

"Glory Be to the Father & to the Son & to the Holy Spirit"

"The Peacemaker" March 2017

Dear St. Rita Family,

Each day, at the end of the day we recite the "Glory Be" as a school community. We give thanks for all that God has provided for us. As parents, we thank you for giving us the opportunity to work with you as partners in the spiritual and academic formation of the children. As a faculty, we strive to provide an environment where students feel nurtured and cared for as part of our day to day experience. It is also expected that our students will share that caring attitude with each other.

Wednesday, March 1st is Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent. During this season, we think of ways to sacrifice through more prayer, fasting, and giving. Lent is also a time for change, conversion, and a new beginning.

"Change" can be difficult for all of us.
Learning to give up negative things that bring about positive changes should give us the sense of hope. When we think of the term "Conversion", we think about a person joining or entering into the life of the church. There is also an experience of ongoing conversion. We look for ways to deepen our faith and draw closer to God. When we see the importance of living our lives more closely connected to the Lord, we have the opportunity for a "New Beginning."

During the next few weeks our school students will have the opportunity to go to Reconciliation. It is a time for reflection to seek ways to draw closer to God by our actions towards others. Children will be asked to do an Examination of Conscience in a religion class to reflect on ways they may have failed to do good and think about how to improve.

As adults, we should also be ready to reflect and examine our actions and intentions. Let us work together to build up God's kingdom.

Sincerely,

Bette Faxon

LESSONS FROM THE LIFE OF ST. RITA

Learning about our Patron Saint, St. Rita of Cascia.

Antonio and Amata Lotti lived in the small village of Roccaporena, near Cascia, in the province of Umbria, Italy. They served as the official peacemakers or reconcilers among their fellow citizens. Because of their devotion to Christianity and the good ability to resolve issues, they were known as the "Peacemakers of Iesus."

Known as the "Saint of the Impossible" and the "Peacemaker", Rita overcame many difficulties throughout her life. She had a generous love and deep sense of penance. She was able to bring about peace between rival families and heal divisions between hostile groups of people.

Many visitors to our school, note how "peaceful" our school is. They comment on how the students are polite and greet them in the halls. They notice that students demonstrate a genuine interest in what they are learning and work together in the classroom respectfully and happily. Teachers demonstrate a passion for teaching.

I think St. Rita keeps a loving eye on our school. We always end our Glory Be with the intercession: "St. Rita of Cascia, Pray for Us." I am sure she intercedes for us every day.



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER CHANGE:

Beginning this March, our monthly newsletter that has been called the "Principal's Page" will now be called "The Peacemaker" in honor of our Patroness, St. Rita.



Journeying through LENT

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Friday afternoons at 2:15. We want to share this prayer experience with the children as we journey with the Lord. Parents and parishioners are welcome to attend this special prayer time.

Every Child is at the Heart of St. Rita School



REGISTRATION 2017-18

Thank you to all the families who have completed the re-registration packet. It is such a help to us to have everything completed and turned in so early. We can begin to order our books for next year and take advantage of early order sale prices.

If you have still not completed the packet. Please come to the school office between 8:00-3:30. Reminder notes were sent home on Tuesday. Feb. 28th.

THANK YOU FOR SENDING NEW FAMILIES TO VISIT OUR SCHOOL....

The best referral is a happy family!



Saturday, March 11th

Wearing of the Green and Gold!

Our committee is doing a great job coordinating all the various areas of this fundraising event. I am very grateful that many of our committee members returned this year which makes the planning go very smoothly. It promises to be a fun night. When a family comes to one of our events for the first time, they may not know many other St. Rita School families. One of our goals through these evenings is to bring parents together to enjoy good food, make new friends and to support our school.

REMINDERS:

RAFFLE TICKETS

- O Raffle ticket stubs and money are due Thursday, March 9th
- O Please complete each ticket stub, print clearly, be sure that a first and last name of your family is listed on the seller line. We have many families with the same last name. Please remember that all families are expected to buy or sell the \$200.00 worth of raffle tickets. Address labels save writing time!

DINNER TICKETS & FORMS

- O Dinner tickets and payment are due by Monday March 6th so that we can order enough food. We hope that we will have a huge turnout to make this a great success.
- O All volunteer forms and donations are due also Monday



May the Luck of the Irish be with you for the RAFFLE!

Raffle prizes include a 32 inch TV, Play Station 4, BoomJacket Waterproof wireless speaker