



St. Ann School Wednesday Memo

SAINT ANN SCHOOL
— putting faith in education —

3/1/17



Lunch supervision volunteers must arrive no later than 11:15 AM (11:00 AM if possible).

Total for 17 Lunches for March: \$50.15

Monday, March 6	Pizza Dippers
Supervision	Zywicki
Tuesday, March 7	Pulled Chicken Hard or Soft Shell Taco
Supervision	Blackburn
Wednesday, March 8	Chicken Sandwich
Supervision	Wise
Thursday, March 9	Italian Meatball Sub
Supervision	Blackburn
Friday, March 10	Grilled Cheese and Soup
Supervision	Tomczyk



*"Our Faith Stories" featuring Fr. David Carrano and Jo Laffey
Sunday, March 5
6:30 PM - Healy Hall*

Please join us for a real spiritual treat! When asked to summarize her talk, Jo said that it is about finding God in our daily lives - in nature, in the deserts of our lives, in the struggles. Jo will also talk about getting beyond the times of doubt. Fr. Dave would entitle his talk: "10,000 difficulties do not make one doubt." (St. J H Newman) The Interior Faith Life of a Disciple and Priest of Jesus Christ. Please come and be inspired!

Upcoming Events at St. Ann's

March 2	Forensics Meet at Cross Plains
March 3	KC Fish Fry - 5:00-7:30 PM
March 5	1st Communion Retreat - 3:00-5:30 PM
	Faith Stories - 6:30 PM
March 6	Eucharistic Adoration - 12:00-1:00 PM
March 7	Regional Math 24 Meet
March 8	Souper Supper - 5:30 PM
	Stations of the Cross - 6:15 PM

St. Ann Knights of Columbus Fish Fry

**This Friday, March 3, 2017
5:00 PM - 7:30 PM
St. Ann Gym**



It's Yearbook Order Time

Yearbook Order Forms were sent home in the family envelope last week. You may pay online (see details on the order envelope) or by check made out to St. Ann School. **Orders are due by March 15.**

Acre Testing

Acre Testing for grades 5 and 8 will be taking place the week of March 6-10. The purpose of the ACRE test is to help school, parish, and diocesan leaders evaluate the faith knowledge and attitudes of students in Catholic schools and religious education programs.

Help Fill the A.R.K. with your donations!

As an extension to our Faith Family unit on Kindness, St. Ann is collecting donations to fill our A.R.K. with our Acts of Random Kindness. We are collecting non-perishable food items to help stock the Stoughton Food Pantry. We are also collecting new "ish" stuffed animals to donate to the Madison Police Department. Please drop your donations to the A.R.K. by the office by Friday, March 3. Thanks for your KINDNESS!



**Don't forget to order
SCRIP!**

Remember Scrip for your special occasion and everyday shopping!



Principal's Corner

Lately my mind has been racing with thoughts. Because of both personal as well as professional issues, I have been spending literally hours thinking about my own children as well as those whose care are entrusted to my staff and me each week. I have had numerous parents and teachers come to me for advice and guidance. In turn, I have been seeking the help of other parents and counselors for wisdom and comfort. With each interaction, our goal is the same: we all want our kids to be healthy, emotionally, spiritually, and physically. What I have found most challenging, however, is the huge disparity of opinions as to the means to achieve our common goal. Coincidentally, (or not: I have a HUGE belief in the workings of the Holy Spirit during my most trying times.) a number of resources have crossed my path that is generating much discussion and thought amongst my family. Although these resources are completely disconnected from each other, they all seem to have a common underlying link.

The first resource was posted on Facebook by one of my former students who served active duty in Iraq. It's George C. Scott's Oscar-winning portrayal of General Patton and his infamous speech to the Third Army during World War II. If you haven't had a chance to listen to it, I encourage you to. The speech is an attempt to rally the troops before battle, and its focus is on winners and losers and how we develop the desire and hunger for success through our experience of losing. Perhaps the video is best summarized by another famous leader, Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi: "If winning isn't everything, then why do they keep score?"

The next resource was sent to me from a co-worker and is a talk on Millennials (people born after 1984) in the workforce. The speaker describes the challenges facing these young adults, and although it may seem that the topic is only for the older Millennials, I found several commonalities with my own children and our students, including their disillusionment with the status quo, desire to be hands-on, and demand for instant gratification. Admittedly, this one was a difficult interview to watch as the speaker placed 100% of the blame on we parents who overly protect our kids and award them for every good deed done, earned or not.

The final resources come from our Gospels these past two weeks. The first was our Gospel from Matthew, Chapter 5, which includes Jesus' famous teaching on loving our neighbor as ourselves and the message to "turn the other cheek" when our enemies wrong us. Last Sunday's Gospel, meanwhile, reminded us that we cannot serve two "masters" and must strive to keep our eyes locked on God rather than worry about the everyday thoughts that only distract us and keep us from growing closer to God.

Though vastly different from each other, all four media sources provided challenges that we parents constantly face: We want our children to be gracious losers but value the desire to win; We want them to work hard while motivating others to do the same; We want them to take criticism graciously and use it as fuel to try harder; And most of all, we want them to be compassionate yet resolved in their faith in God. Although it meant some very tough introspection, all of this material helped me formulate some questions to which I am now praying for answers: Have I taught my children the value of losing? Have I provided them with enough tools not only to solve their own problems but to work with others compassionately to help them with theirs? Have I been a good model of forgiveness and tolerance? Have I shown them that my love of Christ is firm and unwavering? Have I instilled in them the hunger to do their best but not at the cost of losing their values?

As we begin our Lenten Journey at St. Ann's, focusing on the themes of fasting, praying, giving, thanking, serving, and reflecting, I am going to keep these questions close to my heart and encourage my children as well as yours to ask themselves these same questions as they travel on their journey to be closer to Christ during this Lenten Season. I ask that you talk to your own children about their journey and their plans and ask them the very questions that the teachers are asking them to reflect on each week. Our kids have become amazingly prayerful and contemplative, and I know they will have many insights, some that may even surprise you. All you have to do is make time to journey with them.

~ Kara Reisum