



# St. Margaret Catholic School

## Viking Vine



**"Be Who God Meant You to Be And You Will Set The World On Fire."**

**September 28, 2018**

### Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

One of the greatest challenges the Christian parent and teacher encounters today is the spiritual education of the children committed to their care. Bishop George Pell of Melbourne, Australia, threw out this challenge to families: "How many families would pray together as regularly as the families of their grandparents. How often do we explain to our youngsters that Sunday Mass is a regular duty, a time for worship of our God and not simply an indifferent form of entertainment or instruction which they should attend because they might get something out of it."

Well, how do we bring to children the sense of God and his love for them and what do we tell them about him? One of the ways in which God made himself better known to us was through his Son, Jesus, becoming man. By having a close look at Jesus in the Gospels we can find many wonderful things to tell children to lead them to a sense of God.

There we find Jesus calling women and men to follow him, to share his life, to learn from him and to participate in his mission. When Jesus was gone from the earth and the people of the early church were left only with memories and oral recollections of what Jesus had said and done, St. Paul encouraged them to "put on the mind of Christ Jesus"; in other words to become Christ to other people by continuing his actions

through their lives.

In the Gospels it is very apparent that Jesus came into the world not to condemn nor to be negative, but to inspire people and offer a positive value system for living. He was prepared to suffer with us and share fully our human condition; this thought should be a source of hope and support for us.

If we can know more about the heart and mind of Christ, we will better understand our humanity with all its joys, sorrows, doubts, frustrations and happy moments. Once we have this self-understanding and are tolerant of ourselves, we can then be more effective people to children. As significant adults in the lives of our children, we are responsible for giving our children human experiences of God; this privilege was bestowed on us when we became parents and took part with God in an act of creation. Each time we are kind, patient, loving, forgiving, and good humored to children we are exposing them to Gospel Values and so an experience of God.

However, as we become embroiled in the demands of life we, perhaps, have become less able to articulate our sense of the presence of God and as a consequence are less inclined to talk to our children about God. Maybe Alexander Solzhenitsyn's accusation to western civilization is close to the mark when he says: "... the greatest crisis of humanity today is that it has lost the sense of the invisible; we have become experts in the visible..."

Regardless as to how true Solzhenitsyn might be, education at home and at school can challenge this preoccupation with the immediate and tangible by encouraging practices of reflection and

interiority. A pause and prayer before meal, a night prayer together, an expression of joy and thanks for the simple and beautiful things both natural and manufactured, a prayer to start or finish a journey, an expression of very real thanks for life on a birthday. These are but a few of the many ways we can lead our children to a deeper love of God in their lives. Maybe our private prayer could be, "God give me a believing and listening heart."

Peace and Blessings,

Wendy L. Wickes

### October Birthdays

Sebastian Brantley, Shyla Cox, Ms. Hannah Harless, Bayleigh Vincent, Mrs. Judy Reeves, Abla Khoury, Mrs. Audrey Pousson, Elizabeth Gutierrez, Emily Leach, Gage Guillory, Lilyanne Meche, Abree Ross, Demoine Mercer, Colin Smith, Kassie Piatt, Aidan Courville, Gram Jessen, NormaGail, Dedear, Ali Firmin, Ben Bertrand, Addisyn Mire, Kaleigh Schultz, Kohen Stout, Ava Campbell, Kaleb Goodly, Lexie Chauvin, Giancarlo Garcia, Averi Primeaux, Annabelle Melerine, Sophia Faul, Mariah Aubry, Morgan Flanders, Khloe Mitchell & Mrs. Catherine Schram!



### Events

#### Monday, October 1st

2:30 pm - Kindergarten ABC Fashion Show

3:00 - 3:30 pm - Choir Practice

#### Tuesday, October 2nd

6:00 pm - SMCS Football vs OLS in Sulphur

#### Wednesday, October 3rd

Blue or Orange Shirt Day with Uniform Bottoms for St. Louis Homecoming

#### Thursday, October 4th

Fall Pictures (Full Uniform)

7:50 am - Blessing of the Pets in Church Parking Lot

#### Friday, October 5th

8:15 am - Mass/Yearbook Dedication

### Lunches

#### Monday, October 1st

Cheeseburger, Fries, Orange Smiles & Dessert

#### Tuesday, October 2nd

Gr. Beef Soft Tacos, Pinto Beans, Corn, & Peach Slices

#### Wednesday, October 3rd

Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Green Beans, Salad, Pineapple Tidbits & Wheat Garlic Roll

#### Thursday, October 4th

Turkey Roast, Red Beans/Rice, Yam Patty, Apple Wedges & Southern Cornbread

#### Friday, October 5th

Toasted Grilled Cheese, Baby Carrots, Broccoli, Fruit & Dessert

Choice of Milk Daily

### Things to Remember

#### HALO!

Our HALO this week was Ms. Amanda Hebert. We thank Ms. Hebert for her loving and caring advice given to all students and teachers.

#### Club Meetings

Tuesday, October 2nd - Noon BETA Club

Wednesday, October 3rd - 3:00-3:30 pm - Student Council

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Companions of Jesus

#### Friday, October 5th

Noon - Spanish Club



# Viking Lagniappe

## Unveiling the Virtues

The month of October is being spent developing Habit #2 - Begin with the End in Mind and the Virtue of Prudence. Both of these go hand in hand because when we are cultivating these habits we want our children to think about the "end" and develop a plan of action on how to get to that "end". For example; "What would it take for me to complete my homework daily?" Our children should be able to verbalize the necessary steps to completing homework. Once the plan is verbalized, then it should be written. If homework is an issue at your house, then coming up with a written contractual agree between parent and child can help. This example is one way to teach our children virtuous living. Doing the right thing even when no one is looking or it is difficult is virtuous living.

Prudence - sound judgment - enables one to reason and to act rightly in any given situation - "right reason in action"

Good Counsel - seeking advice from a reasonable person - ask and listen

Good Judgment - thinking rightly about a decision - think

Command - directly acting upon a sound decision - act

Circumspection - careful consideration of circumstances and consequences

Docility - willingness to be taught

Foresight - consideration of the consequences of one's actions; thinking ahead

Please add these words to your list of virtues and help us help your child cultivate these virtues.

## Congratulations!!

Lexie Chauvin competed in the LA Cajun Heritage & Music Pageant on Saturday, September 22. She won Junior Miss LA Cajun Heritage & Music Queen and also won Showstopper from the all afternoon divisions.

## Red Ribbon Week!!

St. Margaret says "BOO" to  
Bullying & Drugs

Tuesday, October 9th

"We are RED-y to say "Boo" to bullying and drugs" (Boys may wear a red shirt & socks

with uniform bottoms) and (Girls may wear a red shirt & socks and/or hair accessory with uniform bottoms)

Wednesday, October 10th

"Sock It To Bullying & Drugs" (Students may wear crazy socks with their school uniform)

Thursday, October 11th

"Team Up Against Bullying & Drugs"

(Students may wear their favorite Team T-Shirt or Jersey with their uniform bottoms)

## Staff Biographies

Hello Everyone,

My name is Wendy Wicke and I am the principal here at St. Margaret Catholic School. I am married to Greg Wicke, an alumni of SMCS. We have 4 children, Katherine, Amanda, Joshua and Mary and one daughter-in-law, Sydney. I have been the principal going on 6 years. My education background includes; classroom teacher, interventionist, administrative assistant, 504 District Coordinator, and curriculum coordinator. I love my position here and believe whole-heartedly that SMCS is the best school in the city of Lake Charles or, for that matter, in the state. I love what we do here and especially love all the children that walk through the squares and halls of this wonderful institution. God has truly blessed me by giving me the opportunity to learn and grow in a Catholic education setting.

Hi, my name is Summer Flanders. This is my third year at St. Margaret Catholic School as the bookkeeper in the office. I am married to Mike Flanders and we have two beautiful daughters, Morgan who is in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and Ariel who attended St. Margaret's but is now a Junior at Barbe High School. It has truly been a blessing getting to know all of your wonderful children!

Hello Everyone! My names is Sandy Papania. I am beginning my "36th" year at SMCS and still loving every minute of it. I have been married to my husband Paul for

51 years and have 3 beautiful daughters with 3 wonderful son-in-law's who have given me 5 amazing and beautiful granddaughters, 2 beautiful step granddaughters and 1 handsome step grandson. I now have 1 gorgeous great-granddaughter, 1 very handsome great-grandson and 1 step great daughter and 1 step great grandson. I pray everyone can be as blessed as I am in my work and my family!

My name is Erin Clanton and I am the new Instructional Coach/Technology Coordinator here at St Margaret. I am very excited to be employed by my Alma Mater. I attended school here from K-8th grade and graduated from St. Louis Catholic High School in 1998. I have been a member of St. Margaret Church parish my whole life. Prior to working for St. Margaret, I taught for 8 years in CPSB. For the last 2 years, I have been employed by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt as an Educational Consultant for one of their K-5 ELA programs. I am a graduate of McNeese State University with a Bachelors of Science in Business Management/Marketing. I also received my Masters of Arts in Teaching from Louisiana College in Pineville. I have been married to my husband Owen for 10 years and we have 3 children, Cullen (7), Ellie (6), and Camilla (6 months). My hobbies include teaching spin class, running long distance races, traveling, cooking, Saints football, and relaxing with my family. I am very blessed and honored to be a part of the St. Margaret Faculty.

My name is Monica Guidry and I serve as librarian of the Jo Self Library. I taught kindergarten and second grade before becoming the librarian. I enjoy teaching students and I love the new things they share with me. As an alumna of St. Margaret, I am glad my parents chose to send me to Catholic school. The wonderful combination of faith and academics helped form the person I am today.

I am Suzanne Hinton, the special education teacher at SMCS. I am blessed to be in my sixth year at St. Margaret Catholic School and love the family community. I am married to Herbert and have two children, Travis and Ally.