



BISHOP GARRIGA MIDDLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 8, 2016



Greetings in the peace and love of Christ! I hope all is well with you and your family. Please know that you, your children and family are in my prayers daily.

National Catholic Schools' Week: National Catholic Schools' Week was a fun-filled week and a great success for the BGMPs community. I am very grateful to all who planned the events for this special week, in particular Mrs. Lisa Hernandez, Mrs. Alejandra Ochoa, and our school's Student Council. My sincerest thanks are extended to the teachers, staff members, and administrators for their participation in the events, as well as their willingness to be flexible with their schedules to make this week a memorable one for our students.

Family Picnic: As you are aware, one of the events of National Catholic Schools' Week was the Family Picnic. The turn out for this event was fantastic! I was overwhelmed to see so many family members – parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins – in attendance and enjoying a meal and family time with their child. I sincerely thank you for joining your child for the picnic and supporting this family oriented event. Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Ash Wednesday: Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season, is this coming Wednesday, February 10. Our Ash Wednesday Mass will be celebrated at 9:15 a. m. in the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the St. John Paul II Campus. You are most welcome to attend this Mass.

Please take time to think about what you can do individually and/or as a family to commemorate the Lenten Season. Some ideas are:

- Pray the Rosary as a family at least one time a week
- Eat together as a family at least one meal a week. You may want to choose Fridays during Lent as this meal. As you are aware, on Fridays during Lent Catholics abstain from eating meat. By having a meatless meal on Fridays as a family, you can explain to your children the significance of not eating meat on Fridays during Lent. In turn, when your children have children of their own, they can continue sharing this tradition with their family.
- Put together a "Lent Box". Have each member of the family put in a plastic container a favorite toy, game, electronic device, or whatever they would like to sacrifice for Lent. Seal the container and label it with "Good-bye for Lent – See you at Easter". Put the container in an inconspicuous place during the Lenten Season; don't open the container until Easter.
- Commit to reading the Bible every day as a family.
- Make cards of encouragement to those in your parish's RCIA Program who will be received into the Church on Holy Saturday.
- Choose a Lenten sacrifice to do as a family that might help another family in need.
- Consider donating what you would spend on a meal at a restaurant (at least once a week) to a food pantry.



BISHOP GARRIGA MIDDLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 8, 2016



BGMPS Prayer Partners: The BGMPS Prayer Partners will be meeting on **Monday, February 8** from 2:00-3:00 p.m. Please join us for this special time of prayer. We continue to pray for our school community, our families, and other school communities in the Diocese.

Open House – February 27: Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School will be sponsoring an Open House on Saturday, February 27 from 9:00 a. m.-1:00 p. m. in the Kenedy Center/Gymnasium. The Open House is for all who are interested in enrolling their son/daughter at our very fine school the 2016-17 school year. This is a great opportunity for you, as parents, to help BGMPS welcome more students to our campus. Invite your friends and relatives to visit our campus for the Open House on Saturday, February 27.

Early Registration Event: Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School is holding its Early Registration Event on Friday, March 4 in the Kenedy Center/Gymnasium from 8:00 a. m.-7:00 p. m. Early registration will be available to current families and families whose children are not yet attending BGMPS. On this day, families will be given the opportunity to register their children at BGMPS for the 2016-17 school year.

Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord: In response to Our Holy Father Pope Francis' request to spend time with our Lord in Adoration during this Year of Mercy, Fr. Patrick Higgins, our school's Chaplain, is facilitating a Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord Event. This event is scheduled for Friday and Saturday, March 4-5 in the Immaculate Conception Chapel on the St. John Paul II Campus. We encourage all students and families from our two Diocesan campuses, Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School and St. John Paul II High School, to participate in this Day of Adoration for our Lord. The schedule for this event is attached.

Shadowing Day: BGMPS has invited students from the exiting grades of Catholic elementary schools to a "Shadowing Day". The students will be teamed up with BGMPS students and will be involved in various activities to give them a feel for how BGMPS operates during a regular school day. We will encourage these students to enroll at BGMPS the 2016-17 school year. The students will be provided with school and registration information. The dates Catholic elementary school students will be visiting our campus are:

- St. Patrick Catholic School – February 11
- Most Precious Blood Catholic School – February 16
- Ss. Cyril & Methodius Catholic School – February 16
- Central Catholic Elementary – February 23
- Holy Family Catholic School – February 23
- St. Pius X Catholic School – February 25

If you know families from these schools whose children are in the exiting grades, please contact them and encourage them to enroll their children in our very fine school.



BISHOP GARRIGA MIDDLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER



February 8, 2016

Birthday Wishes: The BGMPs faculty, staff, and administration extend birthday wishes to the following students who will be celebrating a birthday next week:

February 6 Noah Miles February 7 Andrew Jones February 12 Gabriella Rocha

We wish these fine people a wonderful birthday celebration and ask that God grant them many more years of excellent health of mind, body, and spirit. Enjoy your special day!



****Special Announcement****

Parents/Guardians, please be aware of the fact that students will not be able to take their final exams in May if all finances – tuition, fees, service hours, fund raising commitment, etc. – are not current. If you are experiencing a problem with your financial commitment to our school, please contact our school's Finance Office.

A Prayer for Ash Wednesday

O God, in Whom there is eternal life, in the coming Lenten Season let us be guided by the Spirit of Jesus to see the rich fields beyond death. Help us, we pray, to die to our false selves, to grow in life and love, and to know the joy of the harvest that belongs to those who trust in Your ways. In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.



BISHOP GARRIGA MIDDLE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

February 8, 2016



Important Dates in February and March

Please be aware of these important dates in months of February and March.

Saturday, February 13 - Sports Team Pictures - Times to be announced - Kenedy Center/Gymnasium

Friday, February 26 - Catholic Schools' Night with the Ice Rays - 7:00 p. m. - American Bank Center

Saturday, February 27 - Open House - Bishop Garriga Middle Preparatory School

9:00 a. m.-1:00 p. m. - Kenedy Center/Gymnasium

Friday, March 4 - Early Registration for the 2016-17 School Year - 8:00 a. m.-7:00 p. m. - Kenedy

Center/Gymnasium

Friday-Saturday, March 4-5 - Year of Mercy 24 Hour Adoration for our Lord - 11:30 a. m. (Friday)

through 11:50 a. m. (Saturday) - Immaculate Conception Chapel, St. John Paul II Campus

Please remember to say your prayers and be kind to one another. ☺

Have a wonderful week, and God bless.