

St. Rita of Cascia School
"The Peacemaker"

October, 2018



St. Rita of Cascia, Pray for Us



Dear St. Rita Family,

We are starting to see signs of fall in the turning of the leaves but we still have unseasonably warm days off and on. Sunshine is good for the spirit.

The fall gives us images of change in life. October is Respect Life Month in our Catholic church. We look at our commitment to the sacred gift of life. We pray for those mothers who are pregnant for the health and well-being of mother and child. We pray for those who may be experiencing health problems to have a quality of life where they can resume their daily activities.

As parents and teachers, we need to place a priority not only on the development of the children's physical health but also on their spiritual life and to be people who serve the needs of others. Providing opportunities to pray for others and to have collections of food and items to support those in need will teach them to recognize that indeed "We are All God's Children."

Bette Faxon

As you know, due to the weather conditions from the summer, there are more challenges with bugs this year. It is happening all over. I have them waiting for me in my driveway at home. They are in parking lots when we go shopping.



Many of the children and adults have experienced annoying bites from bugs in the grass, and mosquitos. Always in the fall, bees are out looking for food after all the picnics and summer BBQs. We have adjusted recess play areas and kept the children indoors for recess. I am very sorry that the children are uncomfortable. It is such a shame to miss outdoor time but we will continue to monitor the situation. I hope when the weather gets cool it will reduce the problem.

When needed, we spray outdoors for bees and wasps. Spraying inside the building is not permitted when children have returned to school in the fall.

Anytime medication is sent to school, we are required to get a doctor's note. Should your child experience other symptoms such as fever or vomiting it is best to contact your doctor as a precaution.

Thank you for your understanding.



AFTERSCHOOL: MINI POMS START

Monday, Oct. 1 starts our Mini Poms dance club for students in grades 1-4. A sign up sheet was sent home yesterday. Please return it tomorrow, Friday, Sept. 28th. The lesson will be held on Mondays from 3:15-4:30.

St. Rita Crusaders WALK-A-THON Thursday, Oct. 4th

The St. Rita Home & School will sponsor this annual event next Thurs, Oct. 4th in the afternoon. This is an out of uniform day. Students should wear comfortable clothing to walk, run or jog.

Please return the walk- a- thon envelope with the collected donations back to school.

Thank you so much for supporting this important Fun - raiser to help our school.

I want to help my school!!

**how about
YOU?!?**



Month of the Holy Rosary

October is also a month dedicated to Mary, Queen of the Holy Rosary. The rosary is a traditional devotional prayer of the Catholic Church. In addition to the recitation of the Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory Be and Apostle's Creed, we meditate on the events of the scriptures related to the lives of Mary and Jesus. We will have an experience of prayer known as the living rosary on Friday, Oct. 12th at 2:15. If you are unable to come in person please consider joining us spiritually by praying from work or home.



Living Rosary: What is this?

A tradition in the Catholic faith is the recitation of the Rosary. We pray the Our Father and the Hail Mary repeating a series of Our Father, 10 Hail Marys, & Glory Be for 5 decades. In a living rosary, we have a student represent each of the beads of the rosary and they take turns starting the prayers. The students from 7th and 8th grade are the leaders with assistance from some of the younger students on the Glory Be. Why pray the rosary? – it is a form of meditation that helps us to take some reflection time. As Catholics, we do not worship Mary but we honor her as our spiritual mother. She leads us to her son, Jesus. Who knows a person better than their own mother.?

Parents and parishioners are welcome to join us on Friday, Oct. 12th at 2:15 in church.

WE'RE GOING ON A FIELD TRIP:



Wed., Oct. 10 – 8th grade retreat LaSalle Manor

Wed., Oct. 10 - PreK & Kdgn. (morning)
Blackberry Farm – “Apple Hayride Tour”

More information will be sent home with permission forms. Chaperones will be accepted if all the SAFE ENVIRONMENT requirements from the Rockford Diocese are complete. We cannot make any exceptions.

Respect Life Baby Shower
October 23rd at 9:00 mass

This year we celebrate the 26th annual school Baby Shower. Each year, we reach out in love to families in our community who may be having difficulty providing for the basic needs of their children. In the bible, there is a story about the widow who gave her last coin to help the poor. It was all she had but she gave it with great love. We ask that each child bring up to the altar at our mass an item to help a baby such as a jar of food. One jar of baby food may feel like a small contribution but to a mother who needs to feed her hungry child; it is a treasured gift. Gently used clothes and blankets may help to keep a child warm this winter. No gift is too small, every item is important. Thank you for helping our little brothers and sister in Christ. Flyer will be coming soon.



Altar Servers

Recruitment talk will be held on Tuesday, Oct. 2nd after the school mass. All new and returning servers will be asked to sign up.

All servers will be trained: Choose 1 date to attend. Pick up in back lot at church doors.

Monday, Oct. 15th 3:15-5:00

Tuesday, Oct. 16th 3:15-5:00



Don't miss our fun Trunk or Treat event on Friday, Oct. 26th. Purchase your entrance tickets in the presale.

Please sign up to decorate a car!

It was great fun last year.

See all the information in today's envelope.

“Trunk” or Treat.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Fri., Oct. 5 – No school, Teacher institute

Mon., Oct. 8 – No school, Columbus Day



Parents can help support student success by:

- Providing a quiet place for students to do their homework. Some students need to be supervised to stay on task.
- Having a set time is good, it is sometimes difficult with activity schedules but try to work out a routine.
On practice or game nights, homework should be done right after school if possible.
- Short breaks are fine but if it is more than 15 minutes then children may not get back to complete the work they have started.
- Assignment books should be checked by a parent at night. Check to see that the student is writing down the assignments at school. Have them show you the completed work. Check all assigned work is complete.
- Students may not have written work but they may have lessons to study.
- Helping students study spelling or vocabulary lists or note cards is a great way to review.

HEALTH OFFICE VISITS & ATTENDANCE for your students may be viewed on your Schoolspeak account. Please be sure to log in. We will not be sending home paper notes this year.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Jodee Blanco, a national speaker on the topic of Bullying will be in the Aurora Area to give presentations

Teacher Institute: Friday, Oct. 5th

Student presentations will be on Tuesday, Oct. 23rd for K-4 at St. Rita. Joined by Holy Angels and Annunciation Schools (K-4 students)

Wed., Oct. 24th for 5-8 at Holy Angels, with St. Rita and Annunciation. (5-8 Students)

Parent/Family Presentation on October 24th at 6:30 at Aurora Central Catholic High School