

# PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Diocese of Wilmington—Catholic Schools Office

January 12, 2024

## Pause and Ponder

***Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.***

*Our virtue for January is justice. When questioned about the meaning of what is right and just, often times we hear the words “equal,” “equitable,” or “fair.” This natural inclination to believe that what is given to all in the same manner provides a right and just solution may seem reasonable at first glance. However, when we reflect on the fourth Beatitude, the concept of what is right and just takes on a broader meaning.*

*In looking at how Jesus lived righteously, reflecting His Father’s love and mercy, abundance, and perhaps overabundance, would be the apt description. Justice for Jesus wasn’t measured out proportionally to each person. What was right and just, holy and good, merciful and caring was given in generosity and then some. Jesus wasn’t dividing his care and concern so that all received equal, equitable, or fair proportions. He gave wholly and freely as much as was needed to whomever needed it.*

*This week, as we interact with others, let’s redefine our understanding of righteous (just) acts as giving generously of ourselves to others without measure. In satisfying the hunger and thirst of others for justice, our overwhelming kindness, forgiveness, time, energy, etc. will help them and us come closer to imitating the right and just acts modeled for us by Jesus.*

## Let Us Pray...

+ for our nation: may God unite us in peace and respect for each other and all human life



+ for blessings for Bishop Emeritus Malooly as he celebrates his birthday on Thursday, January 18

## Weekly Calendar

<b>Sunday, Jan 14</b>	<b>Second Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>
<b>Monday, Jan 15</b>	<b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Diocesan Holiday</b>
Tuesday, Jan 16	CSO Staff Meeting, 9:00 am Y1 Mentoring Meeting (PreK-Grade 5), 3:45 pm, virtual
Wednesday, Jan 17	St. Anthony, Abbot
Thursday, Jan 18	Bishop’s Visit @ Saint Elizabeth Elementary School, 10:00 am Y1 Mentoring Meeting (Grades 6-12), 3:45 pm, virtual
<b>Sunday, Jan 21</b>	<b>Third Sunday in Ordinary Time</b>

## ***Catholic Identity – Respect Life: Be Not Afraid!***

### **Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children (January 22)**

*A great prayer for life is urgently needed, a prayer which will rise up throughout the world. Through special initiatives and in daily prayer, may an impassioned plea rise to God, the Creator and lover of life, from every Christian community, from every group and association, from every family and from the heart of every believer.*

*Pope Saint John Paul II  
Evangelium Vitae*

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal (GIRM), no. 373, designates January 22 as a particular day of prayer and penance, called the "Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children." As individuals, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting, and/or giving alms.

During the week of January 23, in conjunction with the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children, all elementary and secondary schools are asked to incorporate a lesson, grade appropriate, in Religion classes specifically focused on the importance of life at all ages and stages. Resources for this purpose may come from a variety of sources.

## ***Important Information***

### ***Administrator Intent Form***

Parish and diocesan Presidents and Principals have received information regarding the 2024-2025 Administrator Intent Form. The Administrator Intent Form, signed by both the Pastor and Principal, is due by **Thursday, February 1**.

### ***Board of Catholic Schools Survey***

The annual Board of Catholic Schools Survey to parents and guardians will be distributed in February to parish and diocesan schools. This survey provides a school and diocesan look each year at the perceptions of our clients. When the survey is distributed, please encourage parent/guardian participation.

## ***With Gratitude***

*The Staff of the Catholic Schools Office is grateful for the many kindnesses in cards and gifts received at Christmas from individuals and schools. Your kindness at Christmas and throughout the year is genuinely appreciated.*

*Lou*

*Carol*

*Mary*

*Dan*

*MaryAnn*

*Amanda*

## ***Catholic Schools Week – January 28-February 3***

As schools prepare for Catholic Schools Week (CSW), plan carefully to communicate the best message about your school regarding faith formation, academic excellence and community-building.

Please forward to Dr. De Angelo ([ldangelo@cdowschools.org](mailto:ldangelo@cdowschools.org)) the attached schedule of activities at your school by **Thursday, January 18**, so that we share them with the broader diocesan community and the *Dialog*.



## ***Vision for the Future Tuition Assistance Deadline – January 31*** ***Final Month to Apply for 2024-2025***

Applications and all required documentation for the 2024-2025 school year must be received by FACTS no later than **January 31, 2024**. Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.

Schools are asked to recommend that all student families apply for tuition assistance. This enables the Development Office to meet emergency needs that may arise during a school year. Often, a family will reach out to the Development Office when their circumstances change. The Development Office may only assist families if they have applied previously to FACTS.

2022 W2 statements are accepted. A family does not need to wait for the 2023 W2 statement.

Tuition assistance through the Diocese of Wilmington is provided to children attending Grades K-12.

Families currently receiving tuition assistance from the diocese must reapply. Assistance is not automatically renewed from year to year.

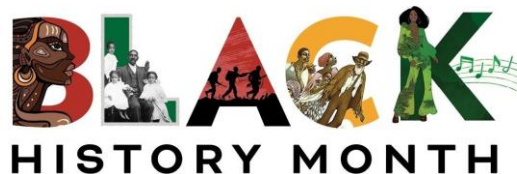
Award notifications will begin as of March 1, 2024.

## ***Black History Month – February 1-29***

As we prepare to celebrate and commemorate Black History Month, it is important to engage students in activities that get them to think broadly and critically about the Black experience in all of its complexity. Instruction should incorporate history, point of view, politics, struggle, first-person experience, art, literature and data. This resource includes ten ideas for teaching about Black History Month.

### **[10 Ideas for Teaching Black History Month](#)**

Every school should plan to acknowledge Black History Month in various ways throughout February. Please forward your school's best ideas to the Dialog ([jowens@thedialog.org](mailto:jowens@thedialog.org)) for possible coverage.



## ***Principal Position – Saint Mark's High School***

The position of Principal of Saint Mark's High School with a start date of July 1, 2024 will be posted on Tuesday, January 16.

In accordance with Policy 4120 and the Principal Search Process for Diocesan Schools with a President, current Diocese of Wilmington principals interested in being considered for a transfer must contact the Superintendent within ten days of this notification. At the same time, he/she must inform his/her current Pastor of the request. Upon receiving the transfer request, the Superintendent will determine one of the following:

- An interview will be granted to the current Diocese of Wilmington principal with the Superintendent and President of the school and, if a transfer is deemed acceptable and agreed upon, the Principal Search Process is concluded.
- The current Diocese of Wilmington principal will be invited by the Superintendent and President of the school to participate in the full Principal Search Process with other candidates and will be granted an interview with the Principal Search Committee.

A current principal who applies for the vacancy after ten days, but before the deadline, will be interviewed with other candidates as part of the full search process.

## ***PSISJS PowerSchool, eCollect, BrightArrow Documentation***

All documentation provided to CDOW Schools for PowerSchool and BrightArrow can be found within the PowerSchool application. See the attached information from PSISJS to assist you in locating the appropriate documentation.

## ***Digital Report Cards***

As we move through the second trimester, remember that in order for parents/guardians to access the next report card, they must have access to the parent portal. Please remind parents and assist them, if help is needed.

## ***University of Delaware – ARTC Information Session***

Earlier this week, University of Delaware sent all Catholic school administrators an email invitation to an ARTC Information Session scheduled for ***Wednesday, January 31***. We did not want there to be any confusion regarding the purpose of this meeting. While the invitation was addressed to Catholic School Leaders, it is not a meeting designed strictly for Catholic schools. This session is being presented to all school district and charter school HR Directors in the State of Delaware. School administrators in each district/charter/Catholic school are welcome to attend. Mary Filippone will be attending this session on behalf of the Diocese of Wilmington.

If you have any questions regarding the session, please contact Mary Filippone at [mfilippone@cdow.org](mailto:mfilippone@cdow.org).

**INJUSTICE ANYWHERE IS A THREAT TO JUSTICE EVERYWHERE.**

**DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.**