

**Saint Peter
School News
November, 2021**

Dear Parents,

May God continue to bless each of you during this season of Thanksgiving and time of remembering the many blessings God has bestowed upon us. At times, it can be a challenge to maintain an attitude of gratitude when we have experienced hardships, disappointments, and suffering. At times, it can be a challenge to find the good around us. Our Holy Father, Pope Francis, speaks beautifully about recognizing the signs of holiness in our world. He highlights three important qualities: perseverance, patience, and meekness. These qualities can engender in each of us an attitude of gratitude in the midst of the challenges of daily life. In his exhortation, *Gaudete et exultate*, he says: "The first of these great signs is solid grounding in the God who loves and sustains us. This source of inner strength enables us to persevere amid life's ups and downs, but also to endure hostility, betrayal and failings on the part of others. "If God is for us, who is against us?" (Rom 8:31): this is the source of the peace found in the saints. Such inner strength makes it possible for us, in our fast-paced, noisy and aggressive world, to give a witness of holiness through patience and constancy in doing good. It is a sign of the fidelity born of love, for those who put their faith in God can also be faithful to others. They do not desert others in bad times; they accompany them in their anxiety and distress, even though doing so may not bring immediate satisfaction... When we feel overwhelmed, we can always cling to the anchor of prayer, which puts us back in God's hands and the source of our peace. "Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything, by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts..." (Phil 4:6-7)... Inner strength, as the work of grace, prevents us from becoming carried away by the violence that is so much a part of life today, because grace defuses vanity and makes possible meekness of heart. The saints do not waste energy complaining about the failings of others; they can hold their tongue before the faults of their brothers and sisters, and avoid the verbal violence that demeans and mistreats others. Saints hesitate to treat others harshly; they consider others better than themselves... Look at Jesus. His deep compassion reached out to others. It did not make him hesitant, timid or self-conscious, as often happens with us. Quite the opposite. His compassion made him go out actively to preach and to send others on a mission of healing and liberation. Let us acknowledge our weakness, but allow Jesus to lay hold of it and send us too on mission. We are weak, yet we hold a treasure that can enlarge us and make those who receive it better and happier. Boldness and apostolic courage are an essential part of mission." Once we feel that closeness with God, we can be filled with deep gratitude and transmit that to all those we encounter.

Middle States Opening Mass and Visitation

We invite our families to our opening mass to begin our Middle States Evaluation. The Visit will take place Nov. 1- Nov. 3 with an Early Dismissal on November 3. Our Opening Mass

will be on Sunday, October 31 at 4:00pm in Saint Peter Church followed by a Reception. We are so grateful for our wonderful student choir who will provide beautiful music under the direction of Mrs. McCann:

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| Gabriella Gomez (8) | Gabriela Caloca-Ortiz (6) |
| Anthony Gonez (8) | Alessandra Castañeda (6) |
| Alyna Guerrero (8) | Britney Martinez (6) |
| Derick mangual (8) | Tiffany Rodriguez (6) |
| Eryn Rivera (8) | Jaliyah Rosa (6) |
| Angalie Sierra (8) | Gabriela Rosas (6) |
| Arianna Smith (8) | Janellys Abreu (5) |
| Sahemy Ureña (8) | Matthew Colon (5) |
| Delayla Colon (7) | Lindsay Piña (5) |
| Ennybel Mejia (7) | Olivia Rodriguez (5) |
| Ianthe Morales (7) | Mael Vargas (5) |
| Karina Andrade (6) | Janelle Abreu (4) |



Student Council

We congratulate our newly elected leadership team and class representatives for 2021-2022:

- President: Alyna Guerrero
Vice President: Chris Nava-Zavala
Secretary: Eryn Rivera

- Treasurer: Dyamar Almodovar
Grade 8 Representative: Assyria Woods
Grade 7 Representatives: Delayla Colon
Grade 6 Representative: Jovanna Zabala
Grade 5 Representative: Dulcemaria Ramirez
Grade 4 Representative: Amir Juarez

We are most grateful to Mrs. Searfoss and Mrs. Cronan who will oversee the Student Council Activities. We look forward to a very promising and spirit-filled year in the midst of our challenges. The formal installation took place on Friday, Oct. 8th at the 8:30 mass.



Mission Representatives

In addition to installing our Student Council, we will also install our Mission Reps at that same mass. These representatives, under the leadership of Sister Margaret, will help promote awareness and response to local and global missionary needs. We were proud to install these representatives:

- 4th Grade: Amaya Bruno
5th Grade: Jiovani Peña
6th Grade: Britney Martinez
7th Grade: Zoe Alonzo
8th Grade: Gabriella Gomez



Thanksgiving Vacation

We pray that you enjoy time with family and celebrate together the gift of family during this nice vacation time from November 24 through November 28. We will return to school on Monday, November 29.

