



St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School The Crusader Connection



March 7, 2017
Volume 5 issue 27

Principal's News

Sister Kateri Rose, O.P.
Principal

"Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Luke 23:34

Calendar Items

- 3/11 **Skate Social**
6:30-8pm
- 3/13 **No School**
Professional Development
- 3/15 **Used Uniform sale**
3-5 pm.
- 3/24 **Lion King Musical**
7 pm Gar Field High School
- 3/25 **Lion King Musical**
2 pm and 7 pm Gar Field High School
- 3/28 **Spirit Night @**
Smoothie King
- 3/31 **Spirit Wear**
- 4/7 **2 pm dismissal**
- 4/28 **Race for Education**
- 4/11 **Spirit Night @**
Subway
- 8/28 **First Day of School**
2017-2018 school year

Dear Aquinas Parents,

These words of Christ from the Cross are worth our time in meditation, especially during this season of Lent. Forgiveness is so hard! The Lord was cursed, spit upon, falsely accused, condemned unjustly, taunted. He had every right to defend Himself and to show the people a thing or two. And yet, "Like a lamb led to the slaughter, He opened not His mouth" (Is. 53:7). How often do we seek or desire revenge upon those who have wronged us? How often do we seek to defend ourselves when we are wrongly accused or judged? This is not what the Lord desires for us. He, Himself, left us an example. We are, rather, to pray for those who persecute us or do us harm in any way: physically, emotionally, spiritually, or simply by the words of their mouth. As South African psychologist Pumla Gobodo-Madikizela stated in her book whose main theme is forgiveness, "Forgiveness does not overlook the deed: it rises above it." May we, too, like Christ, be given the grace to rise above the wrongs done to us and know deep peace through the power of forgiveness.

With prayers,
Sr. Kateri Rose, O.P.

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Home and School Connection

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New STARS website Parent Login -
User name: STARSparent
Password: sta1977-2017

Attention: Urgent Need
Parents of Students in the Middle School Musical
and any other parent volunteers.

Please go to the Musical [Sign up Genius](#) and sign up to volunteer. If we do not have monitors for the choir room, hall and costume room the play will **NOT** go on.



[March Practice schedule](#)

Check weekly for possible frequent changes

[Sign up Genius](#) to donate needed items and Volunteer to help with the musical

Notes from Sister



RACE FOR EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE

A big thank you to our pioneering families who are piloting our new Crowdfunding option for Race for Education. We have heard great feedback regarding the ease of use and ability to share easily. Even though they are just getting started, these families have already raised almost \$800! If you are interested in trying crowdfunding, please contact Pamela Howser at development@aquinastars.org and she will get you set up. Just for signing up, your child will meet the requirement for his or her class to earn a popcorn and movie party and will get to select either one out of uniform pass or one treasure chest gift card.

School Announcements

LION KING JR. "SHOUT OUTS" (LOVELINES)

What comes in 4 different sizes, can cost as little as \$5, and makes your kid feel like a million bucks? It's a Shout Out in the *Lion King Jr.* program! Give a cast or crew member a "Shout Out" (Loveline) or advertise your business in the St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School Spring Musical Program ([See ad sample sheet](#))! Design a special message for your star in the cast or crew to show them your love and support, and if you want to, advertise your business at the same time!

2 lines of text ~ \$5
1/4 page (5" x 2" or 2 1/2 x 4) ~ \$10
1/2 page (5" x 4") ~ \$20
Full page (5" x 8") ~ \$35



You may purchase your Ad or "Shout Out" (Loveline) online at <https://app.mobilecause.com/f/18lo/n> or by submitting this [completed form](#) to the school office. The deadline for purchasing is **WEDNESDAY, March 15th.**

LION KING TICKET SALES

Tickets are now on sale. You can get your tickets [online](#) or by sending in [this form](#) to the office with your payment.

MATH HELP

Mrs. Glascock is available every week on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00 for all 5th-8th grade Math students who need extra help in Math. Please simply send in a hand-written note or an email to Mrs. Glascock at jglascock@aquinastars.org indicating that your child has permission to attend the Math Help session and whether your child will be picked up at 4:00 or be dismissed to Extended Day.

AQUINAS MOMS SCRIPTURE SHARING

Aquinas moms will be meeting once a month at 1:30 in the school library for fellowship and Scripture sharing. Simply bring a Bible and an open heart. Dates for all future meetings are as follows: March 17th; April 28th; May 19th; June 9th.



The Crusader Connection (Continued)

Sports



AFTER SCHOOL SOCCER ACADEMY

The *Players Soccer Academy* is offering after school soccer sessions for k-4th grade students who would like to learn the game and practice soccer skills. These Thursday Sessions will be weekly starting 3/30 through 5/25. See the [attached flyer](#) for more information. Registration is online and limited.



PTO Announcements



RACE FOR EDUCATION LABELS

It's not too late! Send your labels in by tomorrow (Wednesday, March 8th) so your child can help his or her class earn a popcorn and movie party. For every 10 labels you send, your child will get to select either a free dress pass (up to 3 total) or a treasure chest gift card. Not sure you want to do labels? Check out our Crowdfunding option available this year (see above under Principal's Notes).

**DEADLINE
EXTENDED**

SKATE SOCIAL

The annual *Aquinas Skate Social* is being held on Saturday, March 11th at the Prince William Ice Center. The Social will run from 6:30pm to 8:00pm and the cost is \$10 per person. Skate rental is included in the cost. To pre-order you tickets, please [click here or](#) fill out the [attached flyer](#). All skaters are required to fill out the waiver form attached to the flyer. Pre-Orders close at noon on Friday. Tickets will be sold at the door from 6:30 -7:30 only. If you have any questions, please e-mail Jenni Mendell jmendell@aquinastars.org



USED UNIFORM SALE

There will be a Used Uniform Sale on March 15th from 3-5 PM. The location **is the church basement**. Used uniform donations will be accepted anytime in the front office until the day of the sale. All items are only \$5 each but anyone who donates 3 or more CLEAN pieces can make a purchase for only \$3/piece. Cash or checks will be accepted. All proceeds will go to the PTO and benefit STARS students.



**NOTE:
Location
Change!**

MONTHLY ROSARY COMMITMENT

See the [attached form](#) for the opportunity to support Aquinas with a monthly rosary.

PILGRIM VIRGIN MARY STATUE

See the [attached form](#) for the opportunity to have the statue visit your home for a w

PARENTS IN PRAYER

Let Us Pray:

For **Pope Francis**, that God will continue to bless him, as he leads the Church.

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

For **Bishop Burbidge**, that God will bless him as he leads his flock.

For the special intentions of **St. Thomas Aquinas Regional School**.

For the repose of the soul of **Romeo Wage**, brother of Mr. Wage.

For **Josephine Paul**, grandmother of Abey and Anitha Paul, that God will grant her healing.

For **John A. Steptoe, Jr.**, grandfather of Langston Rhodes, that God will grant him healing.

For **Bill Gates** father of Mrs. Howser, that God will grant him healing.

For **Alvaro Parada**, father of Anthony and Mariah Parada, that God will restore his health and cure him of cancer.

For the repose of the soul of the **father-in-law** of Mrs. Perroots.

For the repose of the soul of Mrs. Godfrey's **mother**.

For an Aquinas Community member, that God may grant healing and strength.

For the repose of the soul of **Melanie Nocera**, mother of Elon and Anthony.

For **Aidan McNulty**, brother to Faith, Maeve and Killian McNulty, son of Mrs. McNulty, that God will heal him and allow his recovery to continue.

For **Clare McNulty**, cousin of Faith, Maeve and Killian, that God will watch over her recovery from surgery.

For **Cisco Brink, Major**, US Army, father of Liliana (2nd grade) and Sophia (Pre-K) Brink, who is deployed to Afghanistan this school year, that God will watch over him and bring him home safely to his family.

For **Daniel Powell USMC**, friend of Audrey Davis, who is being deployed to the Middle East, that God will watch over him and return him safely to his family.



Our Holy Father's Prayer Intentions

Support for Persecuted Christians:

That persecuted Christians may be supported by the prayers and material help of the whole Church.

We are blessed to have such wonderful families in our Aquinas community and one of the many spiritual gifts we give each other is praying for the intentions listed. Email your prayer intentions to mdsa72@gmail.com

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

Lenten Resources

40DAYS40WAYS WITH POPE FRANCIS

Looking for a new Lenten exercise? Try the Office of Family Life's **40Days40Ways with Pope Francis**. **Simply text "Ways" to 84576** to sign up for free daily reflections and practical challenges based on chapter 4 of *Amoris Laetitia*. To receive these messages by email rather than text, [use this link](#). And don't forget to sign up for [2minutes2virtue](#) if you haven't already, a great way to be inspired and challenged by one of our great priests.

FORMED

FORMED continues to grow very quickly across the Diocese of Arlington, with **over 10,100 registered users** as of last week. Nearly 80% of our parishes have subscriptions to FORMED, as do all four diocesan high schools, so if you're not yet signed up for this wonderful **FREE** service be sure to contact your parish and find out whether it has a subscription. Once you have your parish's access code, you can register on the site and start using it on any device with an internet connection.

Of particular interest on FORMED during this season of Lent are two new video series: "**Forgiven**," on the Sacrament of Confession, and "**The Wild Goose**," on life in the Holy Spirit. There is also a new audio series on the **discernment of spirits** by Fr. Timothy Gallagher. New content is added to FORMED all the time, so don't miss out on this opportunity during Lent and beyond, and invite others to sign up as well!

Other

ST. JOHN PAUL THE GREAT EVENTS

The Spring Open House at John Paul is primarily hosted for grade school children who would like to preview high school, but all are welcome! Join us Thursday, March 16, 2017 from 4 – 6pm. Presentation begins at 4:15pm. Gift with pre-registration! [Please click here to register!](#)

Special Events for Middle School Students at JP

All middle school students are encouraged to visit JP to meet our students and coaches and make new friends! There are a number of events coming up! [Visit our website for more information](#)

March 16: [Spring Open House](#) / 4-6pm / All are welcome, especially younger students who wish to preview high school at JP. Gift with pre-registration!

April 8: [JP5K Run/Walk for Options](#) / Join us in raising awareness and funds for our outstanding Options Program!

May 5 – 7: **Beauty and the Beast**, performed by JP Drama. For more information, and to purchase tickets, [please click here!](#)

The Crusader Connection (Continued)

JR. HIGH BASH

Sat. April 29th, 6-8th graders come join the largest gathering of middle school students every year for faith, fellowship and fun; including music, games, speakers, confessions and Vigil Mass for Sunday from 3:30 -9:30pm. [Click here for more information and registration](#) for this wildly popular gathering of students from across the Diocese of Arlington at St. John Paul the Great Catholic High School. [Spanish registration forms](#) are also available.

SUMMER MATH CAMP

Location: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church
12805 Valleywood Drive Lake Ridge, VA 22192

Dates: July 17 – 28, 2017

Please see the following flyers to help you determine which level to enroll your child.

[Bean Counting 101](#): 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$420)

[Bean Counting 201](#): 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$420)

[Multiplication Matters](#): 9 AM – 12:30 PM (\$465)

[MathTree Roots: 1](#) – 4:30 PM (\$465)

[Roots-to-Leaves: 1](#) – 4:30 PM (\$465)

A full-day experience is available by adding MathTree Hands-On Math to any of the above camps. Before and After Care are also available. More information at Mathtree.com website.

