



SALES TALK

FOR THE PARENTS OF SALESIANUM SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 22, 2014

A THOUGHT FROM ST. FRANCIS DE SALES

Know that the virtue of patience is what assures us the most perfection.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS – principal@salesianum.org

Dear Parents,

I hope you are enjoying your final official weekend of the summer! Right on cue, we are starting to experience cooler temperatures, a welcome relief to many of our teachers whose classrooms are in the warmer parts of the building. With the Freshman Welcome events this weekend, most of the “back to school” events are wrapped up, and I would like to thank our families for being so supportive of these many events with your presence and enthusiasm.

Recapping the Week:

- **Mass of the Holy Spirit last Thursday:** Bishop Francis Malooly of the Diocese of Wilmington visited Salesianum on Thursday for the Mass of the Holy Spirit, an annual September tradition. The bishop had the opportunity to visit a few classrooms as well. I also presented him with a Salesianum jacket - we want him flying our colors!
- **Salesianum Parents Association (SPA) Meeting last Thursday evening:** In addition to sign-up opportunities for SPA events and committees, I appreciated the opportunity to dialogue with parents. Our next “town hall” style meeting has been scheduled for November 6, and we will be creating a digital version of a “suggestion box” to generate questions and items for discussion in advance. This not only helps me to be prepared, but allows me to invite the staff or administrators most directly responsible for topics of interest. Stay tuned!
- **Library Update:** In the past few days, the library has been carpeted, had lighting fixtures installed, had the circulation desk put into place, and was being painted – the “finishing touches” that signal we are getting very close. Please make sure you walk down the main hallway and check it out the next time you are in the building! Just as the auditorium is a gathering space for the arts, and the gym a gathering space for athletics, the library is a gathering space for academic and intellectual life in the school, and really is beginning to look the part.

Reflection: The Holy Spirit

The Mass of the Holy Spirit celebrated this week is an expression of our unique Catholic, Salesian perspective. The belief that the Spirit is present within our community, and within each of us, is a defining element of our educational philosophy. We certainly speak of God in terms of an all-powerful, all-knowing Creator, and belief in the Holy Spirit balances this with reminders that God is at the same time intimately related to us, dwelling within us, and loving us so much that “every hair on our heads have been counted” (Luke 12:7). The word “spirit,” from the Latin word for “breath,” recalls the image from Genesis that we are given life by the very breath of God. This explains in part why we at Salesianum understand our work as a “ministry” as well as a job, and define our role as educators as a “vocation” as well as a career. We strive not only to be professionals, but to be instruments of God’s love, deepening knowledge and understanding within the minds and hearts of our students. Let’s continue to work together as parents and teachers with these transformative educational and spiritual goals in mind!

Sincerely,

Fr. Chris Beretta, OSFS

Principal

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Jude Szczerba, Dean of Academic Affairs – juszczer@salesianum.org

Men's Chorus at Salesianum

Mr. Loudon Men's Chorus class began on September 2. Students can still register for this popular 1-credit course that meets each Tuesday evening from 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Students who wish to add this class should email Mr. Szczerba at juszczer@salesianum.org. This course fulfills Salesianum's graduation requirement for fine arts elective.

Student Handbook: Salesian Standard and Academic Integrity Policies

Parents and students together should carefully review the academic policies addressed in our student handbook. These policies are created to encourage students to be organized and proactive in their studies. In addition, the Salesian Standard encourages students to participate fully in each part of the learning cycles designed by their teachers. Students most often violate these policies when they attempt to complete assignments for which they have not dedicated sufficient time; for example, students who do not complete a homework assignment at home may take a shortcut in school by using a classmate's work. Not only does this implicate another student in a violation of the Salesian Standard, but the student in question also wastes his own time by failing to engage in the mental processes needed to master the concepts and to meet the learning goals. In short, students who take shortcuts to complete work may benefit in the short term by gaining credits for completed work, but they risk poor performance on classroom assessments in the long term. Take some time to discuss the importance of fully engaging in the learning process and doing one's own work; make sure to address the practical learning implications, the life skills aspects, and the moral decision-making process at work.

STUDENT LIFE

Mr. Mike Gallagher, Dean of Student Life – mgallagh@salesianum.org

Baseline Concussion Testing

Football, soccer, and any new ice hockey players must complete the mandatory baseline concussion testing on either Saturday, September 27 or Saturday, October 18. Mr. Hart will be available in the Dining Center during lunch periods for students to schedule an appointment.

Freshman Communion Cookout

The Freshman Communion Cookout will be held on Saturday beginning with Mass in the Birkenheuer Gym at 5:00 PM followed by a cookout and tailgate prior to the varsity football game at Baynard Stadium. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Speers via email at bspeers@salesianum.org.

Senior Portrait Pictures and Retakes

Prestige Portraits will be on campus on Monday and Tuesday of this week for senior pictures and retakes. If you would like to have your son retake his picture please contact Prestige directly to register for a sitting.

Exchange Program

Families are needed to host exchange students from Saint Michel High School, an Oblate high school in Annecy, France. The students will be in Wilmington from October 15-30 and would attend classes at Salesianum during the day while taking planned excursions on the weekends. For information, please email Mrs. Vintigni at jvintigni@salesianum.org or Mrs. McLaughlin at lmclaugh@salesianum.org.

Donations for Veterans

Fromentin House is currently sponsoring a school-wide donation drive for veterans. Students are asked to bring in "home cleaning supplies" and/or "personal hygiene items." These items will be donated to homeless veterans who will soon be moving into their own residences. Your son can bring their donations to homeroom by September 30.

Summer Vacation Photos

Yearbook students are looking for photos of you from summer vacation for the upcoming edition of the Salesian Yearbook. Photos of students on vacation with family, at work, etc. Send photos to Mr. Jackman at djackman@salesianum.org by October 1.

Little Sisters of the Poor Spaghetti Dinner

The Little Sisters of the Poor will host their 32nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday, November 2 from noon until 5:00 PM. [Visit the Little Sisters of the Poor website for more information.](#)

GUIDANCE

Mr. Will Yarnell, Director of Guidance – w yarnell@salesianum.org

College Visits

The following colleges will have representatives on campus the week of September 22: University of Connecticut, Saint Joseph's University, Boston College, University of Pennsylvania, Northwestern, and many more. Visit the [student announcement page](#) for a full listing. Seniors must register to attend college visits using their Naviance accounts. Juniors interested in attending a college visit must register by stopping in the Guidance Office. Juniors are permitted to attend on a space available basis with a restriction on the number of college rep visits that they can attend.

Freshman Parent Guidance Workshop

The Guidance Department will host an important Freshman Parent Workshop on Tuesday, September 23 at 7:00 PM in the Theater. Please mark your calendars and plan on attending.

PSAT Course

Kaplan Test Prep is providing free cram sessions for the PSAT. Students who attend will learn their 10 Top Score-Raising Strategies and review tips for time management during the test. For complete dates and times and to register, go to www.kaptest.com/psatcram.

PARENTS ASSOCIATION

Mrs. Lee Anne Cassidy, SPA President – salespa@salesianum.org

Parents Association Volunteers

Parents interested in volunteering with the Parents Association are asked to take a moment to fill out the volunteer form available online - <http://tinyurl.com/qx4jgbu>. This is an excellent way to get to know other parents and fully enjoy our community as your son experiences Salesianum. Please direct any questions to Mr. Jackman at djackman@salesianum.org or Mr. Gallagher at mgallagh@salesianum.org.

Moms in Prayer

Salesianum moms are invited to join other Sallies' moms who meet once a week for one hour as part of a group called *Moms in Prayer International*. The group gathers to pray for our sons, for other family members, for school staff and events and other concerns. The group meets at Salesianum every Friday morning from 9:30 to 10:30 AM in the Chapel. The first meeting will be October 3, 2014. If you have questions or would like more information, please contact Nita Mattiola at (610) 399-9107 or jmattiola5@comcast.net.

FROM THE NURSE

Mrs. Suzanne Mansi, RN – smansi@salesianum.org (302)356-2637

Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

The non-medical use of prescription drugs ranks second only to marijuana as the most common form of drug abuse in America with prescription narcotic dependency is often a gateway to Heroin use. The majority of teenagers abusing prescription drugs get them from family and friends – and the home medicine cabinet. To protect our students, Salesianum is asking our families to please rid your medicine cabinet of unused narcotics, anti-anxiety and ADHD medications.

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) is spearheading a nationwide Drug Take-Back event on September 27, 2014 providing an opportunity for the public to surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications to law enforcement officers for destruction. There will be several collection sites throughout the State of Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland on the day of this event. [Locations and additional information](#).

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Fr. Mike Vogt, OSFS, Pastoral Care Coordinator – mvogt@salesianum.org

We keep in prayer this week all members of our extended School Community:

For health, healing, and well-being:

- Colleen Sincavage
- Tammy Straydter
- Diane and Bill Jackson
- Brian Walker, father of Junior Griffin Walker and Dylan Walker '12
- Megan Kilburn, cousin of Senior Kevin Williams
- Dr. Julianne Lin, Mother of freshman Austin Lin
- Lucille Miller, friend of Mrs. West, our Librarian

For all the faithful departed:

- Phillip Bishop, '04, who was killed in a bicycle accident last week
- Anthony DiSimplico, grandfather of freshman Nikko DiSimplico
- Ronald Auzalone, grandfather of sophomore Brett Pryor
- Deacon David Fosbenner, uncle of senior Jack Coleman
- Virginia Schanche, mother of Mrs. Susan Heiss who is the athletic director at Ursuline Academy; mother-in-law of Mr. Ralph Heiss from our Guidance Office; and grandmother of Shawn, Ryan, Tyler, and Kyle Heiss.

For all the names listed in our Salesianum Book of Remembrance kept in the school chapel.

ALL LOVE, NO FEAR

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of September 22 - 28

Monday September 22	<u>E-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Senior Portrait Retakes, Centenary Hall
Tuesday September 23	<u>F-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Freshman Parent Guidance Meeting 7:00 PM, Auditorium• Senior Portrait Retakes, Centenary Hall
Wednesday September 24	<u>G-DAY: WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• G6 Activity Period• Faculty Professional/Department Planning Time, 2:00 PM
Thursday September 25	<u>A-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soccer vs. St. Elizabeth HS, 4:00 PM, Alumni Field
Friday September 26	<u>B-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Varsity Football at Glen Mills, 7:00 PM
Saturday September 27	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cross Country Maymont Festival
Sunday September 28	

SALESIANUM SCHOOL WEEKLY CALENDAR

Week of September 29 – October 5

<p>Monday September 29</p>	<p><u>C-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p>	
<p>Tuesday September 30</p>	<p><u>D-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p>	
<p>Wednesday October 1</p>	<p><u>E-DAY: WEDNESDAY SCHEDULE</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Faculty Meeting, 2:00 PM 	
<p>Thursday October 2</p>	<p><u>F-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p>	
<p>Friday October 3</p>	<p><u>G-DAY: REGULAR SCHEDULE</u></p>	
<p>Saturday October 4</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salesianum Invitational, Brandywine Creek State Park • Soccer at Kingsway High, 3:30 PM • Varsity Football vs. Glen Mills, 7:00 PM, Baynard Stadium 	
<p>Sunday October 5</p>		
<p>Looking Ahead...</p>	<p>Wed, Oct 8 Fri, Oct 10 Mon, Oct 13 Tue, Oct 14 Wed, Oct 15 Saturday, Oct 18</p>	<p>Freshman Parent-Teacher Conference, 6:30 – 8:30 PM School Mass, 9:00 AM, <i>Birkenheuer Gym</i> Columbus Day, School Closed Professional Development, No Classes PSAT Testing (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors) No Classes for Seniors Homecoming Dance</p>