



St. Vincent de Paul School

30527 8th Ave. S., Federal Way, WA 98003

253.839.3532 fax 253.946.1247 www.stvs.us

What's happening?

November 21

Parents Association Meeting
Parish Hall, 7 pm
Safety Presentation by the Federal Way
Police Department

November 22

Last Day! Thanksgiving Food Drive
Stuffing Mix, Instant Potatoes
Thanksgiving Prayer Service
Church, 10:45

November 25-27

Student-Teacher-Parent Conferences
No regular school. Students and parents attend conferences.

November 28-29

Thanksgiving Holiday
No School

November 14, 2019

Dear Families,

I love this "Thanksgiving Prayer" by Ralph Waldo Emerson. As I read the prayer each morning this month, I wondered how many parents are able to have a quiet moment each day to appreciate all the gifts God has given us. Parents, you are a gift to your children and to me, and I am so thankful for each one of you!

Report Cards

Report cards are in the envelope today. A copy of your child's (grades 2-8) MAP test scores is also in the report card envelope. If you have any questions, please let me know. Overall, we are pleased with our students progress during the first trimester.

Reach Out Men's Shelter

Our parish will be hosting the Reach Out Men's Shelter again this year during the month of December. Please read Fr. Bill's bulletin letter about the program on page 3.

Grandparents Tea

On December 18th following the Christmas Concert Dress Rehearsal, we will be hosting a Grandparents Tea. If you have grandparents who would like to attend the Tea, please be sure we have their names by November 21st. We will mail an invitation to the grandparents so they can RSVP. If you need to RSVP for the grandparents, please do so. *It's important for us to know which grandparents are attending so we can plan our table seating and prepare the children who will be attending the Tea.*

Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grants

The application window for Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grants for 2020-21 is open. It closes for St. Vincent's on December 15. Please apply today! See page 2 for directions.

Thank you –

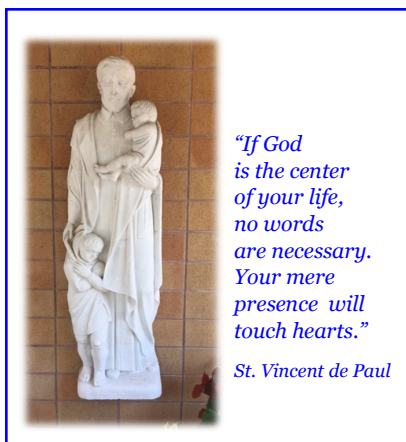
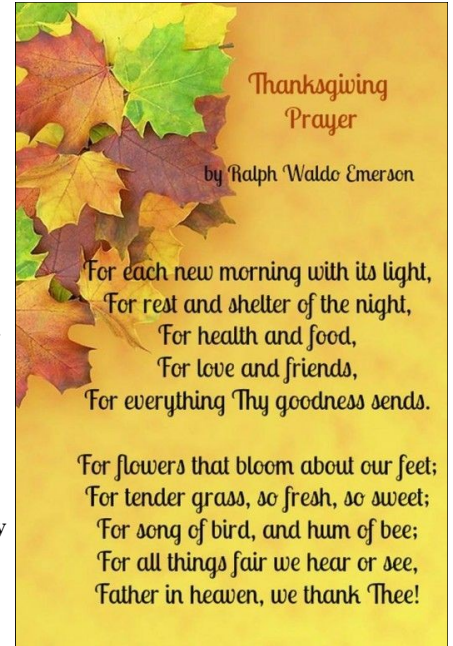
- for linking your Fred Meyer Rewards card to our school!
- to for returning your Stewardship Pledge Cards!
- for supporting our Thanksgiving Food Drive!
- for donating to the Annual Fund!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!

St. Vincent de Paul, pray for us.

With my love and prayers,

Wanda



CYO/Gym Activity Center Guidelines

With CYO practices starting, this is a good time to remind everyone of the Activity Center Guidelines. Please review these with your child. Thanks.



Activity Center—Guidelines for Users

No one, coaches or players, may enter the gym until the supervisor is present.

Parents should not drop off players for practice or games until their coach is present.

Only team members and coaches may be on the floor during practice times.

All spectators during practice will sit on the stage area.

Children who are not practicing with their team must be accompanied by their parents.

Children may not be in the classrooms behind the stage during practices.

The supervisor has final authority during any scheduled use of the Activity Center.

APPLY NOW

Financial Assistance for 2020-21

The window for applications for Fulcrum Tuition Assistance Grants for 2020-21 is now open. Go to Fulcrum Foundation, click on Grants & Programs, then Tuition Assistance. Scroll down to the bottom of the page for the apply button.

The window for St. Vincent's closes on December 15th.

If you think you might need assistance for next year, please apply.



Grandparents Tea

We will be sending invitations to grandparents for the Grandparents Tea. If you would like your child's grandparents to be invited, please send us their address. All grandparents planning to attend the Tea need to rsvp. If you need to rsvp for a grandparent, please do so. We need to prepare the children and assign seating.

Child _____

Grandparent _____

Address _____

From Fr. Bill's Bulletin Letter....

For the past six years our parish has opened the social hall in December as an overnight shelter for up to 25 homeless men. I would like to review with you the procedures that are in place to assure you that the program is safe and effective.

Reach Out is a program of Catholic Community Services of Western Washington (CCSWW) that partners with local churches, organizations, businesses and community volunteers to offer homeless men and women safety, stability and supportive connections through shelter, food, and case management to help them overcome their current circumstances. We are one of several Federal Way churches that open their facilities from the beginning of October through the end of March.

All guests are prescreened by Catholic Community Services. No one may just walk in off the street. The pre screening, which is done at a different site, assures there is no history of violence or mental health issues that would be a risk factor. No one intoxicated or high is allowed in the building or on campus.

Guests arrive at 9:00 PM and are given a hot meal provided by groups of parishioners from both St. Vincent's and St. Theresa's. In the morning, they are given a continental breakfast and a sack lunch. The supervisor is also responsible to see that the men are off campus by the time students arrive for school. This year we will assist the supervisor with a security officer.

A Catholic Community Services Staff member supervises the guests the entire night and ensures the facilities are clean when they leave. Each morning the facilities are rechecked by our own staff to ensure everything was cleaned to our satisfaction since the hall is used for school lunches.

In the evenings there is also a CCS social worker who assists the guests to help them overcome their homelessness. The **Reach Out** program address both the immediate need for food and shelter as well as the long term need of overcoming the obstacles that led to homelessness.

On occasion I have had the opportunity to share a meal with our guests. What has always struck me is their gratitude for the hospitality we offer, their respect for our facilities, and their care for one another. Each has their own story and their own struggles. I hope that the care and compassion they experience through our community will aid them on the path to recovery and be for us an opportunity to follow the Lord's command to care for the least of our brothers and sister which is actually to care for Him.