



The Cougar Connection



Dear God, may You be a source of hope within us. May our belief in You fill us with confidence and joy as we face life's everyday challenges. Help us to remain open to the Spirit who will guide us in ways of love and peace. Amen.

PRAYERS: Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to all our families and extended families who are experiencing difficult times. We give thanks in prayer for all our many blessings.

PARENTS IN PRAYER: We welcome you to join us every Wednesday in the school library at 8:00-8:30 am (unless there is no school) to pray the rosary for the needs of our school community. All parents, grandparents and parishioners are welcome. We pray with our Blessed Mother, asking her intercession and protection for us and those for whom we pray. If you cannot join us but have a prayer intention, please contact Mrs. Reinagel at nonanpete@gmail.com.

THANK YOU: A big thank you to Mr. Foell, Mr. Marte, our parent volunteers and our 8th grade students for making our junior high Halloween dance lots of fun! Also, a very big and special thank you to Danielle Simmons, our teachers, and parents who made our Halloween mini carnival a fun-filled afternoon enjoyed by all! Thank you to the junior high parents who volunteered their time to work the Dixieline fundraiser this past weekend. Without your time and dedication, fundraisers like this would not be possible. Again, a big thank you! Also, we thank Mrs. Lunn, Kristy Wentworth, and Lorraine Williams for making Ice Cream Friday's happen!

MATER DEI HIGH SCHOOL VERBUM DEI RECIPIENTS: St. Columba is proud to recognize two of our outstanding Eighth Grade Students, Lauren Kennedy and Gabriel Vitug for being honored with the Verbum Dei Award from Mater Dei High School. The Verbum Dei Award recognizes students who demonstrate Christ-like leadership, a positive attitude, compassion for others, role-model Jesus Christ, live the Ten Commandments, assist others and are selfless in their actions. *Congratulations Lauren and Gabriel! St. Columba is so proud of both of you!*

MAKE-UP PICTURE DAY: Reminder: Monday, November 6th is picture make-up day. Students having their picture taken need to be in formal dress uniform including their cardigan/vest or sweater. Also, due to picture day – P.E. for grades 6th through 8th will be Monday, November 6th, and P.E. for Kindergarten through 5th grade will be Tuesday, November 7th.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES: Important reminder: Conferences are scheduled, Wednesday, November 8th and Thursday, November 9th. Each family should have received their notice as to the day and time of your conference. Just a few reminders; we ask that you please be prompt so that the tight schedule teachers must maintain to reach everyone flows easily. If you do need more time with your child's teacher, please let the teacher know so that he or she may schedule time for a revisit.

ST. COLUMBA SCHOOL'S PANCAKE BREAKFAST: Come join us this Sunday, November 5th after the 7:30 & 9:30 Mass for a delicious pancake breakfast. Breakfast includes: pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs and fresh fruit with coffee or juice. Perfect event to attend after Mass. Tickets are \$5.00 per person and can be purchased at the door. All proceeds will help to benefit the 7th & 8th grade students going on the Washington D.C. trip.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Dear Families,

The month of November is a time when we reflect on the gifts that God has blessed us with. Americans have carried on the tradition of Thanksgiving since the first harvest feast in November 1671. Over the years the celebration of Thanksgiving has grown to vary among the many diverse cultures that make up our beautiful nation. Although there are these differences, the meaning behind Thanksgiving and giving thanks to God still continues. It is a time that we all give thanks for the beauty of family, friendship, and life. During this month let us also remember in prayer those who may be experiencing any type of hardship.

Parent Conferences have been scheduled for November 8th and 9th. By now you should have received a notice from your child's teacher indicating the day and time of your conference. If there is a conflict with time, please contact your child's teacher as soon as possible. Report cards will be issued to each family at the time of your scheduled conference. Report cards will not be sent home with the students.

Parent conferences are designed at the 1st and 3rd quarter so that parents and teachers have ample time to discuss the academic, spiritual, and social development of your child.

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MINIMUM DAYS: Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for Wednesday, November 8th and Thursday, November 9th these are minimum day, 12:00 dismissal. Extended care is available from 12:00 – 6:00 pm.

VETERAN'S DAY: Reminder: In honor of Veteran's Day Friday, November 10th, school and preschool will be closed.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR MILITARY: St. Columba will celebrate Veteran's Day on Monday, November 13, 2017 with a special ceremony honoring our military members. The ceremony will begin at 8:10 in front of the school flagpole. We invite all active and retired military to join us for a tribute to our American heroes. Following the ceremony we will host light refreshments for guests and parents in the hall until 9:15. At 9:15 there will be a Q & A student assembly with retired military who served in previous wars.

We are also asking students to bring in a photo with the name and rank of a family member or friend who is either active duty or retired military to school no later than Wednesday, November 1st. Please submit the photo with the military person's name in an envelope to your child's teacher. So that we may return the photos to each child, please write the family name and child's grade on the back of the photo. Photos should be no larger than 5x7.

PTG GENERAL MEETING: Please join us Wednesday, November 15th for our general PTG meeting starting at 6:00 pm. We encourage you to attend this informational meeting regarding lots of important Fall Fest updates, and much more. There will be light snacks and refreshments after the meeting. The class with the highest parent attendance will have a free dress day.

AVENT WREATH NIGHT: We welcome you to join us for our 2nd Advent Wreath Making in the parish hall Saturday, November 25th. Cost is \$20.00 per family, and includes all supplies. Pizza, drinks and dessert will also be served. For school families, please RSVP by Friday, November 17th, and for parishioners by Sunday, November 19th. You can pay with cash or checks; checks need to be made payable to St. Columba Church. Look for the reservation form coming home today with your child.

WINTER SPANISH: After school winter Spanish classes have begun. The winter session is 8 weeks long from November 1st through January 18th (no classes during PT conferences, Thanksgiving & Christmas break) Grades 1-2 are on Wednesdays from 3:00-3:30 and grades 3-4 are from 3:30-4:00. Grades 5-8 are on Thursdays from 3:30-4:00. Cost per child is \$40.00. If you have any questions, please contact Maggie Perry at maggiioden@gmail.com.

NOVEMBER FOOD DRIVE: The Men's Club & St. Columba School will begin their annual November food drive on Monday, November 6th. Each year the Men's Club and school collect food items to prepare Thanksgiving baskets to those in most need. Each class will be collecting specific food items, and there will be a box placed outside of each classroom for the donations. The Men's Club will also donate to each basket a gift card and a turkey or ham. All food items will be picked up from school on November 17th for distribution on November 18th.

DECEMBER LUNCH FORM: Look for the December lunch form coming home today with your child. Please note: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, lunch forms for December must be returned by Thursday, November 9th. Thank you.

GIFT CARDS: With holidays just around the corner, gift cards are a great way to shop, and a fantastic way to support our school. An easy and simple way to order gift cards is to go online. Just go to www.shopwithscrip.com enter the school code 5B7465D45922 and follow the simple instructions. You can also stop by the office to pick up an order form. Thank you to all our families, parishioners, and friends who continue to support this program for our school.

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER...

It is important that parents and teachers both enter the conferences with a positive attitude and open mind focused on the well being of the student. We are requesting that all Eighth grade students attend the conferences with their parents.

I will be available during the conferences if you would like to meet with me.

Blessings,

Ms. Navarro

DATES TO REMEMBER

NOVEMBER 5-

- **Daylight Saving Time Ends**

NOVEMBER 6-

- Morning Assembly 8:00
- School Picture Make-up Day
- Formal Dress Uniform
- After School Mad Science 2:55-3:55

NOVEMBER 7-

- After School Band 2:55-4:55

NOVEMBER 8-

- Parents in Prayer 8:00-8:30 Library
- **Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- Minimum Day 12:00
- After School Spanish
Gr. 1-2 3:00-3:30
Gr. 3-4 3:30-4:00

NOVEMBER 9-

- **Parent-Teacher Conferences**
- Minimum Day 12:00
- After School Mythology Class for
Gr. 6-8 3:00-3:30/
- After School Spanish
Gr. 5-7 3:30-4:00

NOVEMBER 10-

- **No School Veterans' Day**

NOVEMBER 13-

- **Veteran's Ceremony** starting at 8:15 in front of the flag pole

NOVEMBER 14-

- **K-2 Thanksgiving Feast 12:30-2:30**
- After School Band 2:55-4:55

NOVEMBER 15-

- **PTG General Meeting 6:00-7:00**
- **2nd Gr. Reconciliation Parent Talks 7:00-8:00 M/C**

WINTER SPORTS: Winter sports are just around the corner, and will begin in December before we go on break. Winter sports are; Pee Wee Soccer for Kindergarten through 4th grade, JV & Varsity Girls Soccer for grades 5th through 8th, and JV & Varsity Boys Basketball for grades 5th through 8th. Look for the permission forms coming home today with your child. Forms need to be returned by Tuesday, November 14th. We will also need coaches, please contact the school office if you can volunteer your time. Also, thank you to our coaches for your time and dedication for volunteering your time, and for a great fall season. Our sports program wouldn't happen without your help.

MYTHOLOGY CLASSES FOR GRADES 6-8: Mythology classes for grades 6th through 8th have begun. Class is after school from 3:00-3:30 pm on Thursdays (Spanish class for grades 5-7 will change to 3:30-4:00). The fee is \$5.00 per child this covers the cost of the Exam. Mythology classes begin early for grades 6-8 because these students learn additional contents on National Mythology Exam, administered February 20, 2018. For grades 3 through 5 Mythology class will begin on November 30th. Thank you, to Maggie Perry for her time and dedication in organizing this program for our students. Please contact Ms. Linda to place your child's name on the sign-up list, and if you have any questions, please contact Maggie Perry at maggieoden@gmail.com.

SPORTS SCHEDULE:

Team	Date	Time	Location
Boys Varsity Football St. Columba vs. All Hallows	11/4	11:00 am	Saints High School
Boys JV Football St. Columba vs. Madeleine (white)	11/4	3:00 pm	Saints High School
Boys Varsity Football St. Columba vs. Madeleine (red)	11/11	12:00 pm	Holy Trinity
Boys JV Football St. Columba vs. St. Charles	11/11	8:00 am	Holy Trinity

DATES TO REMEMBER

- NOVEMBER 16-
 - **Thanksgiving Prayer Service Gr. 1st & 2nd 8:15**
 - **Jr. High Feast Day 11:30-12:30**
 - Mythology Club Gr. 6-8 3:00-3:30
 - Spanish Gr. 5-7 3:30-4:00
- NOVEMBER 17-
 - **All School Mass 8:15/Formal Dress Uniform**
 - **Honor Roll Assembly**
- NOVEMBER 20-24-
 - **Thanksgiving Holiday**
- NOVEMBER 24-
 - **Happy Thanksgiving**
- NOVEMBER 25-
 - Advent Wreath Making/Hall
- NOVEMBER 27-
 - **School Resumes** Morning Assembly 8:00
 - After School Mad Science 2:55-3:55
- NOVEMBER 28-
 - After School Band 2:55-4:55
- NOVEMBER 29-
 - Parents in Prayer 8:00-8:30 Library
 - After School Spanish
 - Gr. 1-2 3:00-3:30
 - Gr.3-4 3:30-4:00
- NOVEMBER 30-
 - Mythology Club Gr. 6-8 3:00-3:00
 - After School Spanish
 - Gr. 5-7 3:30-4:00