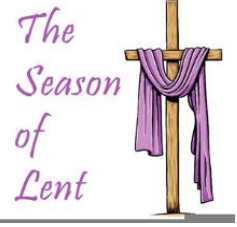




# Bear Blast

## February 19 - 23, 2024



**Our Mission** - *United by our core values of Faith, Family, Knowledge and Service, St. Anthony Catholic School is committed to providing a learning environment that promotes academic excellence, spiritual growth, and moral development. Preparing students to be good stewards of God's gifts.*



## Message from the Principal

Dear St. Anthony Families,

There is so much going on around our campus. Our teachers are teaching, our students are learning, our parents are organizing all the activities and keeping up with schedules! Yes, it is busy, but so much growth, life, laughter, playing, and supporting. It is good!

Our Friday Fish Frys have begun! Volunteering is a lot of work but a lot of fun! Come meet new friends, enjoy good company, and eat delicious food! Get your steps in by taking orders in the drive-thru line, share your baking talent and chat with the customers. It is one of the best Fish Frys in the Florence area, we serve flounder and hushpuppies!

Lent is in the air! Our students are practicing Lenten good deeds daily, attending the Stations of the Cross, building a merciful cross and spending extra time in prayer in the Adoration Chapel. Lent is a time where God draws us closer to Him. We do not do this alone; it is a communal journey that allows grace to bloom!

Lent isn't simply about us "giving up" something. Lent is about preparing our hearts. The real grace is when we recognize that Lent is a season in which God wants to give us something. God wants to help us transform our lives and make us freer as people in the way we live our lives and love our families.

*"The glory of these forty days, we celebrate with songs of praise, for Christ by whom all things were made, himself has fasted and has prayed."* Pope Saint Gregory the Great

**Blessings,**

*Mrs. Salemmo*



## UPCOMING EVENTS

February 5 - 23 - MAP Testing

February 19 – NO SCHOOL – Presidents' Day

February 23 – Chorus sings at Mass

February 27 – Bookmobile for 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> grades

February 29 – February Birthday NUT Card Day

March 1 – NO SCHOOL; Diocesan PD

March 11 - 2:00 Dismissal

March 13 – End of 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter

March 18-May 3 – ARK Testing

March 19 - Report Cards Issued

March 20 – March Birthday NUT Card Day; STEAM Bus for 4<sup>th</sup> Grade

March 21 – House Meeting



## Testing Information

Testing for 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade  
and Make-up Testing  
for 5K - 8<sup>th</sup> Grades





## Spirit Wear Store is Open!

Order Deadline: February 21, 2024

Online Ordering: [Spirit Wear Store](#)

We will continue to have spirit Mondays as well as other days throughout the year to show our school pride. The House shirt, which is mandatory for House meeting days, is also available to order for your convenience!

Please contact Ashley Stokes with any questions at [astokes@saintanthonycatholic.com](mailto:astokes@saintanthonycatholic.com).

## Merciful Cross

We are covering a cross in the media center with colorful flowers to represent our works of mercy and sacrifices. Offerings are written on the flowers and returned to the office.

We encourage all families to participate at home. Flowers will be sent home. When a flower is returned, we will send another.



## *A Prayer for Lenten Grace*

Loving God,

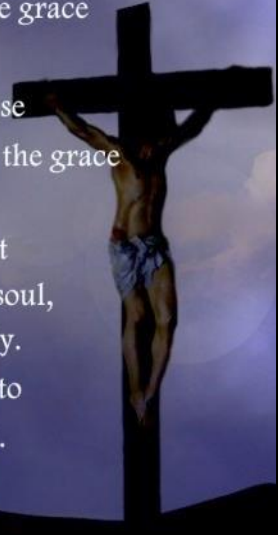
During the sacred season of Lent, bring me closer to you. Prepare a place in my home and heart for silence and solitude, so that I may re-discover the grace of a prayer-full life.

Enlarge my heart so that I give to those in need and, in so doing, re-discover the grace of gratitude and generosity.

Help me to fast from those things that threaten the well-being of body and soul, remind me of the grace and simplicity.

May this season be grace-filled time to rekindle my love for and faith in you.

*Amen.*



## Re-enrollment for Next School Year

The planning process for the 2024-2025 School Year has begun. Re-enrollment Packets were sent home in the Tuesday Folder. Thank you to those who have returned their packet. If you have not done so yet, please help us by completing your re-enrollment packet and returning it to the school office.



The International Festival is one way we showcase the diversity of our school. It is set up as a world tour filled with fun, live music, dancing, and delicious food. Please consider sharing your interest or knowledge of a country.

The festival will be April 20<sup>th</sup>, 5 – 8 p.m. in the Family Center. Watch for more details in the Tuesday Folder.

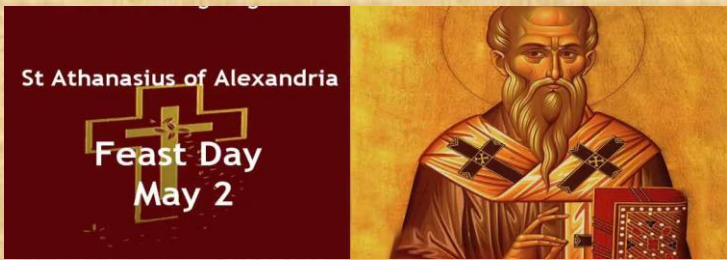
## We NEED you. Can you HELP?

We need volunteers to work the Fish Fry. There are many different opportunities, and we will be glad to find the right match for you. If you are able to help with any of the Fish Fries, please call the school office. We will also need homemade desserts to sell.

This is a good opportunity for our 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Graders to earn service hours. Because the Fish Fry is Drive-Through, we are not able to have younger children in the Family Center.

## February Virtue: Honesty

Everyone wants to be a man or woman of integrity. To have integrity we need to let our faith carry through to every part of our lives. When our words match our actions, we are honest. The eighth commandment, "You shall not bear false witness," commands us to be honest in all we say and do. Yet a mature person also knows when it is better to say nothing at all: we might sound good, but no one really thinks we're virtuous when we say something unkind followed by, "but it's true!" That actually makes us sound untrustworthy - the opposite of honesty. If you want to be a person of honesty and integrity, the next time you're hesitant to say something just ask yourself these three questions: Is it true? Is it kind? Is it helpful?



Athanasius is considered one of the four great Eastern Doctors of the Church in the Catholic Church. In his Easter letter of 367, Athanasius was the first person to list the 27 books of the New Testament canon that are in use today

He was born about 296 at Alexandria where he probably received his education in grammar, rhetoric and Greek literature, theology and philosophy. It is believed that one day while Athanasius and his friends were playing 'church' they were seen by Bishop Alexander who was so impressed that he sent for the boys and decided to train them for the priesthood.

Eventually, Athanasius, was ordained deacon and became the secretary of Bishop Alexander. In this position he accompanied and supported his Bishop in his efforts to combat Arianism, a belief denying the Divinity of Jesus Christ as the Son of God. As the Bishop's secretary, he was present at the famous Council of Nicaea. The meeting lasted from March to August. The bishops affirmed a statement from which the Nicene Creed we recite today originated.

Just five months after the Council of Nicaea, Alexander died, and Athanasius was elected as his successor. Throughout his episcopate, he continued to fight Arianism, holding strong against accusations and threats from all fronts. He was Bishop of Alexandria for 45 years, of which he spent 17 years in exile. In fact, he was exiled 5 times by 4 Roman Emperors. He died in 373, spending his last few years in peace, having been cleared of all the accusations.



**Newsies Jr. T-shirts**

Shirts can be purchased by using the link below. Cost \$20.00 (final price determined by size ordered). Store closes **FEBRUARY 27**. Shirts will be shipped to and distributed by Barbara Davis. Youth and adult sizes available.

[T-shirt Ordering](#)



<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>	Prologue and Scenes 1-5
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>	Scenes 6-10

**Knights of Columbus Free Throw Competition**

Will be February 22 and 26 during PE Classes for Third – Eighth Grades.

Please make sure that your child wears the appropriate shoes for PE class.

**BASKETBALL**

**Schedule for the Week of February 19 - 23**

**4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> Team**

<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>3:30 – 5:00 p.m.</b>	Practice
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No More Games Scheduled for the season. Practices will be held up until the tournament. The **Tournament** will be the first weekend in March. Watch for more detailed information to be sent out.

**Middle School Team**

No Games Scheduled and No Practice this week.

**Middle School (Gr. 5 – 8) Coed Soccer**

Spring Middle School Co-Ed Soccer will begin in March. Permission forms and Liability forms were sent home in Tuesday Folder on the 13<sup>th</sup>. Forms were due back on the 16<sup>th</sup>. If we have too many players, we might have to have tryouts or just offer it to grades 6-8.

The uniform will consist of the gold and navy jersey and navy and gold shorts. If your child played Middle School basketball, they already have their uniform. They will just need to get navy soccer socks, soccer cleats, and shin guards. We will need to order a few jerseys and shorts for so please send in your registration fee of \$45 ASAP.



**Fridays during Lent**

**4:30 - 7:00 p.m.**

**Family Center**

**Drive-Through Only**

**Adult Plate \$12 Child's Plate \$8**

Includes Fried Flounder, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Hush Puppies and the Knight's Famous Tartar Sauce

**Desserts available for \$1.00**

The Hispanic Community is having a  
**Prepaid Food Sale**

**MENU**

Tamales \$2.50

Plate of 4 TACOS \$12.00

Includes CARNE ASADA (grilled Flank steak)  
OR AL PASTOR (grilled pork) with onion,  
cilantro, lemon, and hot sauce.

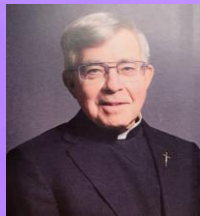
Drinks and Desserts \$1.00 each

**Pick-up 11 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

**February 24**

**In the Family Center**

Get your tickets from the Church or School  
Office prior to February 24..



**Parish Mission February 17<sup>th</sup> - 22<sup>nd</sup>**

As a parish we need to continually renew our vision of who we are and what our purpose is. Join us for a parish mission led by Fr. George Knab, O.M.I. from Belleville, IL, the site of the National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows.

- Sunday** 6:30 p.m. **BEAUTY OF THE EARTH**  
Ritual: Birth through Water and the Holy Spirit; Refreshments following
- Monday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments, talk: ***The Greatest Commandment***  
6:30 p.m. **BEFRIENDING OUR GRIEF**  
Ritual: Sacrament of Penance
- Tuesday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments, talk: ***The Second Great Commandment***  
10 – 4 Confessions are heard every hour on the hour  
6:30 p.m. **HEALING ONE AND ALL**  
Ritual: Prayer of Faith
- Wednesday** 7:30 a.m. Prayer, refreshments, talk: ***Good Grief, Letting Go of a Loved One Gracefully***  
6:30 p.m. **THE WAY FORWARD**  
Ritual: CELEBRATION OF MASS  
Guided Holy Hour (Attendance is optional)
- Thursday** 7:30 a.m. Mass, refreshments and ***Question and Answer Session***  
5:30 p.m. Guided Holy Hour (Attendance is optional)  
6:30 p.m. **RADIANT SPLENDOR**  
Ritual: Benediction and Announcement of the Plenary Indulgences  
Refreshments following