



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo December 20, 2024

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday, HTCS families! Thank you to those who attended the annual Christmas show last night and thank you to the PTO for hosting today's Christmas party for the students. I hope you all have a wonderful, relaxing, and most blessed Christmas and New Year!

Half Day and No School - In recognition of the Christmas and New Year holidays, the school will close at **noon** on **today, Friday, 12/20**, and will reopen at 7:35 AM on **Monday, 1/6**. There is no aftercare on **Friday, 12/20** and all students must be picked up at **noon** today. Please form two car lines, avoid cell phone use, and follow all faculty instructions so students and faculty remain safe during the dismissal process.

Winter MAP Testing - Students in grades K through 5th will take the winter MAP assessments between **January 13** and **January 31**. Teachers will provide more information as to specific testing days for their individual classes. As always, parents can help students do their best by ensuring they get a good night's rest, eat a healthy breakfast, and arrive at school on time every day. We thank you for your support.

2nd Annual PTO Snowball - Please see attached for information about the PTO's 2nd annual Snowball. This is a great opportunity to meet and socialize with other families in the Trinity community while supporting our amazing PTO at the same time.

Catholic Schools Week - The annual celebration of Catholic schools will be held January 26-February 1. Each day's theme highlights the things that make Catholic schools so special.

Sunday, 1/26 - Celebrating Your Parish - Join us for **10 AM Mass** followed by an Open House

Monday, 1/27 - Celebrating Your Community

Tuesday, 1/28 - Celebrating Your Students

Wednesday, 1/29 - Celebrating the Nation

Thursday, 1/30 - Celebrating Vocations

Friday, 1/31 - Celebrating Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers

Saturday, 2/1 - Celebrating Families

More information will come soon about each day as we draw closer to CSW.

2025-2026 School Year - Open enrollment for new families and re-enrollment for current families (except current 5th graders moving onto middle school) will take place via FACTS at the end of January into early February. Information about tuition rates, tuition assistance, and scholarships will come out then as well. We look forward to welcoming back all current families as well as many new families for a new and exciting 25-26 school year.

Not Your Average Joe - This year's production, *Not Your Average Joe*, will take place on **Friday, 1/31**, at **6 PM** and **Saturday, 2/1**, at **1 PM**. Tickets are \$20/adult and \$10/child 10 and under. Tickets are selling fast! Contact Ms. Nicole (nnealey@charlesthdiocese.org) to purchase your tickets.

13th Annual PTO Golf Tournament - Please see attached information about the PTO's annual golf tournament taking place at The Long Bay Golf Course on **Saturday, 2/22**. This is the PTO's largest fundraiser and your support is greatly needed to make it a success.

School Website - As always, please refer to the school website for all the information you could need regarding school events, clubs, sports, etc. [Holy Trinity Catholic School | North Myrtle Beach, SC](#)

Catholic Faith Formation - *The power of stepping back: How to rest the Catholic way* - Taking a step back allows us to return with a fresh perspective, potentially uncovering new insights and improvements. In our world, where constant activity is the norm, the concept of rest is often overlooked -- or even frowned upon. We prioritize project completion and exercise schedules, and view downtime as a luxury. However, a closer examination of Scripture and nature reveals a profound truth: rest is not merely a human need, but a fundamental principle woven into the very fabric of creation.

Genesis states that after creating the universe, God "rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done" ([Genesis 2:2](#)). This act of divine pause is not merely a scriptural footnote. It is a powerful statement about the inherent value of rest. Even God, in His infinite power, recognized the necessity of stepping back, allowing space for completion -- and even for the eventual transformation of that which He created.

[Holy Trinity Catholic School | North Myrtle Beach, SC](#) This truth extends to every aspect of our professional lives from the beginning. Consider the baker's process of allowing bread dough to rise. This seemingly inactive period allows the gluten to develop, resulting in a lighter, tastier loaf. Our bodies also reflect this principle. While strenuous exercise is beneficial, it is also important to allow muscles to repair and rebuild through rest. This process of rest allows muscles to become stronger.

Rest and growth - Similarly, periods of rest often precede periods of creative growth. As with a finished painting, a book, an essay, a completed project requires time to settle and breathe. Taking a step back allows us to return with a fresh perspective, potentially uncovering new insights and improvements. That's why essays written the night before the deadline don't really cut it. Allowing for rest is not mere waiting; it is a conscious decision to trust in a different kind of work -- the work of letting go and stepping back. In more ways than one, rest is about relinquishing control, allowing processes to unfold naturally, and trusting that time will affect positive change in ways that may not be immediately apparent.

Trusting in Another - The Gospels provide a compelling illustration of this concept, particularly in the numerous instances where Jesus is observed resting. Even the Son of God, despite the demands of his ministry, recognized the value of rest. These periods of apparent inactivity were not merely physical breaks; they were a sign of His complete trust in the Father's plan. By embracing the power of allowing things to rest, we can also learn this valuable lesson. We transition from a fast-paced, production-oriented approach to a more contemplative rhythm, allowing for transformation in both the products we create and ourselves. Rest is a shift from "doing" to "being": a reminder that true growth often occurs in the quiet spaces of letting go. [The power of stepping back: How to rest the Catholic way](#)

MISSION STATEMENT: *Holy Trinity Catholic School, a ministry of Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, offers to early childhood and elementary school students of diverse ethnic, economic, and religious backgrounds a superior academic program based on Gospel values. Within a family atmosphere, the school strives to develop the spiritual, academic, personal, creative, and physical growth of each student.*

VISION STATEMENT: *Holy Trinity Catholic School students will be fully prepared to transition to middle school possessing critical thinking skills, an ability to work independently as well as collaboratively, and an awareness of what it means to actively live the Gospel values.*