



"I do not pray for success, I ask for faithfulness."  
- Saint Teresa of Calcutta

September 7, 2016

Dear Parents,

On Tuesday, August 30th, I was very fortunate to attend a conference in Tiffin titled: "Reflecting the Face of Mercy." The day consisted of inspiring presentations and very emotional personal testimonies, all to assist in our Mission for Mercy during this Year of Mercy. Three topics focused on during the day were welcome and reconciliation to: separated, divorced and remarried Catholics, those involved in or affected by abortion, and individuals and families impacted by same sex attraction.

Bishop Thomas opened the conference with a very engaging speech. He spoke on how we are called neither to condemn nor condone, but instead to meet people where they are, no matter the situation, and draw them into the transforming love of Christ.

What a great transition into what took place this past weekend: the Canonization of Mother Teresa. Bishop Thomas was very blessed to have known Saint Teresa of Calcutta (pictured to right). She met people where they were, and showed them great mercy. There are so many fantastic pictures of her practicing the works of mercy. One of her many great quotes is, "If you can't feed a hundred people, then feed just one."

As the Year of Mercy winds to a close on November 20th, let us meet people where they are, and bring them God's mercy.

Mr. Linder  
Principal



# WELCOME PRESCHOOLERS!



Our Divine Mercy preschoolers started their school year on Tuesday, September 6th. Preschool students attend school on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 9:00-11:30 am.

Our newest school members are:

Wyatt Flynn  
Bennett Graham  
Jameson Graham  
Clare Linder  
Noah Martinez  
Miranda McCord  
Garry Mendenhall

A big thank you goes to Mrs. Lopshire for all the hard work she put in over the summer. She attended a two day Diocese preschool training session in Tiffin. We're looking forward to another great year!



School Pictures - **The school pictures are scheduled for Monday, September 19th.** Information is included in this envelope. These pictures make up the composite pictures for our annual yearbook so all students will be photographed. You will be receiving an email for the option to order your pictures online. Please contact the office if you have any questions.



Our Fall fundraiser is still in progress. The students are selling magazines and many other useful and delicious items until Friday, September 9th. Please return your fundraiser packets no later than Monday, September 12th. **Thank you for all of your hard work!**



Plans are being finalized for the 8th Annual Nathan Rosswurm Memorial Golf Scramble on Saturday, September 10th. We currently have 17 teams registered. If you are interested in entering a team, please call the school office (419-263-2114). There are many great prizes available. Each golfer receives a goody bag, and a Puckerbrush catered lunch!



If you have received a slip that your lunch account is in the red, please send money to cover the lunches they have already eaten. The price of a student lunch is \$2.65. A carton of milk, whether extra or for a packed lunch is an extra \$.50. If you have any questions or concerns about your child's account, please contact Brenda Combs at the Wayne Trace Payne Elementary School. (419-263-2512 option #4)



Please make sure that your child is dressed appropriately to fit the occasion and the weather. Shorts may be

worn the first nine weeks of school. Shorts may be worn on Friday School Mass days as long as they are "Church appropriate." Tennis shoes must be worn for gym class. The following may never be worn: tank tops, short-shorts, torn pants, and clothing bearing alcoholic beverage advertisements or objectionable words/symbols. Divine Mercy Catholic School is an elementary school and the need for make-up is not necessary. Tank tops and spaghetti strap dresses may not be worn unless they have a sweater or jacket to wear over them. Parents are requested to cooperate in enforcing the dress code. Fall weather provides us with a variety of temperatures and conditions, so check the weather before choosing the clothes for the day. As you know, weather forecasts are not always accurate, so a sweatshirt or sweater packed in the book bag may come in handy if the temperature would drop during a school day.



At the PTA meeting last night, a question was brought up about the new online grade book program that I mentioned in the last newsletter. The new program that we will be using is AscendSMS. I told everyone last night that we are in "beta mode" (as Mr. Grant calls it) right now, and still working out some of the main bugs with the program. The teachers just this week have started to enter classroom grades into the new online grade book. I will send home a parent letter on how to login to this new program soon.



Our PTA is a great organization! They do fun and educational projects for the students throughout the year. Some projects are:

- All American fundraiser/party
- Apple Pie fundraiser
- Veteran's Day lunch
- Thanksgiving lunch
- school trip to the Saint Francis Performing Arts Center to watch a play
- nursing home visit to decorate pumpkins and visit residents
- trip to Lincoln Ridge pumpkin patch
- Catholic Schools Week activities
- field day activities
- new this year (in the works) is a father/daughter and mother/son dance
- and many many more things...

Anyone that has a child at Divine Mercy is invited to come and be part of this dedicated organization. We need you to help bring these ideas to life.

The next meeting of this school year will be Tuesday, October 25th at 6:30 in Mr. Grant's room.

Attached are the agenda/notes from last night's meeting. I know it's hard for everyone to make every meeting, but please read through the notes and let me know if there is anything you have questions about.



Any parent who will be around the

students this year, in the school setting (ex: Mardi Gras, thanksgiving lunch, helping at school, etc...) should be registered in the VIRTUS program that the Diocese of Toledo uses. Here are the steps to complete everything:

1. go to the website:

<https://www.virtusonline.org/virtus/>

2. click on "Services/Programs" near the top of the page

3. The first option that will come up on your screen is "Protecting God's Children<sup>®</sup> for Adults" and you should click under that paragraph where it says "More..."

4. When you click "More..." you will go to a new page where you want to click:

Click [here](#) to begin the Introduction to the Protecting God's Children program.

5. There will come a point where you need to enter a token/code for payment - please email Dianne Jones at our Parish office and she will send you this code.

Her email is:

[finance@divinemercycatholic.com](mailto:finance@divinemercycatholic.com)

No one should have to pay out of their own pocket to complete the program.

**Once you complete the program email me ([principal@dmcschool.com](mailto:principal@dmcschool.com)) a copy of your certificate AND email Dianne Jones ([office1@dmcschool.com](mailto:office1@dmcschool.com)) one too.**

As always, let me know if you are having problems and I will gladly help.



Scholastic book order forms are due back by Monday, September 12th. Please return these with your payment to the school office.

### Upcoming Events:

Friday 9/9: Fundraiser Sale Ends - send in packets to school office

School Mass @ 9:15

5&6 Grade Field Day at Paulding Fair Grounds 9:00-2:30

Sat. 9/10: 8th Annual Nathan Rosswurm Memorial Golf Scramble 9:00 start time

Mon. 9/12 MAP testing for 3-6 (through 9/16)

Thurs. 9/15 School Mass @ 9:15

Fri. 9/16 2 hour delay - teacher in-service

Mon. 9/19 School Pictures

Weds. 9/28 1st quarter midterm reports will be sent home

Divine Mercy Catholic School  
PTA Agenda  
September 6, 2016

**Introductions of 2016-2017 Officers and Parents** (15 parents, Mr. Grant, Mrs. Gideon, Mr. Linder, and Father Poggemeyer present. Everyone went around the room and introduced themselves, and told the name and grade of their child at the school)

- PTA President - Kimra Williamson
- Treasurer - Julie Stuart
- Co-Secretaries - Melanie Forrer/Michelle Davis

**Financial Report** (Mrs. Stuart - flower fundraiser from last spring raised about \$2,400. In the checking/savings account is now \$12,168.29 and this is not counting the \$5,000 Mr. Franklin donation that is set aside to be used on students)

- Approval to increase teachers school supply allotment (approved - teachers were getting \$100 per year to spend on supplies and classroom materials - now raised to \$250 per year/per teacher)
- Approval to pay for the new bathroom risers that the Lopshire's made for the boys bathroom by the urinals and the girl's bathroom under the sink (approved and very much appreciated - thank you Ernie and Donita)
- Bob Franklin's donation to the PTA (Under Armour Jacket's from Northwest Ohio Welch Trophy will be purchased - size samples are in the process of being ordered. An order sheet will be sent home to every family with an option to have student name embroidered on the jacket that the family would pay for out of their own pocket)
- additional points (Father brought up the idea of using some of the monies to purchase a border for the playground area to keep loose stones contained - ideas and estimates are being gathered on this to see how much it would cost)

**Mr. Linder**

- New volunteer website and other forms (Anyone who will be working with the students at events throughout the year needs to register with VIRTUS; which is an online program that the Diocese of Toledo uses. Mr. Linder is putting instructions in tomorrow's newsletter. Mr. Linder brought up the idea of using an online sign up for fundraisers: signup.com. This would help organize events by the number of people needed and specifically what each person would be doing. The group seemed to like the idea for larger projects like the apple pie fundraiser. More discussion to come on this.)
- AscendSMS online grade book update (Free online grade book system that we're working on implementing very soon. Teachers have just started to put grades into the grade book, but are still some bugs to be worked out. A parent letter will be sent home soon to let parents know how to get registered.)

## **Fundraisers**

- Golf outing Saturday, September 10th - 17 teams (everything is set for this - pray for no rain!)
- All American Fundraiser ends September 9th with delivery October 10th
- Apple Pie sale dates October 5th-19th, we will be making the pies Saturday, November 12th. We will need volunteers 2-3 evenings the week of to do dry ingredients in the hall (Patty Lee volunteered to head up this years apple pie fundraiser. We spoke on how the hall will need to be prepared for event... putting plastic sheets down...people prepping the dry goods...Kimra's parents can pick up the apples.)

## **Upcoming Events**

- Tuesday, October 4th, 2pm - Animal/pet blessing with Father Poggemeyer (like last years - out back of school in the grass. Can take your students home after it's over.)
- Pumpkin Patch - Lincoln Ridge or Kurtz Pumpkin Patch (Kimra is going to contact Lincoln Ridge. Mr. Linder is going to send dates to her to get something scheduled.)
- November 11th Mass at 9am or 11am with Father Stites; then lunch in the Hall and Veterans Program. Meal from Payne Elementary (chicken and noodles) - volunteers needed to set up and decorate tables (Mass will be at 11am with Father Stites with a short program and lunch to follow in the hall. Lunch will be coordinated through the Payne Elementary cafeteria.)
- Thanksgiving meal - Thursday, November 17th (will need a handful of volunteers for this meal for staff and students that will be in the Hall like normal.)

## **Next Meeting**

- Tuesday October 25th at 6:30 in Mr. Grant's room

## **Teachers Cares/Concerns/Suggestions** (nothing brought up)