

ST. ROBERT SCHOOL PARENT NEWSLETTER – Friday, November 20, 2020

THANKSGIVING PRAYER -- Father in Heaven, Creator of all and source of all goodness and love, please look kindly upon us and receive our heartfelt gratitude in this time of giving thanks. Thank you for all the graces and blessings You have bestowed upon us, spiritual and temporal: our faith and religious heritage, our food and shelter, our health, the love we have for one another and our family and friends. Dear Father, in Your infinite generosity, please grant us continued graces and blessing throughout the coming year. This we ask in the Name of Jesus, Your Son and our Brother. Amen.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION – There will not be a newsletter next week due to Thanksgiving Break. This newsletter will cover the next two weeks. Watch for the next newsletter on Friday, December 4th.

HALF DAY – Just a reminder that students have a half day of school on Wednesday, 11/25. School will dismiss at 10:55am.

THANKSGIVING BREAK is Thursday, November 26 to Sunday, November 29, 2020.

BUSING UPDATE – As you may already know, Flushing Community Schools has made the decision to move to 100% online/remote learning from November 30-December 22. Their move means that St. Robert School will not have busing available during the time that they have 100% online/remote learning. **AM and PM buses will run as normal for us on Friday, 11/20, Monday, 11/23 and Tuesday, 11/24. Please be advised that Tuesday, November 24th will be the last day that busing will be available for St. Robert School students.** Flushing plans to reevaluate whether they'll return to in-person learning after the first of the year, so there is a possibility that busing will return. We will make sure that you get busing updates as we receive them.

MASKS – We ask that you please take a moment this weekend to check the fit of your children's face masks (especially lower elementary). We're finding that quite a few students are wearing masks that are too big for their faces so the masks are continually falling down under their noses. Masks are required to cover both the nose and the mouth. Thank you for your attention to this important detail.

FUN FAIR CASUAL DAY – We will have a Fun Fair Casual Day on Tuesday, 11/24. The cost is \$1.00, and proceeds will be used for the next Fun Fair.

VIRTUAL SANTA'S SECRET SHOP – The St. Robert Student Council invites you and your child to participate in the upcoming VIRTUAL Santa's Secret Shop program at our school. This program makes it possible for children to experience the joy of choosing their own special holiday gifts for family and friends from the comfort of their own home. With your help, your child can log into a special website where they will be able to view and purchase a large variety of gifts in different price ranges. You will have the opportunity to review the total amount spent before checking out. All gifts will include a free gift bag for wrapping. **Orders can be placed through Thursday, December 10th.** An informational flyer, which includes instructions, will be sent home next week.

7th GRADE MASS OF ENROLLMENT will be Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:45pm. Please enter through the south entrance by Mary's Room. Children are asked to arrive by 6:30pm in the gathering area of the church, so that they will have time to sign their names before Mass. We invite the family and sponsor to participate in this Mass with your child. Those candidates preparing for Confirmation will receive a blessed YouCat (Youth edition of the Catechism of the Catholic Church) during Mass.

POINSETTIA ORDERS – Just a reminder that the poinsettias will be available for pick up in the lobby by Mary's Room from 2:30-3:30pm on Friday, December 4th and after Masses on Saturday, 12/5 and Sunday, 12/6. Please contact Mrs. Daniel at kdaniel@strobertschool.com if you have any questions.

PICTURE RETAKES – Closed eyes? Glare? No smile? Absent? Picture retakes will take place on Thursday, December 10th. You must return the original pictures to have retakes. Additional information will be sent home after Thanksgiving Break.

SAVE THE DATE – Our Advent Night of Reflection for adults will be on December 4th at 6:30pm in the Church.

***All of us at St. Robert School pray that you and your families
enjoy a safe, happy and blessed Thanksgiving.***

'TIS THE SEASON...Advent: a season of waiting and anticipation begins on November 29th. Starting Monday, November 30th, we will begin each day with our traditional Advent wreath and Jesse Tree prayer service. Each classroom will have a tree, daily ornaments and an advent candle. Students will participate in their classrooms, as Mr. Ralbusky covers the readings during morning announcements. This ritual reminds us of all the prophets and other Old Testament holy people who lead the way for Christ's coming.

8th GRADE POWERS REGISTRATION – Powers High School has decided to conduct virtual evening appointments for 8th grade registration. The Powers Registration day for St. Robert School is Thursday, December 10th. All 8th grade families will receive an email from Val Sunday, Powers Director of Admissions, that will give information on how to sign up for an appointment. Her email will also include details on the 8th grade Parent Info Night at Powers, which will take place on Monday, 11/30 at 6:30pm. Packets, with registration paperwork, were sent home with 8th graders today.

BISHOP BOYEA'S YEAR OF THE BIBLE – You are invited to join Bishop Boyea in reading through the Holy Bible starting this Advent and continuing through the next 12 months. Each day, the Bishop will text or email a chapter of Sacred Scripture. Together with the Bishop – and all those taking part – you will then read it and meditate upon it. Over the weeks, Bishop Boyea will also text you invitations to events; share video reflections with you; and let you know about other Year of the Bible updates. To sign up, simply text BYOB (which stands for Bishop's Year of the Bible) to 84576 or visit www.dioceseoflansing.org.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING – The end of Thanksgiving brings Black Friday and Cyber Monday. Make a difference this holiday if you choose to shop on Amazon. Shop for gifts at smile.amazon.com/ch/38-1443389 to generate donations for St. Robert Bellarmine Parish and School. AmazonSmile will donate 0.5% of your eligible purchases without any additional cost to you. You'll be able to tell you're shopping from the correct page if you see the AmazonSmile logo in the corner of the page and "*Supporting St. Robert Bellarmine Parish and School*" below the search bar. When you hover over our name, you'll be able to see our information and can track the donation amount you've generated through your purchases.

CANDLEWALK – Flushing is proud of one of its most heartwarming traditions – the annual Flushing Candlewalk! Thousands of softly glowing candles will light your way along the streets of Flushing. You'll find chestnuts roasting on an open fire in the middle of Main Street, warming stations throughout the area and Santa Claus arriving in a grand parade to light the ceremonial tree. The Flushing Candlewalk will take place on Thursday, December 3rd and Friday, December 4th from 6-9pm each night.

COOKIES NEEDED – The Parish Life Commission is hosting a Warming Center during the Flushing Candlewalk on Dec. 3rd and 4th. We will be serving hot coffee, hot chocolate and cookies in the Mary's Room foyer on Thursday, 12/3 and Friday, 12/4. The Parish Life Commission is asking for cookie donations for this event. Please bring your cookies to the foyer by Mary's Room entrance on the South side of the building by 5pm on Dec. 3rd or 4th. You may also leave them in the Parish Office if needed. If you have any questions, please contact Agnes Taylor at (810) 732-9667 or (810) 240-6681.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Tuesday, 11/24	Last Day for Buses Fun Fair Casual Day (\$1.00) 2:45pm, Staff Meeting (Media Center)
Wednesday, 11/25	½ Day of School / 10:55am Dismissal 8:30am, Mass
Thurs/Fri Nov 26/27	NO SCHOOL – Thanksgiving Break
Monday, 11/30	6:30pm, 8 th grade Parent Info Night (Powers)
Tuesday, 12/1	2:45pm, Staff Meeting (Media Center)
Wednesday, 12/2	8:30am, Mass 6:45pm, 7 th grade Mass of Enrollment
Thursday, 12/3	6-9pm, Flushing Candlewalk 6:30pm, K of C Holy Hour
Friday, 12/4	2:30-3:30pm, Poinsettia/Wreath Pick Up (Mary's Rm Lobby) 6-9pm, Flushing Candlewalk 6:30pm, Advent Night of Reflection (Church)