

# PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Diocese of Wilmington—Catholic Schools Office

November 3, 2023

## ***Pause and Ponder***

***Blessed are the meek,  
for they will inherit the land.***

*In the Sacrament of Confirmation, the gifts of the Holy Spirit, first received in Baptism, strengthen us each day in becoming the person God created each of us to be. These seven gifts are wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.*

*A gift that has always been of particular interest is fear of the Lord. This gift has also been termed the gift of wonder and awe. It reminds us of how small we are before God and the magnificence of God's love expressed in all of creation. Wonder and awe is a loving and profound reverence for God.*

*The meekness about which the third Beatitude speaks is the recognition of the wonder and awe of God. We stand in meekness in those moments when we are aware of the God's presence in our time and space.*

*To recognize our meekness before God requires us to enter into prayer with God. It calls us to set aside the busyness of our lives for a pause each day and to experience the grandeur of God enveloping each of us. It is at these moments that God swoops us into God's presence and we know what it means to "inherit the land," that is, to be blessed in the Kingdom of God.*

## ***Let Us Pray...***

- + for the faithful departed, especially those who returned to the Lord in the past year
- + for an openness to the Lord's call to the priesthood and consecrated life

## ***Calendar Dates***

<b>Sunday, Nov 5</b>	<b><i>Thirty-first Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></b> <i>Vocations Awareness Week</i> <i>Daylight Savings Time ends</i>
Monday, Nov 6	CSO Staff Meeting, 9:00 am
Tuesday, Nov 7	CSO School Visit, Most Blessed Sacrament Catholic School, 9:00 am
Wednesday, Nov 8	Bishop's Visit @ Good Shepherd Catholic School, 9:00 am
Thursday, Nov 9	<i>Dedication of the Lateran Basilica</i> Bishop's Visit @ Holy Cross School, 10:00 am
Friday, Nov 10	<i>St. Leo the Great</i> Veterans Day (observed)
<b>Sunday, Nov 12</b>	<b><i>Thirty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time</i></b>

## ***Catholic Identity – Eucharistic Adoration Week*** ***November 26-December 2***



The three-year National Eucharistic Revival focused in Year 1 on the diocese; in Year 2 attention is on the parish. As part of the revival this year, Bishop Koenig is asking all parishes in the Diocese of Wilmington to participate in Eucharistic Adoration Week from November 26 through December 2.

The week will be a wonderful invitation to attend Mass and to adore the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament. To the extent possible, each school is asked to include the celebration Mass in the weekly schedule. Either morning Mass with parishioners or a schoolwide

Mass is encouraged. In addition, time before the Blessed Sacrament is recommended. This time may be for silent prayer and/or public prayer.

In preparation for both the Mass and Eucharistic adoration, instruction for students may be necessary. Use this opportunity as a teachable moment. Here in this week which closes one liturgical year and readies us for the new one starting in Advent, the Lord comes to us. Don't miss this great gift for your students or yourself.

### ***Important Information***

#### **Digital Report Cards**

Parish and diocesan schools utilizing PowerSchool will move to digital report cards this school year. In order for parents and guardians to access their child(ren)'s report card, they will need access on the public portal. PSISJS will assist schools with questions in this process. Information (documentation and screencast) will be forthcoming from PSISJS.

The End-of-Term PowerSchool webinar is scheduled for **Thursday, November 16**. Information about the implementation of the digital report card will be presented at the webinar. Registration information from PSISJS will be sent to school administrators and PowerSchool admins.



### ***High School Placement Test - Deadline Week***

November 11-12 are the High School Placement Test dates for Padua Academy, St. Elizabeth High School, Saint Mark's High School, and Saints Peter & Paul High School.

Registrations must be completed online by Thursday, November 9. Please remind families about this deadline.

## ***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 21**. Grades **should not** be closed before that date.
- The date on which grades are due (**Wednesday, November 29**) and the week report cards are to be distributed (**December 4**) 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.

## ***Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award***

***Shine a light on the Catholic school student who is changing the world.***

Walking the halls of your school are unsung heroes, community champions—students who go above and beyond their daily routines to exemplify a missionary discipleship in service to others. One of them might be an honoree of the NCEA [Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award](#). With NCEA, [Archangel Education + Technology](#) is excited to sponsor the 2023 – 2024 Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award.

[Nominate](#) that student who best illustrates the virtues, valor and vision of Christian service. Nominations are due by **Friday, December 8, 2023**. Awardees will be notified by mid-January.

*NCEA 2022 - 2023 Youth Virtues, Valor and Vision Award Winners*

[https://www.ncea.org/NCEA/NCEA/How\\_We\\_Serve/Awards/Youth\\_Virtues\\_Vvalor\\_and\\_Vision\\_Award\\_Winners.aspx](https://www.ncea.org/NCEA/NCEA/How_We_Serve/Awards/Youth_Virtues_Vvalor_and_Vision_Award_Winners.aspx)

**DON'T BE DEAF TO THE LORD'S CALL. IF HE CALLS YOU  
TO FOLLOW THIS PATH, DO NOT PULL YOUR OARS INTO  
THE BOAT, BUT TRUST HIM.**

**POPE FRANCIS  
VOCATIONS AWARENESS WEEK**