

Saint Peter School News October, 2021

Dear Parents,

As we begin a new month, hopefully we feel a certain sense of security with our children and their school environment and that the academic challenges can improve little by little. Our dedicated teachers and auxiliary teachers and volunteers are always willing to work with them to overcome any learning impediment and instill good study habits. This past year our Holy Father, Pope Francis, has dedicated the year as the year of Saint Joseph. Saint Joseph is a model of faithfulness, integrity, tenderness, and protector of his family. We are all called to learn from him of these beautiful qualities and strive to live them in our daily lives as parents and educators. In his Pastoral Letter, *Patris Corde*, Pope Francis insightfully writes: "In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God... Even through Joseph's fears, God's will, his history and his plan were at work. Joseph, then, teaches us that faith in God includes believing that he can work even through our fears, our frailties and our weaknesses. He also teaches us that amid the tempests of life, we must never be afraid to let the Lord steer our course. At times, we want to be in complete control, yet God always sees the bigger picture... Joseph accepted Mary unconditionally. He trusted in the angel's words... Often in life, things happen whose meaning we do not understand. Our first reaction is frequently one of disappointment and rebellion. Joseph set aside his own ideas in order to accept the course of events and, mysterious as they seemed, to embrace them, take responsibility for them and make them part of his own history... Joseph is certainly not passively resigned, but courageously and firmly proactive. In our own lives, acceptance and welcome can be an expression of the Holy Spirit's gift of fortitude. Only the Lord can give us the strength needed to accept life as it is, with all its contradictions, frustrations and disappointments... Joseph found happiness not in mere self-sacrifice but in self-gift. In him, we never see frustration but only trust. His patient silence was the prelude to concrete expressions of trust. Our world today needs fathers. It has no use for tyrants who would domineer others as a means of compensating for their own needs. It rejects those who confuse authority with authoritarianism, service with servility, discussion with oppression, charity with a welfare mentality, power with destruction. Every true vocation is born of the gift of oneself, which is the fruit of mature sacrifice... The saints help all the faithful "to strive for the holiness and the perfection of their particular state of life". Their lives are concrete proof that it is possible to put the Gospel into practice. Jesus told us: "Learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart" The lives of the saints too are examples to be imitated. Saint Paul explicitly says this: "Be imitators of me!". By his eloquent silence, Saint Joseph says the same." May we renew our devotion to Saint Joseph so that we too can be beacons of hope and stability in challenging times.

Confirmation Parent Meeting

There will be a meeting for the parents' of our Confirmation candidates on Monday, October 4 at 6:30pm in the Social Hall.

Parish Celebration of 40 Hours

This month we will also be participating in the parish celebration of 40 Hours from October 10 to October 12. We encourage all families to attend the evening events. School children will have time on Tuesday to enjoy some time of Adoration.

Cross-Country Team

We are so fortunate to have a Cross Country Team which participates in various meets. We are so grateful for our coaches, Mrs. Kristin Kerchner and her husband Carl and Mrs. Cronan. We are proud of our students who are members:

Iliana Gonzalez (K)	Legend Spradley (3)
Ezekyel Guerrero (K)	Xitali Uribe (3)
Elijah Castillo (1)	Ethan Colon (5)
Ana Figueroa-Zorrilla (1)	Matthew Colon (5)
Jackson Gallo (1)	Isabella Gonzalez (5)
Euriel Garcia (1)	Gia Smith (5)
Kamila Gomez (1)	Mariana Jeronimo (6)
Braylen Laboy (1)	Josander Tavarez (6)
Loyal Spradley (1)	Delayla Colon (7)
Genesis Gomez (2)	Alyna Guerrero (8)
Felix Sheetz (2)	Gabriela Gomez (8)
Naleigha Merritt (3)	Lucas Rodriguez (8)
Carlos Sanchez (3)	Ariana Smith (8)

Student Council Installation

On Friday, October 8 we will install our new Student Council Leadership Team as well as the Class Representatives. We will also install our Mission Representatives in each class. We will publish the list of members in the next newsletter.

Father/Daughter Dance

This 7th Annual event will take place on Friday, October 15 from 7:00-9:00pm in the Social Hall. It is a fun and memorable evening of dancing and games for fathers and daughters.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

We will have Parent Conferences on Monday, October 25 so you can have time to meet individually with your child's teacher to discuss his/her progress. We want to work with you to bring out the very best in each of our students and help them grow to their fullest potential.

Middle States Opening Mass

The opening mass for our Middle States Visitation will be on Sunday, October 31 at 4:00pm in Saint Peter Church. We will have a special mass and Open House to begin the 3 day visitation. Middle States Association evaluates our self-study where we acknowledge our strengths and the areas in

which we need to improve as a school. Two years ago parents were invited to complete a survey as well. The visitation was supposed to take place last year but was postponed because of the Pandemic.

