

March 13, 2019

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St. Thomas More Catholic School

Weekly Newsletter

Let us pray to our merciful God, who understands us: Loving God, help us to grow closer to your Son, Jesus, and to follow his way of life, refusing to do what is unloving, and filling our Lenten journey with good works, sacrifice, and prayer. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

STM PARISH LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

- The **Stations of the Cross**, also known as the Way of the Cross, is a beloved devotion of the Lenten season. Join us at the Parish each Friday as we walk with the Lord in prayerful gratitude and reflection.
- Immediately following the Stations share a **Simple Soup Supper** with friends and family in the parish hall. This is a great way to encourage each other to live this time of fasting, praying and giving alms on our Lenten journey. **PTO** hosts on Friday, **March 29**.
- **Eucharistic Adoration** is held in the church every Friday from 9:00 AM until 1:00 PM
- **Community Lenten Penance Service** Tuesday, April 2, 7:00 PM

SCHOOL LENTEN ACTIVITIES:

In partnership with parents, we prepare our students to become full and active members of the Catholic Church, to serve others, and to make a difference in the world. The Lenten Season provides a variety of opportunities to participate in Christian service to others.

- **Missionary Childhood Association** collection boxes went home this week. Help your children to understand that donating money they might have spent on candy or soda can make a real difference to children served by the MCA. \$5 buys milk for a month.
- We will **pray the rosary** together in church on Monday, March 18.
- **School Lenten Penance Service**, Wednesday, March 27, following the 8:30 Mass, for grades 3 through 8.
- The **Living Stations of the Cross** will be lead by the 8th Grade on Holy Thursday.



Did You Know? Trained adults can take steps to prevent suspicion

The Protecting God's Children program is in place to raise awareness about behaviors of adults that may indicate a threat to the safety of children and young people. Through this program, trained adults learn how to prevent abuse from happening, in part by taking steps to eliminate suspicious behaviors, such as being alone with a young person. Creating a culture of openness and transparency goes a long way towards alleviating concerns of inappropriate behavior by adults, and helps children feel safe in their environment. For a full copy of the VIRTUS® article "Applying Principles of the Protecting God's Children Program," [click here](#).

There will be a VIRTUS® Recertification class on Wednesday , April 3, from 6:30—8

CALENDAR

3/15 St. Patrick's Dollar Dress Day for the Missionary Childhood Association for the donation, students may wear green, or a St. Patrick's themed shirt with their jeans.



3/18 10:30 AM Whole School Rosary

3/21 JOG-A-THON/MARCH MADNESS

**3/22 RE CONGRESS/RETREAT
NO SCHOOL**

3/27 8:30 Mass and Penance Service

3/29 CEF APPLICATION DEADLINE

4/2 5 PM Spelling Bee for 6—8
6th Grade: **Isabella Rodarte**
7th Grade: **Sebashtine Inmon**
8th Grade: **Phoenix Hem**

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE STM ACADEMIC DECATHLON TEAM

Following months of study and meetings after school and on weekends, our team did a wonderful job at the 29th Annual Academic Junior High Decathlon, which took place Sunday, March 3.

It was particularly difficult this year due to a change in support materials - no study guide, and some scoring issues that made it a 12 hour marathon for our kids! In spite of all that, we scored 4 individual medals for Religion, Current Events, English and Literature, and overall placed 31 out of 101 schools throughout the Archdiocese.

We are grateful to our coaches and team members: Brett Baligad, Tyler Baligad, Mia Bribiesca, Izaac Esparza, Phoenix Hem, Alex Palmer, David Stauffer, Emile Tavra, Matthew Tesoro and Samantha Tesoro. We also applaud our alternates, who did all the study and spent all that time at the decathlon "on the bench"; Sydney Pham, Isabella Rodarte and Nathan Tavra.

**JOG-A-THON
AND
MARCH MADNESS
March 21, 2019
12:30 PM—3:00 PM**



**Make Plans to Attend
Camp Ohana this Summer**

The last day of school this year is Tuesday, June 11. Day Camp weeks will begin on Monday, June 17 and run through Friday, July 19. We will have a registration package to send out after Easter break.



If you need to have your fingerprints registered with the Archdiocese of Los Angeles, please refer to the following link for a complete schedule:

[LA Archdiocese Fingerprinting Schedule](#)



You can make a difference!



Saint Thomas More Catholic School Lenten Social Service

\$3 buys 75 pencils for a mission school

\$4 buys bread

\$5 buys milk for one child for a month

YOU can make a difference



All DONATION BOXES are due Friday April 12, 201



To celebrate St. Patrick's Day, Student Council is hosting a Donation Dress Day on *Friday, March 15th*. Students can wear a green or St. Patrick's themed shirt with jean pants or PE bottoms. Please follow the STM free dress guidelines located in the handbook. All donations will go towards the Missionary Childhood Association as part of our WHOLE School Lenten Service.

YOU can make a difference!

