

# Wednesday E-Folder

January 4, 2012

Today we celebrate the Feast Day of Elizabeth Ann Seton. As we reflect on her all-too-short life, we are grateful that her calling led her to the founding of the first American society of religious sisters, known as the Sisters of Charity. Within this formation, she established a Catholic community within our own state of Maryland in Emmitsburg. As a result of her servitude to the Lord, Mother Seton was the first native-born citizen of the United States to be canonized by the Roman Catholic Church. While living, she lived an exemplary life as wife, mother, educator and foundress. With her commitment to both faith and family, and as we start the 2012 calendar year, it is only fitting to offer the following prayer:

## *New Year Family Blessing*

*God of all life and love, I offer You thanks for the gift of my family.  
I pray that you bless us all during this New Year.*

*Help us to work together for the good of each other and for those with whom we come in contact. Give us the grace to see You in each family member and to love without question.*

*May the love of the Holy Family guide us and protect us during the New Year.  
Bless all we do and keep us safe from harm, sustained by faith and trust in You.*

*Spare us from loss and loneliness and bless us with the bounty of Your love and protection.*

*Watch over my family, Dear Lord; and bless us with good health and happiness.*

*AMEN.*

## **Weekly Mass**

Though previously scheduled as a mass for PK-3<sup>rd</sup> grades, next week's Eucharistic celebration will now include the entire school community. To commemorate his yearly visit to SFdS, this special liturgy will be celebrated by Bishop Francis Malooly. Please join us on Wednesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, to share in this special event.

## **HSA News**

Please note that the January 17<sup>th</sup> HSA meeting has been canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for February 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:30pm in the school hall (cafeteria).

A gentle reminder from the Community Yard Sale committee....As you entertain the value of old Christmas decorations or presents that were left astray, please consider holding on to these items for the next scheduled Community Yard Sale to benefit the completion of our Parish Center.

## **Middle School Exams**

As a reminder.....Review for our mid-trimester exams continues this week. The schedule listed below details the arrangement of exams for all 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students:

### **Friday, January 6, 2012**

*Literature*

### **Monday, January 9, 2012**

*English*

### **Tuesday, January 10, 2012**

*Social Studies*

### **Wednesday, January 11, 2012**

*Math*

### **Thursday, January 12, 2012**

*Science*

### **Friday, January 13, 2012**

*Spanish*

## **“Baby Shower” for the Pregnancy Center**

On Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes are having a “Baby Shower” for the Pregnancy Center. Should you wish to donate to this wonderful cause, please send your baby items to school by the morning of January 6<sup>th</sup>.

Please consider the following suggested items:

- *Pacifiers*
- *Blankets*
- *Soap*
- *Lotion*
- *Towels*
- *Rubber Duck (with or without thermometer)*
- *Wash cloths*
- *Brush and Comb*
- *Thermometer*
- *First Aid Kit*
- *Electrical Plug Covers*
- *Finger Nail Clippers*
- *Door Locks*
- *Diaper Cream*
- *Diapers*
- *Rattles*
- *Onsies*
- *Toys*
- *Baby Books*
- *Nursing Pads*
- *Bottles*
- *Bibs*

## **This Week in Athletics**

### *Girls Basketball:*

- Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> in Easton vs. Sts. Peter & Paul.
  - School departure time at 2:20pm and a game time of 4:00pm.
- Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis vs. Salisbury Christian.
  - School departure time after dismissal and a game time of 4:00pm.

### *Boys Basketball:*

- Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> in Easton vs. Sts. Peter & Paul.
  - School departure time after dismissal and a game time of 5:00pm.
- Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at St. Francis vs. Salisbury Christian.
  - School departure time after dismissal and a game time of 5:00pm.

## **“Dress Like Your Pet” Day**

On Friday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, our students will take part in an assembly sponsored by the Wicomico County Humane Society. In honor of the work this group offers our larger community, the students are being asked to “Dress Like Their Pet” or merely dress like another animal they would enjoy. To participate in this event, students are asked to bring in one or more of the following items. The donation of any of these items will go a long way to supporting the compassionate care of the Humane Society:

- *kitty litter*
- *dish soap*
- *laundry soap*
- *paper towels*
- *bleach*
- *kitten chow*
- *puppy chow*

A special note of thanks to the members of the National Junior Honor Society for hosting this event.

## **SFds Admissions Commercial**

With our goal to continue an effective promotion of what makes the St. Francis community so uniquely special, we have now ventured into the exciting world of cable television marketing. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to locate the times and channels our admissions commercial will be airing during the next month. A special note of appreciation to Julie Gardner for all of her work with this project.

## **Knights of Columbus**

On Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> in the SFds Parish Center, our very own Knights of Columbus Council is sponsoring the Salisbury Basketball Free-Throw Championship. Any boy or girl ages 10-14, who might be interested in participating in this event, is asked to stop by the Parish Center at 9:00am for registration. Immediately following registration, the Free-Throw contest will commence at 10:00am.

*Keep Christ in Christmas* Art Contest Winners.....The following students earned an award from the Knights of Columbus for their creative excellence:

- First Place Winners: Erin Welch (3<sup>rd</sup> grade); Alison Weeg (6<sup>th</sup> Grade); William Cooledge (8<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Second Place Winners: Hannah Siegmund (2<sup>nd</sup> grade); Madison Synowiec (4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Third Place Winners: Kaity Maloney (2<sup>nd</sup> grade); Alex DiPirro (6<sup>th</sup> grade); Danielle Johnson (8<sup>th</sup> grade)

### **Destination Imagination Spirit Nights**

Are you ready for a night out to help raise money for a good cause? If so, then come out to Pizzeria Uno's in Fruitland anytime from Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup>. Your visit during any of these days will donate up to 20% of your total check to our Destination Imagination teams. To participate in this fundraiser, you **MUST** present your coupon to the server for our school to receive the proceeds. To further benefit the entire school, please consider paying with Uno *Scrip* cards that can be bought from the business office. To access the coupon, please [CLICK HERE](#). Thank you for your continued support of our school programs.

### **National Geographic Geography Bee**

The following students will be invited to participate in the *2012 School-Level National Geographic Geography Bee*! These students have recently been selected by the score they earned from a written qualifying test. This test was taken by all students in grades 4-8 and these students have earned a score that was among the top scores in our school! The *Geography Bee* will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 1:30pm in the Parish Center. Parents are invited to attend this special event.

The winner of our school-level geography bee will complete a written (multiple-choice) test in order to qualify for the *Maryland State Geography Bee* to be held later in the year. Congratulations to all of our invitees!

- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade: *Sophia Bennett, Bridget Cosgrove, Faith Lafferty and Sean Richardson*
- 5<sup>th</sup> Grade: *Gracie Gardner, Owen Peters, Lauren Plankey, Savannah Scott and Alistair Swierkosz*
- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade: *Seamus Benn, Shelby Cummings, Alex DiPirro, Phillip Gianelle, Jacob Jester, Abby Roskovich, Nick vonKollmar and Alison Weeg*
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade: *Nicole Baumann, Elizabeth Bragdon, Hayden Eutsler, Morgan Hall, Samantha Miller, Sydney O'Dell, Lani O'Neill, Jake Richardson and Stefan Swierkosz*
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade: *Arthur Carlton-Jones, William Cooledge, Emily LeCompte and Jessie Willey*

### **Notes from the Athletic Attic**

As the holidays have now passed, we must continue to schedule and prepare for the important daily event of family dinners. While delicious food items might be seen as the focus of these events, it is rather the shared conversation that often forms the greatest of memories. As parents, we often seek ways to create fun and meaningful conversation for these daily events. With this thought in mind, please [CLICK HERE](#) for your own set of "conversation cards". Chew slowly and laugh loudly!

### **Tuition Assistance**

Tuition assistance applications are now being accepted by the Diocese of Wilmington for the upcoming 2012-2013 school year. Families who believe they are in need of financial aid are encouraged to apply.

To be considered for assistance, parents must submit an application to FACTS Grant & Aid Assessment for an evaluation of need. Each interested family with children in grades K-8 is asked to apply through FACTS online at [www.factstuitionaid.com](http://www.factstuitionaid.com).

It is important to note, all applications and all required documentation must be received by FACTS **no later than March 1, 2012**. There is no exception to this deadline.

### **News from the Diocese**

Keep Their Dream Alive.....Maryland's DREAM Act, which was passed by the Maryland General Assembly during the 2011 session, grants tuition equity at the state's higher education institutions to immigrant high school students. The law has been put on hold because it has been petitioned to a statewide vote during the November 2012 election.

Help make higher education affordable for all qualified Maryland students regardless of immigration status. Learn how you can activate and educate your parish or community to support their DREAM. They were brought here as youngsters and love America - their home. They are hardworking, file taxes and will not take any university spots away from other Maryland students - and they will pay the full Maryland in-state tuition rate.

The Maryland Catholic Conference is holding training sessions for those who want to campaign to keep the DREAM alive for these students. Please [CLICK HERE](#) to learn more about these training programs

### **Lost and Found Items**

You might notice a burgeoning container outside the school office. This receptacle contains many apparel items, lunch boxes and other school related articles.