



## **Principal's Parent Newsletter – April 9, 2015**

*Sister Teresa Ballisty, J.F.M.*

SCHOOL WEBSITE –<http://www.scsreading.org>

### **School Masses**

--- Friday, April 10 – Grade 8B will be our prayer leaders.

---Friday, April 17 – Grade 5 will be our prayer leaders.

Parents are always welcome to attend Mass with us each week.

### **Virtue of the Month (April) – *Love of Neighbor, the Unselfish Gift***

St. Alphonsus said, “Why, therefore, must we love our neighbor? Because he or she is loved by God! We must love all whom God loves!” St. Alphonsus encourages us to live in the spirit of peace, to practice almsgiving, to avoid rash judgment and uncharitable speech. Because we know how much God loves us, we try to love our neighbor as God loves us.

1. Teach children to speak kind words and to use words of encouragement.
2. Avoid watching videos that include violence and hatred, especially in some of the superhero movies.
3. Have family members create a list of how we can work towards peace in the family and neighborhood.
4. Make a list of all the loving acts you witnessed in a day. Share the lists with your family.

### **Bishop's Scholarship Recipients**

Congratulations to four of our eighth graders who have been selected as Bishop Scholarship recipients! The award ceremony will be on Saturday, April 18 at Alvernia University.

Shawn Menden – Berks Catholic High School

Liza Miller – Berks Catholic High School

Rachel Kostival – Berks Catholic High School

Caroline Wasielewski – Berks Catholic High School

**Financial Aid Application for 2015-2016** - All financial aid applications were due to FACTS by April 1. Please be sure to check that your application was processed.

### **Summer Uniform – April 15**

The Uniform Corner will have summer uniform items available. The students can change to the summer uniform on Monday, April 13 to begin the week. All students need to be in the summer uniform by Wednesday, April 15.

### **HSO Spaghetti Dinner**

The HSO will be hosting a spaghetti dinner on Saturday, April 18, 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Take out will be available. See the flyer with more information. If you are attending Berks Catholic production that evening, come and enjoy dinner first.

### **Drama Club**

The senior Drama Club will give their production on Friday, April 24 at 1:15 p.m. for the students and again at 7:00 p.m. for families and friends. All are welcome to come.

### **First Holy Communion Retreat**

The second graders preparing for their First Communion will have a retreat afternoon on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> after the 12:00 Mass. There will be two practices on Wednesday, April 22 and Wednesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Catharine of Siena Church.

### **St. Catharine of Siena YOUTH CHOIR**

All students currently enrolled in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to “Step Up” to join our parish YOUTH CHOIR. We will sing at the 10:00 a.m. First Communion Mass on Saturday, May 2nd. Rehearsals will be held on Thursdays April 16, 23, and 30 from 5:00-6:00 in the Church Choir Area.

Students can sign up to sing by e-mailing your name, grade and phone number to Mrs. Kate Bobb at [loves-2sing@hotmail.com](mailto:loves-2sing@hotmail.com) or by calling 610-689-9816.

### **Declamation**

Isabel Fries, grade 8, and Thientrinh Nguyen, grade 7, will compete at the County level Declamation Contest at Berks Catholic High School on Saturday, April 25. We wish you the very best as you represent SCS!

### **Save the Date - May Procession – May 5**

Our special celebration to honor our Blessed Mother will take place on Tuesday, May 5, 7:00 p.m. at St. Catharine of Siena Church. All students are expected to participate.

- Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten – Wear Sunday best
- Grade 2 – Wear First Communion attire
- Grade 8 – Wear Graduation gown
- Grades 1 and 3 to 7 – Wear school uniform

### **Talent Show – May 12**

Our students have been blessed with many gifts and talents. The Talent Show is an opportunity for the students to share their abilities with the student body and with their parents.

### **Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast** – Tuesday, May 19, 8:30-10:30 a.m.

All school Volunteers: Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. More information will follow. We are grateful to all who have volunteered throughout the year.

### **Field Trips & Events**

- 4/16 Grades 6, 7, 8 – BCHS “Bye Bye Birdie”
- 4/17 Grade 1, 2, 5 – Kutztown University
- 4/21 Grade 4 – Harrisburg
- 4/29 Grade 2 – Performing Arts Center
- 5/4 Grade 6 – Paradise Farms, Downingtown
- 5/6 Grade 5 – Colonial Day
- 5/8 Pre-K – Mother’s Day Tea (Cafeteria)
- 5/15 Grade 7 – BCHS Field Day
- 5/15 Grade 5 – Valley Forge
- 5/28 Grade 8 – Hershey Park



### **Vocation Program**

Pope Francis has named 2015-2016 as “The Year of Consecrated Life.” The students will have a Vocation Program on Friday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Sister Mary Jo Ely, IHM and Seminarians Mr. John Maria and Matt Thompson will be visiting the classes. Let us all pray for vocations that more young people will respond to the needs of the Church through the priesthood or religious life. “Wake up the world! Be witnesses of a different way of doing things, of acting, of living!”

*“Christ is the eternal Gospel; he is the same yesterday and today and forever, yet his riches and beauty are inexhaustible.”*

***Pope Francis – The Joy of the Gospel***