

February 2017

Holy Rosary Review

Important

Dates:

February 1:

Book Fair/Phillie Phanatic Visits/State Representative Kate Harper Visits

February 2:

Book Fair/Career Day

February 3:

Book Fair/Teacher Appreciation Luncheon/ Talent Show/ Family Bingo

February 10:

CYO Dance

February 15:

Home & School Association Meeting
7pm

February 20:

Presidents' Day/No School

February 24:

8th Grade Retreat

February 28:

Fat Tuesday/Student Council Donut Sale

3040 Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
<http://holyrosaryregional.com>

Office: 610-825-0160
Fax: 610-825-0460
School Closing # 1385

From the Principal's Desk

February 5, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

A very insightful bishop in the 1600's discussed our reluctance to accept the fact that God loves us unconditionally. In a world where we love people for an assortment of reasons- if they are kind to us, if they are talented, if they are just, if they are pretty, etc., it is difficult to imagine someone who loves us no matter what we are or do. The bishop explained that our capacity to love God with our whole heart is dependent upon our ability to accept that he loves us unconditionally, and wholeheartedly. Pope Francis also addresses this idea when he explains that there is no sin we could commit that will keep God from loving us.

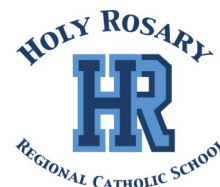
Mindfulness affords us an excellent opportunity to spend time reflecting on both our heart and mind and making peace with ourselves and with God. Ralph Waldo Emerson tells us, "Let us be silent, that we may hear the whispers of God." For it is in silence, conscience of our breath, that we reconcile our thoughts, repent (rethink) our actions, and forgive ourselves for any perceived missteps. Without those quiet moments, how do we know God? "Sometimes the most important thing in the whole day is the rest we take between two deep breaths" (Etty Hillesum). Make time to consider your soul and forgive yourself for things you find deficient; look into your mind and know that God loves you unconditionally.

As we mindfully reflect on Catholic Schools Week, we recognize the time and effort spent to share our light with everyone. We celebrate the beauty of a school which centers itself on Christ and a community who is expected to go forth and "Share this light" with the world. As our readings tell us today, people are watching us as representatives of Christ and as such we must "remove from (our) midst oppression, false accusation and malicious speech" (Isaiah 58: 6-11). May our light shine brightly and illuminate the world at every point where we connect with it. Spread the Word...Holy Rosary shines brighter than all! May God Bless you all.

Peace,

Lisa S. Hoban

One Faith, One Family, One School





Did You Know...

Mrs. Gilman-First Grade:

In January we got back in the swing of things with being selected by the Phillies Reading Program for a school wide Phillie Phanatic visit. On February 1, the first grade will have their picture taken with the Phanatic and we will be presented with a plaque for our classroom. We planned the Phanatic's visit for Catholic Schools Week and we are so happy to share him with the whole school!

On February 10th we will be celebrating our 100th day of school. As with most young children, special occasions etc are not just celebrated that one day, so we are extending our celebration over two weeks! One activity includes breaking into small groups and each group will use 100 Legos to create a masterpiece. Additionally, each child is personalizing an autograph book and they each have to collect 100 signatures. In Religion, we are learning about becoming apostles and spreading the Word of God, so we have chosen two service projects. We wanted to collect 100 cans of food for the poor and decided to invite each homeroom in the school to join us. The generosity of our families has been overwhelming! Also, the children are making 100 cards that will be brought to a nursing home. Finally, our culminating activity on the 10th, is a presentation for our families, where each of us will read a short essay we have prepared on "100 Year Old Me" and of course we will be dressed as "100 year old me"!!

Congratulations to Justin Kormos and Brian Stagliano who represented

Holy Rosary on the Gladiator football team in their championship season!

Justin scored a touchdown during the championship game and Brian was named to the All Star Team!



Letter from The Governing Board of Pastors

Fr. Lewandowski—Pastor of St. Titus Parish

Dear Teachers, Staff, Students and Friends of Holy Rosary School,

Praised be Jesus Christ—now and forever!

Congratulations! You have almost lived long enough to experience February of 2017. Why is that significant you ask? Well, you will experience something that will not happen again for another 843 years, (Yes—that’s 8 hundred and 43 years!). In this February, there will be “4” Sundays, 4 Mondays, 4 Tuesdays, 4 Wednesdays, 4 Thursdays, 4 Fridays and 4 Saturdays. I’m pretty confident that none of us will be alive to experience that phenomenon again.

Lent, also, will not begin during this February. Ash Wednesday (the beginning of Lent) falls on March 1st.

The United States, as always, will celebrate February 14th as St. Valentine’s Day. The Catholic Church, however, will not. On February 14th, the Catholic Church celebrates the feast day of St. Cyril and St. Methodius. (I “seriously” doubt that you’ll find a “St. Cyril and St. Methodius” Day card in the Hallmark card stores.) They were brothers who lived in the 800s. They were of Slavic descent and were considered to be a “spiritual bridge between Eastern and Western traditions”.

Probably the most significant event that we as Catholics celebrate during February is the feast day of the “Presentation of the Lord” on February 2nd. (In the United States, unfortunately, that same day is celebrated as “Ground Hog” day. If the ground hog sees or doesn’t see his “shadow” is supposed to determine how much longer we will experience “winter”. (Regardless, none the less, winter ends and spring begins on the same day each year!).

The feast of the Presentation of the Lord is the day that Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to the temple in Jerusalem as an infant to offer him up to God. In thanksgiving, Mary and Joseph offered 2 turtle doves (pigeons) for the gift of Jesus (see the beginning of St. Luke’s Gospel for the full story).

In some cultures (Polish, Slovak, etc.), this feast of the Presentation of the Lord is considered the “end” of the Christmas season. Some of them actually keep their Christmas trees and decorations up until February 2nd. After this feast day, we really don’t hear anything about Jesus until He is 12 years old and found teaching and asking questions of the Scribes and Rabbis in the temple. Then, we don’t hear about Jesus until He begins His public ministry at the age of 30. During those years, it is believed that St. Joseph died and that Jesus continued to work in the carpentry shop.

So, congratulations again for living in a historic time in the world. May God’s blessings continue to come upon you during this month and always. And, may His spirit always fill your hearts with the love for Jesus shown in the hearts of Mary and Joseph.

Fr. Len Lewandowski

Box Tops for Education

It's that time!!! We are waiting for all your Box Top submissions for the contest! Call all family members, friends and co workers..... Collect as many Box Tops as you can. You have all done an amazing job.

Our earnings keep increasing. Thank you.

Official rules and guidelines were emailed.

Thank you to all Box Top clippers!

Every Box Top counts and without your help, we could not be successful!

Any questions, please contact **Luisa Kelly** at Aidank1@msn.com

CYO Dance

Attention: all 6th, 7th, & 8th Graders

Holy Rosary CYO Dance

3040 Walton Rd, Plymouth Meeting

FRIDAY, February 10, 2017

7:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Admission: \$10

COME CHECK OUT OUR NEW DJ:

DANCE PARTY DJS!

No spaghetti straps, No mini-skirts, No midriiffs, No soffee shorts, and No muscle shirts are to be worn.

A t-shirt will be provided to those who do not comply.

February Lunch Menu

← February 2017 →

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
			Mac & Cheese/Fresh Fruit	Chick-fil-a lunch 1	Teachers In-Service	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	Pizza Day/Jello	Hot Dog w/cooked carrots	Meatball Sandwich	Steak Sandwich Day	French Toast Sticks/Apple Sauce	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Pizza Day w/veggies	Burger Day/Tater Tots	Chicken Noodle Soup/Ham & Cheese on Honey Wheat Bread/Milk	Chick-fil-a lunch 2	Bacon, Egg & Cheese on a Bagel/Gogurt	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	Presidents Day	Hot Dog/ Veggie Straws	Mini Pasta in Red Sauce	Chicken Patty Sandwich/Pasta Salad/Milk	Tomato Pie/Vanilla Ice Cream Cup	
26	27	28	1	2	3	4
	Pizza Day w/pudding	Burger/Sweet Corn/Milk				

2015/2016 Home & School Association Board Members

Executive Board

President – Beth Fish

Vice President – Anthony Garcia

Treasurer - Lisa Salamone

Recording Secretary - Athena Lahatto

Corresponding Secretary - Nicole Coey

Committees

Fundraising -

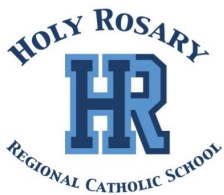
Kim Taglieber & Sharon Rupprecht

Beautification-Nicole Marino

Hospitality– Katie Leahy

Lead Homeroom Parent -Melissa Dollarton

Marketing – Amy Porter



February Calendar

February 2017						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
CSW Mass: Thank you note distribution	"E" Book Fair/Canned Goods 10:00 Volunteer coffee in faculty lounge 10:30 CSW Mass	"A" Book Fair/Canned Goods Socks collection Dress Down in Team Colors TBD 1:30 Math Bowl Tournament	1 "B" Book Fair Canned Goods Collection Philly Phanatic Visit State Rep. Kate Harper Visit	2 "C" Book Fair Canned Goods Collection Altar Server Appreciation Career Day	3 "D" Book Fair Canned Goods Collection Dress Like a Teacher Day Feast of St. Blaise Blessing NOON DISMISSAL Faculty Appreciation Lunch Family Bingo Night	4
5	6 "E" Welcome back, Mrs. Wolset!	7 "A"	8 "B"	9 "C"	10 "D"	11
12	13 "E"	14 "A"	15 "B" Home and School Meeting 7PM- Panel discussion with Presidents from Carroll, PJP, and Lansdale Catholic	16 "C"	17 "D"	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL	21 "E"	22 "A"	23 "B"	24 "C" 8 th Grade Retreat	25
26	27 "D"	28 "E" Fat Tuesday- Student Council Donut Sale	Notes:			

HASA News

Home and School Meeting – Wednesday, February 15th

We will be hosting a panel made up of three school presidents from Carroll, PJP, and Lansdale Catholic to discuss their schools and how you can better prepare your child for high school, starting in kindergarten.

Ladies Bingo – Friday March 3rd

The countdown is on! Ladies Bingo, our School’s second largest fundraiser is happening March 3rd! Early Bird Ticket Sales are now open! Purchase now to reserve your spot and get 5 FREE RAFFLE TICKETS! This event is sure to sell out and you don’t want to miss it! Every Bingo prize valued at \$100.00, fabulous raffle baskets and a 50/50! Last year's 50/50 winner took home \$2000.00! Click the link below to buy now,

<http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07ecnyrrj1125259d&llr=nxgquweab>

Tuition Assistance Opportunities for Holy Rosary Families



There are several sources of tuition assistance available to Holy Rosary families. These opportunities are made possible through the generous support of various businesses and foundations. A number of these opportunities require interested families to go through an outside application process. Other opportunities become available because of direct donations to Holy Rosary from generous parishioners of affiliated parishes.

The available opportunities and related application processes are outlined below. In cases in which Holy Rosary decides who the recipients will be, Holy Rosary will only consider families that have completed the application process for all funding sources for which they would qualify. Any cases of extraordinary or unforeseen circumstances will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

If you have individual questions on applying for financial assistance, contact **Beth Hallinan** in the school office, bhallinan@holyroaryregional.com , 610-825-0160.

EITC & OSTC FUNDS

Much of the available tuition assistance is made possible through **Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)** and **Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit (OSTC)** business donations to non-profit organizations interested in promoting education. To be eligible for EITC or OSTC funding for the 2017-2018 school year the adjusted gross income for a family with one dependent must be \$91,620 or less. For each additional dependent, the adjusted gross income threshold increases \$15,270 per child. Below is a listing of the organizations that provide EITC & OSTC funding to Holy Rosary students and an explanation of how to apply for funding from each organization. Please note: all eligible families do not necessarily receive funding. Awards are dependent on the amount of scholarship money available each year.

Business Leadership Organized for Catholic Schools (BLOCS) is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping families afford Catholic education. Holy Rosary students received almost \$32,000.00 in BLOCS funding during the 2016-2017 school year.

Application is available by going to www.smartaidforparents.com school code is 12730. Deadline is March 31. Early applications are strongly suggested.

Tuition Assistance for Holy Rosary Families

The Bridge Foundation is an independent non-profit organization that provides scholarship opportunities to Pennsylvania low-income families. Families must apply directly to the Bridge Foundation between May 1st and June 30th each year. Applications are only accepted during this window. Applications are available online at www.bridgeedu.org. Families who receive Bridge funding must complete a 40-hour community service requirement.

The Henkels Foundation supports benevolent, religious, educational, charitable, scientific, and literary undertakings throughout the United States.

If funds become available through the Foundation, Holy Rosary determines how to distribute the funding. Only families that have completed the BLOCS application, and who meet the eligibility requirements for EITC funding, will be considered for available Henkels funds.

Other Funding Sources

The Kremer Foundation provides Catholic elementary schools with tuition grants for children from financially challenged families. The Foundation's grants are given directly to the schools; school principals select which students receive the tuition assistance. Holy Rosary received \$10,250 from the Kremer Foundation for the 2014-2015 school year.

To qualify for assistance, a family's adjusted gross income cannot exceed the federal food program's maximum family income for reduced priced meals. The 2016-2017 guidelines are not yet available. To qualify for the 2017-2018 school year, a family of four's adjusted gross income had to be less than \$44,863 ; the qualifying amount was increased by \$7,696 for each additional family member.

If Holy Rosary receives a grant from the Kremer Foundation for the 2017-2018 school year, Holy Rosary will notify families of the application process in the spring. All applications will be submitted to Holy Rosary.

THE APPLICATION FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2017-2018 IS NOW OPEN. HERE ARE SOME IMPORTANT NOTES ABOUT THE APPLICATION PROCESS:

- WHEN UPLOADING DOCUMENTS TO SMART AID, PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOUR BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER, SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, AND ANY OTHER PERSONAL INFORMATION THAT COULD COMPROMISE YOUR IDENTITY IS BLACKED OUT
- YOUR APPLICATION WILL NOT BE COMPLETED OR CONSIDERED UNTIL **AFTER** YOU SUBMIT YOUR 2016 TAXES. YOU MAY OR MAY NOT BE CONTACTED BY SMART AID ABOUT THE STATUS OF YOUR APPLICATION AND/OR ABOUT MISSING DOCUMENTS THAT NEED TO ACCOMPANY YOUR APPLICATION. MAKE SURE YOU LOG ON TO YOUR ACCOUNT ONCE YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR 2016 TAXES TO FINISH YOUR APPLICATION
- OUR SCHOOL CODE IS 12730