

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Pause and Ponder

***Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.***

We are knowledgeable of the theological virtues (faith, hope, and love) and familiar with the cardinal virtues (temperance, prudence, fortitude, and justice). However, what might be called a premier virtue flows from the seventh Beatitude. That virtue is joy.

Joy fills us and those around us when we experience the peace that is understood from the seventh Beatitude. Living as “children of God” creates a joy-filled spirit within us that overflows into our personal and professional lives. As we distinguished in previous reflections, this joy is not merely happiness, a fleeting expression. Rather, it is deep-seated in the very depths of our being and reminds us that we are loved by God, despite our successes and failures, our opportunities and challenges.

Joy requires us to bring this premier virtue into our families, our work places, and other spaces where we live. We cannot control, resolve, or answer all of the situations we experience each day. However, acting as peacemakers, we bless others and ourselves by emanating a joy-filled spirit, even in the most trying of circumstances.

Let us pray each day to be a peacemaker so that we and those we encounter will know the joy of the Gospel.

Let Us Pray...

+ for the May intention of Pope Francis – For the Formation of Men and Women Religious and Seminarians: Let us pray that men and women religious and seminarians grow in their own vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual, and community formation, that leads them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

+ for a greater awareness in May of Mary, our Blessed Mother, as an intercessor with her Son, Jesus, on our behalf

+ for the well-being of Jack Moore, Principal, Aquinas Academy.

Weekly Calendar

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| Sunday, Apr 28 | Fifth Sunday of Easter |
| Monday, Apr 29 | Saint Catherine of Siena CSO Staff Meeting, 9:00 am Y2 Mentoring Meeting, virtual, 4:00 pm |
| Tuesday, Apr 30 | Administrators' Meeting, Deerfield Golf Club, 9:00 am |
| Wednesday, May 1 | Board of Catholic Schools Meeting, St. Anthony of Padua School, 6:00 pm |
| Thursday, May 2 | Saint Athanasius |
| Friday, May 3 | Saints Philip & James T3 Interim (Elementary Schools) |
| Sunday, May 5 | Sixth Sunday of Easter |

Catholic Identity – Save the Date!



The Diocese of Wilmington has announced an upcoming major spiritual event, the Eucharistic Congress, scheduled for October 5, 2024, at the Ocean City Convention Center in Ocean City, Maryland. This pivotal event, themed “The Eucharist: Source and Summit,” aims to deepen the faith and fellowship among the Catholic community across Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

The Congress will feature a keynote address from Bishop Richard Henning of the Diocese of Providence, who will share his insights on the pivotal role of the Eucharist in Catholic life and worship. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in praise and worship, participate in Eucharistic Adoration, and receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The day will culminate with Mass, embodying the unity and spiritual nourishment of our community.

In addition to these spiritual activities, the Congress will offer breakout sessions tailored to various interests and age groups, including Youth and Young Adults, Faith and Family, Catechesis, and a dedicated track for Spanish-speaking attendees. These sessions are designed to foster discussion and deepen understanding of the faith across diverse groups.

The event will also host faith-based vendors and feature a ministry fair showcasing the various diocesan ministries that serve our community, providing attendees with opportunities to learn more about and engage with these vital efforts.

More details about the Eucharistic Congress, including registration information, schedule of events, and a list of speakers and sessions, will be available soon in parishes and on the diocesan website, cdow.org.

Administrators' Meeting – April 30

The final Administrators' Meeting for 2024-2025 will be held **Tuesday, April 30**, at Deerfield Golf Club, beginning at 9:00 am. Morning refreshments will be available after 8:45 am.

We look forward to the presentation on Resilient Leadership by Dr. Melanie B. Palmisano, the Vision for the Future contribution raised by our schools through Joe Corbi's, and the luncheon honoring administrators moving on from their schools, sponsored by Rush Uniform, Inc.

Administrators to be honored include...

Sinead Boyd, Principal, Good Shepherd Catholic School

Tom Fertal, President, Saint Mark's High School

Joe Papili, President, St. Elizabeth School

Linda Pollitt, Principal, Holy Cross School

Trinette Stillman, Principal, Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School

BOOST Scholarship Deadline – May 3

Maryland families need to submit BOOST applications by **Friday May 3**, to be eligible for scholarships. Please remind and assist families in this endeavor.

National Teacher Appreciation Week May 6-10



We owe our teachers a huge debt of gratitude every day for the work they do in Catholic school education. Their commitment to the mission, consistency in instruction, dedication to youth, and flexibility to changing circumstances are but a few of the many reasons we esteem Catholic school teachers!

While schools will recognize teachers in a variety of ways to express their appreciation, consider an announced Mass of Thanksgiving for your school's teachers at your parish or nearby church.

New Teacher Orientation Day – August 14

Please be sure to distribute the attached letter to ***teachers new to the Diocese of Wilmington***, even if they have taught elsewhere prior to joining your school. New Teacher Orientation Day, Wednesday, August 14, is a requirement for all teachers hired to work in parish and diocesan Catholic schools in the diocese. Private Catholic schools are encouraged to have their teachers participate in this orientation day.

A number of important topics will be addressed throughout the orientation day including the role and responsibilities of a Catholic school teacher, requirements for fulfilling Initial Faith Formation, licensing and certification, and the diocesan mentoring program. Also, the day will provide conversation with colleagues and a good start to networking in the Catholic schools of the Diocese of Wilmington.

International Students

I-20 Signatures for Returning Students – International students returning home for the summer who intend to return to CDOW schools in September will require the Superintendent's signature on their I-20 documents to permit the students to re-enter the United States. The Superintendent's signature must be on the original I-20 that has been signed by the students and the student's parents. Requests for the Superintendent's signature should be received by ***Friday, May 17***.

I-20 College Transfers – Students planning to transfer from a CDOW high school to college will need their I-20 documents transferred. The receiving college generally provides a form requesting the transfer. The form should be forwarded to Dr. De Angelo by ***Friday, May 17***. Please contact Dr. De Angelo with any questions or concerns about this process.

Middle States Re-accreditation

Congratulations to the following schools re-accredited by the Middle States Association of College and Schools at its recent Commission Meeting for another term of seven years. Congratulations and thank you to the school communities who worked for this re-accreditation.

Saint Edmond's Academy

Saints Peter and Paul School

Evening of Sacred Music

Music and joy filled St. John the Beloved Church on Wednesday, April 23, at the Evening of Sacred Music through the singing of 191 students from the following schools.

Holy Angels School
Saint Mary Magdalen School
Holy Cross School
Saint Anthony of Padua School
Saint Ann School
Saint John the Beloved School
Mount Aviat Academy
Saint Elizabeth School
Saints Peter & Paul Elementary School
Christ the Teacher Catholic School

JOY, WITH PEACE, IS THE SISTER OF CHARITY.

SAINT PADRE PIO