Blessed Sacrament School Family Guild

February 2024



A Letter from the President:

I cannot express how overwhelming it is to see the generosity of our Blessed Sacrament community in full force. Our recent collection for the DeCristoforo family was a huge outpouring of support and prayers for our extended community members as they face an unimaginable tragedy. Please continue to keep their entire family in your prayers.

Another overwhelming display of generosity was shown in our recent Literacy Day event. We asked for each student to bring in some books to share as part of our book swap. I never imagined receiving the total number of books that we had to offer on that day. Each student was able to take home multiple books - with plenty left over for more to be shared at our recent One Event. The excitement of students being able to share the joy of reading with one another was truly heartwarming. I hope students will continue to share a love of reading by taking part in our "Little Free Library" to be placed inside our school outside of the main office in the coming weeks!

Thank you all, as always, for your continued generosity throughout our school community!

With gratitude, Erica Salzillo

A Letter from our Pastor:

Athletes who prepare for vigorous sports like football and basketball need to train on three basic levels: they must strive to improve their conditioning, their agility and their strength. In a similar way, Lent involves three spiritual exercises: prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These three practices are connected - a greater commitment to prayer is meant to lead us to a renewed spirit of self-sacrifice, and when we deny ourselves of indulgences, we free up our capacity to be generous to the poor.

By a quirk of the calendar, Ash Wednesday this year falls on St. Valentine's Day. I suppose a link can be made because Lenten practices are not meant to be carried out simply as a duty, but out of love - a desire to grow in our love of God and neighbor. May everyone experience a fruitful Lenten season!

Bishop Peter Byrne





THANK YOU!

Thanks to all who donated the MANY books we were able to share, to Aly from the New York Public Library and to our volunteers for Literacy Day. Thanks to our teachers and administration for helping to coordinate and for supporting our event - but the biggest thank you goes to the students for their participation and enthusiasm!

Happy reading, everyone!

Thanks to Jill Kissel, Rhonda Nigido and the entire One Event committee for their time and efforts in coordinating another hugely successful event! Thanks to all of those who donated prizes and to all of the families and students for their participation!

Thanks to all who donated to our bake sale and all who participated in our last dine out. We are grateful to Kettle Black for their continuing partnership!

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



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 next monthly Family Guild meeting will be held on **Monday, February 12** at 7:30pm in the PCMR.

We will also hold a recap meeting on **Tuesday**, **February 13** 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.

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

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.



Upcoming Events:

- Monday Feb 12: Bake Sale
- Monday Feb 12: Family Guild Meeting 7:30pm
- Tuesday Feb 13: Family Guild Recap Meeting 8:00am
- Wednesday Feb 14: Ash Wednesday
- Friday Feb 16: Valentine's Day Dress Down
- Monday Feb 19: School Closed
- Friday Feb 23: School Closed
- Wednesday Feb 28: Dine-Out at The Manor
- Saturday March 2: Mother-Daughter Brunch
- Friday March 15: St. Patrick's Day Dress Down
- Saturday March 16: Mother-Son Brunch
- Monday March 18: Bake Sale
- Monday March 18: Family Guild Meeting 7:30pm
- Tuesday March 19: Family Guild Recap Meeting 8:00am
- Friday March 22: 6th, 7th, 8th Grade Dance
- Thursday March 28 through Sunday April 7: School Closed (Easter Break)
- Thursday April 4: Father-Daughter Dance
- Friday April 12 through Sunday April 14 Parish Players Production of "Oliver"
- Monday April 15: Bake Sale
- Monday April 15: Family Guild Meeting 7:30pm
- Tuesday April 16: Family Guild Recap Meeting 8:00am
- Friday April 19: 8th Grade Trip
- Friday April 26: Spring Dress Down
- Friday April 26: Basket Auction
- Monday April 29: LifeTouch Spring Pictures
- Thursday May 2: Girl Scout Plant Sale
- Saturday May 11: First Holy Communion for Grade 2
- Monday May 13: School Closed (Conference Day)
- Wednesday May 15: Grandparents' Day
- Monday May 20: Bake Sale
- Monday May 20: Spring Dress Down
- Monday May 20: Family Guild Meeting 7:30pm
- Tuesday May 21: Family Guild Recap Meeting 8:00am
- Thursday May 23: Installation/End of Year Celebration
- Monday May 27: School Closed (Memorial Day)
- Friday May 31 through Sunday June 2: After School Drama Production of "The Secret Garden"
- Monday June 3: Block Party
- Tuesday June 4: Block Party Rain Date
- Tuesday June 4: 8th Grade Prom
- Thursday June 6: 8th Grade Graduation Breakfast
- Friday June 7: 8th Grade Graduation
- Thursday June 13: Talent Show





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!

You can enter on a month-by-month basis as many times as you'd like! If you'd like to enter the monthly drawing for the cost of \$10 each entry for the month of March, please fill out a collection slip and include it with payment (cash preferred – must be exact; *checks may take up to 4 weeks to deposit) in an envelope marked with your family name, child's class, and "ATTN: FAMILY GUILD GIVEAWAY - MARCH" no later than *February 28*. The December drawing will be held on Wednesday, March 6.

Good luck to all those who enter!



JOIN US AT OUR NEXT DINE

THE MANOR RESTAURANT

917 MANOR RD STATEN ISLAND NY, 10314

ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28
DETAILS COMING SOON!

+ LITERACY + DAY

STORY STARTEER

HERE'S WHERE TO BEGIN:

"It all started when Zoey took home the wrong backpack."

NOW LET'S SEE WHERE EACH CLASS TAKES THIS STORY!

PLEASE CHECK OUT THE LINK ON THE LITERACY DAY TAB OF THE FAMILY GUILD PAGE OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE READ ALL OF OUR CLASS SUBMISSIONS!





*PRINTABLE PDF OF THIS FORM IS AVAILABLE ON THE "MOMMY'S LUCKY CHARM" TAB OF THE FAMILY GUILD PAGE OF THE SCHOOL WEBSITE.

thank you thank you thank you

to the One Event Committee, our volunteers and all who participated in helping to make this event a great success!

Congrats!

Any family who won a prize can see a One Event committee member at drop off, pick up or at the February Family Guild meeting to receive their prize!

As the 2023-2024 school year is nearing its close, it is time to elect a new Family Guild Board.

The next Family Guild Board will serve for two school years. There are six positions that will be filled - President, Vice President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, and two Co-Treasurers.

We are also forming the Nominating Committee that will select the new Family Guild Board. The Nominating Committee initially consists of a ballot of 20 (one volunteer from each class), who will then be voted on at the February meeting to form the 10 person committee.

Please note, as expressed in the Family Guild Bylaws, anyone who has previously served on the Nominating Committee in the past four years, is not eligible to serve again. Additionally, if you are interested in becoming a Family Guild Board member, you cannot serve on the Nominating Committee in the year you wish to be elected.

If you are interested in being considered for the Nominating Committee or for the Family Guild Board, please print the form available on the Family Guild page of the school website and return it no later than Friday, February 9, 2024.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Please reach out to any Board member with any questions

Valentine's Bake Sale

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

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

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

Valentine's Day Dress Down

BENEFITTING THE BASKET AUCTION
WEAR YOUR FAVORITE VALENTINE'S DAY
OUTFIT OR RED, PINK OR PURPLE FOR THIS
FULL DRESS DOWN ON
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16.

WE KINDLY ASK FOR A CONTRIBUTION OF \$5 PER CHILD OR \$10 PER FAMILY TO BE SENT IN WITH A COLLECTION SLIP IN AN ENVELOPE MARKED

"FAMILY GUILD VALENTINES DRESS DOWN" IF YOU HAVE ALREADY PRE-CONTRIBUTED FOR THE YEAR, YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!

WILL HAVE IT NOTED ON THE LIST.

**Please note the change in date from the originally scheduled dates due to the 100th Day of School and Ash Wednesday.





Calling 6th, 7th and 8th graders!



Come join us!

Reach out to the Parish Council for more information!



LOVE TO SING?

THEN JOIN THE

Blessed Sacrament Youth Choir!

We sing at 9:30 a.m. Mass almost every week and meet 20 minutes before Mass to practice. No singing experience required!

THE SEASON HAS ALREADY BEGUN SO PLEASE JOIN US!

For more information or to sign up, email

Colleen Siuzdak-Velluzzi at colleenvelluzzi@gmail.com







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 or Colleen
Siuzdak-Velluzzi at colleenvelluzzi@gmail.com with any questions or feedback!





Best of luck to all of our Titan League teams competing this season.

Play strong! Go Titans!

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. Go Titans!











Pizza Fridays are organized by the school. Any questions or concerns should be directed to the Main Office.

The Family Guild has been asked to pass along some reminders on their behalf:

- -Orders must be submitted **NO LATER** than Tuesday. This ensures there is enough time for the order to be prepped.
- -The cost is \$2.00 per slice (cash only; no coins please!).
- -Please send in your payment in an envelope CLEARLY marked with your child's name, grade and number of slices.
- -Upcoming Pizza Fridays are listed on the hot lunch schedule on mymealorder.com

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 or email us at theguild@blessedsacrament.com

President

Erica Salzillo ericasalzillo@blessedsacramentsi.com

<u>Vice President</u> Kim Burbano kimburbano@blessedsacramentsi.com

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Co-Treasurer

Jennifer Calvo jennifercalvo@blessedsacramentsi.com

Co-Treasurer

Rosalinda Cinquemani 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



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Principal

Mr. Joseph Cocozello si301@adnyeducation.org

Assistant Principal/UPK Director

Mrs. Rosaria Mincher rmincher@blessedsacramentsi.com

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Ms. Collette Woods cwoods@blessedsacramentsi.com

UPK Administrator

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Faith Formation

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

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<u>Pastor</u> Bishop Peter Byrne