

St. Germaine Family Newsletter

January, 2020

Bourbon Street/ A Night on the Town Family School Association January 18th

Fourth Grade Family Mass January 19th

The fourth grade families from our school and RE programs will celebrate together as a class on Sunday, January 19th at the 11:30 Mass. Please plan to join us.

Video Testimonials for St. Germaine School:

**We're ready for our close up, Mr.
DeMille!**

We are still looking for several school families to help us in a project to market our school to new families.

The program will involve a number of families who would be willing to record a brief testimonial statement about why they have enrolled their children at St. Germaine or what part of the school experience they are most pleased with.

No preparation or scripting is necessary. Julie Clarke, our director of marketing, will prep/rehearse with you before making the video. If you can help out, please call the office to let us know.

We'd like to video the testimonials during our Open House for Catholic Schools Week on January 26, 2020.

Call the office to let us know you're willing to participate. We'll save a spot for you.

National Junior Honor Society Chapter at St. Germaine!

The School Board, Father Cabala and Mrs. Powers have worked to establish a local chapter of the National Junior Honor Society at St. Germaine.

Students in our sixth, seventh, and eighth grade were invited to submit applications for membership. Students were required to have a calculated Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 and list experiences that showed their leadership, service and academic accomplishments. The students also write essays to describe how they would use their leadership skills for the benefit of our school community. We will post the names of the new members after their induction.

Our "Night on the Town" has become quite a hit in the three years we've sponsored it. Each year the proceeds of the event have added to our school fundraising efforts and helped us to reach those financial goals. In the previous two years we've raised over \$20,000.

This year we are hoping will be even more successful. We'll have plenty of basket raffles, some large prize raffles (IPAD, NINTENDO SWITCH, YETI COOLER), and even a few silent auction items—including a dinner for 8 prepared by the school faculty under the direction of Chef Peg Mooney!

Please plan to join us for an evening of FUN. Tickets are available thru the school office. An order form is attached at the end of this newsletter.

The FSA has done a wonderful job preparing for this event. Everyone who has checked the Facebook page or their blast emails has had a good chuckle reading the creative marketing pieces! We really hope that you will be able to join us. Look for a quick note from the Room Mom (or Dad) for your child's class. They'll be bale to give you information and be sure that the parents from your grade will be able to meet together. (Maybe a grade level "selfie?")

Catholic Schools Week, 2020

Our annual celebration of Catholic Schools and their valuable contributions to our society will begin on January 26th.

At St. Germaine, we begin each year with a family Mass and Open House. This year we will gather for Mass at 9:00 a.m. The Open House will follow in the school building. We will welcome families who are considering joining our parish community of Our Lady at St. Germaine and our school family. Our guests would benefit from your testimony about why you have chosen to send your children to St. Germaine School.

Our plans for the week are listed on the attached calendar for Catholic Schools Week. In addition to some of our usual events for the week, this year we will feature:

A Scholastic "Book Fair" featuring a large variety of paperback books for readers of all ages. Students will have a chance to preview the selection during the week of January 20th in school. The Book Fair will be available during the January 26th Open House. Scholastic will offer an **optional** "e-wallet" for the sale this year. It will allow parents to pre-pay a set spending amount for students. That way the students will not need to bring cash to the sale.

Family Ice Cream Social on Wednesday evening (January 29th) from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Goedert Hall We'd love to see all of our current families join us for this event. We will also advertise it as an Open House for potential new families.

National Junior Honor Society Leadership Prayer Service will be held on Thursday afternoon (January 30) at 1:45 in the Church. This prayer service will help us to introduce our new National Junior Honor Society and its first inductees. An Induction Ceremony for the students and their parents will be held prior to the all-school prayer service.

All-School Musical Performance on Friday, January 31st from 1:15 to 2:15. Students will present their class songs in the Activity Center.

Second Semester Progress Reports January 17, 2020

Teachers will distribute progress reports for the second trimester on Friday, January 17th. As you examine these reports, have a conversation with your child about what areas they are proud of and which areas they can see a need to improve.

Make plans with other parents from your grade level to attend together. No one likes walking into an event without knowing someone! We're hoping that the Room Moms will be able to coordinate a way for parents from each grade to meet! An order form for tickets is also attached to this newsletter.

Tuition Exclusion Date January 22, 2020

The next School Board established exclusion date is January 22, 2020. The exclusion date affects any family with an outstanding tuition balance of over \$500. Individual letters will be sent to these families to explain the necessary procedures.

Illinois State Board Of Education Recognition Visit

The State of Illinois offers state recognition to non-public schools. This recognition allows us to participate in several federal and state funding programs for teacher development and student resource services. The process requires a recertification every five years. This spring, we will have our recognition by the State of Illinois.

The process requires assurances that our school complies with applicable state law. As we approach the date for the visit, we are reviewing St. Germaine handbooks and policies along with student academic and health records. As we complete the review of these documents, we may need to request information or paperwork from your family. Please be patient with this important process.

Looking Ahead. . .

- 1/10 Family School Mini-Dance for PreK to Fourth Grade students, Goedert Hall, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. No admission charge—just join us for some Friday FUN
- 1/13 Confirmation Formation, Year II students, 4:45 p.m. -6:45 p.m. in the Church
- 1/17 Half-Day Faculty Meeting; 11:30 student dismissal
- 1/18 A Night on the Town/Bourbon Street Fundraiser, 7:00 p.m to 11:00 p.m. See attached order form for tickets.
- 1/19 Fourth Grade Family Mass; 11:30 a.m. in the Church
- 1/20 Martin Luther King Holiday—no classes
- 1/24 Confirmation Retreat for Eighth Grade students; St Francis of Assisi Center
- 1/25 First Reconciliation for second graders and families in Church; 12:30 p.m.
- 1/26 Catholic Schools Week Mass and Open House; 9:00 a.m. Mass, Open House follows until 1:00 p.m.



ENRICHING MINDS
ENRICHING LIVES



ST. GERMAINE SCHOOLS FAMILY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION
INVITES ADULTS 21+ TO A

NIGHT ON THE TOWN

A BENEFIT FOR THE CHILDREN OF ST. GERMAINE SCHOOL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 2020

7PM-11PM

\$40 ADVANCED | \$45 AT DOOR

INCLUDES BUFFET, BEER & WINE

115 BOURBON STREET | MERRIONETTE PARK

FEATURING LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY SOUTH CITY REVIVAL

SILENT AUCTION | RAFFLES | SPLIT THE POT

A MINISTRY OF OUR LADY AT ST. GERMAINE PARISH

PLEASE SEND CHECK (PAYABLE TO ST. GERMAINE FSA) AND INFORMATION BELOW NO LATER THAN TUESDAY, JANUARY 14TH TO THE ST. GERMAINE SCHOOL OFFICE (9735 S. KOLIN)

**SPONSORSHIPS ARE AVAILABLE! ASK US HOW YOU
CAN MAKE A GREATER IMPACT!**

QUESTIONS? EMAIL THE FAMILY SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (FSA) - STGERMAINESA@GMAIL.COM



THIS EVENT IS TICKETLESS, YOUR NAME WILL BE AT THE DOOR. PLEASE WATCH FOR IMPORTANT EMAILS AS EVENT DRAWS NEAR! LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

TICKETHOLDER INFO

FIRST & LAST NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____ # OF SINGLE TICKETS: _____

GUEST NAMES:

TOTAL: \$



We are proud to announce our school plans for celebrating

Catholic Schools Week

January 26, 2020- January 31, 2020

Each year Catholic Schools throughout the United States celebrate their wonderful work and the wonderful people who make it possible.

This year our celebration will include:

Saturday,	January 18, 2020	<p>A Night on the Town Bourbon Street; 7p.m.-11p.m. Join us to support Catholic Education; \$40 in advance, \$45 at the door See the reverse side of this sheet for details.</p>
Sunday,	January 26, 2020	<p>Family Mass at 9:00 a.m. followed by Open House from 10:00 until 1:00 p.m.</p>
Monday,	January 27, 2020	<p>Catch Us if You Can! We will begin collecting donations for a project called "Dimes for Dairy" through the Cook County Farm Bureau. Contributions (dimes, quarters, dollars) will be used to purchase dairy products of the Together We Cope Food pantry. Since most pantries provide perishable items like dairy products, the project will help to provide much needed resources. More information will be sent home. Students can wear sportswear items (STG, High School, College or Professional teams) to school.</p>
Tuesday,	January 28, 2020	<p>Student Appreciation Day/Dress Down Day Students may dress casually for the day, but attire needs to be appropriate. The teachers have promised NO HOMEWORK!!</p>
Wednesday,	January 29, 2020	<p>Teacher Appreciation Day/Movie and Snacks Students can dress with "crazy hair" for the day. Check out the styles on Pinterest for some ideas. We also celebrate the great work of our dedicated teachers and staff with a "long lunch" for them from 11:30 until 12:30. A quick "thank you note" would go a long way to make them feel appreciated. (Certainly no gifts—just a nice pat on the back.) In the afternoon, students in each grade will gather to watch a movie. We will provide snacks for the event. Students can bring a juice box, soda or water bottle for the movie if they wish.</p>
	NEW!!!	<p>Family Ice Cream Social and Open House, 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This year we're inviting everyone back for ice cream! It will give us an opportunity to invite new families interested in our school a second chance to "check us out." Every one is invited to join us—and share the good news about our great school with our visitors!</p>
Thursday,	January 30, 2020	<p>Inspiring Leadership Our National Junior Honor Society and its new members will be the focus of our prayer service today. Newly inducted NJHS members will share ideas about the importance of academics, leadership and service.</p>
Friday,	January 31, 2020	<p>Our Families Special McDonald's Lunch (An order form will be sent) St. Germaine Music Review Students will present a "class song and dance" to entertain us! After last year's smash hit we decided to try again! All are welcome to attend. (1:15-2:15)</p>