



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo September 13, 2024

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday, HTCS families! Today I'd like to recognize all of our amazing families. Your on-going support and trust mean so much to us and allow us to do what we enjoy most - educating our students' minds, strengthening their spirits, and nurturing their hearts. Thank you for your continued willingness to partner with us in this most important work. I hope you all have a wonderful weekend.

MAP Testing - MAP testing continues next week. Thank you for your support in ensuring students are well prepared to do their best each day.

Little Caesars - The PTO's annual Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser has begun! Order forms and information were sent home earlier this week. If you need additional forms, please contact Ms. Nicole at nnealey@charlestandiocese.com. We are looking for 100% participation from all families for this event to be a success. Thank you in advance for your support.

Family Math Event - Our first family academic event of the 24-25 school year is scheduled for after school on **Thursday, 9/19**. We look forward to seeing all those who RSVPd after school in the multipurpose room that day.

PTO Spirit Night - Please plan to visit Chick-Fil-A after school on **Thursday, 9/19**, for the PTO's first Spirit Night of the school year.

Annual Dinner Show - Auditions for this year's annual dinner show, *Not Your Average Joe*, will be taking place after school on **Thursday, 9/26**. Students in grades 3-5 who would like to audition for a speaking part should plan to attend. All questions about this event can be directed to Mrs. Carman at ccarman@charlestandiocese.org.

Yearbook Cover Contest - Please see attached for information about our annual yearbook cover contest. This information was also sent home on Wednesday.

Yearbook orders - Please do NOT send in cash with the yearbook orders. Your FACTS account will be charged.

Catholic Faith Formation - Our students will continue to learn about the seven Virtues and several different saints throughout this school year. During the first few months, they will be focusing on the Three Theological Virtues listed below, as well as the Saints associated with them.

Faith (Gianna Molla): Faith is a common term in ordinary language, but for Catholics, faith as a theological virtue takes on a special definition. According to the Catholic Encyclopedia, theological faith is the virtue *"by which the intellect is perfected by a supernatural light."* By this definition, faith is not at all contrary to reason or intellect but is the natural result of an intellect that is influenced by the supernatural truth given to us by God.

Hope (Padre Pio): In Catholic custom, hope has as its object eternal union with God in the afterlife. The Concise Catholic Encyclopedia defines hope as *"the theological virtue which is a supernatural gift bestowed by God through which one trusts God will grant eternal life and the means of obtaining it providing one cooperates."* In the virtue of hope, desire and expectation are united, even while there is recognition of the great difficulty of overcoming obstacles in order to achieve everlasting union with God.

Charity (Love) (Vincent de Paul): Charity, or love, is considered the greatest of the theological virtues for Catholics. The Modern Catholic Dictionary defines it as the *"infused supernatural virtue by which a person loves God above all things for his [that is, God's] own sake, and loves others for God's sake."* As is true of all the theological virtues, genuine charity is an act of free will, but because charity is a gift from God, we cannot initially acquire this virtue by our own actions. God must first give it to us as a gift before we can exercise it.

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.*