

# THE AUGUSTINE ARROW NEWSLETTER

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## UPCOMING EVENTS:

- ✳️ **HOME B-Ball Game**  
February 3 @ 5:30 pm CT  
If you are able, we would love for you to join us for our school wide mass. If you are/were Catholic, Christian, or not sure what to classify yourself as, we want to encourage you to participate in the mass. Seeing and hearing the students in church is truly one of the best parts of the week!
- ✳️ **PFA Meeting**  
February 3 @ 6:15 pm CT  
After the boys basketball game, please join us at Maria's for our monthly PFA meeting. ALL parents/ guardians are encouraged to attend. During these meetings we work collaboratively to try and help provide our students with as many positive experiences as possible.
- ✳️ **Grades 3-5 Mass**  
February 4 @ 12 pm CT  
If you are able, I want to encourage you to come celebrate the sacrifice of the mass with us!
- ✳️ **ALL School Mass (PK-5<sup>th</sup>)**  
February 6 @ 8:15 am CT  
All our students will be attending mass this Friday! If you are able, please come and attend with us.
- ✳️ **Eucharistic Adoration**  
February 6 from 9 am - 4 pm CT  
Saint Augustine Catholic Church will have the monthly eucharistic adoration this Friday, immediately following mass until 4 pm. Come to the church to sit, pray, and be with Jesus.

## Parent Hours Opportunity

**Remember** parents to students in grades **K-5 are required** to volunteer with the school for **15 hours (per family)** each school year. If you do not, you will be required to pay **\$25 per hour** that is not completed.

Remember you will fill out the form on Brightwheel to log your hours and submit it that way.

Here are some suggestions on how you can earn some hours!

- Sign up to help Mrs. Carlson in the atrium on Wednesdays with religion special (email her at carlson@s-augustine.org) to sign up!
- Attend PFA meetings (earn time while drinking a margarita!)
- Sign up to help with serving lunch to the students, or to cover a teacher's recess duties!
- Contact your student's teacher, several have stated they would love for someone to come in and help tear pages from workbooks or make copies.
- Sell Raise Right gift cards after weekend mass.
- Sub for a day!

These are just a few ideas for how you can earn time. You are also welcome (and encouraged!) to reach out to your student's classroom teacher to see how you can assist them, and earn volunteer hours with that too!

We are **ALWAYS** in need of help at the school. If you have a day where you aren't busy contact the office and volunteer to come in and help with some of our many projects!

## Pancakes and PJs

Fat Tuesday is right around the corner! On Tuesday February 17 we will celebrate with a pancake lunch and wearing pajamas all day! If you are willing and able to come and help make/serve pancakes, or to donate pancake toppings, please see the Sign Up Genius, or contact Ms. Allison.

## Raise Right Order

Next Tuesday, February 10, the school will place a Raise Right order. If you want/need physical gift cards please have your orders submitted through the Raise Right app or website before then. Remember, this is a low effort fundraiser that provides our school with some passive income to be able to continue to provide top quality education to our students.

If you have any questions on Raise Right or how to use it, please contact Ms. Allison! She would love to help you understand how to use this application!

Start earning here



## NWEA and ILEARN

Our K-5 students are in the process of taking their NWEA tests for math and reading. This is an adaptive test that we can use as a data point to better understand where our students are academically, and what they have retained thus far into the school year. I want to emphasize that this test is not the only piece of data that we look at and reference when we are assessing students. It is only one piece of the puzzle, but it is a very informative one! Teachers should be in contact with families about this test.

Students in grades 3-5 are working to complete the second ILEARN checkpoint test through the state. This is a test that is given to students all across the state to assess various things including student information retention, evaluation of standards and curriculum, as well as school efficiency. Just like with the NWEA, this is a piece of data that we look at to assess our students. This piece of data though, is also what the state uses to assess us and our program. Please make sure that your students are well rested and have a good breakfast each day. Remember the school does offer breakfast and lunch free of charge to all students.

## Faith in Action Challenge

This weekend in mass we heard the Beatitudes, which are eight blessings that Jesus Christ delivered during the Sermon on the Mount in the Gospel of Matthew. These are beautiful and meaningful in various ways, and speak to each of us in different ways. I thought about these throughout the day following mass and looked for areas of my life in which I can improve myself in response. This is something that I think as parents we all naturally do, evaluate situations and our responses to those situations. We look for ways that we can be better and do better.

My faith is something that I hold in high regards, and while my faith has always been very important to me, I have struggled with prioritizing it in the past. You see, I was raised in an environment that was unstable at best. With this type of upbringing I learned early on how to survive and meet the needs of my siblings at whatever cost. I strived to be whatever was needed in any situation; and in doing that I don't think I learned how to just be me, Lacie. It was not until recently that I started to understand that by constantly putting myself last and compromising those things that I hold in high regard, I am not only hurting myself, but I am hurting my children and God too.

The Beatitudes are not a checklist for us to work through and try to cross off one by one, they are a portrait of Christ and the key to holiness. In a world where society is constantly yelling and telling you to go out and make a name for **yourself**, Christ is standing tall with his hand held out inviting you to lose **yourself** in Him. The more that we let go of the things that are hurtful and heavy, the better able we are to let Christ come into our lives and help us become the saints he created us to be. Jesus Christ did not end the Sermon on the Mount with "go out and do the best you can" he ended his sermon with, "strive to be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect." In the beatitudes Christ is telling us that if we do those things with our whole heart, body, mind, and soul, we will inherit the Kingdom of Heaven as our reward.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven

Blessed are they who mourn for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek for they will inherit the land.

Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they will be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful for they will be shown mercy

Blessed are the clean of heart for they will see God

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you [falsely] because of me.

Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

