

February 25, 2010

Dear Parents of Eighth Graders,

Although we are only in February, the time between now and the end of the year will fly by rapidly. So I thought I would give you a heads up about items that pertain specifically to our eighth graders.

**CLASS TRIP:** On Thursday and Friday, May 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, the eighth graders will embark on their traditional Eighth Grade Class Trip to the Twin Cities. We will spend two days in Minneapolis and St. Paul visiting numerous museums and tourist sights, giving the students a taste of Minnesota and an opportunity to build lasting memories. The trip will cost each student between \$200 and \$250. (A more exact figure will be decided upon as the time nears.) This will cover all costs for the trip: admissions, hotel, transportation, and food. Spending money is the responsibility of each student. The money and the permission slip will have to be turned in by May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The eighth graders have had the opportunity to earn money for the trip through summer work, the Fall Festival, Noah's Ark, and the Catholic Schools Week dance. In Lent, the students may work at Catholic Aid Fish Frys to earn money. A sign up sheet went home several weeks ago for this purpose. Students will receive an accounting of all that they have earned through school sponsored events in April.

**GRADUATION:** The Graduation Mass will be at 9:00 A.M. on Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. It will be followed by a brunch and program hosted by the seventh grade class. After the brunch (between 12:30 – 1:00), the graduates are dismissed.

**GRADUATION POWERPOINT:** One of the highlights of the Graduation Mass is the powerpoint presentation honoring the graduates. This presentation is put together by parents with help from students. I am looking for someone to volunteer (service hours) to undertake this project. Families should begin gathering pictures (three of the student alone; two with friends or family) to submit. Individual student pictures need to be turned in no later than May 1st. (Group pictures from the class trip and picnic may be submitted later.)

**GRADUATION ATTIRE:** Students are asked to dress up for their graduation. Gentlemen: shirt, tie, and dress pants. A suit coat is appropriate, but not necessary. Ladies: dress or skirt of appropriate finger-tip length, not too tight or too exposing. A light sweater, jacket, or covering is recommended for those outfits that are backless or have thin spaghetti straps. All outfits should be appropriate for church and ones that will get additional use. (Please refer to page 13 of the Family Handbook for specifics regarding the Dress Code, including hair color and styling.)

**GRADUATION BRUNCH:** The Parent Association will sponsor a brunch for the graduates and their guests. Each graduate will be allowed two complimentary guests. Additional guests will be charged \$5.00 each. A Reservation sheet will be sent home at a later date.

**GRADUATION PARTY:** Traditionally, parents of graduates have sponsored a party for the students following Mass and Brunch. The party is totally the responsibility of the parents.

Very truly,

Carol Rettinger  
Principal