



Important Notes from Mrs. Luzzo September 27, 2024

Don't forget to ROAR!

Happy Friday, HTCS families! I pray you are all staying safe and that this storm passes quickly with minimal effects on everyone. Please see below for important information about the upcoming weeks at HTCS. Have a wonderful weekend.

MAP - Please see attached for the results of our Fall MAP testing. We are very proud of our students and faculty. Thank you to all families for your on-going support.

Little Caesars - The PTO's annual Little Caesars Pizza Kit Fundraiser is still on-going. If you need any additional order forms, please contact Ms. Nicole at nnealey@charlestdiocese.com. We are looking for 100% participation from all families for this event to be a success. Thank you in advance for your support.

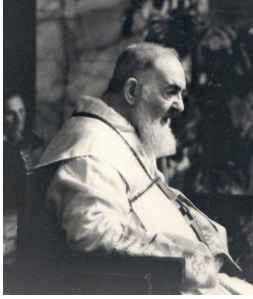
Social Outreach Project # 1 - An empty baby bottle will be coming home next week (one per family) with your students. Between **Tuesday, 10/1, and Monday, 10/21**, students are asked to partner with their parents to earn and/or collect loose change and dollar bills to fill the bottles. Filled baby bottles should be returned to school on **Tuesday, 10/22** to be donated to Grand Strand Citizens for Life. As Catholic Christians, we firmly believe in the sanctity of life and these funds will be used to provide assistance to mothers and their children.

Non-Uniform Picture Day - Our annual non-uniform picture day is scheduled for **Monday, 10/7**. These pictures make great memories and gifts for families and friends. Students may wear clothing appropriate for having their pictures taken, but please, no heels or dress shoes that may be unsafe for outside play. Feel free to send in a change of shoes if necessary.

Social Outreach Project # 2 - Please look for information from the PTO regarding our annual *Trunk or Treat So People Can Eat* event scheduled for **6 PM on Friday, 10/25**. For the price of one non-perishable food item or paper good product (per child), families can enjoy safely trick-or-treating in the school parking lot while socializing with other families. All donated items will be delivered to the OLSS Food Pantry.

Save the Date - Mark your calendars now for our annual dinner show fundraiser. 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. What a great way to wrap up Catholic Schools Week 2025!

Catholic Faith Formation - An example of the Virtue of Hope - Padre Pio



Feast Day: September 23

Patron: Civil defense volunteers, Adolescents, Pietrelcina, Stress relief, January blues

Birth: 1887

Death: 1968

Canonized: Pope John Paul II

St. Padre Pio was an Italian priest who was known for his piety and charity, as well as the gift of the stigmata, which has never been explained. St. Padre Pio was born Francesco Forgione, on May 25, 1887, in Pietrelcina, Italy. His parents were peasant farmers. He had an older brother and three younger sisters, as well as two other siblings who died in infancy. As a child, he was very religious and by the age of five he reportedly made the decision to dedicate his life to God. Fortunately, his parents were also very religious and they supported his Catholic development. His family attended daily Mass. Francisco served as an altar boy at his local parish. Francisco was known for taking on penances and his mother once scolded him for sleeping on a stone floor. Francisco's community was also supportive. Saint's days were popular celebrations and commonly celebrated in his town.

From his tender age, Francisco had a peculiar ability. He could see guardian angels, spoke with Jesus and the Virgin Mary. This was not something taught to him, but occurred so naturally that he assumed other people could see them too. Although Francisco and his family were very religious, they were also very poor, which required that he work. He spent many years as a child tending to a small flock of sheep owned by his family. Unfortunately, the work meant he was unable to attend school regularly, so he quickly fell behind other kids his age. Francisco was sickly as a child. He suffered an attack of gastroenteritis at age six and when he was ten, he had typhoid fever. In 1897, after three years of schooling, Francisco expressed to his parents that he wanted to become a friar. His parents traveled to a nearby community of monks and asked if Francesco could join them. He was evaluated, despite his young age, and was told that he needed more education before he could join. To prepare Francesco, his parents decided to hire a private tutor. To pay the cost of the tutor, Francesco's father traveled to America to find work, and sent the money home. At the age of 15, Francisco was finally ready and he entered the novitiate of the Capuchin friars at Morcone. He took the name of "Pio" in honor of Pope Pius I, whose relic he often saw at his local chapel. At the age of 17, Brother Pio became extremely ill and could only digest milk and cheese. He was sent to the mountain for better air, and when this did not work, he was sent home to his family. Amid all this, he continued to study for the priesthood. On one occasion during prayer, a fellow monk astonishingly reported he saw Pio levitate during an episode of ecstasy.

Brother Pio became a priest in 1910, but was permitted to remain at home because of his poor health. In 1915, with World War I afflicting the world, Padre Pio was summoned for military service. He was compelled to leave a tiny community of monks, with whom he was then housed, and drafted into medical service. However, he was so sickly that he was often sent home, only to then be recalled for service. In March 1916, he was finally dismissed because of his poor health. On September 20, Padre Pio was hearing confessions when he felt pain in his hands and feet. He noticed the stigmata, the wounds of Christ, appearing on his hands and feet. The experience was painful. Bleeding occurred. The wounds smelled of roses, and although they continued to weep, they never became infected. Doctors who later examined the stigmata were amazed at their perfectly round shape. By 1919, word began to spread about Padre Pio's stigmata and people came from far away to examine him. Padre Pio became popular with the people he encountered and soon began to attribute supernatural occurrences to him. For example, he was said to levitate, and able to perform miracles. [St. Padre Pio - Saints & Angels - Catholic Online](#)

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.