



St. Denis – St. Columba School

A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

Family Newsletter



Week of March 18-30, 2019

IMPORTANT ENROLLMENT NOTICE

WAITLIST PROCESS TO BEGIN

Parents of New and Returning Students who have not enrolled for the 2019-2020 School Year should do so as quickly as possible. **Students entering Grades K, 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7 who have not enrolled are at risk of being placed on a waitlist.** If financial difficulty prevents immediate enrollment, or if your child will not be returning for the 2019-2020 school year, please contact Sr. Kathleen at sr.kathleenmarie@gmail.com or Mr. Krebs at rtkrebs@stcolumba.net.

Deadline for Financial Assistance for Returning Students

Families who received financial assistance through the Archdiocese for the 2018-2019 school year must submit all required documents to TADS **before April 15, 2019. THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE DEADLINE. NOTE: Failure to complete the process by April 15th will render you ineligible to receive Archdiocesan financial assistance in the future. There are no exceptions.** In addition to submitting the required paperwork, in order to be considered for financial aid you must 1) enroll for the 2019-2020 school year, 2) complete the requalifying application online through link provided in e-mail and 3) pay a the financial aid application fee. We encourage families to complete the process as quickly as feasible. Remember: financial aid is awarded on a "first-come, first-served" basis.



How to Enroll Online

Families with students eligible to enroll at SDSC next year have received an e-mail invitation and link from TADS inviting you to register for the 2019-2020 School Year. *If you have lost the e-mail, please contact us and we will resend the link.* To enroll, you must complete this process, which includes payment of the registration fee. **Registrations completed before April 15, 2019 receive a 50% discount off the \$200 registration fee (\$100 per student).** Registrations completed on or after April 15, 2019, pay the standard registration fee of \$200 per student. The non-refundable registration fee is required for all students. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Krebs at rtkrebs@stcolumba.net or 845-227-7777.

Sacrament of Reconciliation – Thursday, March 21st

As our students in Grades 3-8 prepare their hearts, minds and souls to celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday, they will have receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Thursday. Sin distances us from God. Reconciliation enables us to return to God with our entire hearts. Talk to your children about how they can use the Lenten practice of Penance to grow closer to their friends, families and ultimately God.

Upcoming NYS English Language Arts and Math Tests

As it is stated in our school handbook, our students *"take part in the Archdiocesan testing program, which includes the Archdiocesan Religion test, Annual Standardized Tests, and New York State Education Department assessments. These tests measure academic growth over a period of time."* **On Tuesday, April 2nd and Wednesday, April 3rd our students in Grades 3-8 will be taking the NYS ELA Tests. The test will be administered in the morning on both days. Please be sure that your children are in school on time on these days.** We thank you for your support and cooperation in this educational process. Included below are some important points about test-taking:

- Test-taking helps build mental stamina in children, preparing them for higher education.
- Data gleaned from state exams helps teachers create individualized instruction and provide support in specific areas as needed.
- State exam scores do not determine promotion or retention.
- Elementary-level state exams prepare students for future "standardized testing" such as the high school TACHS exam, SATs, ACTs, driver' s licenses, GREs, Bar exams and more.
- Performance and personal data is carefully protected by the school and state, and is not shared with outside vendors or organizations



ST. DENIS – ST. COLUMBA SCHOOL

March 30, 2019

"You will shine among them like stars in the sky." Phil 2:16

Looking for a Few Gift Cards!

Do you have any unused gift cards lying around at home? Would you be willing to donate a gift card? The Gala Committee needs gift cards of any value to complete prize packages. If you'd like to donate, please drop them off in the office at your earliest convenience Thank you!

Help Sell Class Basket Raffles After Masses

We are in need of volunteers to help sell raffle tickets for the Class Baskets after Masses. Last year, we raised several thousand dollars from our local parishes by selling raffle tickets for our incredible Class Baskets! It's a great way to "encourage" ticket sales for your favorite Class Basket. The remaining dates are as follows: **St. Kateri Church – March 23-24**. Sign up under the PSA Tab at www.stcolumba.net or [by clicking HERE](#).

Student Gala Raffles – March 25th-29th

Every year our students join in on the Gala fun by purchasing tickets for exciting raffle prizes. Raffle tickets are available for purchase each morning from arrival until Morning Prayers. Tickets are 50 cents each or 12 for \$5. Winners will be drawn the morning of Friday, March 29th.

Class Basket Raffles

We have AMAZING Gala class baskets again this year and a friendly competition to go with them! The class basket that receives the most raffle tickets will win a pizza AND ice cream party for the whole class! Class basket raffle tickets will be sold each afternoon at dismissal. You may purchase tickets through the school main office next week or during the evening at the SDSC Gala.

Join the Fun!

Enjoy a night out that benefits your children! The SDSC Gala is **not** a stuffy uptight event! It's a fun party with good food, drinks, games, raffles, auctions and prizes. Tickets include: Open Bar, Hors'd'oeuvres, Dinner, Desserts and Coffee. Order tickets online or download order form at www.501auctions.com/sdsc. **All proceeds benefit our students!**

Sponsor a Teacher, Priest or Religious!

Please consider purchasing and donating a ticket to a teacher! A night out is a great way to show appreciation for their hard work and dedication. Sponsorships are also available for Parish Priests and Religious Sisters too!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION – Friday April 5th

Our Eighth Grade students have been diligently preparing for the Sacrament of Confirmation. On Friday, April 5th at 5:30 p.m. the St. Columba students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, which will be conferred by Bishop Lagonegro at St. Columba Church. Confirmation Rehearsal is Tuesday, April 2nd at 7:30 p.m. in the Church. Special thanks to Ms. Camilleri for preparing these students to continue their faith journey as full members of the church! We congratulate each of them.

Third Marking Period --- Educate, Report Cards, Tuition, and After School Payments

The 3rd marking period ends this Friday, April 5th. **The Parent Component of Educate will be closed next week on March 30th and will reopen on April 12th when you will be able to view your children's Third Quarter report cards.** Remember that all tuition payments, After School Program, and any other school fees must be up to date before you will have access to your children's report cards. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at the school.

LOOKING AHEAD: Second Annual PSA Daddy-Daughter Dance – Friday, April 26th



Save the date for our Big 80's Daddy-Daughter Dance on Friday, April 26th for a totally awesome night of dinner with an ice cream bar, dancing and raffles! Take advantage of our early bird discount: \$25 per adult/\$10 child (or \$50 for 1 adult and or more children. [Ticket order forms are HERE](#).

To Everything There is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven

Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.

A TIME TO HEAL – Maureen O'Connor (*grandmother of Joseph O'Connor*), Irene Odegaard (*Miss Acardi's mom*)