

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC SCHOOL WEEKLY NEWS

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Lent is a journey, a pilgrimage! Yet, as we begin it, as we make the first step into the "bright sadness" of Lent, we see far, far away our destination. It is the joy of Easter; it is the entrance into the glory of the kingdom. And it is this vision, the foretaste of Easter, that makes Lent's sadness bright and our Lenten effort a "Spiritual Spring." The night may be dark and long, but all along the way a mysterious and radiant dawn seems to shine on the horizon.

Brother Victor-Antoine d'Avila-Latourrette
Table Blessings

FROM THE PRINCIPAL . . .

Auction Chair Sandy Cariel has let me know that **there are still a few seats left for our "It's a Round-up Auction."** This is not just our biggest fundraiser of the year, it is also our biggest social event of the year. You won't want to miss this affair! Call Sandy and let her know you want to make a dinner reservation. I can promise you that the food will be outstanding since **Splurge, the best catering company in the Bay Area**, is providing a scrumptious feast of BBQ ribs and chicken, baked beans, French fries and onion rings, coleslaw, AND a black & gold chocolate fountain. I can't wait to don my Stetson hat, cowboy boots, and jeans to attend this première function. [Okay, so I don't own a Stetson hat or cowboy boots!]

By the way, co-chairs Sandy Cariel and Shelby Kennedy tell me that the Auction Committee has outdone itself, getting absolutely fabulous donations from businesses in addition to the wonderful items each of you donated. **A sampling of items available to bid on** include tickets to the Douglas Morrisson Theatre, Punch Line San Francisco, and

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SCHOOL HOLIDAY

There is no school next Friday, March 16th. Classes will resume on Monday, March 19th.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SALE

You can support Girl Scout Troop 1390 and the Parish Master Plan by purchasing Girl Scout cookies after school on Thursday, March 15, 2007. The cookies contain no trans fat and are still only \$3.50 a box. This year they are also offering a new sugar-free cookie, the Little Brownie. Cash and checks will be accepted and **25% of the profits will go to the All Saints Parish Master Plan.** If you have question, please call Rachelle Reese at (510) 581-2348.

EASTER CANDY SALE

A few weeks ago order forms went home for the Easter Candy Sale from Sees Candy. Order forms and payment are due to the school office by **Thursday, March 15th**, not the 16th as noted on the flyer attached to the order forms. Make checks payable to All Saints School. If you have any questions, please call Mary Kate Lathrop at (510) 258-9738. Orders will arrive the week prior to Spring Break.

M ISSION STATEMENT . . .

All Saints Catholic School, a parish K-8 school with Dominican roots, provides a faith-filled, safe, and nurturing environment in a community that celebrates its traditions and diversity. All Saints School is dedicated to academic excellence, to fostering every child's scholastic success, and to supporting parents in developing respectful, responsible, socially conscious children who grow in their Catholic faith and their ability to say yes to life . . . yes to God.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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the California Shakespeare Festival; guest passes to the Lindsay Wildlife Museum, Lawrence Hall of Science, the Winchester Mystery House, the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum, the Oakland Zoo, and the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose; restaurant certificates for Celia's Mexican Restaurant, Starbuck's, Bronco Billy's, Tequilla Grill, and Buon Appetito; and tickets to see the Warriors, Oakland A's, and Indy 500. Might one of these be something you can't go home without? Remember, however, that even if your budget does not allow you to bid on items, the auction provides a great opportunity to feast, dance, and celebrate community with other school and parish families. I hope to see you there.

One of the items discussed at the PTG meeting earlier this week was **traffic safety**. A number of parents reported noting unsafe practices during morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up. Because I know we all agree that nothing is more important than the safety of our children, I take the time now to review the school policy regarding the dropping off and picking up of children on the playground.

MORNING DROP-OFF PROCEDURES

Cars should enter from High Street. Once in the school yard, cars should proceed slowly (at 5 mph) towards the coned-off area. At the large sign, cars may proceed into one of two lanes. The western-most lane (closest to the school building) will exit onto E Street. The lane farthest from the school building will loop around and exit back onto High Street.

Cars in the lane exiting onto E Street should, when safe, proceed as far as possible towards the crosswalk that goes from the gym porch to the school building. A parent will direct cars when it is safe for them to proceed. Cars in the lane exiting back onto High Street should, when safe, pull up parallel to the gym porch. To ensure the safety of all children, **STUDENTS SHOULD EXIT CARS ON THE SIDE CLOSEST TO THE BUILDINGS.**

Students must remain to the west of the cones when they arrive on the playground. Playing with any playground equipment is not permitted before school.

AFTERNOON DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Cars should enter from High Street and exit onto E Street or loop back around to High Street. Drivers are not to enter the school grounds until 2:55. If students are

present, drivers are expected to keep well away from their activities.

All cars should be parked to the east of the cones; they should not be parked next to the school building.

Although the speed limit on the playground is 5 m.p.h., drivers should use extreme caution when driving on school grounds. Children happy to see their parents at the end of the school day cannot be expected to watch for cars. **The responsibility for the safety of all our children belongs to the adult drivers.** Impatience with traffic cannot excuse any disregard for children's safety. Habitual speeders and inconsiderate drivers will be barred from driving on school property.

Students wait with their teachers in designated areas on the playground. **Parents/car pool drivers** (even of junior high students) **must pick children up from these waiting areas.** It is expected that all children and adults will exercise great care while walking to and from their cars.

Children are NOT to wait to be picked up on any street. Students who walk to or from school must have written permission from a parent/guardian to do so on file in the office and must sign out in the school office prior to leaving the building. All Kids Klub students must report directly to Kids Klub and stay in the facility until 3:30 p.m. This eliminates confusion over which children are being picked up and which are going to Kids Klub.

A few other things that would help with the smooth flow of traffic:

- The gathering up of personal items should be done prior to arriving in the drop-off zone. Please make sure your child is ready to exit your car when you arrive at the appropriate drop-off location.
- The drive-through drop-off zone is only for students who can safely exit a car on their own. If your child needs adult assistance to exit your car, you should park in an appropriate parking space, help your child out of your vehicle, and then walk him or her to the class line.
- Please park in appropriate parking spaces only. Such spaces are those with clearly marked lines east of the drop-off cones. Please do **NOT** park in unmarked areas as you may block egress for other cars.

One last thing: Drop-off and pick-up proce-
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EMERGENCY DRILL

Just a reminder that our annual Emergency Evacuation Drill will be held on Friday, March 30th, between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. We are required by the diocese to do one such drill each school year. **ALL families must pick-up or arrange for the pick-up of their children during the course of the drill.** Because we wish to cause families as little inconvenience as possible, Kids Klub will be open from 1:00 until 6:00 that day. Parents must, however, pick their children up at the scheduled time, evacuate the school yard, and take their children to Kids Klub via the front school door.

In an effort to keep things orderly, we are asking you to adhere to the following pick-up schedule based on the first letter of each family's last name:

A to E	1:00 to 1:30
F to L	1:30 to 2:00
M to R	2:00 to 2:30
S to Z	2:30 to 3:00

If you are picking up children other than your own, please pick them up at the time allocated for **your** family.

Please note: The school is only authorized to release your child to you, the parent(s), or to one of the people listed on your emergency form. Legally there can be no exceptions to this policy. If you need to update your information, please stop by the office and do so **now**. Because all emergency information must be updated onto each child's emergency nametag, office staff will be unable to process emergency release changes the week of the drill.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The All Saints Children's Choir is scheduled to sing at the 9:00 a.m. mass on Sunday, March 18, and on Easter Sunday, April 8th. All members should be in the chapel by 8:30 to practice and warm up.

SPRING PICTURE DAY

Spring pictures will be taken on Tuesday, March 20th. One volunteer is needed to assist photographers with the students. Photos will begin at 9:00 a.m. and continue for most of the school day. If you can help in this area please contact the school office.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

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dures on rainy days are identical to the procedures listed above.

Thank you for doing everything in your power to ensure the safety of our children.

We are still encouraging students to participate in our **Lenten outreach to help finance a well** in a village that currently does not have easy access to clean water. Teachers have been reading to their classes *Ryan and Jimmy*, the story of how six-year-old Ryan Hreljac built a well in a village in northern Uganda. I think all of our students have been inspired by the dedication and perseverance of this young man. (For more information about Ryan, please refer to our February 22nd newsletter.)

AUCTION RESERVATIONS

The All Saints School Annual Auction is this weekend, Saturday, March 10th, at 5pm. Dinner reservations are due now. Space is limited so please submit your payment and reservation form right away. Forms are available in the school office.

AUCTION DONATIONS

The auction committee is no longer accepting items as donations; however, cash donations are welcome. If you still need to meet your auction donation commitment, consider a cash donation. Thank you for your support!

AUCTION HELP NEEDED

Volunteers are needed to help with clean up after the auction. If you can assist in this area, please contact Sandy Cariel or personnel in the school office. You may also sign up in the auction volunteer sign up book in the school office. Thank you!

SCRIP RENEWAL

Many families have not yet renewed with e-Scrip. **PLEASE REMEMBER THAT YOU MUST RENEW YOUR E-SCRIP ANNUALLY** to receive credit for your purchases. You can renew by visiting www.escrip.com and clicking on 'my eScrip'.

CYO MASS AND PICTURES

CYO Mass and pictures will be held on Sunday, March 18th for Track and girls basketball. Mass is at 9:00 a.m., with pictures and refreshments to follow in the gym.

TRAFFIC DUTY

Week of 3/9 to 3/15

F 03/09 Loza/Marquez
M 03/12 Marquez
T 03/13 NEED VOLUNTEERS
W 03/14 Marquez
Th 03/15 NEED VOLUNTEERS

Traffic duty is from 7:35 to 8:05 a.m.

LUNCH SUPERVISION

Week of 3/9 to 3/15

F 03/09 NEED VOLUNTEERS
M 03/12 NEED VOLUNTEERS
T 03/13 NEED VOLUNTEERS
W 03/14 NEED VOLUNTEERS
Th 03/15 NEED VOLUNTEERS

Lunch supervision is from 12:00 to 1:45.

CALLING ALL ALUMNI

As we prepare for the school's sixtieth anniversary celebration, we are trying to update our alumni database. If you know All Saints School alumni, we'd appreciate it if you would call/ask them to call the school office to provide us with updated personal information, including name, address, phone number, email address, and year of graduation. Many thanks for your help in this endeavor.

INTENT TO RETURN FORMS

The annual Intent to Return form were attached to last week's newsletter. Please send your completed form to the school office by Thursday, March 15th. Thank you.

SCRIP NEWS

New!! We now have **Safeway scrip** available for purchase daily in the auditorium. Use scrip along with your Safeway club card and All Saints earns a larger profit! Remember, we also carry scrip for Arco, Home Depot, Lowes, Macys, JC Penney, Sears, Toys R Us, Longs Drugs, FoodMaxx, and Starbucks as part of our daily scrip inventory.

SOUP KITCHEN

Soup Kitchen will continue each Friday during Lent. It takes place at 6:30 in the Senior Center and is followed at 7:30 by Stations of the Cross in the church. I encourage you to bring your family and be part in this All Saints tradition. Soup Kitchen donations help to support our sister parish in Tanlajas, Mexico.

PORTUGUESE PARK LUNCHES

As part of our community outreach, All Saints Catholic School takes part in the parish Tuesday Breakfast in Portuguese Park Program. Seventh and eighth grade students work with parish volunteers to serve a meal to the hungry who gather every Tuesday morning in Portuguese Park for a hot breakfast. The school asks three classes a week to provide a healthy lunch to be handed out to those who gather for breakfast. Lunches should include a sandwich (no mayonnaise, please), a piece of fruit, a dessert, a drink, and a snack item (i.e. chips, carrot sticks). Lunches should be, if possible, placed in a plastic grocery bag. Many thanks for your participation in this important outreach.

Tues 03/13 Kindergarten, third, & sixth grade
Tues 03/20 Second, fifth, & eighth grade
Tues 03/27 First, fourth, & seventh grade

APPLICATION PACKETS

Application packets for new students for the 2007-2008 school year are available in the school office. They are also posted on our website. If you have an incoming kindergartner, you may phone the school office and request that an application packet be sent home with your school age child.

YEARBOOK ORDERS

Included in last week's newsletter was an order form for school yearbooks. If you would like to order a yearbook, please submit your form with payment of \$22.00 to the school office. Payment must be by check or money order made payable to All Saints School. We ask that you return your order promptly.

FIRST RECONCILIATION

Students in grade four will be receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time later this month. If you are a parent of a fourth grader, please check the schedule provided to you by Rebecca Pelle, our parish faith formation coordinator. It indicates whether your child will be receiving the sacrament at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, March 22nd, or at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, March 24th.

MINIMUM DAY

Wednesday, March 21st is a minimum day. Students will be dismissed at 12 noon. Kids Klub will be available.

F.A.C.E. TUITION ASSISTANCE

F.A.C.E., Financial Aid for Catholic Education, annually awards \$1450 grants to children who might otherwise not be able to attend Catholic schools. The annual F.A.C.E. application forms are now available in the school office. (Families currently receiving F.A.C.E. tuition assistance should already have received a renewal application.) If you are in need of tuition assistance, you should complete this form and return it to the school office by Thursday, March 22nd. The form requires family financial information as well as a copy of your 2006 IRS 1040 form and your W2 and/or 1099 form(s). Please be assured this information is **confidential** and is seen only by the Private School Aid Service which evaluates applications for F.A.C.E. and by Linda Knox and Steve Mullin. **Families requesting school/parish tuition assistance must have a F.A.C.E. application on file in the school office in order to qualify for school/parish assistance.**

Please note: While you may apply for both F.A.C.E. and BASIC, you may accept financial assistance from only one of these scholarship granting organizations.

TONER RECYCLE PROGRAM

The school can now accept used cell phones as part of our recycling program. Used cell phones and toner cartridges may be dropped off in the collection box located in the school office any time during office hours.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Can you spare half an hour in the morning to help keep our children safe? Lately we have not had enough volunteers for morning traffic duty. This is a very important volunteer job. If you can assist from 7:40 a.m. until 8:05 a.m., your help would be greatly appreciated. The sign-up binder is on the counter in the school office.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED DURING EMERGENCY EVAC

The Safety Committee needs volunteers to act as greeters, gatekeepers, and traffic controllers during the school emergency evacuation drill on March 30th. If you can assist between 12:45 and 3:00, please call the school office. As always, your help would be greatly appreciated!

BASIC FUND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

"The Basic Fund is a privately funded program dedicated to broadening the educational opportunities for children by helping low-income families afford the cost of tuition at private schools."

To qualify for Basic Fund tuition assistance, a family must meet ALL of the following requirements:

1. The family must plan to have their child attend a qualifying private school. (All Saints School qualifies.)
2. The child must meet all academic and other admission requirements of the school.
3. The child must be entering kindergarten to 8th grade.
4. The family must meet the income eligibility guidelines set by the Basic Fund. Maximum income for a family of two (one child and one parent) cannot exceed \$36,289. Maximum income for a family of five cannot exceed \$64,099.

The Basic Fund awards scholarships of up to \$1,500 annually per child for a minimum of four years. Once eligibility is established, names are placed in a drawing in early May. If you have an incoming kindergartner and are in need of tuition assistance, please ask Mrs. Nobriga for an application. If you know anyone who would like their child to receive a Catholic school education but is not pursuing this dream because of finances, please pass this information along to them. More information is available at www.basicfund.org. Basic Fund information and applications may also be picked up in the All Saints Catholic School office and are mailed directly to the Basic Fund. Applications must be postmarked by April 13th.

Please note: If your family is currently receiving tuition assistance from the Basic Fund **AND you have a younger child who will be entering All Saints for the first time**, you must complete a **NEW** application and send it to the Basic Fund no later than April 13th.

SCRIP VOLUNTEER NEEDED

The scrip committee is looking for a volunteer to sell scrip on Fridays after school in the auditorium from 3:00-3:30. This time counts toward parent participation hours. For details or to volunteer, please call Mary Bulnes at 537-5225.