
ASSUMPTION PARISH



Catholic Schools Week 2021

When you enter Assumption School's beautiful lobby, you see the inspiring words of Walt Whitman, "I am larger, better than I thought; I did not know I held so much goodness." Sister Merris Larkin, our outstanding Principal and our dedicated talented teachers and staff collaborate with our parents to insure that all the children learn that they are children of God and they hold so much goodness. Sister Merris has been the Principal of Assumption School since 1995; she came to teach 16 years prior to that in 1979. Assumption School is a Blue Ribbon School because of her leadership. Because of Sister Merris's ingenuity and our intrepid teachers and staff Assumption School remains open during this pandemic. I am delighted to serve at Assumption Parish and I find Assumption School is an amazing place where academic excellence and hard work combine with immense joy and charity. We are here because God our Father sent Jesus Christ, His Son and we are gathered in unity by the Holy Spirit.

Assumption Parish is devoted to serving our children and all our families. In addition to Assumption School we have an excellent Faith Formation for our public school students. Faith Formation also includes the Catechesis of the Good Shepherd for those who opt for it.

Assumption Parish is a place where Sister Merris and our teachers work side by side with Linda Macios and our Faith Formation catechists in so many ways, especially sacramental preparation for First Reconciliation and First Eucharist.

Catholic Schools Week at Assumption is a wonderful way to celebrate this School which belongs to all of us. There will be exciting activities this week, beginning with a virtual Mass on Friday January 29th and students from Assumption School will be speaking briefly at the Masses over this weekend. Bishop Kevin Sweeney is coming to Assumption School on Friday morning. The Weekly Word published by Assumption School's Home and School Association describes the events of Catholic Schools Week here.

We are Assumption! Together we hold so much goodness!

In Christ's Peace,
Father John

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS SPIRIT WEEK 2021

Decorate a door contest- Honoring Essential Workers

Monday - Honor Essential Workers Day

- Dress-Like an Essential Worker
- Project: Thank you cards/videos for essential workers
- Activity: 1 PM Google Meet with an Essential Worker

Tuesday - Crazy Hair/Hat and Clash Day

- Dress-Crazy
- Activity: 1 PM Grade Wide Kahoot

Wednesday - Pajama/Cozy Slipper Day

- Dress-Pajamas
- Activity: 12:30 PM Talent Show (virtual) *revised Lunch schedule, if necessary*

Thursday - Movie Day

- Dress as a Character from your favorite movie
- Activity: Movie in Classrooms (*revised lunch schedule, if necessary*)

Friday - Patriotic Day

- Dress in Red, White, & Blue
- Bishop Sweeney Comes to Assumption School.
- Project: Divine Mercy - Jesus, I Trust in You
- Activity: 1pm Volleyball Game 8a vs 8b (virtual)



January, 2021

National Catholic Schools Week is the annual celebration of Catholic education in the United States. This year it is celebrated starting January 31 through February 6. The theme of Catholic Schools Week this year is “Catholic Schools: Faith. Excellence. Service.”

And this is a theme I think runs deep in Assumption Parish and School. We are so very blessed that Assumption Parish, School and Religious Education work hand in hand in faith, with excellence to provide service for all of our children and families.

Assumption’s history is long and rich in Morristown being the first Catholic

Church built here in 1848 by Father McQuaid. Thankfully, Father recognized the importance of Christian education and in 1850 opened the first Catholic school in the basement of the Church. That gives us the distinction of being the second oldest Catholic school in the Diocese of Paterson - 171 years and still going strong! Here’s a little known fact . . . I’m probably the oldest principal in the Diocese . . . if not the world! I only mention this to highlight the fact that it has been my honor and pleasure to serve the many families who have come through our school, having worked with wonderful Pastors, and partnering with our vibrant Religious Education Program for 42 years.

During our celebration of Catholic Schools Week, we will be honoring all “Essential Workers”.

There’ll be a door decorating contest, many students dressed as “essential workers” and many “google meets” with essential workers explaining what they do and why they do it.

And speaking of “essential workers” I am privileged to work with many of them every day – our teachers, nurses and staff. Their dedication has allowed us to open school on time in September, full house, in person, some remote, every day, all day, safely, during these crazy times. I salute them and am so grateful to them and for them.

I thank all of our school families and Assumption parishioners who have supported us in all our endeavors for the past 171 years that have kept us strong and hope you will continue to support us for another 171 years – without me, of course.

Sister Merris Larkin

