



*Plant your roots in Christ and let Him be the foundation for your life.  
--Colossians 2:6-7*

October 21, 2009

Dear Parents:

### **October: The Month of the Rosary**

During the month of October our students have been learning about the Rosary. Our seventh graders have been explaining the different mysteries of the Rosary at our morning assemblies, and we have been praying the different prayers included in the Rosary. Hopefully, this month is a time when all of our school families are joining in praying the Rosary at home. Our Blessed Mother loves us and wants to bring us closer to her Son through the Rosary.

### **Remembering Our Loved Ones**

During the month of November our Church celebrates two important days, All Saints Day when we ask the saints to pray for us, and All Souls Day, when we pray for those we love who have passed away. Both days are powerful reminders of Christ's promise of salvation to all who believe in Him. We will be remembering our deceased loved ones each day at our morning prayer assembly. We will also include our loved ones in the Prayers of the Faithful at our school-wide liturgy on Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Included in today's envelope is a prayer request form; if you wish, please include the names of your loved ones whom you would like included in our prayers. Return the form to school on or before October 29<sup>th</sup>. Also, we are assembling two bulletin boards, one in each hallway, of photos of our deceased loved ones. If you would like to have your family member(s) included on these boards, please send a copy of a photograph. Put the following information on the back of the photo copy: the name of your loved one, the relationship to your child, and your child's name. The bulletin boards will be assembled on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, All Souls Day.

### **Progress Reports**

First Trimester Progress Reports will be sent home with the students in grades kindergarten through eight tomorrow, Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please take time to review your child's progress report, noting any areas of strength as well as any concerns you might have. If your child is in grades four-eight, you may also gather more detailed information about grades, assignments, quizzes, tests, etc., by accessing *Gradelink*.

### **Parent Teacher Conferences**

Next week we will be having Parent Teacher Conferences on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday. We will dismiss school at noon on each of these days for the conferencing. All students in grades four through eight attend the conference with their parents. Extended care is available at no charge for siblings while parents are in their conferences. If you are unable to keep your conference appointment, please contact Mrs. Jezowski in the Front Office and she will reschedule the conference for you.

### **Auction**

Our Auction is only ten days away! You still have time to send in your reservations, tuition raffle tickets, and opportunity drawing tickets! Hope to see you at the *Masquerade Ball!*



## Halloween

October 31<sup>st</sup> falls on a Saturday this year, however, we will continue our tradition of the Halloween costume parade. Students in preschool will wear their costumes to school on Monday, October 26<sup>th</sup>; students in pre-kindergarten through eight will wear their costumes to school on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. The parade will take place immediately following morning assembly. Children in preschool and afternoon pre-k may also join in the parade on October 29<sup>th</sup> and then return home with their parents. Please see parade and costume details below:

### Halloween Festivities, Thursday, October 29, 2009

**Parade:** Sponsored by NJHS

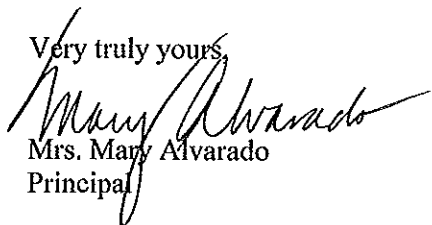
Halloween is actually the vigil of All Saints Day. It is a mix of cultural beliefs and superstitions that have been gathered up into one event. We encourage positive historical role models for costumes, such as Ben Franklin, George Washington, comic book heroes (Superman, Spiderman, etc.,) the saints (St. Cecilia, St. Francis, St. Paul) and fictional literary characters. This year the students will go to their classrooms after the 7:45 am bell to unpack their belongings and to have attendance taken. Teachers and the students will return to their morning lines at 8:00 am for morning prayers and flag salute. The parade will immediately follow. Student members of NJHS will escort grades pre-k through eight. Parents, please join us!

### *Costume Regulations:*

- No grotesque, bloody, gory or violent costumes at all (including witches and vampires)
- No full face make-up. Example: full face make-up is clown make-up; light make-up is lipstick, eye shadow and blush
- No hair dying
- Masks may be worn only during the parade (no scary, grotesque, or monster-like masks)
- Costumes must be modest; no costume that suggests immodesty/promiscuity
- No costume that is degrading toward women, men, or any culture
- No weapons. Examples: guns, swords, etc.
- Shoes must be worn; no skateboards, rollerblades or skates at any time.
- If a student chooses not to participate by not wearing a costume, the school uniform is to be worn. (Jeans and a shirt are not a costume.)

Parents, please keep in mind that many costumes that are appealing to our young people today are not suitable for St. Cecilia School as they are not in keeping with the traditions of a Catholic school. This makes your challenge as a parent more difficult, and your efforts to honor the costume regulations above are expected and appreciated. Thank you for your cooperation in this matter—you make the difference!

Very truly yours,

  
Mrs. Mary Alvarado  
Principal

*Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us.*

