

# Blessed Sacrament School Family Guild

September 2023



## ***A Letter from the President:***

Welcome to the 2023-2024 school year! I hope you all enjoyed a fun-filled yet restful few months. One thing we can all agree on, as we gather again for the start of the school year, is just how quickly summer flies by as September finds us stepping back into the routines and responsibilities that fall brings. First and foremost, we all share in the responsibilities to our children as we support them as they return back to the classroom. We also share in our support of our teachers, staff and administrators as they embark on another school year of teaching our students in every way students can be taught.

The Board and I promise you all our dedication to the positions we hold and our commitment to serving the community with respect and understanding. We respectfully ask for your support and understanding as we work to build a great school year for our entire community. We thank you deeply for your support and encouragement as we head into a new year! We strongly and sincerely encourage your feedback on anything that comes up; we cannot grow and evolve to meet the needs of the community without knowing what is working well and what needs adaptation.

Wishing all of our students, faculty, staff, administration and families a fun, healthy, prosperous school year!

With gratitude,  
Erica Salzillo

## ***A Letter from our Principal:***

As we begin a new school year, we ask the Blessed Mother to guide our students, and give them strength and courage, allowing them to persevere when challenges arise. While we hold our students to high standards in regard to academics, I personally feel that academics are secondary to ensuring that our students are kind and caring to all. It is my goal that we share a wonderful experience together this year and that students and staff alike, walk in the footsteps of Christ.

Thank you for trusting your children to us. I look forward to a wonderful school year!

-Mr. Joseph Cocozello

## ***What We Do:***

The Blessed Sacrament Family Guild is a fundraising organization that contributes heavily to Blessed Sacrament School meeting our yearly fundraising goals outlined by the Archdiocese of New York. More importantly, we work to plan, organize and execute activities for both the school and parish communities. Not all of our events are fundraisers; many focus on bringing fun activities to our students both during their school day and after school hours. We work closely with our teachers and administration to facilitate what goes on beyond the curriculum - that which builds the community and family that makes Blessed Sacrament what it is!

## ***Blessed Sacrament Family Guild Mission***

Blessed Sacrament Parish/Regional School Family Guild is dedicated to providing an atmosphere of witness to the Gospel Message. We seek to build community life in the Church and Parish/Regional School by enhancing an environment of love, trust and care among students and staff. In cooperation with Blessed Sacrament Parish/Regional School faculty and staff, we shall work together to provide students with a Christian Foundation to develop spiritually, intellectually, emotionally, physically and socially. We are a family and believe that the family that prays together stays together.

## ***Blessed Sacrament Family Guild Purpose***

- To cooperate with the Principal and the faculty of Blessed Sacrament School for the material and spiritual welfare of the children.
- To fulfill the primary purpose of the FAMILY GUILD, the membership must strive for personal spiritual growth.
- To promote sociability, helpfulness and loyalty among members in all things concerning our church and school.



## THANK YOU!

As our Family Guild Board enters the second year of our term, we are incredibly grateful for all of the support and encouragement we received last year. Your generosity in fundraising, but more importantly, in time and effort put towards our students and families made last year an incredible success.

We'd also like to thank our faculty, staff, administration and parish for their continued dedication to our students and their support in our efforts to bring back many much loved activities and traditions last year. We cannot do any of what we do without all parts of the Blessed Sacrament community coming together.

Thank you all so much and we look forward to another great year!

### ***We are going paperless!***

The Family Guild will be utilizing GroupMe for all of our future communications.

The URL to sign up for our GroupMe group is:  
[https://groupme.com/join\\_group/95542104/2Auzc04h](https://groupme.com/join_group/95542104/2Auzc04h)



You can also find information on joining GroupMe on the Family Guild page of the Blessed Sacrament website.

### **Family Guild Dues:**

Dues for the 2023-2024 school year are being collected on a continuous basis.

We ask for \$25 for an individual membership and \$35 for household membership.

We cannot host events and experiences for our community without your support, both spiritually and financially.

Please return your cash or check payment along with a submission slip that includes your name, child(ren)'s name(s) and class(es), phone number, email address, type of membership, method of payment and amount in an envelope marked "ATTN: FAMILY GUILD - DUES".  
 (\*Checks may take up to 4 weeks to deposit.)

As always, THANK YOU for your continued SUPPORT!

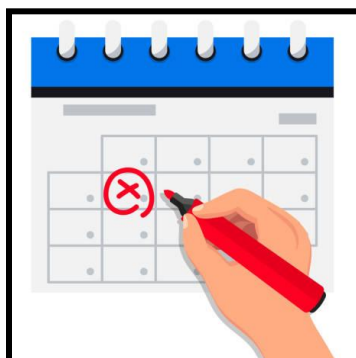


Our first monthly Family Guild meeting will be held on **Wednesday, September 27** at 6:30pm in the PCMR.

We will also hold a recap meeting on **Thursday, September 28** at 8:00am in the cafeteria for anyone who cannot attend the previous evening's meeting.

Please come join us to stay informed, join the conversation, ask your questions, meet new families and show your support of Blessed Sacrament School!

*We look forward to seeing you there!*



## Blessed Sacrament Family Guild 2023-2024

### Upcoming Meeting Schedule

Wednesday, September 27 – 6:30pm\*  
Monday, October 16 – 7:30pm  
Monday, November 20 – 7:30pm  
Monday, January 22 – 7:30pm  
Monday, February 12 – 7:30pm  
Monday, March 18 – 7:30pm  
Monday, April 15 – 6:30pm\*\*  
Monday, May 20 – 7:30pm

A recap meeting will be held the following morning of each meeting at 8:00am in the cafeteria.

\*Time is changed to accommodate the New Family Welcome Mixer immediately following our general meeting.

\*\*Time is changed to accommodate the Thank You Dinner immediately following our general meeting.



### **New Family Mixer**

We welcome all of our new families to our Blessed Sacrament School community to a mixer event immediately following our first Family Guild meeting on Wednesday, September 27 at 6:30pm in the PCMR.

*Please join us to meet some other new families, ask questions of some veteran families and let us get to know you!*

We ask that you please RSVP via Google Forms using this URL to confirm your attendance so we can gather an estimate of attendance: <https://forms.gle/DDA4BiSGuFh2vvr69> (link also available on the Family Guild page of the school website). All are welcome and encouraged to attend! We hope to see many of you there!

## **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Let's work together to give our school community a wonderful, unforgettable school year!

We welcome **ALL** volunteers to participate! Please let us know if you are interested!

There are many ways to be involved - not just during the school day.

- Have an idea for a new event or fundraiser?
- Want to chair an event?
- Want to volunteer for an event or committee?
- Have a suggestion?
- Know of or own a business that would be a great partner with our school?

Let us know! Tell us your ideas!

New to our school? Reach out to any of the Family Guild Board Members or your class parents to find out about all of the opportunities to get involved!

We **NEED** your feedback in order to keep growing and serving our school community!

Send us an email with any ideas for events, strategies and feedback. We know we have many talented, creative and dedicated families - let's work together to make it the best year yet!



## **Some Notes from Our Treasurers:**

- Please complete a collection slip with any monetary submissions for our records; flyers can be found on the Family Guild webpage and will be sent via GroupMe.

-*Can't print the flyer?* Just use one of the blank collection slips provided at the start of the year.

-*Don't have any collection slips?* Download and print from the Family Guild website, email the Board requesting some be sent home with your child via backpack or pick some up at a meeting.

-*Stuck in a pinch?* You can also simply include any piece of paper complete with all necessary information as copied from the collection slip.

**-BE SURE to include your name, child(ren)'s name(s) and class(es) on ALL checks AND/OR collection slips submitted.**

-Checks may take up to four weeks to deposit once submitted.

-Working on an event or fundraiser? All reimbursement forms are available on the Family Guild webpage as fillable PDF documents. Just type in your information, print, and submit! Please note that reimbursements may take up to six weeks to receive due to the updated Archdiocesan guidelines for submission.



## High School Alumni Volunteer Program

We are proud to continue the Family Guild's High School Alumni Volunteer Program!



Know of any former Blessed Sacrament School students looking to give back to our school? In need of service hours? Ask them to sign up! We will add them to our mailing list and reach out next time Blessed Sacrament is in need of volunteers.

The link to the GoogleForm can also be found on the Family Guild page of the Blessed Sacrament website.

<https://forms.gle/rvkDRnX757YxGFdA6>

### Upcoming Events:



- Monday - Sept 18: Back to School Night
- Friday - Sept 22: Lifetouch Class Pictures
- Monday - Sept 25: School Closed - Conference Day
- Tuesday - Sept 26: Lifetouch Individual Pictures
- Wednesday - Sept 27: Family Guild Evening Meeting and New Family Mixer 6:30pm in PCMR
- Thursday - Sept 28: Family Guild Morning Meeting 8:00am in cafeteria
- Thursday - Sept 28: Bake Sale
- Friday - Sept 29: Kickoff Dance (6th, 7th and 8th Graders) 7:00pm
- Monday - Oct 9: School Closed - Columbus Day
- Friday - Oct 13: Fall Dress Down
- Monday - Oct 16: Bake Sale
- Monday - Oct 16: Family Guild Evening Meeting 7:30pm in PCMR
- Tuesday - Oct 17: Family Guild Morning Meeting 8:00am in cafeteria
- Friday - Oct 20: Radio Bingo 7:00pm in PCMR
- Friday - Oct 27: Halloween Trunk-or-Treat and Dress Down (*postponement date Monday Oct 30*)
- Monday - Nov 6: Lifetouch Fall Retakes
- Monday - Nov 13: Flannel Dress Down
- Friday - Nov 17: Christmas Fair
- Sunday - Nov 19: Christmas Fair
- Monday - Nov 20: Family Guild Evening Meeting 7:30pm in PCMR
- Monday - Nov 20: Bake Sale
- Tuesday - Nov 21: Family Guild Morning Meeting 8:00am in cafeteria
- Thursday - Nov 23 and Friday Nov - 24: School Closed - Thanksgiving



**Support both the Knights of Columbus - Assumption-Msgr. James J. Dorney Council #1694 and Blessed Sacrament School by purchasing a chance book!**

Each \$12 book contains 4 chances. Of the cost, \$5 goes back to Blessed Sacrament, \$1 goes to the Local Council and \$6 goes to the NY State Council.

**The Grand Prize is \$25,000! Second Prize is \$10,000 and Third Prize is \$5,000. In addition to the top 3 prizes, there are 10 additional prizes of \$1,000.**

The Knights of Columbus Assumption-Msgr. Dorney Council supports Blessed Sacrament in donating the dunk tank to the end of year Block Party, providing a \$500 grant given to an eighth grader going to a Catholic High School and providing a partial four year scholarship to an eighth grader going to a Catholic High School.

Printable order forms are available on the Family Guild page of the school website. Please return all order requests with payment as soon as possible. ***In order to enter, you must send back the completed stubs with all entry information no later than Thursday, November 9.***



Please reach out to Erica Salzillo at [ericasalzillo@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:ericasalzillo@blessedsacramentsi.com) or Bill Venturini at [billventurini1@gmail.com](mailto:billventurini1@gmail.com) with any questions.

*Good luck to all those who enter!*



**The Guild's Great Gift Card Giveaway is back!**

For \$10 per entry you can enter our monthly raffle for a **\$100 Amazon.com gift card!** Winners will be selected on the first Wednesday of each month beginning in November and announced via GroupMe - so be sure to sign up!

**Our pre-sale package is now available through Friday, October 13!** For \$80 now, you will get **DOUBLE ENTRIES** in **EACH** of the monthly drawings. *That's 16 entries for the price of 8!*

You can also enter on a month-by-month basis as many times as you'd like!

If you'd like to take part in our pre-sale package, please fill out a collection slip and include it with payment (**\*checks may take up to 4 weeks to deposit**) in an envelope marked with your family name, child(ren)'s class(es), and "Attn: Family Guild Giveaway Presale" no later than **Wednesday, October 18.**

*Good luck to all those who enter!*



Please join us in supporting  
a local business as they  
support our school.

This month we are  
teaming up with  
**Duffy's**  
**650 Forest Avenue,**  
**10310**  
**on Wednesday**  
**September 20.**



Be sure to tell them that you are  
participating with Blessed Sacrament and  
20% of your bill will be donated back to us!

Take-out until 5pm and ***dine-in all day!***

*Can't wait to see you there!*



**Our monthly bake sales are here!**

Please help support our first bake sale of the  
year on **Thursday, September 28.**

All items will be \$1.00 and will be sold in the  
cafeteria during lunch.

If you would like to donate any homemade  
or store-bought treats,  
please contact Kim Burbano at  
[kimburbano@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:kimburbano@blessedsacramentsi.com) or  
(917) 282-2984.

Allergy-friendly options will be included so all  
can participate!

## Mark your calendars for Radio Bingo!

**Friday, October 20**  
**at 7:00pm**  
**in the PCMR**  
***benefitting the Christmas Fair***

\$50 per person - includes 6 genres of music,  
18 bingo games, water, coffee and dessert!  
Feel free to bring your own food, snacks and  
drinks!

Tickets will be sold through Wednesday,  
October 4. Tickets **MUST** be purchased in  
advance - order forms to be sent out via  
GroupMe and posted on the Family Guild  
page of the school website soon!







## **TRUNK-OR-TREAT**

**Friday October 27 (postponement date  
Monday October 30)**

Let's kick off the Halloween weekend with a trunk-or-treat celebration and Halloween dress down!

*We can't do it without your help!*

We are calling for volunteers to decorate cars for our event. If you are interested in participating, please contact Rhonda Nigido at [rhondanigido@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:rhondanigido@blessedsacramentsi.com) or (917) 754-1208 no later than September 29.

Be creative - and competitive! Prizes will be awarded for the top 3 favorite cars as voted on by the students and staff!

We will also ask for each student to contribute \$5 or donate a bag of candy for the event. More details on this collection are coming soon!





## ***Show your school spirit!***



We are proud to announce that we will once again be partnering with local business **Wicked Stitches** on Castleton Avenue to present our online school spirit store

-  
*including early ordering for  
our annual Christmas Fair*



*t-shirt! Details coming soon!*

ATTENTION ALL 6TH, 7TH  
AND 8TH GRADERS!

# KICKOFF DANCE

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29  
7:00PM-9:00PM  
BLESSED SACRAMENT  
SCHOOL GYM**

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SUPPORT YOUR FAVORITE TEAM IN TEAM GEAR OR TEAM COLORS!  
DON'T HAVE A FAVORITE TEAM?  
COME IN YOUR FAVORITE CASUAL FALL OUTFIT!

**\$15 PER CHILD -  
INCLUDES SNACKS, WATER AND DANCING!**

**ALL ADMISSIONS MUST BE PAID WITH A  
COMPLETED PERMISSION SLIP  
BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22  
NO ADMISSIONS ALLOWED AT THE DOOR**

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PERMISSION SLIPS AVAILABLE ON THE  
FAMILY GUILD PAGE OF THE SCHOOL  
WEBSITE

***VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR SET UP AND CLEAN UP, AS WELL AS CHAPERONES.  
WITHOUT ENOUGH CHAPERONES, THE DANCE CANNOT HAPPEN!  
PLEASE REACH OUT TO THE FAMILY GUILD BOARD IF YOU ARE AVAILABLE TO HELP.  
THANK YOU!***



This year, in response to feedback from our families, we are offering the opportunity to contribute for all nine dress downs at the start of the school year.

Each dress down goes directly to funding our major activities and events for our students and families.

We kindly ask for \$45 per student or \$90 per family. Families may also choose to contribute to each dress down individually with the same request of \$5 per student or \$10 per family.

If you choose to contribute for all dress downs at this time, please fill out the collection slip below and include your cash or check for the appropriate amount no later than Friday, September 29. Participating families will receive a sheet with nine tear-offs to send in for each dress down during the week the collection is held.

If you choose not to contribute to all collections at this time, families can send in their individual contributions at the time of each dress down, following the previous process using a collection slip with your cash or check.

Please note that all contributions are final and, if you choose to contribute to all collections at this time, there are no refunds in the event of absence of your student on a dress down day.

Feel free to reach out to the Family Guild Board with any questions! Thank you, as always, for your support! We can't do any of what we do without you!

**Dress Downs 2023-2024:**

*(all dates are subject to change)*

- *Fri, Oct 13 - Sweater Weather  
(to benefit the Christmas Fair)*
- *Fri, Oct 27 (or Mon, Oct 30) - Halloween  
(to benefit the Trunk or Treat)*
- *Mon, Nov 13 - Fall Flannel  
(to benefit the Christmas Fair)*
- *Mon, Dec 11 - Christmas  
(to benefit the One Event)*
- *Fri Jan 12 - School Spirit  
(to benefit Literacy Day)*
- *Wed, Feb 14 - Valentines Day  
(to benefit the Basket Auction)*
- *Fri, March 15 - St. Patrick's Day  
(to benefit the Basket Auction)*
- *Fri, April 19 - Spring Best  
(to benefit the Block Party)*
- *Mon, May 20 - Red, White and Blue  
(to benefit the Block Party)*

Blessed Sacrament Family Guild - 2023-2024 - Dress Down Yearly Contributions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Child/ren's Name(s) and Class(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Circle One: CASH or CHECK

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_

☐

By checking this box, I acknowledge that no refunds will be given in the event of absence on dress down days.



**THE CHRISTMAS FAIR COMMITTEE  
PROUDLY PRESENTS  
CHRISTMAS IN NEW YORK CITY  
NOVEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> & 19<sup>TH</sup>**

**Volunteers Needed!!!! NEW Parents WELCOMED!**

If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up at the first Family Guild Meeting or email the committee ([bsschristmasfaircommitte@gmail.com](mailto:bsschristmasfaircommitte@gmail.com))

Christmas Fair shirts will be sold through Wicked Stitches on the school spirit website. The cost will be \$15.00 per shirt. (short sleeve only, more information to follow)

Santa hats and game cards will be available for pre-sale, more information to follow.

Pizza will be available to preorder for Friday November 17<sup>th</sup> as the lunchroom will be closed for the games. We will send an order form closer to the event.

If you have any questions please feel free to reach out!!

**Christmas Fair Committee**

**Anne Marie Melgar, Tracy Tursi & Josephine Tursi**



## **Blessed Sacrament Parish Council**

The Blessed Sacrament Family Guild is proud to work closely with the Blessed Sacrament Parish Council to help bring our school and Church communities together.

Please check back for announcements and information from the Parish Council.

You can always check the Parish Council tab of the Family Guild page of the school website.

You can reach out to Thad McTigue at [simctigue@aol.com](mailto:simctigue@aol.com) or Colleen Siuzdak-Velluzzi at [colleenvelluzzi@gmail.com](mailto:colleenvelluzzi@gmail.com) with any questions or feedback!



We wish all of our Titans a fun and successful year as we kick off the 2023-2024 year with our fall sports.

For information on the Titan League, you can visit their website at <http://www.titanleague.com> or email the Board, led by President Billy Althoff, at [board@titanleague.com](mailto:board@titanleague.com). Go Titans!



## Contact Us

Visit our Family Guild page for forms, information on our standing committees, fundraising events and future monthly newsletters online at [www.blessedsacramentsi.com](http://www.blessedsacramentsi.com) or email us at [theguild@blessedsacrament.com](mailto:theguild@blessedsacrament.com)

### President

Erica Salzillo  
[ericasalzillo@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:ericasalzillo@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Vice President

Kim Burbano  
[kimburbano@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:kimburbano@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Recording Secretary

Allison Boylan  
[allisonboylan@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:allisonboylan@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Corresponding Secretary

Rhonda Nigido  
[rhondanigido@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:rhondanigido@blessedsacramentsi.com)

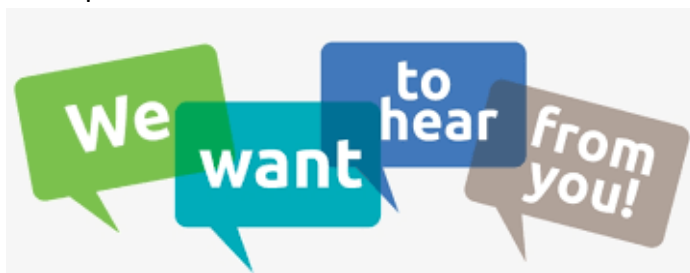
### Co-Treasurer

Jennifer Calvo  
[jennifercalvo@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:jennifercalvo@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Co-Treasurer

Rosalinda Cinquemani  
[rosalindacinquemani@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:rosalindacinquemani@blessedsacramentsi.com)

Feel free to contact us with any questions or suggestions regarding Guild functions. We are always open to ideas that will enhance our efforts.



## Blessed Sacrament School Leadership and Staff



830 Delafield Avenue  
Staten Island, New York 10310  
(718) 442-3090

### Principal

Mr. Joseph Cocozello  
[si301@adnyeducation.org](mailto:si301@adnyeducation.org)

### Assistant Principal/UPK Director

Mrs. Rosaria Mincher  
[rmincher@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:rmincher@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Administrative Assistant

Ms. Collette Woods  
[cwoods@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:cwoods@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### UPK Administrator

Mrs. Kelly Lopez  
[klopez@blessedsacramentsi.com](mailto:klopez@blessedsacramentsi.com)

### Faith Formation

Sister Anne Dolores Van Wagenen  
(718) 448-0378  
[srannevanwagenen@gmail.com](mailto:srannevanwagenen@gmail.com)

## Blessed Sacrament R.C. Church

30 Manor Road  
Staten Island, NY 10310

(718) 442-1581  
[bldscrt@aol.com](mailto:bldscrt@aol.com)

### Pastor

Bishop Peter Byrne