



PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

DIocese of WILMINGTON – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

NOVEMBER 1, 2019

Pause and Ponder

November/December – Jesus Heals an Invalid at Bethesda (John 5:1-15)

Virtuous Action – Helping Others in Need

During November and December our focus will be on the healing action of Jesus for the man at Bethesda. Since these months also have a focus on Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas, this Gospel miracle will have our attention for both months.

As we reflect on Jesus healing the man at Bethesda, we are reminded of perseverance in faith. For thirty-eight years the man lay by the pool of Bethesda waiting for someone to place him in the pool when the waters stirred. He believed for a long time that the goodness of God would save him from his illness. What wonder he must have experienced when he met Jesus, the One who stirs the waters!

Perseverance is difficult. How long do our New Year's resolutions last? How go our Lenten fasts? How many times can we forgive the same sinner? Stick-with-it-ness requires strength. This strength comes from placing our faith in the One who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

This week, let's persevere in prayer. Let's try to spend time with Lord each day listening to and speaking with Him. Achieving success for one week can lead to thirty-eight (and more) years of perseverance in faith!

Let Us Pray

- + for all the ***faithful departed***, especially those who have served in the ministry of Catholic education
- + for the ***November intention of Pope Francis***: That a spirit of dialogue, encounter, and reconciliation emerge in the Near East, where diverse religious communities share their lives together
- + for ***faithfulness to one's vocation*** to the priesthood, consecrated life, married life, and single life as we celebrate Vocations Awareness Week
- + for the ***electorate***, that they be filled with wisdom in selecting leaders on Election Day
- + for ***veterans*** who have served in protecting and defending our nation
- + for the repose of the soul of ***Ron Bogia***, former principal of Saint Ann School

Catholic Identity

End of the Liturgical Year – The liturgical year concludes with the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe on Sunday, November 24. Created by Pope Pius XI in 1925, it is a reminder of our place in the reign of God—at the service of our Lord. This liturgical occasion should be included in classroom instruction in schools to highlight the solemnity and to identify the conclusion of another liturgical year cycle. Consider prayer and song appropriate to the solemnity at the conclusion of the school day and liturgical year on Friday, November 22.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 3	Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time National Vocation Awareness Week begins Daylight Savings Time ends Open House @ St. Thomas More Academy 12:00 noon Open House @ Salesianum School 12:30 pm		
Monday, November 4	<i>St. Charles Borromeo, Bishop</i> CSO Staff Meeting 9:30 am 1626		
Tuesday, November 5	Election Day		
Wednesday, November 6	Vocations Awareness Day	10:00 am	Holy Cross
Saturday, November 9	<i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i> Archmere Academy Entrance Exam		
Sunday, November 10	Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time		

Action Required

From the Vocations Office...

Vocation Awareness Week – Prepare to celebrate Vocations Awareness Week (November 3-9) by focusing on vocations as outlined in the attached information.

Vocations Awareness Day – Wednesday, November 6, is Vocations Awareness Day for sixth grade students. Please distribute to your sixth grade teachers the Final Details for Teachers memo and the School Schedule information. This summary provides teachers with everything they need to know to make Vocations Awareness Day a memorable day for the students. Should you or any teacher have questions regarding the communication, do not hesitate contact Dr. De Angelo. By now, the sixth graders should have mastered most, if not all, of the Vocations Vocabulary. Good luck to the teams: Apostles, Angels, and Saints.

Attention Needed

November Reflection – The November reflection is provided for use with your faculty and staff.

High School Placement Test – November is the final month for eighth grade students to register for the High School Placement Test. Elementary schools are asked to remind students and their parents or guardians weekly of this upcoming deadline in school communications and on the school website.

High School Recommendation Form – Please remind teachers that the Diocese of Wilmington Confidential Record Form should be completed and available so that when requests come in early December, the form can

be copied and forwarded to secondary schools. The form may be found on the CSO intranet under General Resources>Admissions.

Forms Due – The Asbestos Report (all elementary and secondary schools) and the Environmental Issues Management Report (parish, regional, and diocesan elementary and secondary schools) were due October 30. Forms may be found on the CSO intranet under Administrator Resources.

Invoices – Unpaid September balances will be added to the invoice due in November.

Newsworthy Information

Think Alongs – *“Thinking is invisible. Our cognitive processes become apparent to others only when we speak or write. Many concepts and skills we teach are abstract; sharing thinking with students allows them to glimpse the inner workings of our brains as we process and act upon abstract information. The research world calls this a “think aloud.” Because we worry that this term focuses exclusively on the teacher, whereas students should also be thinking, we use the phrase “think along.””* Douglas Fisher & Nancy Frey

Read the full three-page article to find a valuable PreK-12 strategy to share with teachers.

Reasons to Celebrate

Sharers in the Spirit! – Congratulations and thank you to the following schools which participated in the first of two diocesan-wide school service goals this year, namely, supporting Catholic education through the Share in the Spirit Collection. Their efforts made additional scholarship funds available to assist families desiring Catholic education for their children.

***All Saints Catholic School
Christ the Teacher Catholic School
Immaculate Heart of Mary School
Padua Academy
Saint Ann School
Saint Anthony of Padua School
Saint Elizabeth School
Saint John the Beloved School
Saint Peter Cathedral School
Saint Peter the Apostle School
Saint Thomas More Academy
Saints Peter & Paul Elementary School***

***If your school participated and is not included in this listing, please confirm with the Development Office.
We are happy to add additional schools to the listing.***

***Charity is that with which no man is lost,
and without which no man is saved..
Saint Charles Borromeo***