



## Principal's Thoughts

By now we are all well aware of the Grand Jury report in Pennsylvania concerning the past clergy abuse in this state. Once again this brings to the surface a wide array of feelings and perhaps questions. Bishop Barber shared his thoughts quite eloquently in the Catholic Voice this week. In case you missed this, I have enclosed his article for you to read. The Bishop reminds us that our church is composed of men and women that are imperfect. This is not to excuse their behavior only to offer perspective. This does not mean however that all priests are dishonest or should not be trusted. The Gospel reading this past Sunday reminds us of the importance to be authentic faithful people, who practice their faith with sincerity and not just words. Many religious men and women fit this description.

This difficult time in our church is a stark reminder that we need to be vigilant with our children and reinforces why we have all volunteers and staff members fingerprinted and trained through our Virtus program. Our Circle of Grace lessons are imperative to teach our children that they have a voice and to be advocates for themselves. While this news is not new news and may have shaken our faith, we need to be even stronger in our faith knowing that our eyes should be on Jesus and that our actions should be a reflection of him. On September 14<sup>th</sup> the Bishop has asked all of us to make this a day of prayer for healing for the victims as well as the church. He offers this prayer:

### A Prayer to St. Joseph

To you, St. Joseph we bring our broken hearts and all of the discouragement that weighs us down. Impurity and scandal have wounded our Church and have brought much shame, sorrow and tears. We ask you dearest St. Joseph, to be our guide along this very dark path, for you are the model of faith, purity and devotion that we need so desperately. May the Lord send forth the burning fire of the Holy Spirit, and renew the face of the Church, and the world. O St. Joseph, pray ceaselessly for the Church during this time of suffering and great mourning. May this current pain inflicted upon the Church be transformed by the power of Christ's cross, and lead to further renewal and continued purification. Amen.

## Newsletter-9/5/18



[www.stagnesconcord.com](http://www.stagnesconcord.com)

**BREAKING NEWS**

- **Here's Your Homework~**
  - The 2018-2019 Family Handbook is now available on our website under the Parents tab for your reading pleasure.
  - Please review Handbook carefully as it outlines our procedures and policies.
  - All parents and children need to sign the Acknowledgment Form found in the Addendum section, at the end of the Handbook by September 15<sup>th</sup> 2018.
- **Join Us for Our First Dine Out!**
  - Our first Dine Out of the year TODAY Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at Skipolini's in Clayton.
  - Join us for dinner (dine in, or take out!), mention St. Agnes when you're paying, and the school gets a portion of the sales directly from the restaurant at no additional cost to you!
  - See the flyer on our website for more details.
- **Corporate Matching?**
  - Just a reminder that many companies offer corporate matching for non-profit organizations. We fit that category does your workplace?
  - This is a great way to help us defray our costs!
- **Last Chance!**
  - If you have not ordered a Spirit Shirt you have one final opportunity.
  - An order form has been included in your envelope for you.
  - No orders will be taken after Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>.
- **Mark Your Calendars!**
  - Save the Date cards for our Annual Golf Tournament can be found in your envelope today.
  - Please consider joining us on October 19<sup>th</sup> at the Boundary Oak Golf Course!
  - Sponsorship opportunities are available as well.
  - Stay tuned for further details!
- **Calling Jr. High Students!**
  - The St. Agnes Little Vinnie's will begin the year with a meeting on September 11<sup>th</sup> from 3-4 in the Ministry Center.
  - This Youth component of the St. Vincent de Paul Society works to help youth in our area by offering service project opportunities.
  - A flyer with further details has been included in your envelope.
- **St. Bonaventure Women's Christian Fellowship Invites You!**
  - Join fellow moms to discover ways of practicing mercy with your children.
  - A free gift for all attendees will be waiting for you!
  - They hope to see you on September 16<sup>th</sup> from 11-1 at St. Bonaventure Church.

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### TIME SENSITIVE

- **STAR Testing Has Begun!**
  - All children in grades 1-8 will participate in STAR testing.
  - Each class has been assigned a time, please make sure students are rested and well fed.
  - This testing window will serve as a benchmark for the year in order to track progress for your child's academic growth.
- **Relax, Read & Earn Forms are Due Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>**
  - If your child participated in this program during the summer, please complete the form and return it to Mrs. Cesca our librarian.
  - This opportunity is open to all children in grades K-8 who have read over the summer. (Kinders are also eligible if someone read to them.)
  - Extra forms can be found on our website under the library tab.
- **You're Covered~**
  - A brochure from Myers Stevens Toohey was included in your envelope last week. If you wish to purchase additional accident insurance above what the school offers, this brochure has the information you need to do so.
  - Please read this information carefully.



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### Wheel-a-thon Info.

- **Don't Forget You Family Donation~**
  - Please submit your \$5.00/child donation ASAP
  - This money helps defray the operating costs to run the WAT and provide snack for all the children.
  - Thank you for your support!
- **Get Those Bikes a 'Rollin!**
  - Our annual Wheel-a-thon (WAT) is scheduled for September 21<sup>st</sup>.
  - This is the only fundraiser to raise money for our fieldtrips.
  - Please read your packet carefully.
  - Start gathering those pledges now!
  - **Deadlines are important and special prizes will be awarded for keeping those deadlines.**

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## Preschool News!

- Activities for the week of September 10<sup>th</sup>:
  - Sounds: t & m.
  - Faith Talk for the week: My Teacher Welcomes Me.
  - Geography: Land/Water/Air
  - Science: Magnetic/Non-Magnetic
- Preschool T-shirt orders are due September 12<sup>th</sup>!



Thank you for your generous donation of desserts and water for Greg Scaletti's funeral reception. The family sends their appreciation for your help and comfort during this difficult time. This sense of community is what makes St. Agnes so special!

	IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS
9/6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Hearing Test</li></ul>
9/7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• School Mass 1:30 (Formal)</li><li>• Lice Patrol (No sprays or gel!)</li></ul>
9/9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• See You at Mass</li></ul>
9/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kinders Begin Full Days!</li><li>• Final Week of STAR Testing</li></ul>
9/11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• PACE Meeting 6:30-8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Room</li></ul>