



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo August 23, 2024

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday, HTCS families, and thank you for a great first full week of school. I am so excited to have our returning families back with us, and I extend a huge welcome to all our new families. I pray this year is a successful one for the entire school community and that God continues to bless our endeavors here at HTCS. Please see below for some important information about the coming weeks.

Marketing - The HTCS Marketing committee is actively working to market the school in the local community as a way to increase enrollment and make the school more viable. Currently, our numbers are lower than expected, partly due to the economy and partly due to the fact that people still don't know we have a school here in NMB. One way to accomplish this goal is to get our information out to the local community. If you work in an office setting, and you would be willing to put some of our brochures on display, please let me know. I will send home the brochures with your child(ren).

Family Business Directory - We are putting together an HTCS "Family-Owned Business" directory. When families in our school community have a need for a specific service, they can turn to an HTCS family-owned business first. Please email me if you would like to participate and I will send home a form for completion.

ROAR Week - Next week is our annual ROAR Week. ROAR stands for **R**espectful, **O**rganized, **A**ppropriate, and **R**esponsible... key character traits we look for and reward in our students. Please see the attached information for the daily "theme" so your child can participate fully in this week.

Back-to-School Blood Drive - It's not too late to sign up for our upcoming blood drive scheduled for **Monday, 8/26**, from **10 AM-1 PM**. Please see the attached information to schedule your appointment. Donate and save a life!

Choir Auditions - Auditions for the school choir will be held on **Monday, 8/26**. Please contact Mrs. Carman at ccarman@charlestdiocese.org for more information.

Title I Parent Meeting - For families who received Title I information from Mrs. Horton this week, there will be a brief parent meeting at **3 PM** on **Tuesday, 8/27**, in Mrs. Hines' office.

Half Day - Next **Friday, 8/30**, is a half day. Dismissal is at **noon** and there is no aftercare. All students must be picked up at **noon**. Please form two car lines that day to ensure all families are safely off 8th Avenue N.

No School - In recognition of Labor Day, there is no school on **Monday, 9/2**.

MAP Testing - The standardized MAP testing window opens for all 1st through 5th grade students on **Wednesday, 9/4**. Your child's teacher will let you know what days your child will be testing and a calendar will be posted on our school website ASAP. Kindergarten will not start MAP testing until January.

Why the Queenship of Mary, celebrated on Aug. 22, Matters (Catholic News Agency August 21, 2024)

The Catholic Church annually celebrates the feast of the Queenship of Mary on August 22. I would imagine that most people, upon hearing of this celebration, would think of it as something rather sweet and sentimental, a quaint devotion for grandmothers with a taste for saccharine spirituality. But when we examine this feast as we should, through biblical eyes, a very different picture emerges.

The clearest scriptural indication that Mary of Nazareth is a queen is a remarkable passage in the 12th chapter of the Book of Revelation. The visionary author sees an extraordinary sign in the sky: a woman clothed with the sun, the moon at her feet, and a coronet of 12 stars on her head. Twelve, of course, is a designation of the tribes of Israel, and the crown is a rather unambiguous indication that we are dealing with a royal figure. It soon becomes clear that this woman is not only a queen but, more precisely, a queen mother, for we hear that she is laboring to give birth to a king, one who is "destined to rule the nations with an iron rod."

Both the queen mother and the infant king are involved in a terrible struggle. The visionary tells us that a fearsome dragon is poised to devour the baby as soon as it comes forth. But God sweeps the child up and brings him to the safety of the divine throne, while the mother flees to the desert where she finds refuge. In the wake of this, a war breaks out between "Michael and his angels" and the dragon and his angelic supporters. This image is, of course, symbolically rich and multivalent, but at the very least it indicates that the queen and her kingly son are protagonists in a spiritual warfare of some magnitude. They are, in a word, warriors. [Why the Queenship of Mary, celebrated on Aug. 22, matters - Jersey Catholic](#)

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.*