

# Building Bridges



~ between school and home ~

Give Thanks

November 2017

## Important Dates:

- 11/3 (9:15 am)  
Fellowship Friday-  
Bride's Parlor in the  
Winderweeple Center
- 11/7— 11/8  
Class and individual  
photo
- 11/16 (noon)  
Thanksgiving Feast  
(3's, Pre-K, and K)
- 11/20— 11/24  
**School Closed** for  
Thanksgiving Holiday
- 11/28 (9:15 am)  
Kindergarten  
Informational Coffee-  
Mary Martha Parlor

## Notes from the Director

November is here and we have so many reasons to give thanks. As the holidays approach our teachers are helping our little saints become aware of their many blessings and express their thanks with grateful hearts. I am so thankful for All Saints School and for all of the precious children and families that we serve. I am overwhelmed with thanks for our loving teachers. They are so special and give of themselves so

freely. They are truly His servants.

Make sure to check out the article about our Thanksgiving Feast on November 16th. It will be a wonderful time of fellowship for our school family. I can't think of a better way to kick-off our holiday season!

Finally, I wanted to thank Kristin Varley and the PTO for the delicious Chipotle lunch for the staff during the Parent Teacher conferences.

Wow! It was fantastic and such a treat for the teachers after all of that hard work preparing for the conferences. Thank you to all of the parents who donated money towards a spa gift certificate which was raffled off to our staff. Ms. Peggy Miller (infants) was so surprised and excited to have won a massage! We appreciate you so much.

In Christ,  
*Kristin*

### *Fall at All Saints*



## Baby Blessing

Calling all new babies and their families. We will have a special baby Family Chapel on December 13<sup>th</sup>. Father Russell will bless our new babies (any babies born since last spring) and we will give them their All Saints prayer blankets. Please let the office know if you will be attending so that we can be sure to have enough blankets!



## Baby Saints

Emma Skurla (Ms. Courtney and Ms. Molly's class) loves her new baby sister Reese. Baby Reese was born on October 11<sup>th</sup>. Welcome!

Georgia Clark (Ms. Michelle and Ms. Nancy's class) and her little sister Mary Charlotte are extraordinarily excited to have a baby brother! After much anticipation, Sutton James was born on October 19<sup>th</sup>.



## Teacher Birthdays

11/1 Peggy Miller      11/26 Peggie Bobo  
11/9 Molly Carrera



## At Parent's Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Dear Lord,*

*Thank you for this sink of dirty dishes; we have plenty of food to eat. Thank you for this pile of dirty, stinky laundry; we have plenty of nice clothes to wear. And I would like to thank you, Lord, for those unmade beds; they were so warm and comfortable last night. I know that many have no bed. My thanks to you, Lord, for this bathroom, complete with all the splattered mess, soggy, grimy towels and the dirty lavatory; they are all so convenient. Thank you for this finger-smudged refrigerator that needs defrosting so badly; it has served us faithfully for many years. It is full of cold drinks and enough leftovers for two or three meals. Thank you, Lord, for this oven that absolutely must be cleaned today; it has baked so many things over the years. The whole family is grateful for that tall grass that needs mowing and lawn that needs raking; we all enjoy the yard. Thank you, Lord, even for that slamming screen door. My kids are healthy and able to run and play. Many children cannot. Lord, the presence of all these chores awaiting me says You have richly blessed my family. I shall do them cheerfully and I shall do them gratefully. Amen.*



## Parent Education Night- A Few Thoughts

Thanks so much to the families that were able to attend our Parent Education Night. The speakers shared some helpful ideas with us about parenting for kindness and responsibility. We also enjoyed some great conversation amongst ourselves as families shared their own struggles and victories. Over the next few months we will publish some of what we discussed.

**Set your child up for success!** Consider your home (or Grandma's home) from your child's perspective. Are there too many items that are dangerous or off limits? Is there a quiet space to which your child can retreat when he is feeling overstimulated? Can you share that quiet space if your child needs you? Perhaps a cozy reading area with a lovey will work. Can your child get many of his/her own things independently? Having children's items on low shelves or in accessible baskets helps children feel powerful and in charge of themselves (which is what they want!) It also helps them to learn to rely on themselves for entertainment and not always on someone older. Remember to teach them how to put their things back too so they can find the item the next time. They can put things away here so they can at home too!

Don't forget to set your child up for success when you go out too. This doesn't mean handing her a screen to keep her quiet. If you plan to eat out with young children, go early and go to a restaurant that is family friendly. Be prepared to be engaged with your child in conversation and activity (books, crayons, small puzzles, even a little ball of playdough.) Going with other families can be successful if the children like to talk and play together.

Another good idea is to "pre-teach" your older preschoolers about your expectations when you go out. Our classroom teachers use this method to set their students up for success in other classes such as music or art. Remind your child of your expectations. For a trip to the grocery store you might say, "Remember that you may not take anything off of the shelves without asking, but I do need you to be my helper so I will tell you items that I need you to find." For a restaurant outing you might remind your child, "Our family stays in their seats at restaurants. We don't run around even once we finish our meal. I know that this can be hard so let's get a small bag of things you can do at the table."

Setting your children up for success is truly a parenting choice. It may require some preplanning and adjustments. Helping our children to be successful in various environments helps them to feel empowered to be themselves and to be a positive part of your family. Let us know about how you set your children up for success!



### Banana Boxes!

Have you ever wondered how we use all of those banana boxes? All Saints Church fills them up once a month with delicious, healthy food for families in our local area who are hungry. All Saints Church purchases food from Second Harvest Food Bank and then one Saturday a month families gather in our gym to fill the boxes. The next day (Sunday) church families grab a box on their way out of church and deliver it to a family in need. Directions to the family's home are in the box. All families are welcome to join this "Love Wins" ministry. There are jobs for all age groups not to mention coffee and doughnuts! There is no need to sign up. You can just show up at 8:30 a.m. in the Thomas Center to help out. The next two boxing days are: November 11<sup>th</sup> and December 9<sup>th</sup>.

### Opportunity to Give!

All Saints Church is collecting canned goods for the Thanksgiving Store which is held at St. Margaret Mary Church. All Saints and St. Margaret Mary have co-sponsored this ministry for many years and are able to serve 300 families with over 500 children. If you would like to participate, we will be collecting at the Fall Festival. Needed foods are: cranberry sauce, canned corn, nuts, mints, or candy, 5 pounds potatoes, canned green beans, canned yams/sweet potatoes, canned peas, oranges or apples, canned corn, cranberry sauce, canned yams/sweet potatoes.

## Thanksgiving Feast... sign up now!



All families are welcomed to attend the annual Thanksgiving feast and enjoy a special presentation by our 3's, Pre-K, and K classes followed by a traditional Thanksgiving feast. Don't miss this special event!

**When: Thursday, November 16th at Noon**

**Where: Thomas Center**

*See attached flyer for details and lunch order form*

## Kindergarten Informational Coffee

Come meet with Kristin Millson (school Director) and Colleen Ryan (Kindergarten teacher) to hear about the All Saints School Kindergarten program. We will share about the curriculum, standards, assessment, schedule and daily life of our Kindergarten. We will explain how the instruction is individualized and also how we are able to retain our playful focus while meeting all kindergarten standards.

**When: Tuesday, November 28th from 9:15-10:15**

**Where: Mary Martha Parlor**

*No RSVP needed. Please bring interested friends!*



*The All Saints 2015-16 Kindergarten Class Performs "The Mitten"*

## Christmas Outreach

For our Christmas Outreach this year we are going to provide some Christmas goodies for local families who are in need. All Saints Church has a food outreach program called "Love Wins." Once a month we deliver boxes of food to about 40-80 local families whose children attend Lakemont, Brookshire, and Killarney Elementary Schools. Our school is going to go above and beyond that for four families in need. Soon you will receive a specific list of items needed such as canned goods, Wal-mart gift certificates, new children's clothes (with specific sizes), children's toys (specific requests), and toiletries. If you or your family is interested in sponsoring another family please let us know as the need is great. We are so excited to serve our local children in need and to give our little saints the opportunity to experience the joy of giving to other children. Look for a Sign-Up Genius email soon which will have specific items to donate! Thank you.

## Looking Ahead

- December 1, 2017 (9:15 am)- Fellowship Friday
- December 8 and 15, 2017- VPK Fridays
- December 20, 2017 (6:30 pm)- Nativity Pageant
- December 21, 2017- Christmas Break begins

## Connect With Us!

Please visit the update All Saints School website at: [www.allsaintsschoolwp.com](http://www.allsaintsschoolwp.com) and "Like" us on Facebook! Both are great sources of information and updates!

# PTO President's Message

## *Bursting with Thankfulness*

As your PTO, we are thankful for each other always and especially in this season of thanksgiving. Our families are the heart of our school community. The work of our beloved teachers and staff, whose work strengthens our relationships, are often our greatest supports in both the mundane and extraordinary moments.

We have recently enjoyed several opportunities to come together and acknowledge our gratitude including:



*Conference Luncheon*

- PTO Board Meeting which was open to all to offer an overview of our roles and events.
- Conference Luncheon chaired this year by Kristin Varley who threw an unforgettable fiesta to "Taco 'Bout How Awesome" our teachers and staff are in a fun and informal way.
- Parents' Night Out funded by previous PTO fundraisers, allowing families an opportunity to relax and enjoy time together.
- Fall Festival, co-chaired by former PTO President Stephanie Senft and Sara Echeverria, which was hands-down one of the best nights of the year thanks to the volunteers and participants who joined us (many in full costume) to have a



*Fall Festival*

However, and more often than not, our strength as an all-inclusive group of every parent and teacher in this small school community is most evident in every day ways. Take a moment to savor the smiles in the stairwells, friendly nods at the cubbies, waves in car line and kind words exchanged as we scurry about in our every day routines. Thank you for all you do to enrich our collective experience here at All Saints School. We are grateful for who we are together!

We look forward giving thanks alongside you and yours at the upcoming Thanksgiving Feast.

Happy Thanksgiving,  
 Marlena Templet  
 2017-18 PTO President  
 marlenatemplet@me.com





## THANKSGIVING FEAST

AND

## MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

THURSDAY NOVEMBER, 16<sup>TH</sup> 12:00 NOON

THOMAS CENTER

Please join us for a charming musical performance by our 3's, Pre-K's, and Kindergarten classes, along with a delicious and traditional Thanksgiving feast including.....

Turkey with mashed potatoes and gravy, stuffing, green beans, rolls, cranberry sauce, apple sauce, brownies, and pumpkin pie.

We invite every All Saints School family to enjoy the performance and meal. If you would like to have your younger child with you, they will remain with you for the rest of the day, as friends will be napping.

Please return the reservation form below along with payment to the school office by Thursday November 9<sup>th</sup>. Please include payment of cash or check.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

(Please Print)

\_\_\_\_ Number of Adults @ \$12.00

\_\_\_\_ Number of children @ \$5.00

\_\_\_\_ Total included payment