

PRINCIPAL'S NOTES

Diocese of Wilmington—Catholic Schools Office

October 20, 2023

Pause and Ponder

***Blessed are those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.***

Each of us probably recalls the parable of the Good Samaritan, the story of a man robbed while travelling from Jerusalem to Jericho. Among the passersby, it was only the foreigner, the Samaritan, distained by the Jews, who stopped to assist the injured man. "He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him (Luke 10:34)."

What does cleansing and binding wounds, carrying a wounded person and waiting on him imply? The ability to look at someone else's pain and brokenness, to share in his or her disfigurement, to "get messy," to become weighted down by his or her sorrow, and to disrupt one's own life for the other's needs.

Daily Prayer 2023

This Gospel selection and the description of extending comfort to one in need reinforces the second Beatitude. We touch the sorrow of sin when we get in the middle of a challenging situation and do what is right and just. When we take on the sacrifices required to meet the needs of another, then we become comfort bearers to the one who is hurting. Here's the invitation for us this week – to bring comfort to a person who feels hopeless or helpless in some way.

Let Us Pray...

+ in thanksgiving for the completion of the team visit by the Middle States Association at Saints Peter & Paul Elementary School

+ for the repose of the souls of...

Robert P. Corsini, father of Joseph Corsini, Chief Financial Officer, Diocese of Wilmington

Sister Susan Louise Eder, OSFS, sister of Sister Anne Elizabeth Eder, OSFS, and Sister Frances Carol Eder, OSFS



Calendar Dates

Sunday, Oct 22

Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Monday, Oct 23

CSO Staff Meeting, 9:00 am

Thursday, Oct 26

Bishop's Visit, 10:00 am,
Mount Aviat Academy

Primary and Early Childhood
Levels Coordinators' Meeting,
3:45 pm, St. Anthony of Padua
School

Sunday, Oct 29

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Catholic Identity

All Saints Day – November 1

All Souls Day – November 2

“I believe... in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.” – These final words of the Apostles Creed gain our focus in November, the Month of the Holy Souls. We learn from the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* that faith in the resurrection of our bodies is inseparable from our faith in the Resurrection of Christ’s body from the dead. He rose as our head, as the pattern of our rising, and as the life-giving source of our new life. All the dead will rise when Jesus comes again to judge the living and the dead. In the final resurrection, our bodies will be transformed, although we do not know precisely how. The manner of our resurrection exceeds our understanding and imagination and is accessible only by our faith.

United States Catholic Catechism for Adults

The Resurrection was one question on the ARK assessment that offered the opportunity for further development among our students. Spending time sharing the Gospel accounts of the resurrection, comparing and contrasting them, sets the stage for a conversation about our own resurrection from the dead, as affirmed in the Apostles and Nicene Creeds.

Perhaps praying the Apostles or Nicene Creed may be appropriate prayer during the month of November.

Important Information

Safe Environment Forms Due

The Asbestos Report (all elementary and secondary schools) and the Environmental Issues Management Report (parish and diocesan elementary and secondary schools) are due **October 31**. Forms may be found on the CSO intranet under Administrator Resources> School Environment Reporting Forms.

High School Placement Test

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. Elementary schools are asked to remind students and their parents or guardians weekly of the registration deadline in school communications.



Delaware School Counselor of the Year Award

Dear Educators, Students and Families,

Do you know an exceptional school counselor? Of course you do! There are lots of them, but has one made a significant impact on you, your child or maybe the school where you work? Now is the time to recognize and reflect on how school counselors impact and promote the academic and social emotional growth of students as they prepare to become citizens of the 21st century.

Would you like to honor a school counselor who has gone above and beyond the regular duties of their job, as they plan and implement programs and activities that make a difference for the students, families and communities in Delaware? In appreciation of our school counselors' invaluable contributions, the DSCA Board is now accepting nominations for our Delaware School Counselor of the Year Award.

Nominating a school counselor is easy and a school counselor only needs **ONE nomination** in order to be part of the process. Please use and share the link below:

[DE School Counselor of the Year Nomination Form '23](#)

The deadline for nominations is November 3, 2023

All nominees will be notified of their nomination(s) after the deadline date and will be provided with information about the next step in the process.

It is important to note that this award is different from the State of Delaware Behavioral Health Professional of the Year Award. School counselors are eligible for both awards, but each is overseen by different entities and has different requirements.

Feel free to share this with anyone who might be interested in nominating a school counselor. If you have any questions, contact Jodi DaCosta, jodi.dacosta@mysca.org or (302) 722-7118.

Sincerely,

Jodi DaCosta
DSCA Professional Recognition Chair

**BEST
SCHOOL
COUNSELOR
EVER**

Worth Sharing

Diocesan Theme

Is the diocesan theme – *Let Us Build the Kingdom of God* – prominent in classrooms, beyond a regular sheet of paper posted with the words on it? If we become what we behold, then a bulletin board or poster should display this message boldly and visibly in every classroom so it remains a focal point for the school year.

ELL Strategies

English Language Learner strategies work for all learners. Check out this video - <https://mailchi.mp/nd/enl-2-minute-tips-oct2023-schema-charts?e=661d4616ac> from ACE, Notre Dame University. It is a sample of a number of other short videos regarding language learning strategies that offer good ideas for use in all subjects.

Saints

As you prepare for November and remember saints, this video - <https://www.sadlier.com/religion/saints> may be worthwhile.

Honoring Our Lady of the Rosary

On Thursday, October 19, more than 500 students, teachers, administrators, and parents from 11 different Catholic schools joined Bishop Koenig in praying the rosary at the Shrine of Our Lady, Queen of Peace at Holy Spirit Parish. The students were prepared, purposeful, and prayerful at this occasion.

Thank you to CPO for reinstituting this event post-pandemic.

Here is the link to the Rosary Pilgrimage photos on Google.

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/wAsQ1JwEK9MabdRS7>

SOMETIMES OUR LIGHT GOES OUT, BUT IS BLOWN AGAIN
INTO INSTANT FLAME BY AN ENCOUNTER WITH ANOTHER
HUMAN BEING.

ALBERT SCHWEITZER