



# St. Theresa School

Compassion • Responsibility • Excellence in Learning

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April 22, 2021

Dear STS Family,

Before anything else, just a couple of bullets as we look ahead:

- Thank you to all those who were nominated to serve as **2021-2023 HSA School Board**. By Monday we will get short bios out to you so that you can know more about these individuals, and then we will open the voting until Friday, April 30. We will announce our new Officers by Monday, May 3, 2021.
- Thank you, also, to those who were able to help support our “**Easter Celebration of New Life.**” If you click the button on the website, you will be able to see for yourself how the children participated in this event.
- Thank you also to those who have kept abreast of things and have helped their children participate in our **Earth Spirit Week**. It is part of our emphasis, based on the letter of Pope Francis regarding caring for our Earth entitled “Laudato Si” and part of the formation we offer our children as “good citizens” and stewards of our planet.
- Please remember that **Monday, April 26, is a Professional Day** for our Teachers so there will be no school (no remote or in-person instruction). Thank you.
- **Instruction Style:** It’s that time of the month again! So I am asking that anyone who wishes to change their child’s instruction-style (in-person to remote, or remote to in-person) to please email me at [louann.fantauzza@mysts.org](mailto:louann.fantauzza@mysts.org) by Wednesday, April 28, 2021. Thank you.
- Looking ahead: we just received notification that our **Middle States Association reaccreditation visit will be November 1-3, 2021**. As I’ve said before, this is a very important element of our school mission, and I thank those of you parents who have assisted with this by completing surveys, etc., so now I ask you to say a little prayer, every now and then, for the success of this endeavor. Thanks.

I’ve often wondered **how many people actually read these weekly updates**; I think today’s will be a bit of a test.

One thing we have all probably learned through this past Covid year is that we have to be ready for surprises! So I have some news to share with you: I’m not qualifying it as either good news or bad news... that I will leave up to you.

Recently I was having a conversation with our Provincial and in the course of the chat she shared that I would be moving on after this school year to assume the principal-ship of one of our Florida schools: Villa Madonna School in Tampa, Florida. Although I have been very happy in my four years here at St. Theresa's (two as assistant principal with Deacon Joe and two as principal), this is a "built in" part of being a Salesian Sister, so...off I go! (Now that's the part of this letter that you need to qualify as "good" or "bad" news...).

As for the **"good" news**... I am so happy to say that Sr. Marisa DeRose will be taking the reins as principal of St. Theresa's! Sr. Marisa is a Union County native having grown up in Elizabeth, NJ. and is presently serving as the Head of School at our high school, Mary Help of Christians Academy in N. Haledon, NJ. And if that isn't enough, there is really no need to acclimate her to St. Theresa's because she is a returning Principal to STS having served here from 2000-2006 (*and believe me – she is a lot younger than I am!*). Sr. Marisa will be bringing a great deal of knowledge, enthusiasm, and educational excitement to your children, and I know that they and all our school community will benefit greatly from her presence. Hopefully, one of these days before the end of the school year, she will be able to stop by for an informal "meet and greet" and I know the children, teachers and staff, and school families will give her a wonderful STS welcome.

Wow! That was a bit of news, wasn't it? As I said: it has been a year of surprises! But for now, we continue moving forward caring and educating your children, and *always* praying for their health, safety, and well-being... and for yours!

Stay safe and healthy! God bless!

*Sr. Lou Ann, FMA*

Sr. Lou Ann Fantauzza, fma  
Principal

