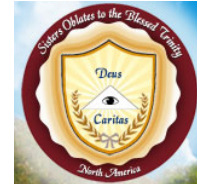


## *St. Aloysius Happy House Learning Center*



St. Aloysius Novitiate, P.O. Box 98, Hopewell Junction, NY 12533  
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A. M. D. G.



## FEBRUARY NEWS 2021



Dear Parents:

We had a fun filled Catholic Schools' Week celebration here at St. Aloysius. A special thanks to all those that helped make this a very enjoyable week for our children, especially Father Michael Connolly, Parochial Vicar of St. Columba Church, Officer Chris Fox, Officer Peter Boutros and Firefighter Kenneth Garon.

Sunday, February 14, is Saint Valentine's Day, a day to celebrate love and friendship. The children can bring valentine cards to exchange with their friends during the Valentine's day Party. Nursery children will have their party on Wednesday, February 10; Pre-K children on Friday, February 12.

***Registration for the year 2021-22 is now open. Spread the word! Request the registration forms from your child's teacher if you haven't done so yet.***

***Please note: this year we will offer Kindergarten. There is bus transportation for kindergarteners. If you want bus transportation for your child, you must contact the office of the School District you belong to.***

Wednesday, February 17, is the beginning of the season of Lent. In order to introduce the children to the real meaning of this holy season, we will teach them how to sacrifice themselves for others by sharing and by doing good deeds. The children are taking a container home. They will keep this container during Lent and every time they perform a good deed (setting the table, picking up toys, cleaning their room, helping with the dishes, etc.), they will deposit a coin in it.

Please reinforce the Lenten message by suggesting to your children ways in which they can express their love for God and others. Examples: **Praying** before meals, at bedtime say the Our Father, a Hail Mary, etc. for the world's needy. **Fasting** could be as simple as giving up that extra cookie or substituting other beverages at a meal with water. **Giving** is what we hope they will learn to do on a daily basis during this Lent.

This year the money we collect from the children at St. Aloysius will be sent to the CRS Rice Bowl. CRS Rice Bowl is the Lenten program of Catholic Relief Services. Lenten alms donated through CRS Rice Bowl support the work of CRS in more than 100 different countries each year. Each Lent, Catholic families across the country unite to put their faith into action through prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through CRS Rice Bowl, families learn about how our sisters and brothers across the globe overcome hardships like hunger and malnutrition, and how through Lenten alms, we have the power to make the world a better place for all.

Please help us in this endeavor so that this may be a meaningful Lent for our children and a consolation for those they will help through their little sacrifices. Remind them that there is much joy in giving. As Saint Francis of Assisi said: "It is in giving of ourselves that we receive."

May your reward be the satisfaction that you and your little ones will feel at the thought that you have helped a very good cause. God will bless you abundantly.

Our School will be closed on February 15 in observance of Presidents' Day.



**God is LOVE, and whoever remains in love remains in God and God in him.** 1 Jn. 4:16  
HAPPY SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY!

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Sr. Madeline Soto, OBT