



“The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.”

Psalm 23

Dear Parents and Guardians,

November 21, 2020

The decision to end in-person learning and to move to 100% virtual was not an easy one for our Board to make, nor was it an easy one for us to accept. Rising Covid numbers combined with the potential for Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings/ travel were the reasons for acting in an abundance of caution. Although we each have our own opinion on the matter, there are a few things we can all agree on.

1. Our students and families did a wonderful job following all CDC and DC safety/ health guidelines. Arrival, dismissal, and everything in between was smooth and efficient.
2. Our faculty and staff are to be commended for taking daily temperatures, administering daily health screenings, and welcoming our Pre-K3, Pre-K4, and Benedictine Scholars.
3. Whether your child received in-person instruction, support and supervision, or simply opportunities to get out of the house and be with staff and friends our time together was fun, productive, and worth it!
4. The Friday Exchange has been helpful for students, parents, and teachers and it will continue. Future dates are December 4, 11, and 18 and January 8, 15, and 29.

Let us be grateful for the time we had in-person and commit to stay connected until we can be together in-person again. There are many ways we can stay connected.

- Attend all virtual classes prepared and ready to learn.
- Attend all meetings and prayer opportunities via Zoom.
- Check your email regularly for correspondence from your child’s teacher(s).
- Read my weekly Friday Note.
- Visit our website for news and updates.
- Share pictures and good news for our school’s social media.
- Connect with your child’s classmates to allow friendships to continue.
- Participate in school-sponsored virtual activities.



Pre-K Parent Meeting... A meeting for Pre-K3 and Pre-K4 families will be held via Zoom on Monday, November 23 at 6:00 PM. The link will be emailed to you.

Thank you... Our Thanksgiving Canned Food Drive was a success! Thank you to Mr. Huston and 7th grade for hosting and thank you to everyone who donated non-perishable items.

Thanks are also extended to all who attended this week's Home & School Meeting. Officer Dugan gave a powerful presentation on technology safety. Related resources will soon be shared. The topic is a heavy one, but one that every parent and educator needs to hear. Kudos to Mrs. Bond for arranging it.

Did you know? All of our students are taught child protection/ safety standards each fall. In addition, Officer Dugan presented technology safety to students in grades 3-8.

Progress Reports... We will no longer distribute progress reports on December 4. Teachers will reach out to families via email to share any concerns. In the meantime, grade 4-8 families should visit Plus Portal weekly to learn your child's most recent progress.

Cold Cash... Our first fund raiser of the year has launched! Cold Cash works much like a raffle ticket. Cold Cash cards are \$20.00 each. (They make perfect Christmas gifts! They can be easily mailed or stuffed in a Christmas stocking.) Each card has a unique number. Numbers will be drawn each day in January. The winning card number wins the prize of the day. Card holders are eligible to win more than once. Winners will be notified by a phone call on the day of the drawing. Be sure to return the card holder's contact information with the payment. Please use the form attached to your Cold Cash envelope. All proceeds will go toward gym upgrades. Contact the office for more details or to obtain more cards.

Cold Cash Card							CASH!
31 CHANCES TO WIN!							
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	
					\$25	\$50	
1	\$75	\$100	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$25
10	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100
17	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$25	\$50	\$75
24	\$100	\$25	\$50	\$75	\$100	\$25	\$50
31	\$500						

Card numbers are drawn every day during January 2021. If your card number is drawn, you win that day's cash prize. All card numbers are eligible each day, and you can win more than once. Thank you for your support!

Please note: Cold Cash cards can be purchased from our website.

Let us pray... In life, we shared love and joy. Our faith assures us that these bonds do not end with death. We invite you to share the names of your deceased loved ones so we may keep them in prayer throughout the month of November. Names may be emailed to me or your child's homeroom teacher. May God in His mercy continue to bless you and gather to Himself the souls of all our faithful departed. Mass will be offered for our deceased loved ones at 10:00 AM on Thanksgiving Day.

Principal Chats... Join me on Zoom every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 AM and 12:00-12:30 PM. The same link is used each week. All are welcome.

Turkey... The parish will distribute frozen turkeys and sides later on Tuesday, November 24. If you or a family you know could benefit please contact the office.

Tomorrow is The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. The readings are beautiful ones. I hope you get a chance to read them.

Peace,
Mr. Thomasian

Proudly celebrating our 97th year!