**Holy Family School **

Where Faith and Learning Come Together

**To:** Parents of Holy Family School Students

**From:** Sister Christina Marie, CSSF

**Date:** April 25, 2022

**Re:** Happenings at Holy Family School

Dear Parents,

*The brave blossoms of crocus, tulip and iris,*

*the budding magnolia tree, . . . manifestations of*

new life bursting forth...!

Nature has many lessons to teach us, but perhaps the most profound lesson is that life prevails over death. For those of us who live in the temperate zone, the annual spectacle of the four seasons brings that lesson to our attention in beautiful ways. The brave blossoms of crocus, tulip and iris, the budding magnolia tree, the fields green and golden with grain, are manifestations of new life bursting forth from the tiny seed or bulb buried in the ground. In the Southwest, after a long drought the desert is blooming with riotous color!

Yes, Jesus says, “unless a grain of wheat falls upon the earth and dies, it remains a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit” (John 12:24). In the cold and barren months of winter it may look like life is finished but we know better. From the cross, Jesus uttered similar words: “It is finished.” Our usual understanding is that “it” refers to His passion and death, the end of his life. However, in his book, *Seven Last Words*, Father James Martin, S.J., suggests that perhaps Jesus was thinking about his mission from the Father, the establishment of His Church. “As He hung on the cross, readying to turn himself completely over to the Father, Jesus may not have been able to see how His work would continue. But the Father did, for he can use everything we bring to him and magnify it—even our dashed hopes.”

During these times of turmoil and uncertainty about the future, may we not lose sight of this example we have in Jesus, who from the cross, let go of His earthly existence because His mission on earth was finished but whose spilled blood watered the seeds of eternal life for us all. What may seem to have been finished was, in fact, just beginning. After the sadness of Good Friday, we awaken to the joys of Easter Day! Christ has conquered death. While His life on earth is finished, he lives on in His Church, in His followers, in you and me.

At this sacred time of Easter, let’s not be tempted to think we are finished but that we are just beginning a new chapter in our story here at Holy Family, one that each of us will have a part in writing. Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Blessings,

Sr. Christina Marie Luczynski, CSSF

**Catholic School Survey**

All families will be receiving information to complete the survey for Holy Family School. Students in grades 4 -6 as well as staff are also asked to complete the survey. Thank you for your cooperation. It will take only a few moments of your time.

This is the letter that was to go out yesterday. I chose to place it in the newsletter.

To the families of Holy Family School,

Annually, Holy Family invites parents to provide feedback on five key areas of their child/children’s experience at our school:

* Instructional Quality
* Constituent Relations
* Operational Excellence
* Financial Health
* Overall satisfaction

We use a third party non-profit organization, the Excellence with Integrity Institute, to collect this data through an anonymous survey and to report the results in summary form back to the school. The survey should take about 10-15 minutes to complete.

Our school uses your feedback as part of our continuous improvement effort.  This is your opportunity to share your opinion about what works well and what you feel needs improvement at our school. I hope that you will help us with this essential task by completing the anonymous survey as soon as you can.

We have a few additional questions on this year’s survey. You will see open-ended collection boxes at the end of the survey where we can collect your feedback on the following important items:

1. What suggestions do you have for more after school activities? (Please provide your answer in the Additional Question 1 comment box at the end of your survey.

So please use this chance to have your voice heard by completing the survey at this link:

<https://www.research.net/r/syracuse-pf>

You must enter the School Survey ID code  to access our school’s survey.

**Our Unique School Survey ID Code is H#45**

**Please note:**

West Genesee announced that if we do not have another “Snow” day we will have May 31, 2022 off. Therefore, we will be closed for the Memorial Day from Friday, May 27 through May 31st and will return to school on June 1, 2022.

**Out-of-Uniform Day**

Grade 4 is sponsoring the Out-of-Uniform Day for $1 donation for Autism Awareness tomorrow, Friday, April 29th. Please consider donating to this wonderful charity.

**Teacher Appreciation Week**

There will be some activity sheets coming home for your child/ren to complete and return to school for Teacher Appreciation. Please have you child/ren do their homeroom teacher and Aide (if there is an aide) along with the special teachers, Mrs. Babbles Art, Coach Frank Alesci Physical Ed, Colleen Rosenthal Technology.

**Reminder**

There will not be school on Tuesday, May 10. This is the scoring date for NYS Math Test for all teachers.

**Dates to Remember**

May 7, 2022 First Holy Communion

May 13, 2022 May Crowning Mass (instead of First Friday)

 Grade 2 students

May 18, 2022 Kindergarten Express – 2:30 – 3:30 pm

May 19, 2022 Kindergarten Express – 2:30 – 3:30 pm

May 20, 2022 Rosary Procession to the Grotto @ 1:00 pm

June 15, 2022 PreK moving up day @ 12:00 noon in the Church

June 16, 2022 Grade 6 Graduation in the Church @ 7:00 pm

 Reception to follow

June 17, 2022 Kindergarten moving up day @ 11:00 am in the Church

June 21, 2022 Half Day dismissal at 11:00 am

June 22, 2022 Half Day dismissal at 11:00 am – last day of school

June 24, 2022 Faculty meeting@ 9:00 am Mass, followed by meeting in the church hall and Farewell to our retirees.