



St. Margaret Catholic School

Viking Vine



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

November 16, 2018

Principal's Corner

Dear Parents,

We all know that parents are all-loving of their children and would never dream of allowing a "negative" thought concerning their children to pass through their mind. Never? Well, maybe a quick thought about how our children don't really appreciate all we do for them or how self-absorbed and self-centered they can be and how we thought that, when we had them, we were inviting them to join us, whereas, now, on occasion our teenagers might grudgingly allow us to join them OOPS!

Not to worry. Children don't come into the world hardwired to be appreciative or thankful. They learn this over time. Teaching children to be thankful helps them to resist the urge to be self-centered and self-absorbed. It is important for children to appreciate the "good" in their lives, for thankfulness is directly related to happiness. This "good" is centered round the simple pleasure of life: a home, food, clothing, education and the love of family and friends.

We parents are the most significant example of any quality to our children and when it comes to demonstrating thankfulness, we need to portray it not as a shallow formality but something to be internalized and thought about before it is expressed. All children are selfish and ungrateful at times. However, that just gives us an opportunity to encourage deeper thinking in our children, such as the

consequences of actions, so they learn to recognize how being thankful is a great way to live.

In our consumer driven society, we might be unwittingly drawn into the culture of the "must-haves". We don't want to disappoint our children, we want to make sure they have everything their friends have and so we are lead to buy every possible "gadget" that's "fashionable".

"By providing our children with their every heart's desire, and maybe more, we have failed to provide them with the proper attitude in which they should be received. Instead of appreciating and being thankful for what they have, our children want and expect the latest iPods, mobile phones, laptops. We have entrenched our family firmly in commercialization." Susan Newman. Little Things Long Remembered.

It can be helpful for our children to receive the occasional reality check by exposing them to videos from "third world countries". We can challenge our children's assumptions about the things they take for granted by having them observe the everyday struggle billions of people have to find food, clean water and adequate shelter. Doctors, dentists, teachers are but a dream for so many of these people but are taken for granted in our children's lives. Our children will realize that even in the simple things of life, they have much more than many other children.

As Americans and Christians we celebrate Thanksgiving every fourth Thursday in November. This special holiday gives us the opportunity to reflect on our lives. I believe its purpose is to encourage us to pause as a nation and say thank you to God and

to each other for the many things we often take for granted but which really make our lives worth living. We use this day to celebrate our Christian heritage, demonstrate the love of God, thank those who have made a positive impact on our lives and encourage each other.

"Let us be thankful to people who make us happy; they are the charming gardeners who make our souls blossom." Marcel Proust.

Peace and Blessings,

Wendy L. Wickes



Events

Monday, November 19th - Friday, November 23rd

Thanksgiving Holiday

Monday, November 26th

Return to School

Thursday, November 29th

Free Dress for November Birthdays

Friday, November 30th

8:15 am Mass

Saturday, December 1st

10:00 am - Second Grade First Penance Service in Church

Lunches

Monday, November 26th

Gr. Beef Nachos, Corn, Apple Wedges and Wheat Cinnamon Roll

Tuesday, November 27th

Meatballs/Rice/Gravy, Broccoli, Yam Patty, Fruit & Wheat Roll

Wednesday, November 28th

Chicken Nuggets, Mac & Cheese, Baby Carrots, Cherry Tomatoes, Celery Sticks with Dip

Thursday, November 29th

Baked Chicken, Brown Rice, Lima Beans, Glazed Carrots Applesauce, Fruit & Wheat Roll

Friday, November 30th

Chili Hot Dog, Fries, Mexican Beans, Fruit & Dessert

Choice of Milk Daily

Things to Remember

HALO

Our HALO this week was Ms. Tesa Pace. We thank Ms. Pace for her expertise in writing and love of her students and this school.

Club Meetings

Tuesday, November 27, 2018

Noon - BETA Club

Wednesday, November 28, 2018

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Science Club

Thursday, November 29th

3:00 - 4:00 pm - Chess Club

Friday, November 30th

Noon - Spanish Club



Viking Lagniappe

Unveiling the Virtues

As we continue to work on Habit #3 - Put First things First, our students work to prioritize their lives and stay focused on what they are doing. When practicing habit #3 minimizing distractions and regrouping if off task helps students develop good work ethic. When we work on Habit #3, we are also practicing the virtue of Justice. Justice is another name for fairness. We recognize what is due God and others. Virtues related to Justice are Obedience, Patriotism and Prayerfulness. When we are obedient we assent to rightful authority without hesitation or resistance. As parents, it is our responsibility to teach our children that teachers and administrators are part of rightful authority. Patriotism is paying due honor and respect to our country and having a willingness to serve. When we practice patriotism, we stand for our National Anthem and the Pledge, and we speak respectfully about our governing officials. Cultivating a spirit of prayer means taking time to be still and listen to God's message to us. As we continue through the month of November, please help us cultivate in your child the first 3 Habits: 1. Be PROACTIVE, 2. Begin with the END in MIND and 3. Put FIRST things FIRST; and 3 of the 4 Cardinal Virtues: Temperance, Prudence and Justice.



Family Faith Formation

When did the first Thanksgiving really happen? History books will tell you that the first Thanksgiving was celebrated by Puritan pilgrims of Massachusetts in 1621. That is not so. There was a Catholic Thanksgiving in 1565 in Florida and another one in 1589 in Texas.

The first American Thanksgiving was actually celebrated on September 8 in 1565 in St. Augustine, Florida. The Native

Americans and Spanish settlers held a feast and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass was offered. This was 56 years before the Puritan pilgrims of Massachusetts. Don Pedro Menendez came ashore amid the sounding of trumpets, artillery salutes and the firing of canons to claim the land for King Philip II of Spain. The ship chaplain Father Francisco Lopez de Mendoza Grajales chanted the *Te Deum* and presented a crucifix that Menendez ceremoniously kissed. Then the 500 soldiers, 200 sailors and 100 families and artisans, along with the Timucuan Indians celebrated the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass in gratitude to God.

Remember that "Thanksgiving" in Greek is *Eucharistia*. Thus, the Body and Blood of Christ is the true "Thanksgiving Meal". (Source: taylormarshall.com)

Is Mass part of your Thanksgiving Day tradition? If not, why not start it this year?

ATTENTION!!

Junior Catholic Daughters of the Americas need your help! Just as we did last year, JDC's are collecting religious items (rosaries, prayer cards, prayer books, pen...) to donate to the Seafarers Organization ran by Deacon LaPoint, the spiritual guide and director. Your donations will be given to men working on ships for 6-18 months. This act of kindness will surely put a smile on these men's faces. We are also collecting hotel soaps, shampoo, conditioner and any other personal hygiene items to go in gift bags.

The items need to be turned in by December 7, 2018

Sincerely, JCDA Sponsor, Mrs. Judy Reeves

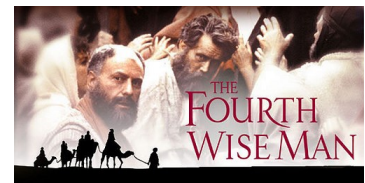
FAMILY MOVIE NIGHT!!

Free Admission and Popcorn!

Come join us as we prepare for Advent with the story of The Fourth Wise Man. He never made it to Bethlehem but he gave the greatest gift of all.

Wednesday, November 28,
2018

6:30 p.m. in the East Room



Breakfast with St. Nicholas

Sunday, December 9th

8:00 am - 12:00 pm

St. Margaret Catholic Church
Family Life Center.

Come see St. Nicholas and Enjoy
a Pancake Breakfast.

2 Pancakes, Sausage, Drink —
\$5.00

Pictures with St. Nicholas-\$8.00

Presale forms will go home on
Monday, November 26th.