

PTG NEWS

PTG Meeting Highlights

The Parent Teacher Guild held its first general meeting of the school year on October 17. In addition to hearing updates on PTG activities, attendees received an overview of the new math curriculum, Go Math. The discussion included questions about the selection process, homework, and expectations. Parents were encouraged to contact their child's teacher if there are concerns and to review the curriculum's on-line resources.

Upcoming PTG Meetings

Remember that you are already a member of the PTG. There are no dues. You are welcome to attend all of our general meetings. The remaining meetings this school year are as follows:

- January 9, 6:30 p.m., School Library
- May 15, 6:30 p.m., School Library

PTG Board Members

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A Note from the Principal

Practice Good Study Habits

Although your children spend hours in school every week, the time they spend at home doing school-related work is just as important. By helping your children learn and practice good study habits, you'll do a lot to help them succeed in school.

Have a set time to settle down. By having the same start-time for homework every day, you avoid daily battles about when it's time to hit the books. Many families have their kids start their studies as soon as they get home from school. Others wait until after dinnertime. The key is to have a routine and stick to it.

Our Fall Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Tuesday, November 7 from 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m. Please make every effort to schedule a conference with your child's teacher. Your attendance at our conferences in the fall (and in the spring) is vital to the overall academic success of your child here at St. Louise de Marillac School.

Recess

It is important to dress your child appropriately for the weather. We go outside when at all possible. A light coat or sweat shirt is strongly suggested during October and November.

The month of October each year is dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary. This is primarily due to the fact that the liturgical feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is celebrated annually on October 7th. It was instituted to honor the Blessed Virgin Mary in gratitude for the protection that she gives the Church in answer to the praying of the Rosary by the faithful.

During this month of October, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation.

With God all things are possible,

Mr. Klase

****First Grade Covered Dish Reminder****

Invitations went out via back pack mail.
Please RSVP by November 2.

Since our theme is "Around-the-World", we've created a SignUp Genius for the potluck. Please be sure and sign up so we know what you're bringing: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0445a9ab28a57-1stgrade2>.

In lieu of the typical charge per family for the event, we are asking each family to bring 2 pairs of pajamas (new with tags) for local foster children via the organization Blueprints. Please keep an eye out in your child's back pack for the details on this which will include the foster child's name, size and gender.

This will be a memorable and special evening with your 1st Grader so please arrange to leave siblings at home.

Contact Nicole and Seashal with questions at seashal@gmail.com and nbirming@hotmail.com



Grace Before the R4CE

THANK YOU to all of the families who attended the Grace Before the R4CE pasta dinner. The evening was shared by 200+ guests, and we would like to thank our welcoming and gracious volunteers and student helpers who ensured the ease of the meal. All were well fed by Pasta Too, and we appreciate Ray Piacquadio's guidance from behind the scenes. It was a fabulous night to come together as a St. Louise community. Thank you again.

All Parents - Yearbook News!

Parents, please don't miss out on memories for the year! Purchase your child's yearbook online at jostensyearbooks.com. Also, we are in need of your photos, especially for fall sports action shots. Please download the Jostens ReplayIt app to your phone and just send us a few photos to have your children recognized in the yearbook.

8th Grade parents should be emailing two images of their son/daughter to Erin Boni at eefemedia@gmail.com. One photo should be from their first day of school (kindergarten/first grade) and the second image a recent photo that they like (neither need be formal images). These are due by November 3 for the "new" 8th grade honoring pages.

STREAM Lab

Students are enjoying the new STREAM Lab at St. Louise. The new furniture, which offers flexible seating and choices for the students, is a definite crowd pleaser! The new logo reminds everyone what our focus is with STREAM - Science, Technology, Religion, Engineering, Arts, and Math.

We are "gearing" up for some Robotics activities in this month and the students can't wait to learn more about the robots that are in the lab. Last month the focus was on Engineering and collaborating using 21st century skills while learning about countries for The Amazing RACE. Students spent time learning about some historic buildings from each country and building models of these structures in the lab.



Save the Date November 30, 2017



Our annual St. Nick Shop is a shopping extravaganza held in the STL gymnasium. It is a safe and friendly environment where our children can buy Christmas gifts for their family and friends! Everything is priced between \$.50 and \$15.00 and gift wrap is provided for grades K-3.

A complete list of vendors will be sent home closer to the event. As a preview of what to expect, we will have over 20 vendors including the following:

- jewelry
- ornaments
- candy
- homemade soaps
- scarves
- professional sports items
- beauty products
- Feed the Mind gift cards
- Sugar Sugar Scrub – NEW VENDOR THIS YEAR
- items carefully selected from Dick's Sporting Goods, the Dollar Store, Five Below, Target and TJ Maxx

We need lots of volunteers to make the event fun and successful for the kids. We need cashiers, gift wrappers, shopper helpers, help with set-up and clean-up and food and drink donations. The SignUp Genius will be sent out in mid-November.

If you are unable to volunteer during the event, but have young children in Kindergarten and Grade One, please consider attending or asking a family member to attend to help your children shop.



A big thank you to all of the families, neighbors, friends and parishioners who helped make our fall collection contest a HUGE success! Tops are still being counted and the winner of the 100+ submissions will be announced the first week of November.

A special thank you to our volunteer counters who sign up to organize, count, bag, and record a homeroom (or two or three!). Your help makes this program run so smoothly and it is genuinely very appreciated.

Special Holiday Box Top\$ Mini-Collection

Did you know that Box Top\$ are on so many of the products you will be buying to make all of your wonderful holiday treats this year? Look for a flyer before Thanksgiving that will give you a list of the participating products and a space to secure your Box Top\$. Submit a sheet with 25 Box Top\$ and earn an entry for a fabulous Baker's Bounty gift basket!

Contact Amy Creely, stlboxtops@gmail.com, with any questions.

*Share Your Talents!
Become More Involved!
Volunteer for a PTG Committee!*

Gala Update

Our 2018 Run for the Roses Gala will be held on Friday, January 26. For those of you that are new to the school, this is our other major fundraiser of the school year. We just held our first planning meeting but are still in need of lots of help. The event is only two weeks earlier this year but will sneak up on us quickly because it is only a few weeks after we return from Christmas break.

I have heard from lots of people about how busy they are. I get it! Everyone is stretched to the limit. Just know that you don't need to attend every meeting to be involved in the Gala planning and just a few hours of your time can help offset some of the workload.

Currently, one of our needs is data entry. We are looking to add a few more people to the team who can help with the date entry and help following the event with the credit card charges. Just a few hours of your time based on your availability and this doesn't require a lot of meetings. Also, we are looking for people to help solicit donations and auction items. We have a team that has been very successful for years securing goods and services but for many them, it is their last year at St. Louise.

We are looking for sponsorships on various levels. If you or someone you know would consider a sponsorship, we can get you the form to review. It is a great way to get your business recognized.

Lastly, a great big thank you to all who have already agreed to help with the Gala, but we are still looking for others who can offer their time and talent. For more information on how you can help make the 2018 Run for the Roses a successful evening, email us at gala@stlouisedemarillac.org.

Thanks,
Mary Anne Meade, Gala Chair



Cafeteria Volunteers Needed



The cafeteria is still in need of volunteers for Monday through Thursday teams.

Please consider donating 2 hours of your day once a month to support this STL service.

Benefits include:

1. Seeing your child in his or her school environment
2. Catching up with other parents on school activities and opportunities
3. The opportunity to experience the same meal your child is offered

Schedule:

- Arrive at the cafeteria by 10:30 a.m. on your assigned day
- Serving begins at 11:15 a.m.
- Work is completed by 12:30 p.m., and then all volunteers are invited to enjoy a free hot lunch at the cafeteria.

For available dates, please contact Seashal and Maureen at seashal@gmail.com and mmurphy17@gmail.com.

Pray the Rosary



Evelyn West and Ava Yoder from Mrs. Joyce's fifth grade class designed and put together this bulletin board to commemorate the 100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima.

Kindergarten Dessert

We want to thank everyone for all their help and generosity to make the Kindergarten Dessert a true success. It was held on Wednesday September 27 in LeGras Hall and was a Dr. Seuss Event to remember. All the children made Dr. Seuss hats and wore them with pride. We hope all the students and their families made new friends and enjoyed the evening.

We especially want to thank Mr. Klase, Mrs. Makowski and the St. Louise Le Gras Hall Team for helping us with the event. To all the 1st Grade Parents - we are truly blessed to have such a supportive team which helped with decorating, cleaning, crafts, set-up and donations of tons of yummy treats. We want to thank you all so much!

Dr. Seuss provides us all with a few words of wisdom and life lessons – so remember: “Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory.” We are blessed to have our



children at St. Louise where many life moments will become forever and impressionable memories! Thank you to all!

Upcoming Events

- Baby Bottle Service Project, ends Friday, October 27
- The Catholic Truth about Angels, Demons, Ghosts and Hauntings, Friday, October 27, 7:00 p.m., LeGras
- Trunk or Treat, Saturday, October 28, 7:00 p.m. Back School Parking Lot
- Halloween Classroom Parties, October 31, 1:00 p.m.
- All Saints Day School Liturgy, Wednesday, November 1, 9:00 a.m.

- End of First Marking Period, Wednesday, November 1
- Winter Uniforms Begin, Wednesday, November 1
- 6th Grade Grandparents Day, Friday, November 3, Liturgy at 11:30 a.m.
- No All School Liturgy, Friday, November 3
- Feed Your Marriage Date Night, Friday, November 3, 5:45 p.m., LeGras
- Clerical Day, No School, Monday, November 6
- Parent/Teacher Conferences, No School, Tuesday, November 9, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
- Report Cards Distributed, Wednesday, November 8
- Veteran’s Day Ceremony, Friday, November 10, 1:00 p.m.
- Fall Play, Friday, November 10 and Saturday, November 11, 7:00 p.m., Gym
- Family Fun Service Day, Saturday, November 11, 9:30-11:30 a.m., LeGras
- CVOL Parent Meeting, Monday, November 13, 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria
- Mooncrest Food Collection Begins, Monday, November 13
- 2nd Grade VIP/Student Lunch, Wednesday, November 15, 12:15 p.m., Cafeteria
- 1st Grade Covered Dish, Thursday, November 16, 6:30 p.m., LeGras
- Turkey Bowl, Grades 7 and 8, Sunday, November 19, 1:30 p.m.
- Thanksgiving Break, No School, November 22-27
- St. Nick Shop, Thursday, November 30, Gym



100th Anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima

This month the Catholic Formation Committee has been extra busy working to commemorate and



educate about the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima. On October 4, STL students participated in the annual Living Rosary where students formed the shape of the rosary in church and carried roses that would be presented to the Blessed Mother. What made the event even more powerful was that the statue used was that of Our Lady of Fatima originating from Fatima and blessed by a bishop. The school community prayed the Joyful mysteries of the rosaries and reflected on how Our Lady is calling each of us to cooperate with God's grace and come to know and love her Son.

At the all school liturgy on October 13, a special communion reflection was read in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Miracle of the Sun. Below is what the children heard Our Lady say to them...



“My dear children, early on during the apparitions with the children of Fatima, I told them that in October I would reveal who I was and give a sign so that all would believe that I had been appearing. Approximately

70,000 people from all over the land came to the Cova, a small field, to witness a miracle from Heaven. There were heavy downpours of rain that continued into the morning of October 13, 1917. Sometime after noon I once again appeared to Lucia, Francesco and Jacinta as promised. I declared, ‘I am the Lady of the Rosary. I am asking you to tell others to amend their lives and ask pardon for their sins. Let them offend Our Lord God no more, for He is already much offended.’

As I raised my arm to Heaven, the rain ceased and the sun became like a disk of white fire in the sky piercing through the clouds. The air became colder and people were able to look directly at the sun without it being painful. It resembled much like an eclipse but then the sun began to dance in the sky. Streams of colors radiated from the sun, flung across the sky and appeared on the neighboring trees, rocks and people's clothing. The sun appeared to detach from the sky and suddenly plunge to earth. Many people believed it was the end of the world and began begging God for forgiveness in a final grasp to save their souls. Within a few minutes the sun retreated and the people noticed that the earth, once soaked with rain, was completely dry.



I then showed only the three children a series of pictures in the sky. The first image was that of the Holy Family...I was

dressed in white along with a blue mantle, St. Joseph was also dressed in white and the child, Jesus wore bright red. Both Joseph and Jesus made a sign of the cross three times to bless the crowd that was present at the Cova. The second image shown to the children was that of me as Our Lady of Sorrows standing next to my Son and grieving, similar to when we met on the road to His crucifixion. The final picture was a vision of glory with me crowned as Queen of Heaven and the infant Jesus sitting on my knee. These three images were to symbolize the Joyful, Sorrowful and Glorious Mysteries of the Rosary and my deep desire for you to pray the rosary often as a weapon against evil.

You are living in desperate times and there is no time to waste. There has already been so much time wasted on things of this world that will not last. You are living in a time of great grace where Our Lord wishes to shower you with His presence...

especially in the sacrament of reconciliation and the holy Eucharist...but it is your choice...always your choice to let Him in or shut my Son out.



This world is broken because it has chosen to turn away from God. The enemy is a master of lies and tricks you into believing that pleasure is the same as happiness. My children, protect your eyes, ears and heart from things that are not pure. You are a temple where my Son dwells. You are sacred and should not be defiled. What you see and hear are like seeds and if those seeds are impure, they will grow into unholy thoughts and sinful actions. When you pray the rosary with devotion, you are reflecting on holy thoughts, and therefore, holy actions will follow. I promise you that your heart will desire heavenly things, a longing to please God and a disgust for that which offends God. The Miracle of the Sun in Fatima was a miracle of changes that took place in the sky. The greater miracle, however, is the change that takes place in one's heart.”

Catholic Truth about Angels, Demons, Ghosts and Hauntings

Do your kids wonder about Ghosts and Demons and other spooky stuff? Kids 12 and up and all interested parents, please join us for a dynamic talk by nationally renowned speaker, Dave VanVickle on Catholic Truth about Angels, Ghosts, Demons and Exorcisms on Friday, October 27 in LeGras Hall, 7:00 p.m.

Our kids are fascinated by these topics - let's find out the truth about them together! Don't miss this opportunity. Refreshments served afterward. Donations accepted at the door.

Don't Forget Your Date Night!

Time to register you and your spouse for the November 3 Feed Your Marriage Date Night!

This night is always fun, enlightening, and delicious. Haven't come before? You've been missing out and we've been missing you! Doors open at 5:45 for great appetizers and craft beer tasting, awesome speaker at 7:00, catered dinner, (keg beer or BYOB) at 8:00! Register/pay online at stlouiseschoolpa.org Feed Your Marriage date night link.

Questions? Call or text Rebecca Pettigrew at 412-770-7635.

Next Issue

The next issue of the PTG News will be published on November 29. Articles are due to Michele Sites, msites1@verizon.net, on Tuesday, November 21.



St. Louise de Marillac, Pray for Us