



HOLY THURSDAY PLANS

Each year, over the life of the school, we have done different things as a school community on Holy Thursday. Praying the Stations of the Cross has been included each time, along with watching "The Passion of the Christ" in year one, and a Seder Meal/Passover Feast last year. This year, we will begin the morning with the Stations of the Cross, and then go to see a film together as a school. We have arranged with the theatre on Loop 306 in north New Braunfels to have a private screening for the school of the film "October Baby." The school will cover the cost of the film; students can bring money for concessions if desired. The film is a recent release; it is "a powerful, compelling story of a young woman who was adopted by loving parents after a failed abortion attempt. The goal of the film is to remind moviegoers that every life is beautiful. As it does, the movie will open eyes and hearts to the sanctity of life." Read more at www.octoberbabymovie.net. We should return to school by 12:15. Dismissal will be right after we return.

ANNUAL FUND DINNER

Be sure to save the date! Saturday, 14 April 2012 – 6:30 p.m.!
Tickets are on sale now in the office!

DRAMA

•• *Thanks to all those who attended and those parents who helped with transportation of the set to and from Steele High School. AND of course, thanks to Mrs. Schwartz and our actors for their work and their gift to our community this Easter.*

FISH FRY Friday, 30 March – FISH FRY

• *Thanks to all the parents and families who supported this year's fry, and those families who donated time or talents to the success of the event. Look for next year's committee to be formed this May! Get ready for LFF '13*

TEXAS A&M ADMISSIONS COUNSELOR VISIT

Shahrzad Sameri, our area Texas A&M Admissions Counselor, will be available to juniors during Solidarity time (10:30-11:00), on Thursday, May 10, 2012. If needed, the session will run longer.

This is not a general college information session, but a time for juniors who plan to apply to Texas A&M-College Station to receive "inside information on the A & M application process." Parents are invited, and encouraged, to attend, if possible; we will take good notes and pass those along as well. This meeting will provide great information for juniors applying to Texas A&M-College Station. Ms. Sameri will repeat the same presentation each year in May, to allow the next class of students to get updated information about applying.

SPEECH & DEBATE, DRAMA, AND ONE-ACT PLAY

We are interested in adding **Speech and Debate** for 2012-13, and so will be placing a sign-up sheet on the front counter for those interested. Once we have some numbers, we will look to see how that could be scheduled. Also, TAPPS is adding **one-act play** for TAPPS members, which preliminarily seems to be scheduled for the fall (November). In preparation, we would like to know those who are interested in this activity; have your student sign up on the front counter. Finally, we are planning with Mrs. Schwartz both **a fall and spring drama production for 2012-13**. We will set those dates and productions this spring before the close of the school year.

APRIL PARENT MEETING – MONDAY, 9 APRIL 2012 – 6:30 P.M.

Our monthly parent meeting will feature a presentation by Tom Oliver, the Vice President for Enrollment Services at Texas Lutheran University. Mr. Oliver is a great speaker, and will be talking about applications and what colleges look at. He will also be reviewing TLU for us. NOTE: Earlier we had arranged to have our University of Dallas representative, but she became unavailable. We will have her give a presentation at a parent meeting in the Fall of 2012.

PANEL DISCUSSION – 19 APRIL

• *Through our school council, JPII CHS is hosting a panel discussion on the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Mandate for contraception coverage by all health plans, including those offered and paid for by Catholic institutions. As you are all aware, our Bishops have been active in fighting this change in federal policy, as it reflects a grave challenge to our Church's work and our collective consciences. In order to respond to our own Archbishop's call to prayer and outreach, we are holding a panel discussion on this issue, so that we can all be better informed, and hopefully better inform those in our community.*

The panel will feature Michael Dunnigan, a Canon Law expert and lawyer, who serves the St. Joseph's Foundation, an international foundation for Canon Law based right here in San Antonio. Mr. Dunnigan also teaches locally at two seminaries and at MACC, and is a frequent guest on Catholic radio and television programs as an expert in his field. We are so pleased to be able to welcome him to a panel with our own Dr. Bob Gorman and Dr. Paul Foster. Mrs. Harkins will moderate the discussion. We will open the panel discussion to the wider community, and have a question and answer time as well. (Students will receive extra credit for attending.) We will begin with prayer at 7 p.m.

MAY PARENT MEETING – MONDAY, 14 MAY 2012 – 6:30 P.M.

At our monthly parent meeting in May, we will have the Guardian Parent Executive Board elections, and will contain a mandatory meeting for all sophomore parents. This part of the meeting (the ending part) will contain a review of the junior year, and the fifteen-month task of reviewing and then selecting five prospective colleges/universities.

ITED TESTING – THE IOWA TESTS

We will be running our yearly assessments on Monday and Tuesday, 16 and 17 April 2012. Each day we will test for most of the morning, and then have classes in the afternoon. On Monday, periods 1-4 will not meet, and students will have periods 5-7 in the afternoon. On Tuesday, periods 5-7 will not meet, and students will attend periods 1-4 after lunch. On those days, we will have Blue & Gold dress. It is important to schedule doctors appointments and other absences around those mornings, so that we can have all students in school. **Note:** *these assessments are not tied to promotion or credits; they are used to help us know more about our students' academic progress, both individually and collectively.*

ROBOTICS FIELD TRIP

On Monday, Mr. Bain, our robotics club moderator, met with students to discuss plans for robotics that will take place over the remainder of this year, over the summer, and in 2012-13. It is not too late to join in, but students need to plan for meetings during Friday afternoon study halls. He is also planning a field trip to the Toyota Assembly Plant this Monday, 9 April. Call the school for more details.