



ST. SEBASTIAN SCHOOL

Celebrating Over 100 Years of Catholic Education

November 28, 2018

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Dear St. Sebastian School Community,

I hope you all had a lovely Thanksgiving holiday and were able to take time to pause from the busyness and routines of life to enjoy the company of friends and family, as well as moments of peace and joy that can be found within a less structured pace of life.

The holidays, as we all know, can be truly wonderful and magical, while alternatively, difficult and less joyful, depending on one's circumstances. Prior to break, our younger students watched the Pixar film "Inside Out" about a young girl's emotions as she navigates transitions and growing up. The character / emotion of "Joy" works so hard all of the young girl's life to keep her joyful, refusing to allow the character / emotion of "Sadness" to play a role and have much of an impact. The final scene always gets me, where Joy finally realizes that indeed Joy and Sadness *can* coexist and that each play a valuable role in the girl's life.

This Sunday marks the beginning of the season of Advent; a time of hope and anticipation where the sometimes sad and "weary world" will soon "Rejoice!" with the coming of our Savior. Having experienced a number of Advents in our lives at this point, we know how the story ends on Christmas day. We know what to expect after these four weeks, and thus, we can take it for granted. I encourage you to find a way to make Advent special in your homes; be it a change in routine in how you pray, in creating a gratitude list daily as a family to recognize God's blessings, in bringing out your Nativity set, Advent wreath, Jesse Tree, or Advent calendars (that go beyond chocolate!), and so forth. There is an Advent calendar of acts of kindness included in today's Newsletter to serve as one simple resource if you're not sure where to start.

Let us approach these special and sacred weeks of Advent, then, with fresh eyes, no matter our life circumstances, appreciating the unknown of our lives in how the story will end. Like Mary and Joseph, the wise men, shepherds, and all men and women of Jesus' time, may we remain people of HOPE through life's trials and celebrations, trusting that all of God's promises and providence for our lives will be fulfilled in the most remarkable of ways - all in God's ways and time.

God bless you,
Ms. Grams

ATTENTION ALL MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS AND PARENTS - The forensic season is quickly approaching. There will be an important informational meeting on Monday, December 10 at 7:00p.m. in the church hall. Schedules for the 2019 season will be handed out and our forensic program will be explained thoroughly. Categories will be discussed. We need at least one parent to attend with your student. This is a family oriented activity so we need both parents and students to understand our program. If a student has basketball practice during this time, please have your parent still attend and pick up your registration materials.

COME ON MONDAY, DECEMBER 10 AT 7:00p.m and learn about our award winning forensic team. We are sure you will want to become a team member once you hear about our exciting program. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kirkpatrick (414-774-6963).

WELCOME TO THE 2018-2019 BASKETBALL SNACK STAND! - Here is the Sign-Up Genius link we are using to create the snack stand schedule!

Parents, it will be **YOUR** responsibility to sign up for a time to work using this link:<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70A0F49A4AC28A7FB6-saint>. Parents that miss signing up themselves will be filled in for **ANY** open spots, yes, I lovingly said **ANY** spot. Thank you for helping the snack stand run smoothly by ensuring you show up for your scheduled time! Go Raiders!

READ-N-QUIZ UPDATE - Congratulations to the following student(s) for earning the following points using the ReadnQuiz reading incentive program for 1st-5th graders. Keep reading!!!!

5+ Points

Grace Mahn
Mya Gencuski

10+ Points

Tommy Novotny
Joseph Schreiner
Aidan Harvey
Alivia Jones

25+ Points

Kamryn Stewart
Norah Rochford

75+ Points

Tahlia Melendes

300+ Points

Micah Keiser
Margot Rexroat
Elsa Zielinski

CONVENIENT ONLINE PAYMENT OPTIONS FOR FAMILIES

School Program/Non-Parishioner Tuition – <http://bit.ly/SebsPaySchool>
Hot Lunch – <http://bit.ly/SebsPayHot>
PAL Day Care – <http://bit.ly/SebsPayPal>

FISH FRY NEWS!! SAVE THE DATE!! - 8th grade parents will be working the December 7th Fish Fry next month! Mark your calendars!!! Come and enjoy all your Fish Fry favorites...fried or baked cod, french fries, chicken nuggets, shrimp chowder, salad bar, and homemade desserts!! Try our "Special Soup Of The Month", Cream Of Broccoli made by Christine Conway!! You don't want to miss it because it won't be available in January!! Dinner is served from 4:30-7:30 in the school cafeteria. Don't forget to tell everyone you know about Milwaukee's BEST fish fry!

Want to help and need more info? We're ALWAYS looking for volunteers! Contact Amy Struck (Amy4ever72@hotmail.com) OR Lisa Weger (lisamweger@gmail.com)

ADVENT FUN DAY FOR KIDS – On Sunday, December 16 from Noon-3 p.m., St. Sebastian & St. Catherine high school and middle school Youth Ministry students are providing child care and activities for parish children ages 3 – grade 5 in the St. Sebastian School Cafeteria. It's a great way for parents to enjoy an afternoon out! Suggested donation is \$1 per child, plus personal care items (soap, shampoo, toothpaste or other goods) for homeless people served by Milwaukee Hope House. Go to <http://bit.ly/SebsAdv18> to register. We'll send an email to confirm.

During the afternoon, we will have plenty of fun keeping your child occupied and happy while you go out and shop for the holidays. Activities include coloring, Lego, story time, crafts and other games. We will not provide lunch, but snacks will include juices, gluten- and peanut-free snacks, and fruit. Children must be toilet-trained, as we do not have changing facilities. Questions? Email bhaig@haigjackson.com or mlee@saintsebs.org.

SCHOOL CLOSING – In the event of inclement weather, St. Sebastian School will close when Milwaukee Public Schools and/or Wauwatosa Public Schools close. (There will not a special announcement regarding St. Sebastian.) Should we need to close for a different reason, there will be a notification through the local television stations.

ROSIE READER - Congratulations to the following students for his progress in the Rosie Reader program:

Completing the letter "R" in reading:

Grade : K5 - Rowen Sanfelippo

Completing the letter "E" in reading:

Grade : K4 - Levi Winn and Lily Fitzpatrick

Completing the letter "A" in reading:

Grade : K5 - Kameran Sanders

GET READY FOR SOME OLD-FASHIONED FUN ON DECEMBER 8th - Wear your holiday best and get festive with Seb's friends. Here's a sneak peek at this year's Parish & School Auction:

- Two-hour Cocktail Reception with Signature Old-Fashioneds, Wine & Beer
- Sit-down Dinner presented by Maxie's
- Sweets Table and Coffee by Valentine Coffee
- Live Music from Wisconsin Conservatory of Music Jazz Duo

Register for seating and bidding by buying your tickets here:

<https://stsebs.schoolauction.net/auction2018/tickets>

Saturday, December 8

5:30 p.m. Mass (Church)

6:30 p.m. Cocktails & Silent Auction (Gym)

8:30 p.m. Sit-down Dinner & Voice Auction (School Cafeteria)