

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Diocese of Wilmington—Catholic Schools Office

March 1, 2024

Pause and Ponder

***Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.***

The March Beatitude invites us to intentionality. Those who seek to be clean of heart or pure desire only one thing, namely, heaven where they will see God. All thoughts, words, and deeds are directed to this aim and the motivation never wavers.

Of course, we live in a world of distractions that interrupts, obstructs, or even blinds this desire in our lives. We may find ourselves often swimming upstream simply to keep our focus.

What did Jesus do to maintain his attention to the mission he accepted? He prayed and prayed and prayed. Throughout the Gospels we find selections where he went off by himself to pray. We also find selections where he invited others to pray with him. All four Gospels record moments of prayer in the life of Christ.

Let's pause and ponder our prayer life this Lent. Do we, like Jesus, take the time for prayer each day? As we seek to be clean or pure of heart, we must cleanse ourselves of busyness, work, events, or activities, at least for a time each day, to develop the single focus of our relationship with the Lord. As we continue to build this relationship, we shall truly find that we see God in our world and in one another, the precursor to seeing God face to face in heaven.

Let Us Pray...

- + for the March intention of Pope Francis – for new martyrs: Let us pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world might imbue the Church with their courage and missionary drive***
- + for a cleansing of the temple of our hearts from all that enslaves us***

Weekly Calendar

Sunday, Mar 3

Third Sunday of Lent

Renaissance Star Assessment – Week 1

Monday, Mar 4

CSO Staff Meeting, 9:00 am

Tuesday, Mar 5

***Bishop's Visit, Saints Peter and Paul School
Elementary School, 9:30 am
High School, 11:00 am***

Wednesday, Mar 6

***T2 Grades due (Elementary)
Board of Catholic Schools
Meeting, St. Elizabeth School,
6:00 pm***

Sunday, Mar 10

***Fourth Sunday of Lent
Daylight Savings Time begins***

Monday, Mar 11

***Diocesan Professional
Development Day
Saint Mark's High School
8:00 am – 1:10 pm
Student Holiday***

Catholic Identity – Lenten Lesson #4

Follow-up from last week...The answer may be found at the end of this memo.

Baptism seals the person's soul with a permanent spiritual mark known as a

- a. character.
- b. permamark.
- c. symbol.
- d. signature.

Confirmation

1. The reception of the Sacrament of Confirmation is necessary for the completion of baptismal grace.
2. The Sacrament of Confirmation is conferred through the anointing with Chrism on the forehead, which is done by the laying on of hands, and through the words, "Be sealed with the gift of the Holy Spirit."
3. The Holy Spirit bestows seven gifts – wisdom, understanding, knowledge, fortitude, counsel, piety, and fear of the Lord – to assist us in our mission and witness.

Important Information

End of Trimester 2 (Elementary Schools)

Trimester 2 ends ***Friday, March 1.***

The trimester should not be closed in advance. Grades are due from teachers on ***Wednesday, March 6.*** Grades should not be expected before this date.

Report cards are issued the ***week of March 11.*** Report cards should not be distributed before this date.

Thank you for adhering to the calendar dates for Trimester 2 so that communication to parents is consistent across the diocese.

Annual CYM Pilgrimage

"Blessed are They"

"Bienaventurados son ellos"

Saturday, March 23, 2024

Wilmington, DE

[Registration is open now!](#)

We welcome parish groups, youth ministries, young adult groups, schools, and families to join us on March 23rd as we celebrate our faith, pray together, and prepare for Holy Week. You won't want to miss the chance to join hundreds of other young people in this blessed event!

For more information and to register, click the link or head over to

<https://www.cdowcym.org/events/detail/pilgrimage-2024>

Women's History Month – March

Women's History Month is a time to honor ordinary and extraordinary women, explore women's achievements and struggles throughout history, and acknowledge women's contributions to our society. Women's History Month honors women as significant agents of historical change. During Women's History Month, we celebrate the courageous women who have helped our nation build a fairer, more just society.

The link - <https://womenshistorymonth.gov/Events.html> - includes programming for use during March.



Pass the Word – March 14

This year the Office of Priestly and Religious Vocations will be bringing back our ***Pass the Word Discernment Program*** for those young men who may be interested in learning more about diocesan priesthood. The Vocations Office will sponsor this day of prayer and discernment on ***Thursday, March 14, 2024***, at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton in Bear, DE. Bishop Koenig, many of our priests and our seminarians will spend the day with the invited participants sharing experiences of the missionary zeal that drives the priestly heart in the 21st century.

Please invite the students ***personally***, gather necessary contact information, and ask them to fill-out the attached consent and release form.

So that the Vocations Office may have an approximate idea of the number of young men attending, we ask that the spreadsheet information be returned to the Vocations Office (vocations@cdow.org) no later than ***Monday, March 11***.

Should have any further questions or need assistance in anyway, please reach out to the Vocations Office at vocations@cdow.org.

As always, thank you for all you do to promote vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

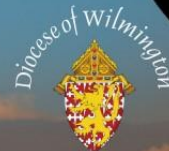


Renaissance Star Assessment – Late Winter

Beginning Monday, March 4, and continuing through Friday, March 22, the late winter Renaissance Star assessment cycle will occur. This cycle marks the third of four cycles of assessment this year. All parish and diocesan elementary and high school students are to take the assessment during this time period.

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR EASTER RECONCILIATION MONDAY MARCH 25 3-8 PM

**VISIT A CATHOLIC CHURCH IN DELAWARE OR MARYLAND'S
EASTERN SHORE DURING OUR EXTENDED CONFESSION HOURS.
VISIT CDOW.ORG TO FIND A CHURCH NEAR YOU.**



Answer to Lenten Lesson #4 Question – A

**ONE WHO LOVES WITH PURITY CONSIDERS NOT THE GIFT OF
THE LOVER, BUT THE LOVE OF THE GIVER.**

THOMAS A KEMPIS