

**Saint Peter  
School News  
February, 2021**

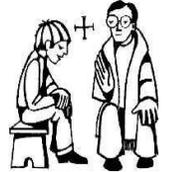
**Dear Parents,**

In February, we take a special week to celebrate our Catholic Schools. Although the celebration will be somewhat limited this year, we will still take the time to celebrate with daily activities. We continue to value uppermost our spiritual growth and developing to our fullest potential. In his homily on the Feast of the Epiphany, Pope Francis spoke of the need for us to recultivate an attitude of worshipping God and to keep that worship ever before us so other things do not take precedence: "When we lift up our eyes to God, life's problems do not go away, no; instead we feel certain that the Lord grants us the strength to deal with them. The first step towards an attitude of worship, then, is to 'lift up our eyes'. Our worship is that of disciples who have found in God a new and unexpected joy. Worldly joy is based on wealth, success or similar things, always with ourselves at the center. The joy of Christ's disciples, on the other hand, is based on the fidelity of God, whose promises never fail, whatever the crises we may face. Filial gratitude and joy awaken within us a desire to worship the Lord, who remains ever faithful and never abandons us. The second helpful phrase is *to set out on a journey*. Before they could worship the Child in Bethlehem, the Magi had to undertake a lengthy journey. Matthew tells us that in those days 'wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying: 'Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we have seen his star in the East, and have come to worship him.' (Mt 2:1-2). A journey always involves a transformation, a change. After a journey, we are no longer the same. There is always something new about those who have made a journey: they have learned new things, encountered new people and situations, and found inner strength amid the hardships and risks they met along the way. No one worships the Lord without first experiencing the interior growth that comes from embarking on a journey...And so we come to the third phrase: *to see*. *To lift up our eyes; to set out on a journey; to see*. The Evangelist tells us that, 'going into the house they saw the child with Mary, his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him' (Mt 2:10-11). Worshipping was an act of homage reserved for sovereigns and high dignitaries. The Magi worshiped the One they knew was the king of the Jews (cf. Mt 2:2). But what did they actually see? They saw a poor child and his mother. Yet these wise men from far-off lands were able to look beyond those lowly surroundings and recognize in that Child a royal presence. They were able to "see" beyond appearances. Falling to their knees before the Babe of Bethlehem, they expressed a worship that was above all interior: the opening of the treasures they had brought as gifts symbolized the offering of their own hearts. To worship the Lord we need to "see" beyond the veil of things visible, which often prove deceptive....May the Lord Jesus make us true worshipers, capable of showing by our lives his loving plan for all humanity. Let us ask for the grace for each of us and for the whole Church, to learn to worship, to continue to worship, to exercise this prayer of adoration often, because only God is to be adored."

**Sacramental Talk**

There will be a meeting for all parents of students who will receive the Sacrament of Penance this year on

6:30p.m. Your attendance shows your commitment to share in the sacramental life with your children.



**Drills and Skills for Basketball**

We are overjoyed that we are able to continue with our students having the opportunity to play basketball. We are continuing weekly sessions so that students may play and practice. We offer our joy and support to the following students:

Dyamar Almodovar	John Lachina
Mark Lachina	Mark Lachina
Elenie Fields	Alexander Lopez
Aloyska Gonzalez	Yoniell Moronta
Alyna Guerrero	Jaydrian Rivera
Karen Olivares	Adonay Robles
Camila Pagan	Benjamin Rodriguez
Olivia Wilson	Lucas Rodriguez
Fares Dickson	Isiah Rodriguez
Andrew Lachina	Jaelen Toole

Michael DeLos Santos

**Catholic Schools' Week**

The Catholic Schools' Week theme is "Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service." There is also a new logo. Catholic schools have a specific purpose to form students to be good citizens of the world, love God and neighbor and enrich society with the leaven of the gospel and by example of faith. As communities of faith, Catholic schools instill in students their destiny to become saints. Academic excellence is the hallmark of Catholic education intentionally directed to the growth of the whole person – mind, body and spirit. Finally, service is fundamental to Catholic education and the core of Catholic discipleship. Service is intended to help form people who are not only witnesses to Catholic social teaching, but also active participants through social learning. The CSW logo emphasizes that the Catholic school, like the Catholic Church is not a building or an institution, but it is the people. As the people of God, we work together to bring the Kingdom of God to Earth and raise up the next generation to do the same. The image of teachers and students forming the foundation of the school shows that they are active people of faith who serve others and God. May we all strive to live in active service of Jesus and his mission as we nationally join together during Catholic Schools Week and always. Daily activities this year will include:

- Door Decorating contest on Book Characters
- Bingo for Books
- Teachers switching classes
- Multi-Cultural Dress-up Day/Cultural MovieDay
- STEM Activity with visiting team from Reading Public Library
- Special Mass/ Teacher Appreciation Day

