



# Saint Denis – Saint Columba School

... A Holy Ground of Loving and Learning

**TO:** PARENTS AND GUARDIANS  
**FROM:** SR. KATHLEEN MARIE, CR  
**SUBJECT:** WEEKLY HAPPENINGS  
**DATE:** MARCH 20-24, 2017



*Jesus, I Trust in You  
Make our Hearts like Yours!*

## SDSC Drama Production of "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL"



St. Denis-St. Columba School Drama Club will proudly present "**HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL**" **this Friday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m.** Tickets are available online at <https://search.seatyourself.biz/webstore/webstore.html?d=1&domain=stcolumba>. Tickets are \$10 per person. It's a show you do not want to miss and it's great for children of all ages! The students have been working very hard to prepare for it. Get your tickets now!

## Our Lenten KINDNESS is Contagious Campaign

During this Lenten Season we as a school community begin each day praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the intentions of all those who are in need of our prayers: the sick, suffering, poor, lonely, etc. In an effort to foster **KINDNESS** in our relationships with one another – we then listen to a short scripture passage on kindness and a reflection question to help us to think of the ways we can be **KIND** to others during the day. The first week we focused on being **HANDS of KINDNESS**, the second week being **EARS of KINDNESS**, and this week being a **VOICE of KINDNESS**. Included below are some reflection questions that you may wish to use with your family to keep our **KINDNESS is CONTAGIOUS** Campaign going at home and at school:

We are called to be **HANDS of Kindness for others!** How can we use our **HANDS** to show another kindness? *Use your hands to show kindness – give someone a pat on the back, shake hands with someone, write a nice letter, card or email to your friends, relatives, etc.*

We are called to be **EARS of Kindness for others!** How can we use our **EARS** to show another kindness? *Use your ears to listen at home to your parents and siblings –at school to your friends, teachers, adults...really hear what people are saying -- listen to music and to all the sounds around me-- listen in prayer to hear what God wants you to do --listen to those who may be asking you to help, be kind, or to be a friend*

We are called to be a **VOICE of Kindness for others!** How can we use our **Voice** to show another kindness? How do we speak to others? *Use your voice to concentrate on saying kind things, not complaining or criticizing, say kind words to someone, tell someone you are sorry, you love them, or thank you -- call or invite someone new to eat lunch or play with you at recess .*

We are called to do **ACTS of Kindness for others!** What **ACTS of Kindness** can we do for others? *Do thoughtful things for your classmates, be polite and let another have a turn, offer to help someone who needs your help, share the talents God has given you, be helpful at home and at school*

We are called to pray **PRAYERS of Kindness for others!** What **PRAYERS of Kindness** can I say for others? *Pray and ask Jesus for a kind heart, pray for your friends and family, pray for those who are sick, pray for a classmate and those you don't like, thank God for loving you and being kind to you.*

## Third Marking Period --- Cornerstone, Report Cards, Tuition, and After School Payments

We are more than half way through the 3<sup>rd</sup> marking period already. If you haven't done so already, please take a moment to review your children's progress on Cornerstone ([www.adnysis.org/cornerstone](http://www.adnysis.org/cornerstone)). Review the information with your children. There are about three weeks left, and the students have an opportunity to improve their grades if needed. **The Parent Component of Cornerstone will be opened only until Friday March 31<sup>st</sup>, after which it will closed until the week of April 17<sup>th</sup> when it will be reopened for you to view your children's Third Quarter report cards.** Remember that all tuition payments, including April, After School Program and any other school fees must be up to date before you will have access to your children's report cards.

### Upcoming NYS ELA and Math Tests

As it is stated in our school handbook, our students *"take part in the Archdiocesan testing program, which includes the Archdiocesan Religion test, Annual Standardized Tests, and New York State Education Department assessments. These tests measure academic growth over a period of time."* Our Archdiocesan Catholic Schools have always aligned our curriculum with *national standards* and not just the recent transition to *Common Core*.

*On Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, March 30<sup>th</sup> our students in Grades 3-8 will be taking the NYS ELA Tests. The tests will take place between 8:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. in the morning.* These assessments provide us with valuable information to help us to continue to meet the learning needs of our students. *Please be sure that your children are in school on time on these days.* PLEASE NOTE that the Archdiocese and SDSC **will not** be honoring an OPT OUT option for these tests this year. Included below are some important points about test-taking:

- Test-taking helps build mental stamina in children, preparing them for higher education.
- Data gleaned from state exams helps teachers create individualized instruction and provide support in specific areas as needed.
- State exam scores do not determine promotion or retention.
- Elementary-level state exams prepare students for future "standardized testing" such as the high school TACHS exam, SATs, ACTs, driver's licenses, GREs, Bar exams and more.
- To ensure exams contain relevant and constructive content, teachers have vetted and edited this year's questions.
- Performance and personal data is carefully protected by the school and state, and is not shared with outside vendors or organizations.

### Sacrament of Confirmation

Our Eighth Grade students are diligently preparing for the sacrament of Confirmation. Next Friday, March 31, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. the St. Columba students will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation which will be conferred by Bishop Lagonegro at St. Columba Church. *Confirmation Rehearsal is Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. in the Church.* Special thanks to Mrs. Forlenza and Mrs. Galletti for preparing these students to continue their faith journey as full members of the church! We congratulate each of them.

### LAST CALL for Transportation Forms for 2017-2018 School Year

Have you returned your Transportation forms? If not, please do so ASAP! We need to prepare them for submission to the school districts to ensure that your children have busing available to them next year.



### Tickets for SDSC 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala on Sale Now

See the flyer attached for information regarding our upcoming 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala. If you are interested in purchasing tickets go to our school website at [www.stcolumba.net](http://www.stcolumba.net), or click on the link: <https://www.501auctions.com/sdsc50/tickets?type=7862>

### Anniversary Gala Prize Sneak Peak

You can get your weekly sneak peak of our Gala prizes for auction or raffle by visiting [stcolumba.net](http://stcolumba.net)! Come to the Gala on April 22<sup>nd</sup> to place your bid or bid remotely using the online link on the school site! Either way you will have a chance to bid on some wonderful prize packages including, **"Take THEM Out to the Ball Game"** which consists of 24 baseball hats and 24 tickets to a Hudson Valley Renegades Game for your baseball little league team, softball team or friends/family outing! Get away from it all with a short drive to Mystic, CT and our **Mystic, CT Getaway Package**. Enjoy a two night stay at the Hyatt Place Mystic including breakfast, dinner for two at Mohegan Sun Casino and 2 tickets to Mystic Seaport. One of our most sought after packages is **Dinner at the Rectory with Father Michael**. Fr. Michael has so generously offered to barbecue a home cooked meal for you and your family at the Rectory. This is the third year in a row that he has so graciously offered this package to help support our school! Bidding on these and all of our packages will begin on Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup> and commence the evening of the Gala. Thank you for your continued support!

### Kids Raffles for Anniversary Gala

Don't let the adults have all the fun! Each year we hold a Kids Raffle the week leading up to the Gala. We are looking for donations to make our baskets OVER THE TOP! Please consider donating games, crafts, sports items, ice cream sundae goodies, gift certificates or anything else. Please have all raffle donations in by April 5th marked Kids Raffle, Kindness of the Main Office.

### **SAVE THE DATE: Home Run for Catholic Schools - Renegades Game on June 22<sup>nd</sup>**

*Home Run for Catholic Schools* is a partnership between the Hudson Valley Renegades, a Minor League Baseball affiliate of the Tampa Bay Rays, and Catholic Schools. Now in our 7<sup>th</sup> year, this is an opportunity for Catholic school students and their families to come together for a night of baseball and fun! Last year we sold close to 1,000 tickets! The date is Tuesday, June 22, 2015 at 6:35 p.m. The Renegades will play the Staten Island Yankees, an affiliate of the New York Yankees. The Renegades play Minor League Class A Baseball in the New York-Penn League. Students and families can begin purchasing tickets on line soon. For Saint Denis-Saint Columba School – go to <http://www.gadesgroups.com/> and enter “deniscolumba” as the password. Each school will receive \$3.00 per ticket sold. Each ticket holder will receive a free Renegades cap. The school that sells the most tickets (*remember, use the code*) will be invited to have a pre-game catch on the field and will receive a visit at their school from Rascal, the team mascot. Rascal loves to visit Field Day!

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### **To Everything there is a Season and a Time for Every Purpose under Heaven**

*Let us continue to keep in our prayers the many among us who are sick and suffering.*

#### **A TIME TO HEAL**

Anne Culin (*mother of Cathy Martin and great grandmother of Michael O’Hearn*), Geri DiNoti (*parishioner*), Janice Prostack (*sister of Sr. Kathleen*), Kelsey Berger (*cousin of Winogradoff children*), Loretta DelliCarpini, Louis Pissani, Chelsea Grace (*daughter of Spanish teacher, Mrs. Lyons*), Paulo Ampil (*Kyle Silverio’s grandfather*), and the many who are sick and suffering in mind, body or spirit at this time

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### *Saint Edith Stein*



***Virtue of HUMILITY: Accepting our Limitations and God-given talents***

*“I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord,*

*because he considered me trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry.” 1Timothy 1:12*

*How do other Virtues help you to understand Humility?*



ST. DENIS - ST. COLUMBA SCHOOL  
ANNIVERSARY

*Gala*

celebrating  
**50**  
1966-2016

*You are cordially invited to attend*  
A CELEBRATION OF  
50 YEARS OF CATHOLIC EDUCATION!

Saturday, April 22, 2017  
7:00 p.m. ~ 11:00 p.m.  
Dutchess Manor ~ Beacon, NY  
\$75 per person



**Premium Open Bar**  
**Cocktail Hour with Hors D'oeuvres**  
**Gourmet International Buffets & Carving Stations**  
**Music & Dancing**



Silent/Live Auctions and Raffles

For tickets or more information:

[www.stcolumba.net](http://www.stcolumba.net)

(845) 227-7777

Or send checks to the school office in an envelope marked  
ATTENTION : 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Gala





## 50TH ANNIVERSARY GALA

# Kids Raffles

Tuesday, April 18th-Friday, April 21

Don't let the adults have all the fun!

Kids can take a chance at their own raffles including Candy Crush, Sports Baskets, Ice Cream Sundae Basket, Spirit Ware Basket, Bucket of Nuts, Electronics and More!

Tickets will be sold in the morning before Prayers (7:30am-8:00am),  
\$.50 per ticket or \$5 for 12

Winners will be picked Friday, April 21 after Prayers



We are looking for donations to make these baskets over the top!  
Some suggested items may include kids baking items, sports items, crafts,  
candy, games, ice cream sundae toppings, electronics or whatever  
you may have.

Please send items in no later than April 5th to  
Kids Raffle: Kindness of the Main Office.