



The Cardinal Flyer

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BJ's Corner

This week we will host the last of our Parent Forums. Tuesday, February 10th is 5th, 6th and 7th grades and on Wednesday, February 11th, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th and make up for K and 1st. I strongly urge attending.

St. Charles will celebrate Valentine's Day on Friday, February 13th. I strongly discourage gifts from student to student, but encourage Valentine Cards.

Friday we will dismiss at 12:30 p.m. (Aftercare provided). Enjoy the holiday on Monday, February 16th.

Have a wonderful week!
B.J.

It's time to get back into the habit of buying Scrip!!! Due every Tuesday!!!

Remember – shop for those items you normally do and a percentage goes to St. Charles. It only takes a few minutes of your time. Thanks for supporting our school.

Iowa Test of Basic Skills

The ITBS is given to 3rd – 8th each year. This year the ITBS is the week of Feb. 23 – Feb. 27. Please make sure your child is here, fed, and rested every day.

Help!

In my ongoing effort to save dollars, I am requesting old towels/shirts. These will be cut into rags and used throughout the school. Bring to the front office.

Thank You to Cookie Dough Volunteers

A special thank you to all of the Cookie Dough Volunteers. Your help was appreciated. The cookie dough representative actually made a special call to Odalys Saiz and said he had never seen so many eager volunteers. Thanks for a job well done!!

Save your Plastic Bags for recycling!

Keep those bags coming! Let's get a 100 before March 1, 2009. We receive \$5.00 per twenty-five gallon bag and we may just win the contest among schools in New Mexico for that grand prize of \$3000.00!!!

Girl Scouts

The Girl Scout meetings are every Tuesday from 3:00 p.m. to 4:15 p.m. in the Science Lab.

*February 13 – Early
Dismissal
12:30p.m.*

*February 16 – No
School –
President's Day*

The Tongue Can Be a Sharp Sword

In the world today we are victims of many who use their tongues as sharp swords. The misuse of our tongues seems to add intrigue and destruction as the media and private persons indulge in this pastime. In the vernacular of the day, this destructive activity is called *bashing*. The dictionary reports that to bash is to strike with a heavy, crushing blow. Such a popular behavior is indulged in by far too many who bash a neighbor, a family member, a public servant, a community, a country, a church. It is alarming also how often we find children bashing parents and parents bashing children.

How far adrift we have allowed ourselves to go from the simple teaching "If you can't say something good about someone or something, don't say anything" to where we now too often find ourselves involved in the bash business.

We are reminded that Jesus Christ, the only perfect person to ever walk the earth, taught us through quiet example to say nothing or to be silent in stressful times in our lives rather than to spend time and energy bashing for whatever purpose.

So what is the antidote for this bashing that hurts feelings, demeans others, destroys relationships, and harms self-esteem? Bashing should be replaced with charity. *Charity* is, perhaps, in many ways a misunderstood word. We often equate charity with visiting the sick or sharing our excess with those who are less fortunate. But really, true charity is much, much more.

Real charity is not something you give away; it is something that you acquire and make a part of yourself. And when the virtue of charity becomes implanted in your heart, you are never the same again. It makes the thought of being a basher repulsive.

Perhaps the greatest charity comes when we are kind to each other, when we don't judge or categorize someone else, when we simply give each other the benefit of the doubt or remain quiet. Charity is accepting someone's differences, weaknesses, and shortcomings; having patience with someone who has let us down; or resisting the impulse to become offended when someone doesn't handle something the way we might have hoped. Charity is refusing to take advantage of another's weakness and being willing to forgive someone who has hurt us. Charity is expecting the best of each other.

Be one who nurtures and who builds. Be one who has an understanding and a forgiving heart, who looks for the best in people. Leave people better than you found them. Be fair with your competitors, whether in business, athletics, or elsewhere. Don't get drawn into some of the parlance of our day and try to "win" by intimidation or by undermining someone's character. Lend a hand to those who are frightened, lonely, or burdened.

If we could look into each other's hearts and understand the unique challenges each of us faces, we would treat each other much more gently, with more love, patience, tolerance, and care.

Let us open our arms to each other, accept each other for who we are, assume everyone is doing the best he or she can, and look for ways to help leave quiet messages of love and encouragement instead of being destructive with bashing.

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Make a Dream Come True! Please Vote for an Alumnus of St. Charles.

Jessica Gallegos (a former student of St. Charles) and her fiancé, Ric Rodarte are in a contest for a \$50,000.00 Dream Wedding. Based on an essay they submitted, they are one of five finalists!

The award is given based on on-line votes. Voting began Feb 9th.

<http://www.nmdreamwedding.com/2009couple-5.php>

They are a wonderful young couple and so deserving of this opportunity. Please go online and vote for them (couple #5)

Reconciliation and First Holy Communion

Monday, March 2, 2009 – 1st Reconciliation Service at St. Charles Borromeo Church at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 2, 2009 – First Holy Communion (More information to follow)

Prayer of the month: February 2009

The Divine Praises

Composed around 1800 in the United States.

Blessed be God
Blessed be his Holy Name.
Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.
Blessed be the Name of Jesus.
Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.
Blessed be his most Precious Blood.
Blessed be Jesus in the most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.
Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.
Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.
Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

Youth Group Mass Now @ 11 Sunday

The St. Charles Youth Group will be joining with the parishioners at the 11 o'clock Mass on Sunday. This is our new Youth Mass and would like to invite all youth in middle school or high school to join us as well. Lunch and Faith Formation will be provided immediately after Mass in the new Youth Center (formerly known as the Parish Center – the building with the orange door), not only to nourish your body but also your soul. If you have any questions, please contact Patricia Garcia-Zerrate at 505-463-6170.

Prayer in the Presence of the Blessed Sacrament: Since Georgia and Vicenta lead us with the new prayer schedule, it's been wonderful to see so many new faces and returning faces to this special ministry, "The Community at Prayer." I invite you, if you were away during sign-up Sunday in November, to join in this special ministry of the church. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is a special prayer time where we deepen our friendship with the Lord. During this prayer time, we remember how Christ so loved us to give his life, his body for us. Our friendship with God is the friendship on which all our other relationships depend. Enter into this special communion and prayer. Also, join us during the official prayer times of our parish, 8 a.m. 4:15 p.m. or 5 p.m. Let us know if there is a specific time that you would like to come to the Shrine Chapel and pray for 15, 30 or 60 minutes with the Lord.

CHURCH CLEANERS ARE NEEDED: Each non-holiday Monday, volunteers clean the church at 7:30 a.m. Cleaners are needed to join in the work. We also need helpers on Tuesdays of holiday weeks and Friday morning, preparing for the weekend Masses.

Our Parish Calendar

- **EUCCHARISTIC ASSOCIATES:** All are welcome – come for one, or for all of these special times/or events, ***First Thursday (the day of the Eucharist), February 5:***
 - 4:15 p.m. Rosary (shrine chapel)
 - 5:00 p.m. Evening Prayer (shrine chapel)
 - 5:30 p.m. Novena with Saint Peter Julian Eymard (shrine chapel)
 - 6:00 p.m. Potluck dinner (Mahady Meeting Room, bring a dish to share for 10)
 - 6:30 p.m. Eucharist Talk (after or during supper in the MMR depending on the topic)

February TOPIC: Issues and Theology of the GIRM (*General Instruction on the Roman Missal*) – how the rubrics of the Mass give us our theology about the Eucharist)
- **VOCATION COMMITTEE:** Renewed, revised, replenished! ***Thursday, February 19, 6:30 p.m.*** See Fr. Lane ahead of time as we prepare for the future – filled with hope!
- **BURNING OF PALMS/MARDI GRAS PRAYER & DESSERT NIGHT:** Save your palms and bring them to the annual burning, ***Tuesday, February 24, 7 p.m.*** in the Committee Room and on Borromeo Plaza.

Catholics On Call: Direction for Your Life

What do you really want to do with your life? Who do you want to be in your life? How does God speak to you about your life?

These are not easy questions. Catholics On Call gives 18-30 year-olds the time and resources to reflect on God's call in their lives. We reach out to people like you— young adult men and women—who may be considering the possibility of a life of service in the Church as a lay minister, religious sister or brother, or priest.

Two conferences for young adults will be held in 2009 — June 4-7 (extended weekend program) and August 3-7 (week long program) — in Chicago at Catholic Theological Union. Participants will hear expert presenters and theologians speak on discernment and meet others who are also considering a life of service. Applications for the free conferences are now being accepted. Learn more and check us out at www.catholicsoncall.org or see our campus contact: Taylor Kingston or Father Lane, SSS. Watch the new video!