

From the Pastor's Desk:

Our Lord calls us to a way of life that is a bit different than the one that the world embraces. The world tells us that to succeed is to get a higher pay, more prestige, or more things. The world teaches that to be victorious is to stand over another and defeat them. The world would have us believe that our own personal advancement, pleasure, and satisfaction is much more important than our duty to others and to God. These forces are very strong now, and our task is to counteract them - not let them pull us away from the Lord Jesus and his Gospel of love.

I would like to help to counteract the unfortunate murmurings going around that the school is moving to a closure. The School Board met this past week and had some serious discussions about where we are going with the school. We are aware of things that we need to improve - we are working on them. We have brought on a new principal, added new members to the school board, and are receiving consultation from those who have turned around schools like ours. Your children and grandchildren face a world that seeks to remove God from our life - a school like ours helps to instill in these young people an appreciation for the Divine, and gives them a foundation to have a relationship with the God who is in their lives. I have spoken to graduates who indicate that this foundation has been beneficial to them, and has helped them hold on to a worldview that is centered more on God. We all have to remember how important that is.

I went to the school musical this week (which was awesome!) and witnessed children having such a positive experience with one another. I have worked in both public and parochial schools, and there is something of the community of love that we have the flexibility to create, a community that helps to unite the academic with faith and moral development - not just learning for standardized tests and being indoctrinated in worldly ways. We have increased affordability and have plans to refine our offerings and programs - we are laying the foundation for a great comeback - in some ways it has already begun! Let's all be positive when we communicate about our school and invite others to come see it.

The Pastoral Council continues to take up the movement of items from the churches - thanks to all who have put your feedback in (as a result I was around with a tape measure the other day checking a few things out). I have already contacted the architect to get the estimates finalized for handicaps access issues, and exploring the convent renovations. Finance Committee has set a deadline for department heads to pass in their proposed budgets for next fiscal year. We look to have that process tied up by July and our budget finalized by August.

Spring is a time for hope. Let us all cast off negativity and hold on to the hope for the great things the Lord looks to work with us through our parish worship and community, through our ministry to the community, and through the various aspects of our mission of Catholic education for all ages.

Peace,

Fr. Steve