

*Believe and see the glory of God.*



# ***PRINCIPAL'S NOTES***

***DIOCESE OF WILMINGTON – CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE***

***OCTOBER 11, 2019***

## ***Pause and Ponder***

**October – Jesus Heals an Official's Son at Capernaum in Galilee (John 4:46-54)**

***Virtuous Action – Asking for Assistance***

On Thursday of this past week I had the privilege of offering the keynote address for the Department of Catholic Education in the Diocese of Savannah. Just like our Spirituality Day, the occasion was one where I felt proud to be a Catholic school educator. The theme for the two-day event was "Feeding Hearts & Minds." As I travelled home on Friday and thought about the message for this week's *Principal's Notes*, I saw connections with the Savannah theme.

The October Gospel focus shows Jesus feeding the heart of the royal official by his empathy and action to heal the man's son. So often we see Jesus moved by deep compassion to act in meeting the requests of others. This Gospel passage shows a meeting of the hearts between the royal official and the Lord.

This Gospel passage also demonstrates Jesus feeding the mind of the royal official by the healing of his son. In the passage we see the reflection of the man as he connects his request, Jesus' words, and the report of the official's servants.

The result of Jesus feeding the heart and the mind of the royal official was a deepening of faith for the man. We, too, have the opportunity each day to feed hearts and minds through our ministry. Let us listen this week to those asking for assistance and commit to feeding both hearts and minds as we lead others to strengthen their faith.

## ***Let Us Pray***

+ for ***elected officials***, that through their service the dignity of each person from conception to natural death will be honored

## ***Catholic Identity***

***Quotes of Saints*** – You may have realized that each week our concluding quote for this newsletter for 2019-2020 has been one taken from a saint whose feast day occurs in the week. (At least that has worked well thus far!) Educators are encouraged to use the quote of the week or other quotes by saints with students in their classes for prayer and reflection. The meanings of the quotes can be interpreted and discussed. The quotes can be re-written with a message for today. Quotes can be tweeted and re-tweeted. They can even become penmanship practice! Let's consider the wisdom of the saints in our daily lives.

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday, October 13</b>	<b>Twenty-eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		
<b>Monday, October 14</b>	<b>COLUMBUS DAY – SCHOOL HOLIDAY</b>		
	<b>Diocesan Offices are closed.</b>		
Tuesday, October 15	<i>St. Teresa of the Jesus, Virgin and Doctor of the Church</i>		
	CSO Staff Meeting	9:30 am	
	Primary Level Coordinators' Meeting	1:00 pm	1626
Wednesday, October 16	PSAT – Secondary Schools		
	Nurses' Meeting	8:30 am	Christ the Teacher
Thursday, October 17	<i>St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr</i>		
	Bishop's Visit	9:30 am	St. Ann
Friday, October 18	<i>St. Luke, Evangelist</i>		
<b>Sunday, October 20</b>	<b>Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>		
	Open House @ St. Elizabeth High School	11:30 am	
	Open House @ Padua Academy	1:00 pm	

## Action Required

**Administrators' Meeting** – In preparation for the Administrators' meeting for **Tuesday, October 29**, you are asked to read the Introduction and Chapters 1 -2 *Fresh Eyes on Jesus' Miracles*. Discussion of the readings will occur at the meeting.

## Attention Needed

**Vocations Day 2019** – You and your sixth grade teachers will receive information this week in preparation for Vocations Day on **Wednesday, November 6**, at Holy Cross School. Please emphasize with your sixth grade teachers the need for their attention and preparation for this annual vocations event so that they feel both comfortable and connected with the day's activities.

**End of 1st Quarter (Secondary Schools)** – As secondary schools prepare for the end of the first quarter, it is an opportunity for department chairs and administrators to review pacing of the curriculum. In looking at yearly expectations, are teachers one-fourth of the way on the journey?

**Diploma Information** – A question was raised, since orders are taken in the fall, about whether to have Bishop Malooly's name printed on diplomas for 2020 graduations, given that a new bishop may be named. We have no indication as to when the next Bishop of the Diocese of Wilmington will be named. Therefore, Bishop Malooly's name is to be included on diplomas as has been done in the past. If a new bishop is named and diplomas have been printed, the graduates will have the honor of being the last class to have Bishop Malooly's name on their diplomas.

## Newsworthy Information

**Do Students have "Go-To" Teachers?** – Since 2001, the Quaglia Institute for School Voice and Aspirations (QISVA) has administered a survey of both students and teachers in the United States and abroad to gauge their views. QISVA is currently preparing a report that compiles data from surveys administered between 2009 and 2018, representing the views of 452,329 students in grades 6–12.

Here are some findings reported about caring relationships...

- 76 percent of students identified a teacher who is a positive role model
- 56 percent said there is a teacher they can turn to if they have a problem.
- 49 percent said teachers care about their problems and feelings.

What might the results be in our Catholic middle and high schools?

Source: *Educational Leadership*, October 2019

## ***Reasons to Celebrate***

***Our Lady Queen of Peace Pilgrimage*** – Thank you to the Catholic Principals' Organization (CPO) for coordinating the annual pilgrimage on the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. More than 600 students gave witness to the importance of praying the rosary with Bishop Malooly. Through visible events such as this annual pilgrimage and through the regular use of the rosary in our schools, students will come to recognize the power of prayer and the love of the Blessed Mother and her Son for them. Photographs from this past week's pilgrimage are available at <https://leahbeverlyphotography.pixieset.com/holyspiritmirianpilgrimage/>.

***Let nothing perturb you, nothing frighten you.  
All things pass. God does not change. Patience achieves everything.  
Saint Teresa of Avila***