



ST. JOSEPH BY-THE-SEA HIGH SCHOOL
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October, 2017

Dear Parents:

The month of October is traditionally dedicated to the Most Holy Rosary, because the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary is on Saturday, October 7. On Friday, October 6, we will come together as a school community for our First Friday Mass, which will be preceded by confessions. In addition, Monday, October 2, is the Feast of the Guardian Angels.

All too often, we take it for granted that a Catholic school will provide a traditional Catholic education and help parents instill our values and beliefs in the next generation. Meanwhile, we can sometimes fail to appreciate the tremendous influence that our modern culture has on our young people and that the values absorbed are sometimes not the ones we are trying to instill.

Here at Sea we are doing our very best to pass the faith along to the children you have entrusted to our care, but I do not believe for one minute that we could do it without God's help and the only way to get that help is through prayer. So during the month of October, students will have the opportunity to join in the recitation of the Rosary every Thursday at 2:45 PM in the courtyard (or the Chapel, if it rains).

Furthermore, Friday, October 13 is the one hundredth anniversary of Our Lady of Fatima's Miracle of the Sun. The Holy Father has granted a plenary indulgence to all the faithful who pray fervently before a statue of Our Lady of Fatima exposed in a Church or Chapel for veneration, provided the person receiving the indulgence pray for the intentions of the Holy Father, receive communion and confession around the time of the indulgence, and be free from attachment to venial sin. We have placed a statue of Our Lady of Fatima in the Chapel so that our students may receive the indulgence.

Our College Placement team is eager to help students and parents through the college admissions process and are offering parent meetings for each grade level. These meetings are designed to help parents know and understand the process and to take important steps each year to ensure the best college placement possible for your student. In order to facilitate this process, we have enrolled each Sea student in an online College Advisement course and in Naviance, a college placement program. Our first College Fair is scheduled for Thursday, October 5 and all students will have an opportunity to visit nearly seventy college representatives during the day.

The month of October brings our Open House for eighth graders. Open House is scheduled for Sunday October 15 1 - 4 PM (Girls) and Sunday October 22 1 - 4 PM (Boys). If you would like to help, please leave your name with Mrs. Moog in the main office.

Finally, as you may have heard, our students have dedicated the month of October to raising money for Good Counsel Home. Good Counsel is a nationally recognized nonprofit leader and innovator in creating supportive residential care and community-based services for homeless, expectant, and new mothers and their children in the context of the Catholic social tradition. The students will be organizing some small fundraisers (dress down, spirit day, bake sale, etc.) for that purpose throughout this month and the proceeds will be donated to Good Counsel Home.

Wishing you a healthy and safe October, I am

Faithfully in Christ,

Fr. Michael P. Reilly
Principal