

**Saint Peter
School News
March, 2022**

Dear Parents,

We will soon be in the holy season of Lent and continue to try to draw closer to Jesus who is our constant source of hope. Jesus wants us to stay close to him and He empowers us with the inner strength and hope we all need to reach the joy of Easter. We all try during this season to take part in special devotional practices. In school we will take part in weekly Stations of the Cross for grades 3 through 8. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, continues to inspire us in his Lenten message: "Jesus revealed to his disciples the deepest meaning of his mission when he told them of his passion, death and resurrection, in fulfilment of the Father's will. He then called the disciples to share in this mission for the salvation of the world. In our Lenten journey towards Easter, let us remember the One who "humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross" (Phil 2:8). During this season of conversion, let us renew our *faith*, draw from the "living water" of *hope*, and receive with open hearts the *love* of God, who makes us brothers and sisters in Christ. At the Easter vigil, we will renew our baptismal promises and experience rebirth as new men and women by the working of the Holy Spirit. This Lenten journey, like the entire pilgrimage of the Christian life, is even now illumined by the light of the resurrection, which inspires the thoughts, attitudes and decisions of the followers of Christ. *Fasting, prayer and almsgiving*, as preached by Jesus (cf. Mt 6:1-18), enable and express our conversion. The path of poverty and self-denial (*fasting*), concern and loving care for the poor (*almsgiving*), and childlike dialogue with the Father (*prayer*) make it possible for us to live lives of sincere faith, living hope and effective charity. *Faith calls us to accept the truth and testify to it before God and all our brothers and sisters...* Lent is a time for believing, for welcoming God into our lives and allowing him to "make his dwelling" among us. Fasting involves being freed from all that weighs us down – like consumerism or an excess of information, whether true or false – in order to open the doors of our hearts to the One who comes to us, poor in all things, yet "full of grace and truth": the Son of God our Savior... *Hope as "living water" enabling us to continue our journey:* In these times of trouble, when everything seems fragile and uncertain, it may appear challenging to speak of hope. Yet Lent is precisely the season of hope, when we turn back to God who patiently continues to care for his creation... In Lent, may we be increasingly concerned with "speaking words of comfort, strength, consolation and encouragement, and not words that demean, sadden, anger or show scorn". In order to give hope to others, it is sometimes enough simply to be kind, to be "willing to set everything else aside in order to show interest, to give the gift of a smile, to speak a word of encouragement, to listen amid general indifference"... *Love, following in the footsteps of Christ, in concern and compassion for all, is the highest expression of our faith and hope.... Love is a gift that gives meaning to our lives. It enables us to view those in need as members of our own family, as friends, brothers or sisters. A small amount, if given with love, never ends, but becomes a source of life and happiness... Every moment of our lives is a time for believing, hoping and loving. The call to experience Lent as a journey of conversion, prayer and sharing of our goods, helps us – as communities and as*

individuals – to revive the faith that comes from the living Christ, the hope inspired by the breath of the Holy Spirit and the love flowing from the merciful heart of the Father."

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During this holy season of Lent we celebrate and accompany our 2nd grade students as well as other students and CCD students who will receive this sacrament for the first time on Thursday, March 10th at 6:30pm in church.



Sacramental Meeting--First Communion

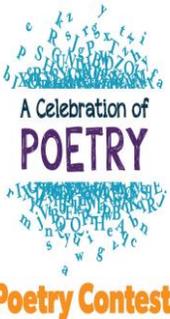
There will be a parent meeting for the parents of children who will receive First Communion in May on Thursday, Mar. 24 at 6:30pm in Church.



Creative Communications Poetry Contest

Many of our 8th grade students have been notified that their poetry will be published in *Creative Communications: A Celebration of Poets*. We congratulate the following students:

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|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Dyamar Almodovar | Camila Pagan |
| Luis Alvarez | Yoanny Payano |
| Amayah Diaz | Guillermo Polanco |
| Kalob Diaz | Daniela Reyes |
| Anthony Gomez | Eryn Rivera |
| Gabriella Gomez | Jaydrian Rivera |
| Alyna Guerrero | Lucas Rodriguez |
| Derick Mangual | Angalie Sierra |
| Johannie Martinez | Arianna Smith |
| Jiovanni Nieves | Sahemy Ureña |
| Cristy Orozco-Vicente | Camila Vargaz-Paula |
| | Olivia Wilson |



Kitchen Kapers Competition

We congratulate our students who shared their culinary talents with our school community and then moved on to the Berks County Competition*:

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|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Karina Andrade (6) * | Maxine Mayo (7)* |
| Alessandra Castañeda(6)* | Ianthe Morales (7) |
| Devin De La Cruz (6) | Nathalie Ortiz (7) |
| Isai Rivera (6)* | Dyamar Almodovar (8) |
| Gabriela Rosas (6)* | Anthony Gomez (8)* |
| Delayla Colon (7) | Gabriella Gomez (8)* |
| Allison Diaz (7) | Stephanie Piñeda (8)* |
| | Eryn Rivera (8)* |



Mother/ Son Dance

Please join us for this fun event on Friday, March 11 from 7:00-9:00pm in the Social Hall. There will be food, games, and dancing.



Celebrate Reading

We will participate in the Read Across America celebration on Monday, the 28th. Many people from various walks of life will be in and out of school to read a book to the different classes in honor of Dr. Seuss' birthday on March 2. We thank Mrs. Vida for organizing this.

