

January 13, 2017

Dear Parents,

Today is the birthday of St. Lucy Filippini! Although many of you may not know of this Saint, she is the Foundress of our Community, the Religious Teachers of St. Lucy Filippini. The letters MPF after my name, are the initials of the Italian translation of the words, Religious Teachers Filippini, (Maestre Pie Filippinin). Over three hundred years of Filippini history, began with two people passionate about the Religious education of seventeenth-century Italy. Cardinal Mark Anthony Barbarigo, and St. Lucy Filippini shared a mission which still continues today. St. Lucy was born in 1672 in Corneto, Tarquinia. When she was very young, she lost both her parents and lived with an aunt, uncle and their four children. When she was 16 she met the Cardinal. His first conversation with her, launched early work as a catechist. At 20 years of age she was invited by the Cardinal to teach in the area town of Montefiascone. Through many tribulations and trials, she continued to seek God's will which ultimately led her to be appointed as the first superior of our Institute in 1704. From that day forward we have continued her mission of teaching children. She died in 1732 after a long struggle with cancer. After her death our community continued to grow and in 1910 we were invited to come to America by Pope Pius X. Our Community continues our mission of teaching throughout the United States, Italy, Ireland, Brazil, England, Ethiopia, Eritrea, and India. I continue to ask you to pray for the work our sisters are doing to educate youth. We need more young women to continue the work that was begun so long ago. Please continue to pray for vocations to the Religious Life.



IMPORTANT INFO FOR NEXT YEAR'S REGISTRATION: Fill out and return the form for new children in the family enrolling next year. **The most important paper to return to us by Friday, Jan.20, is the one indicating your return and adding siblings for Pre-K and other grades.** By completing this paperwork, it secures your child's place in the class, as well as helping us know our numbers for the upcoming year. The complete packet of information and registration will be sent home next week. In this week's envelope we are sending home the new tuition rates so you can plan ahead. Next week, you will receive the entire packet for re-registration.

REGISTRATION FOR RETURNING FAMILIES IS TO BE COMPLETED DURING THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY. By March 3rd, we are asking you to return the registration paperwork. If you notice the tuition rates for next year, you will see the change in the registration fee. We now have a family registration fee of \$300.00. We are trying to help families to continue making it affordable, so we have changed from per child to per family for registration. The \$300.00 by March 3, will give us the commitment that you are returning. As you will notice the tuition has gone up very little.

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



DIVIDENDS FOR LIFE

CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK: Our opening is Sunday, Jan. 29, which opens with the Family Mass at 11:00am. We hope many of you will bring an interested family on Open House Sunday. We ask you to use the flyer and letter included in your packet to invite a family. I know I say this often, but it is so true" you are the best PR for the school. If your child is enjoying St. Mary's, go out and tell others! Plan on joining us that morning for Mass at 11:00am. in church. Open house follows at the school from 12:30 to 2:30. It will open with the Fife and Drum Corps playing, then all the children doing the dance for CSW. Parents and visitors will then be invited to tour the classrooms. All students new this year, will receive a special scarf to use for the dance and it is our gift for them. The same scarves were

given out last year, and I have asked the children to dig them out. I have only a limited quantity and can't give them to everyone, so if I have any extra, I will be happy to give them if needed while supplies last.

ALL STUDENTS ARE REQUIRED TO WEAR THEIR SCHOOL UNIFORMS TO THE MASS AND OPEN HOUSE SO THEY WILL STAND OUT TO OUR VISITORS.



MID-YEAR STATEMENTS FOR FUNDRAISING:-Check for accuracy. Contact the school if there is a discrepancy. Please read the letter from Mrs. DePalma who is the recording secretary.

MEN'S 26 HOUR RETREAT: Last week we included an invitational sheet on a spirituality group for moms. I wouldn't want the dads to be left out, so I am including information on a 26hr. retreat held right here in our Parish, called CORNERSTONE. We all need some time to step away from all the craziness and have some time and space for our own peace of mind. I invite our dads to look at the information provided in this week's envelope. Consider it the gift you give yourself!



IMPORTANT REMINDER FOR ART GRANT: I am reminding parents of students in 5-8 (and now opening to Grade 4) that we are still in need of students to participate in the Shoreline Arts Alliance Grant program. We have heard from several students that Saturday is not convenient, so we will be happy to change the program to week days. It was our original thought that the students have a lot of activities during the week, so Saturday would be better. If this is not the case, we want it to work for the parents and students. We must begin the program and complete it by specific dates structured in the grant. Time is running out. Please refer to the letter sent by Mrs. AlvarezdeLugo which fully explained all that the program entails. Contact her if you are interested in having your child participate.



AUCTION: An important notice from the Auction Committee is enclosed in the packet. Please remember we need all the help we can get!

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT AND CHEERFEST: This is another weekend we are looking for help with the tournament events for the girls and boys basketball and Cheerfest Monday night at 6:00pm. Selling items in the snack bar in hour shifts would be really helpful. We don't expect everyone to be able to give an entire day, but I know some of the families need help with service hours for

HSA, and if you contact me, I will be happy to give you credit for helping. We need help next weekend for the final weekend of the games. Please contact mkskus@snet.net if you are available to help. Remember this all helps our school, even if you do not have children in the sports program.



FINAL REMINDER: There are still 24 families who have forgotten to send in the \$20.00 per child for the 4 teacher gifts for the year. If you purchased something on your own for Christmas would you please send in \$15.00 to cover the cost for the three other gifts? I know this is simply an oversight, so I am reminding you once again.

Thank you and God bless,

Sr. Annette