



BISHOP GARRIGA MIDDLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



February 15, 2016

Greetings in the peace and love of Christ! As you are aware, the Lenten Season has begun. Lent is a time when we commemorate the 40 days Jesus spent in the desert in prayer, fasting, and sacrifice. As Catholics/Christians we take time during this Holy Season to reflect, repent, and pray as a way of sharing in Jesus' sacrifices and preparing our hearts for Easter. If you have not already done so, please take time to think about what you can do, in sacrifice, individually and/or as a family to prepare your hearts for Easter.

Some ideas are:

- Pray the Rosary as a family at least one time a week
- Eat together as a family at least one meal a week. You may want to choose Fridays during Lent as this meal. As you are aware, on Fridays during Lent Catholics abstain from eating meat. By having a meatless meal on Fridays as a family, you can explain to your children the significance of not eating meat on Fridays during Lent. In turn, when your children have children of their own, they can continue sharing this tradition with their family.
- Put together a "Lent Box". Have each member of the family put in a plastic container a favorite toy, game, electronic device, or whatever they would like to sacrifice for Lent. Seal the container and label it with "Good-bye for Lent – See you at Easter". Put the container in an inconspicuous place during the Lenten Season; don't open the container until Easter.
- Commit to reading the Bible every day as a family.
- Make cards of encouragement to those in your parish's RCIA Program who will be received into the Church on Holy Saturday.
- Choose a Lenten sacrifice to do as a family that might help another family in need.
- Consider donating what you would spend on a meal at a restaurant (at least once a week) to a food pantry.

BGMPS Prayer Partners: The BGMPS Prayer Partners will be meeting on **Monday, February 22** from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Please join us for this special time of prayer. We continue to pray for our school community, our families, and other school communities in the Diocese.

Open House – February 27: Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School will be sponsoring an Open House on Saturday, February 27 from 9:00 a. m.-1:00 p. m. in the Kenedy Center/Gymnasium. The Open House is for all who are interested in enrolling their son/daughter at our very fine school the 2016-17 school year. This is a great opportunity for you, as parents, to help BGMPS welcome more students to our campus. Invite your friends and relatives to visit our campus for the Open House on Saturday, February 27.

Early Registration Event: Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School is holding its Early Registration Event on Friday, March 4 in the Kenedy Center/Gymnasium from 8:00 a. m.-7:00 p. m. Early registration will be available to current families and families whose children are not yet attending BGMPS. On this day, families will be given the opportunity to register their children at BGMPS for the 2016-17 school year.



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Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord: In response to Our Holy Father Pope Francis’ request to spend time with our Lord in Adoration during this Year of Mercy, Fr. Patrick Higgins, our school’s Chaplain, is facilitating a Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord Event. This event is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 4-5 in the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the St. John Paul II Campus. We encourage all students and families from our two Diocesan campuses, Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School and St. John Paul II High School, to participate in this Day of Adoration for our Lord. The schedule for this event is attached.

Shadowing Day: BGMPS has invited students from the exiting grades of Catholic elementary schools to a “Shadowing Day”. The students will be teamed up with BGMPS students and will be involved in various activities to give them a feel for how BGMPS operates during a regular school day. We will encourage these students to enroll at BGMPS the 2016-17 school year. The students will be provided with school and registration information. The dates Catholic elementary school students will be visiting our campus are:

- Most Precious Blood Catholic School – February 16
- Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic School – February 16
- Central Catholic Elementary – February 23
- Holy Family Catholic School – February 23
- St. Pius X Catholic School – February 25

If you know families from these schools whose children are in the exiting grades, please contact them and encourage them to enroll their children in our very fine school.

Students from St. Patrick Catholic School were on campus on Thursday, February 11 for their “Shadowing Day”. It was a very good day for these students. They appeared to be excited to be on campus and about possibly attending BGMPS the 2016-17 school year. It was a great pleasure to have these students at BGMPS. I hope to see many of them in the fall as students of BGMPS.

****Special Announcement****

Parents/Guardians, please be aware of the fact that students will not be able to take their final exams in May if all finances – tuition, fees, service hours, fund raising commitment, etc. – are not current. If you are experiencing a problem with your financial commitment to our school, please contact our school’s Finance Office.



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A Lenten Prayer

Almighty and Everlasting God, You have given the human race Jesus Christ, our Savior, as a model of humility. He fulfilled Your Will by becoming Man and giving His life on the Cross. Help us bear witness to You by following His example of suffering and make us worthy to share in His Resurrection. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, Your Son.

Amen.



Important Dates in February and March

Please be aware of these important dates in months of February and March.

Friday, February 26 – Catholic Schools' Night with the Ice Rays – 7:00 p. m. – American Bank Center

Saturday, February 27 – Open House – Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School

9:00 a. m.-1:00 p. m. – Kenedy Center/Gymnasium

Friday, March 4 – Early Registration for the 2016-17 School Year – 8:00 a. m.-7:00 p. m. – Kenedy Center/Gymnasium

Friday-Saturday, March 4-5 – Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord – 11:30 a. m. (Friday) through 11:50 a. m. (Saturday) – Immaculate Conception Chapel, St. John Paul II Campus

Please remember to say your prayers and be kind to one another. ☺

Have a wonderful week, and God bless.