



PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

DIocese of WILMINGTON – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE

NOVEMBER 15, 2019

Pause and Ponder

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

Virtuous Action – Helping Others in Need

In our Gospel this month, Jesus asks a pivotal question of the man at the pool, namely, “Do you want to be well?” (Jn 5:6). The man responds telling Jesus of his situation and the lack of assistance of others in moving him to the pool when the waters stirred. However, in reading the passage, the man never directly answers the question of Jesus.

The Lord asks each of us the same question, “What do you want?” What is our reply? Do we answer the question directly? Are we even sure what it is that we truly want? Is it health, wealth, power, security? Is it mercy, salvation, and eternal life?

This week, let us reflect upon our reply to this question. Our answer to this question will determine how we live each day of our lives this week and every week.

Let Us Pray

- + for **members of our families** who have returned home to the Lord this past year
- + for good health for **Mark Record**, Principal of Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School
- + for the **Immaculate Conception School community** planning next steps for the future

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 25**. 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.

The first Sunday of Advent is Sunday, December 1. Please be sure that your school and classrooms are prepared appropriately for Monday, December 2, to welcome the start of the new liturgical year. In the upcoming liturgical year, Sunday readings will come from the Gospel of Saint Matthew.

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, November 17	Thirty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time		
	Salesianum School Entrance/Placement Exam		
	Ursuline Academy Admissions/Scholarship Test		
Monday, November 18	<i>St. Rose Philippine Duchesne, Virgin</i>		
	CSO Staff Meeting	9:00 am	1626
Wednesday, November 20	Bishop's Visit	10:00 am	Immaculate Heart of Mary
Thursday, November 21	<i>Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>		
	Year 1 Mentoring Meeting	4:00 pm	St. John the Beloved
Friday, November 22	<i>St. Cecilia, Virgin and Martyr</i>		
	Fr. Trainor Scholarship Luncheon	12:00 noon	Chase Center
Sunday, November 24	<i>Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</i>		

Action Required

Final Weeks for High School Placement Test Registration – Please encourage 8th grade students and their parents or guardians to register online for the HSPT at <http://wilmington.stsusers.com>. Online registration will close on **Thursday, December 5**.

Attention Needed

January Administrators' Meeting – The next Administrators' meeting will be held **Friday, January 10**, instead of Tuesday, January 7. Thank you for noting this change in your calendar.

Trimester Reminders (Elementary Schools) – End of First Trimester – The close of the first trimester is an opportunity to review scope, sequence, and achievement thus far, to create a map for the second trimester, and to build the home-school partnership by contacting parents with compliments and concerns. Please encourage teachers to use this juncture in a positive way.

- The end of Trimester 1 is **Tuesday, November 26**. Grades should not be closed before that date.
- The date on which grades are due (**Wednesday, December 4**) and the week report cards are to be distributed (**December 9**) are to be followed.
- The lowest trimester grade that may be assigned is 60.
- Teacher comments should address student performance or student behavior. Be sure that comments are professional and appropriate.
- Report cards should be reviewed by administration before they are distributed.

Renaissance Professional Development Follow-up – Thank you to the elementary school administrators and lead teachers who participated in this past week's Renaissance PD. Valuable information to share with all teachers in each school at faculty or level meetings was offered. Attached please find information about *Viewing Data Using the Unified Scale*, as discussed by Linda Taylor. Also, Sally Joy wished to inform schools that all Freckle questions and issues should be forwarded to Support@Freckle.com.

Emergency/Inclement Weather Closing Contacts – Please be sure that your system to share emergency or inclement weather closings is up-to-date. Prepare now for the months ahead.

Reasons to Celebrate

CSO Author! – Ann Stevenson, Assistant to the Superintendent, has published a children's book entitled *The Miracle of Santa Claus*. Copies are available by contacting Ann.

***Arise, soldiers of Christ,
throw away the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.
Saint Cecilia***