



Blessed Sacrament School

Wednesday Weekly

March 2, 2022

1. Look at the person
2. Use a calm and pleasant voice
3. Say "May I...?"
4. Accept the answer calmly

Dear Blessed Sacrament Families,

We had a packed house for Ash Wednesday this morning during our school daily Mass. It was so fun to see all the extra parishioners in the church and younger siblings of our current students (I'm a sucker for a cute baby!). I could hear that a number of our students sang a bit louder as they were encouraged by some beautiful singing in the back—and I could, of course, still clearly hear our second graders in the front left singing proudly. I forget almost every year that Ash Wednesday isn't considered a Holy Day due to the obligation that I (and most others) feel to go receive ashes. It is ironically the most attended Mass of the year. Some believe it is because we have an outward sign of attending Mass on our foreheads, but I choose to believe it's because we see that our culture has such a need for humility and sacrifice. With instant gratification around every corner, it is refreshing to focus on how we can sacrifice for our Lord during this beginning of Lent. It doesn't matter if you are a Kindergartener or the grandmother of a Kindergartener, you will have ashes on your forehead after Ash Wednesday Mass along with thoughts of how you can either give something up or do something extra for our faith, **and that is beautiful.**

In Christ,

Mrs. Jennifer Tran

FACTS & GOOD SHEPHERD SCHOLARSHIP '22-'23

*Attached is information about the Good Shepherd Scholarship program for next year. This is a very easy scholarship to receive, but **you must apply to receive it!** Families whose income level is below 225% of the federal poverty level or have more than 3 students enrolled in any Lincoln Diocese Catholic School (regardless of income) are eligible to receive the scholarship. You only have to apply. We had qualifying families not receive the scholarship last year because they didn't apply. **Our application process is now open and must be completed by March 31.** Use the following link to apply to FACTS: <https://online.factsmgmt.com/signin/4GVOP>. PLEASE let us now if you need help with the application process. Contact Melissa at Melissa-tvrdy@cdolinc.net or 402-476-6202 with any questions.*

DRESS DOWN DAY FRIDAY

One of our drawing winners for our Positive Office Referral program chose a dress down day for the school, and he has chosen **this Friday, March 4**. Students are also now able to wear shorts/jumpers/skirts without leggings, and it's a beautiful week to start! I'm guessing we will have colder weather before spring truly hits. Be sure to monitor the weather and dress accordingly, so we can keep our kids warm during recess!

'22-'23 SCHOOL REGISTRATION PROCESS

Use the following link to begin the process: <http://www.cdolinc.net/enrollment/>. Returning Student Enrollment will be selected for a student that has been enrolled previously in a Diocese of Lincoln Catholic School. New Student Enrollment will be selected for any student that has NOT been enrolled previously in a Diocese of Lincoln Catholic School (i.e PreSchool or Kindergartener that has not been in PreSchool). After filling out this form, PowerSchool will then send an email for the parent to continue registering the new student. Email Melissa-tvrdy@cdolinc.net with any questions you have.

ITBS TESTING FOR GRADES 3-8

Standardized testing will continue for some through Friday, especially if they were absent or will be absent for part of the week for students in grades 3 through 8. Grades 3, 5, and 7 have extra tests each year indicating the aptitude of each child. These tests are useful, though not infallible, tools in the educational process. The test results relate which skills have been mastered and which still need more work for each individual child. The tests are also useful in objectively showing which children are working at, below, or above grade level. With this information, the teachers are more able to meet individual academic needs. Furthermore, the tests reveal where our strong and weak points are as a school.

Please continue to help us prepare students for tests for the rest of this week:

- Make sure your children get enough rest. Enforce bedtime rules and do all that you can to avoid the "late nights," which can easily creep into the school week.
- Breakfast, of course, is important for children.

- Please avoid appointments outside school during this week, especially during the mornings.
- As always, it is good to pray with your children, asking the Lord's assistance that they think clearly and do their best for love of Him. These tests tell us a bit about how God wired their brains, as well as what they have learned.
- If your child misses part of testing, we will need to make it up on Friday of testing week and possibly the beginning of the following week.

While most of the children have no problem in keeping a balanced perspective about standardized testing, a few may come home with some anxiety, especially third graders. By listening to their concerns, praying with them, and assuring them of your support and love, you can help diffuse the butterflies. We will work to do the same.

FREE ZOO PASS OPPORTUNITY

*If you qualify for free/reduced lunch, your child is eligible for a Lincoln Zoo free family pass beginning this spring and ending April of 2023. If you no longer have the original sheet sent home, please contact the office for a new one. Visiting the zoo is a great opportunity for children to learn a bit more about animals and habitats while also burning off some energy outside. Please make sure these are filled out and returned by this **Friday, March 4** if you are interested.*

FREE THROW COMPETITION

PTO is looking for volunteers to help run the concession stand on **Saturday, March 5**. The competition runs from 9am-2pm. If you are interested in volunteering, please call/text Clarissa Hunt at 402-480-2225 or email at ceceluther@yahoo.com. Thank you!

NEW '22-'23 POWERSCHOOL ENROLLMENT SYSTEM

Parents must create a parent portal account in order to register their student for the '22-'23 school year. All 5th-8th grade parents should have a parent portal account already, as grades are accessed this way. All PK-4th grade parents will need to either create a parent portal account or add their younger students to their current account. Parent portal sign in sheets are coming home with all students today. Access the Parent Portal here <https://powerschool.cdolinc.net/>.

MUSIC NOTES

Girls' Choir sings twice this month—this Saturday, March 5th, and again on the 26th (mark your calendars!). All 4th through 8th grade girls are welcome to sing with the Girls' Choir anytime. No previous experience is necessary—just a desire to sing praises to our loving God—so bring a friend along! We meet in the choir loft at 4:15 for rehearsal and sing for the 5:30 Mass. Contact Hannah Jo Smith for more information: hannahjosmith@yahoo.com

2022-2023 CALENDAR DATES

First day of School (noon dismissal) – August 16

Christmas Break – December 22-January 3

Easter Break – April 6-11

Last Day of School (full day) – May 25, May 17 for 8th grade

Mrs. Jennifer Tran, Principal
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