

Around the Parish

MAY 2019

WHAT HAPPENED?

The other day I saw a father, mother and two sons on the line in front of me at Dunkin Donuts. It was obvious that they had just come from a soccer game. The two young boys were dressed in thin shorts and tee shirts, while their parents were dressed warmly in jeans and thick jackets. The two boys never stopped shivering the entire five minutes we were in line together.

What is going on in society when we are making our kids play sports, in every kind of foul weather, including rain, snow and icy winds just for the pleasure of watching them participate in some kind of sport? It seems that we are living vicariously through our kids no matter what the cost is to them or us. Whatever happened to calling off a game because it is too cold or too wet?

When did we start playing sports on Mother's Day? I always remember being home with my mother and our family on mom's special day. We would all be huddled around my mother, making sure she enjoyed her "well deserved" day of rest.

When did we start having our children play sports on Thanksgiving? This warm, wonderful day of giving thanks used to be a special day to share with family and friends. We would spend the entire day eating, relaxing and enjoying the ones we loved. We would never have wasted a precious minute worrying about dragging our kids away from their warm houses to play a game (in the cold) three towns away.

It seems that we are now so preoccupied with driving our kids from one place to another, that we have lost sight of what is really important.

When did the family start playing second fiddle to sports? I can still remember spending the entire summer playing with my friends, and maybe if I was lucky, going to the shore with my parents for a day.

These days, kids are already playing school sports in July. Summer (when I was a kid) was always a time for kids to be kids and for parents to enjoy them as such. School was from September to May and summer was for kids and families to relax and get to know each other again.

Parents and kids today are spending every free hour away from school and work running from one sports practice to another. What ever happened to families spending dinner time together? I have seen frozen, tired kids playing sports sometime in the dark, with sprained wrists, cuts and bruises, while parents cheer them on from the warmth of a bleacher blanket and a cup of hot chocolate.

Whatever happened to hugging your kids and telling that it's alright just to be a kid and that they don't have to prove their worth on a sports field? Sports are great, but they can't rule our lives and influence our decisions.

Families need to spend more quality time together at home and less time competing with the neighbors. If our neighbor's kids play three sports, our kids need to play four? If our neighbor takes an expensive vacation why do we have to them one better? Competition and stress are slowly draining the magic out of our families.

We need to hold our kids more. We need to turn off the TV and take out the board games. We need to interact with our kids on a more personal level. We need to talk to them more and even occasionally read to them. Let's start spending more time with our families and less time driving to malls and endless game practices.

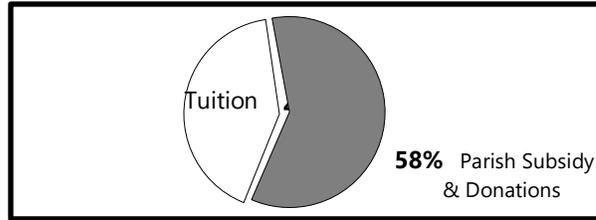
When did iPods replace a good book? Let's start to de-electrify and simplify our lives. Let's put down the cell phones and start talking to our families and friends face-to-face.

Less can be better and a lot more fun.

MAY 2019 SHS ANNUAL FUND NEWS

It's hard to believe our Walk for Annual Fund is here and the end of the school year is near! On May 3, 2019 Sacred Heart School students will participate in our Walk for Annual Fund, a fundraiser imperative to Sacred Heart reaching its Annual Fund goal. This campaign, critical to our programming, pays for new library books, teachers' salaries, building maintenance, and tuition assistance. As **tuition only covers 42%** of the cost to educate a Sacred Heart child, a donation to our Annual Fund will help bridge the gap and allow families of all means the opportunity to send their children to our school.

Cost to Educate 1 SHS student - \$8,792



We have raised 77% of our overall fundraising budget goal of \$150,000. We must meet this goal by June 30th. Every dollar we receive directly affects each and every student. Prayerfully consider a donation to our Annual Fund and help us reach our goal. No donation is too small. Questions? Please contact Beth Gasperack at (610) 685-2347 or bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org. School office hours are Monday thru Friday from 8am - 4pm. Summer office hours are Monday thru Friday from 9am - 1pm.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL ANNUAL FUND

___ Enclosed is my gift of \$ _____

___ Please charge my credit card for my gift. (enter credit card info below)

___ I wish to pledge \$ _____

(Pledges are due by June 2019)

___ Please invoice me monthly payments of \$ _____ for _____ months

___ Please charge my credit card for a monthly payment of \$ _____ for _____ months

Student to receive credit: _____

Name/Name of Business: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please circle all that apply:

Current Parent Former Parent Grandparent of current SHS student Parishioner Corporate Sponsor
 Foundation Faculty/Staff Alumnus - Class of _____ Other _____

I wish to remain anonymous

Matching Gifts: _____ A matching gift will come from my employer.

Planned Giving: _____ I would like information on planned giving.

For Credit Card Payment:

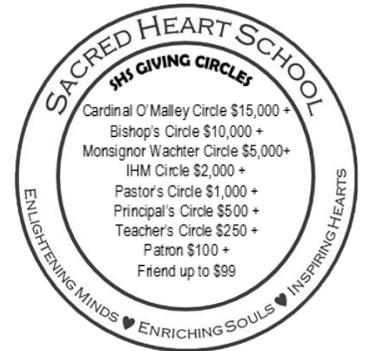
(circle one) VISA Mastercard American Express

Name as it appears on card: _____

Credit Card Number: _____ EXP. DATE: _____

Validation Code: _____ (on back of card for VISA/MC; on front of card for AMEX)

Signature: _____



Thank you for supporting Sacred Heart School !

Gifts to Sacred Heart School are tax deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.
 701 Franklin Street • West Reading, PA 19611 • 610-373-3316 • www.sacredheartreading.com

MOTHER'S DAY CARNATION SALE

Mother's Day is right around the corner. You can help provide help to mothers who are facing an unplanned pregnancy and those who need assistance with your support of the Lifeline Mother's Day Carnation Sale. Volunteers will be selling beautiful carnations in the Church after every Mass on the weekend of May 11th-12th. Please purchase carnations for \$2 each to empower women to choose LIFE for their children. Checks can be made out to your church. Thank you for being our lifeline.

SACRED HEART SCHOOL NEWS

THANK YOU - WE MADE IT!

On March 29th, the visiting team from the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools recommended Sacred Heart School for

FULL REACCREDITATION!

Their report still must be reviewed by members of Middle States before reaccreditation can be offered, but we couldn't have asked for a better result. Some comments were:

**The school environment is a caring, family-like atmosphere that maximizes all the aspects of the mission.*

** The mission encompasses all of the values that a good Catholic education provides: strong academics, service to others, acceptance of diversity, promoting lifelong learning and religious education and practices.*

** Teachers were observed at every grade level providing small group instruction daily as students worked independently in cooperative learning groups.*

** Understanding that all students might have different backgrounds of knowledge, it is apparent that the teachers work to reach all students at their level.*

**We commend the faculty for using technology throughout the curriculum. Thank you to Monsignor DeSantis, Father Hutta, the rectory staff, Sacred Heart parishioners, our wonderful faculty and staff, the Home and School Association and our School Board, our parents and especially OUR STUDENTS!*

Submitted by Kathy Napolitano, Principal

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Reagan Kathleen Clouser

Max John Clouser

Blair Elizabeth Clouser

Children of Derek & Jessica Clouser

Reagan was born on 12-7-2012

Max was born on 4-12-2014

Blair was born on 12-30-2015

SENIORS NEWS

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 6th at 1 PM. Deacon William Kase will present a devotion to Mary in the Chapel. We will then adjourn for May Day Fun and refreshments in the Wachter Room. So, come enrich your soul with reflection and enjoy the company of friends!

SVDP FOOD DRIVE

Please join us in helping our friends at Kennedy House by donating canned or boxed goods, May 17th and 18th. Suggested items include: canned fruits and vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, rice, cereal, soup, canned fish, and instant potatoes.

All donations must be sealed and have a valid expiration date. Members of Sacred Heart St. Vincent de Paul Society will be accepting donations curbside at the main entrance of the Church before and after all Masses that weekend.

*Thank You for helping us
to help our neighbors!*

GREETERS AND USHERS NEEDED!

Any men *or* women interested in volunteering to be greeters and/or ushers at Sunday Mass please call or email Bob Duchynski at (610) 775-7597 or rduchynski@comcast.net. No previous experience required - just a smile 😊
We are especially in need of greeters for the 9:30 and 11 AM Masses.

SHS ENROLLMENT NEWS

Registration for Fall 2019 is now open!

Sacred Heart School offers a rigorous academic curriculum, small class sizes, a safe and nurturing environment and a strong family atmosphere.

Our students have achieved much success this year in academics, extracurricular activities and community service.

- Our Mathletes team won 1st place in April in the county wide competition for the 3rd time in 4 years!
- Our students participated in CYO Declamation and placed 1st in 8th grade girls division and 3rd in 7th grade girls division.
- Our 1st & 2nd graders collected and donated over 300 pairs of gloves, hats & scarves to The Children's Home of Reading as their service project.

These are only a few examples of the exemplary results of a Sacred Heart education. At Sacred Heart School we nurture the minds, bodies, and souls of every student.

To schedule a private tour or for more information about registering your child at Sacred Heart School please call Beth Gasperack at (610) 685-2347 or email

bgasperack@sacredheartreading.org. You can also access all our admissions information for all grades on our school website at the following address www.sacredheartreading.com/new_student_admissions.

PLEASE WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS

Ryan & Gabrielle Topper

Lucy Rivera and her granddaughter
Chanell



The Bornemann Knights recently took a trip to Boalsburg, PA and explored the Boal Family Mansion Museum and Columbus Chapel. For over 200 years, the Boal family has helped shape its community, including these present-day landmarks: founding the village of Boalsburg in 1808, the Birthplace of Memorial Day in 1864, Penn State University 1855, just to name a few. The Columbus Chapel was inherited to a Boal family member who married into the Colon family (Christopher Columbus' family) and inherited the Chapel located in Spain. In 1909 they brought the contents of the Chapel to Boalsburg where it was reconstructed and is now a museum. Monsignor Treston joined our small group and said Mass in the Chapel. What a wonderful experience! You can see photos and learn more in our Gallery section of our website at www.bornknights.org.

May Events:

Every Sunday at 10:40 AM

Pray the Rosary

1st Spaghetti Dinner

Victor Emmanuel II

4:30 - 7 PM

5th Local March for Life

1- 4 PM starting at Berks Catholic

16th Monthly General Meeting

7 PM

IHM Room

The Knights of Columbus Monsignor Bornemann Council membership is open to all practicing Catholic male adults, aged 18 and over, who wish to serve their parish and community. Meetings are the third Thursday of the month. To join, contact our Membership Committee Chair Charlie Polinko at (610) 301-5592.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

Every Tuesday the real presence of Jesus is in the Church/Chapel for the entire day beginning after 8 AM Mass till 10 PM. Please take time from your busy schedule to spend an hour or a half hour with Jesus. Many blessings have been received and prayers answered after time was spent in prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

If you can commit one hour or ½ hour a week or once a month, your presence would be greatly appreciated. Please prayerfully consider sharing your time with our Lord. If you would like more information, please call Bonnie Batdorf at (610) 372-4010.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

MAY

1st K of C Spaghetti Dinner

3rd Walk for Annual Fund

4th First Communion

JUNE

1st Sacred Heart School Gala

9th 12th Annual Parish Picnic

OUR CONDOLENCES TO

The McGee Family on the death of:

Joseph M. McGee

3-20-2019

The Wagner Family on the death of:

Irene J. Wagner

4-3-2019

The Cirulli Family on the death of:

Caterina Cirulli

4-12-2019

The Doyle Family on the death of:

Barbara A. Doyle

4-15-2019

The Coleman Family on the death of:

Justine "Tina" M. Coleman

4-18-2019

HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME PARISHIONERS

If you are aware of someone from our parish that we may not be aware of who is homebound or in a nursing home or assisted living facility, please take a moment and call the rectory (610) 372-4010. We are trying to keep our lists current and would like to know if we are missing anyone. A home visit can be arranged and visits to our nursing home, assisted living and homebound parishioners take place regularly and whenever needed.

MAY 2019 EVENTS

- 1 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
- 2 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
- 3 Walk For Annual Fund -10:30 AM - School
- 4 First Holy Communion – 10 AM - Dhurch
- 5 Coffee & Donuts – 10 AM – Wachter6
- 6 Seniors Meeting – 1 PM – Church & Wachter
Parish Council – 7 PM – Wachter
- 7 May Procession – 1:15 PM - Church
- 8 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
- 9 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
W.I.N.E. – 7 PM – Wachter
- 12 **HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**
CYO Board – 8:30 AM - Wachter
- 13 SVDP – 7 PM – Wachter
- 15 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
Picnic Committee – 6:30 PM - Wachter
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
Liturgy Committee – 7 PM - Wachter
Baptism Class – 7 PM - Chapel
- 17 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
Knights of Columbus – 7 PM – IHM Room
- 19 Coffee & Donuts – 10 AM – Wachter6
Third Order Carmelites – 1 PM – Chapel & Wachter
- 22 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
- 23 Knitters & Crocheters – 1 PM – Bornemann
- 24 Newsletter Mailing – 8:30 AM – Wachter
- 27 **HAPPY MEMORIAL DAY!**
W.I.N.E. – 7 PM – Wachter
- 29 Bible Sharing – 9:30 AM – Bornemann
RCIA – 7 PM – Bornemann
- 30 **ASCENSION THURSDAY** – Holyday of Obligation