna Mae

CAMPUS MINISTRY

Our retreat schedule is in full swing. On Tuesday and Wednesday, October 6th and 7th, our Junior Class attended their retreat and on Thursday and Friday, October 8th and 9th, our Senior Class attended theirs. Both retreats were presented by Tony Bellizzi at Our Lady of the Rosary Church and they offered so many students an enriching and informative experience.

On Tuesday, November 10th, our Freshman Class will have their retreat at St. John the Evangelist Church in New Hartford. The program, "U R Worth W8ing 4" focuses on the wisdom of practicing abstinence until marriage. It is presented by volunteers from Net Care and is extremely informative and useful for youngsters growing up in today's environment. Bussing will be provided and lunch will be catered by O'Scugnizzo. Any parents wishing to attend may contact Mrs. Troy at 724-5118, ext. 25.

On Saturday, October 24th, 30-35 members of the Campus Ministry Leadership Team and students who perform the Living Stations of the Cross during Lent will take part in a Ropes Course given at Beaver Camp in Lowville. The purpose of the day is to build teamwork and to teach the students how to turn new challenges into new opportunities.

On Friday, October 30th, the Campus Ministry Leadership Team will be sponsoring a Halloween dance for our 7th, 8th, and 9th grade students. It will be held in the school cafeteria from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

This year we will begin our annual Thanksgiving Food Drive on Monday, November 2nd. Because of the 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. This is what we, through your generosity, were able to donate last year. We know we can do it again. 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.

We are grateful for the many parents who offered to help us with Campus Ministry activities. We

are in the process of calling for help with our dances and retreats. If there is a particular event you want to be involved in, please feel free to call, otherwise I will be in touch with you. Thank you again for your willingness to help.

GUIDANCE NEWS

Please note the listing below which indicates which counselor your child will have this year.

Miss Soper Grades 7 thru 12 (A-L)

Miss Mundschenk Grades 7 thru 12 (M-Z)

College Planning: Seniors have had a group session on the College Application process and the deadlines for filing all applications. Seniors are encouraged to make an individual appointment with their counselor during the month of October to discuss their post high school plans. Most students are in the process of doing this.

SAT and ACT registration packets are available in the guidance office. Students may also register online for these important tests. The deadlines for the November testing have passed and the deadlines for the December tests are as follows:

October 30th is the registration deadline for the December 7th SAT

November 6th is the registration deadline for the December 12th ACT

Report Cards:

The first **report card** of the year will be issued on November 18th followed by **parent/teacher conferences** on Thursday, November 19th from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

On Thursday, November 19th, we will have Parent/Teacher Conferences from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The conferences will take place in the gym. Students will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

Report cards will be distributed to students on Wednesday, November 18th.

SPORTS FEE

Two years ago we instituted a sports fee. It has been a tremendous help in meeting the cost of athletics. Our athletic expenses are approximately \$165,000.00 per year. Our income sources to help meet this expense are gate receipts for varsity football and basketball games, the sports fee and a portion of income from the operating budget. Transportation, officials, salaries, and maintaining fields make up the majority of the expense. I will say that our coaches only receive a stipend, not a salary. They are all very dedicated and many use their own funds for the team.

The Notre Dame Pride Association also helps with the cost. Each year they raise \$15,000.00 toward our operating expenses.

The first bill for the sports season will be sent out in November. It will be for fall sports. It will also include last year's fee if it wasn't paid and I was not contacted by you regarding the fee.

The fee will remain the same for this year.

1 st child	\$175.00
2 nd child	125.00
3 rd child	75.00

The fee is only paid once regardless of the number of sports seasons your child participates in during the year.

Please contact me if there is a financial situation regarding the sports fee.

WINTER SPORTS SIGN-UP

Sign-ups for winter sports will be Wednesday, November 4th at 7:00 p.m. in the gym. Students must have a physical within the last 12 months in order to try-out. A copy of their physical must be on file in the nurse's office. They must sign up in the nurse's office prior to try-outs.

NOTRE DAME CLASS REUNIONS

Class of 1979: Friday, November 27th
Thornberry's
7:00 p.m.

Is your class planning a reunion? If so, please contact the Alumni Office at 724-5118 ext. 13 or e-mail (ndalumni@syrdiocese.org) with the information.

THE MARIAN CLUB OF NOTRE DAME

The Marian Club of Notre Dame was founded by a group of friends for the purpose of preserving and promoting Catholic Education in Utica, specifically Notre Dame. This organization is independent of Notre Dame and is administered by a Board of Directors. Over the last thirty years, funds have been raised each year to assist Notre Dame financially by offering scholarships to their students.

In this very difficult time, more and more families are in need of assistance. Yearly membership dues and support of the Spring Recognition Dinner are vital to our mission of offering scholarships.

If you would like an application, please call the Alumni Office at 724-5118 ext. 13.

2010 YEARBOOK

ATTENTION: Please remember to pre-order your 2010 yearbook today? Due to rising costs, only books that are pre-reserved will be ordered. Extra books will not be available as in the past. First deposit of \$25.00 is due now. Full cost is \$50.00. Make checks payable to Notre Dame.

50TH ANNIVERSARY

Please mark your calendar for the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Notre Dame.

The celebration will take place October 8th, 9th, and 10th, 2010.

The committee met earlier this month and started planning several events for the weekend. More details will follow.

If you would like to be a part of the planning committee, our next meeting is Monday, November 2nd at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. All are welcome.

H1N1 VACCINATION

The Oneida County Health Department will be distributing the H1N1 vaccination here at school. Prior to the distribution of vaccination, they will hold an evening meeting here at school for parents to answer all questions and concerns. As soon as I know the date of the meeting, I will get the date to you. To help with the scheduling, there will be one meeting for Notre Dame here at the Junior/Senior High School with Notre Dame Elementary parents also invited.

From my meeting with the county, I can tell you the following:

- ◆ vaccinations are free
- ◆ the vaccination will be the mist, except for students with diabetes and asthma, who will receive the shot
- ◆ only students whose parent has signed the consent form will be eligible (will be sent home when we receive from the county)

AUTOGRAPH SHOW

On Wednesday, November 11th, we will be sponsoring an autograph show featuring Brett Gardner, the rookie center fielder for the New York Yankees.

Doors will open at 3:00 p.m. and Brett will sign autographs from 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. There will also be many vendors in the gym.

Many volunteers are needed to make this autograph session successful. This event is being coordinated by Jim Jones, the Development Director for both Notre Dame elementary and the Jr./Sr. High School.

If you would be willing to help with this event, please complete the volunteer form in this letter and have your child return it to school.

EMERGENCY FORMS

If you have not already done so, please return your child's emergency form ASAP. It is imperative that we have these forms, especially for medical emergencies.

BOWL-A-THON

On Sunday, November 15th, the Notre Dame Pride Association is sponsoring a Bowl-A-Thon at Pin-O-Rama Lanes on Genesee Street. The event will run from noon to 3:30 p.m. Students will be given registration forms in school. We encourage everyone to participate.

We are asking coaches to ask their teams to compete. Even families could have their own teams.

There are some great prizes that have been donated along with t-shirts and trophies.

Susan Reuter is heading up his effort. She is in need of assistance, especially the afternoon of the bowl-a-thon, to help organize teams, etc.

If you can help, please sign up on the volunteer sheet at the end of this letter and return it to school.

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER ON WEB-SITE

Starting with the November Newsletter, each month we will post the newsletter on our website. If you have not already done so, please send to Mrs. Duignan your email address. Her email is

complabnd@syrdiocese.org.

Posting the newsletter will save us a considerable amount of money.

If you do not have access to the Internet, please complete the form below and return it to school. We will continue to mail the newsletter to those who do not have access to the Internet.

PIZZA FRITTA

SUNDAY – NOVEMBER 1ST

Fresh Pizza Fritta will be available at Notre Dame from 9:30 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. in the cafeteria. Coffee and milk will also be served. Proceeds will help fund our Big Brothers/Big Sisters program.

The Big Brothers/Big Sisters Program is new for us this year. We have had many juniors and seniors volunteer to be Big Brothers/Big Sisters to our seventh grade students and our new students in grades eight and nine. Part of the program brings them together for pizza, etc. at various times. Some members of the faculty have volunteered to do the Pizza Fritta sale to help raise funds for the program.