



# St. Francis de Sales High School

*"Nothing is so strong as gentleness,  
Nothing so gentle as real strength"  
St. Francis de Sales*

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7 April 2017  
Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent

Dear Parents,

The end of the year festivities are right around the corner! [Click here](#) for information on everything that is coming!

I'd also like to highlight a special event, unique to this year. This calendar year marks the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of the Virgin Mary in Fatima, Portugal. Mary had a powerful message of peace through the Rosary. [Click here](#) to learn more about Fatima.

This is of special significance to us, as our building was dedicated to Mary under the title of Our Lady of Fatima by Samuel Cardinal Stritch, Archbishop of Chicago, in 1956. To commemorate the anniversary of these apparitions, His Excellency, **Bishop Joseph Perry**, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Chicago, will be coming to offer our School Mass on **Friday, May 12 at 11:00** and will then re-dedicate our school building to Our Lady of Fatima!

On a more somber note, it is with a sad, yet grateful heart that I announce that Mr. Jim Parquette has accepted a new position for next year. Mr. Parquette will be teaching Biology and Chemistry to English-Language learners at Proviso West High School. Mr. Parquette worked towards his ELL certificate and will now be putting it into practice. He was well liked and respected by students and staff alike and made tremendous contributions to the Science department in a very short amount of time...he will be missed.

The search for his replacement is already underway and we will keep families posted.

Lastly, as we prepare to celebrate Easter, we call to mind the peace for which Christ lived and died. Our Archbishop, Cardinal; Blase Cupich, recently received a letter Holy Father, **Pope Francis** regarding the state of the violence here in Chicago. [Click here](#) to see Cardinal Cupich read the pope's letter.

In his letter, Pope Francis says, "We must reject this exclusion and isolation, and not think of any group as 'others,' but rather as our own brothers and sisters. This openness

of heart and mind must be taught and nurtured in the homes and in schools."

May our risen Lord help peace to begin with each of us!

John Kimec

### **Chapel Mass & Confessions**

Today is the First Friday of the Month. Students attended Eucharistic Adoration throughout the and there was also the opportunity all day for individual Confessions. It was a wonderful grace-filled day!

### **Re-registration & Financial Aid**

A reminder that applications submitted by **May 2** will receive a financial assistance response by **May 17**. Please read carefully the re-registration letter for required documents. [Click here](#) to view the letter. The full registration packet was mailed home.

**The registration fee is due by Tuesday, May 2nd.**

### **BSF Outdoors Bound**

The *Big Shoulders Fund* is very excited to launch an exciting new program focused on providing a unique work experience for high schoolers. *Outdoors Bound* is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for students to work as a Ranch Hand at *Brush Creek Ranch* in Saratoga, Wyoming. [Click here](#) for more information about the ranch.

Big Shoulders will select four male and four female students to spend 3-4 weeks participating in the Outdoors Bound program during the **Summer of 2017**. Selected students spend four full days a week working at the ranch and then three days experiencing the wondrous outdoors.

We hope that you will help spread the word and help us identify our very first cohort! The [Outdoors Bound Application](#) is open to **current high school Juniors (rising Seniors during Summer 2017)** who:

- attend a Big Shoulders Fund high school,
- graduated from a Big Shoulders Fund elementary school, and/or
- currently receive a Big Shoulders Fund scholarship.

Ideal candidates should exhibit a strong work ethic and leadership capacity among their peers and community. This will be a true work experience best suited for students who are always up for a challenge and enjoy working hard! While a high GPA is not required, students must be in good standing with their school.

Interested students should complete the [Outdoors Bound Application](#) and provide a letter of recommendation from a current teacher or guidance counselor by midnight on April 15th. We strongly recommend that students review the hard-copy application (attached) and prepare responses in advance, as the online application must be completed in one sitting.

Selected students will travel during one of two sessions: **June 18-July 14** or **July 16-**

**August 4.** Students who complete the work sessions will receive a stipend of \$600/week.

**Lenten Food Drive**

Campus Ministry will be sponsoring a food drive to support the local food shelf here at SFDS!

Students will bring non-perishable, canned goods to their 4th pd teachers. The classroom with the most goods will win and out of uniform day and an extended Route 66 Lunch period on Wednesday, April 12. The last day for turn-in has been extended to **Monday, April 10.**

**Upcoming Schedule Changes**

Thursday, April 13-Monday, April 17: No classes; Easter Break

***No Newsletter Next Week! The next edition will be on Thursday, April 20th.***



