

# *A Christmas Blessing*

May there be harmony in all your relationships.  
May sharp words, envious thoughts, and hostile feelings be dissolved.

May you give and receive love generously.  
May this love echo in your heart like the joy of church bells on a clear December day.

May each person who comes into your life be greeted as another Christ.  
May the honor given the Babe of Bethlehem be that which you extend  
to every guest who enters your presence.

May the hope of this sacred season settle in your soul.  
May it be a foundation of courage for you when times of distress  
occupy your inner land.

May the wonder and awe that fills the eyes of children be awakened within you.  
May it lead you to renewed awareness and appreciation  
of whatever you too easily take for granted.

May the bonds of love for one another be strengthened as you gather  
with your family and friends  
around the table of festivity and nourishment.

May you daily open the gift of your life  
and be grateful for the hidden treasures it contains.

May the coming year be one of good health for you.  
May you have energy and vitality.  
May you care well for your body, mind and spirit.

May you keep your eye on the Star within you and trust this Luminescent Presence  
to guide and direct you each day.

May you go often to the Bethlehem of your heart  
and visit the One who offers you peace.  
May you bring this peace into our world.

Taken from *Out of the Ordinary*, copyright 2000 by Joyce Rupp.





January 2018



*Love of Learning Faith in God Service for Others*

## Thank You!

- ◆ To Jenny Nader and all who helped with the Christmas Wreath Program and to our families who supported this effort on behalf of the school
- ◆ To all of our families for your generous support of the Parish Giving Tree, the St. Nicholas Liturgy and Reception, the Coat Drive, the Toy collection and the Gifting Program here at school
- ◆ To Sister Rachel and all the faculty for the beautiful Christmas Concert
- ◆ To all of our parents who give so generously of their time and talents to our school throughout the year
- ◆ To all of you who signed on for Giant. We already have **\$3,176.50** credited to LFS. It's not too late to sign up!
- ◆ To the Fathers' Club for treating the Faculty to breakfast for Christmas

### **MARTIN LUTHER KING**

Classes will not be in session on Monday, January 15th in observance of the Martin Luther King holiday. Enjoy this long weekend.

### **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Members of the Finance Committee of the Advisory Board are reminded of their meeting on Tuesday evening, January 16th, in the Junior High classroom at 7:00 pm.

### **EIGHTH GRADE PIZZA LUNCH**

The eighth grade will host another Pizza Lunch on Wednesday, January 17th. This is the last lunch of the first cycle. An order form will be sent home in January for pizza lunches in the second half of the year. Please return it promptly if you wish to participate,

### **MASS FOR LIFE**

**All of our students will be attending Mass on January 19th to commemorate Right to Life.**

Grades K- 8 will attend the 8:15 am Mass here at Little Flower.

## **MARKING PERIOD**

The second marking period ends on January 19th. We ask that all tuition accounts be up to date so that the School Advisory Board policy of holding report cards will not have to be implemented. Biannual and Third Quarterly Tuition payments are due on January 5, 2018.

## **MOTHER DAUGHTER HANDBAG BINGO**

Friday, January 19<sup>th</sup>. 7:00 - 8:30pm in the Parish Hall - Doors open at 6:30pm. Cost: Ladies \$20, Girls: \$10 each Purses for the winning ladies and Accessories for the winning girls  
All ladies welcome! Bring your PK-Grade 8 daughter, bring your high school or teenage daughter, bring a niece, bring your own mom, or just come with a friend – there will be something for ladies of all ages!  
Let's also make the night even more special - Bring gently-used bag and/or new toiletries that we can give to a local charity for women in need! Sign up on the Parent page of the website.

**AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS** We invite you to look at the enclosed chart and see the varied offerings that will be taking place starting this month. All registration forms will be due on Tuesday, January 23<sup>RD</sup>.

## **FACULTY MEETING JANUARY 24 12:15 DISMISSAL**

## **HOME SCHOOL MEETING**

All parents are asked to make every effort to attend this special January Home School Meeting on January 25th at 7:30 pm in our Little Flower Hall.

**REPORT CARDS** - distributed on JANUARY 26

## **OPEN HOUSE ~ Wednesday, January 31, 2018**

Every year we are most fortunate to have our parents serving as guides for Open House. They do a wonderful job in taking visitors through the school and in answering questions that our guests may have. We invite you to seriously consider helping in this capacity at our Open House. If you are able to help, we would be most grateful. Please send your name to the school office. You may either call or send an e-mail to [office@lfschool.org](mailto:office@lfschool.org).

This is our present listing of families who specifically volunteered to serve as guides for Open House for Catholic Schools Week. If your name is on this listing and you find that now you are not able to assist, please contact the office. If your name is not on this listing and you can help, please contact the school office:

Balestrieri, Barloon, Daniel, DeSomma, Floam, Gerth, Gomes, Greenan, Henneberry, Houlding, Keon, Leasure, Lynch, Malouf, May, Mays, Monahan, Mulligan, Revaz, Rienzo, Ruyak, Schumacher, Socias, Sullivan, Swezey, Yeager

If at all possible, we ask that you be here by 8:45 am so that we can have a short meeting before our guests arrive.

This may look like a lot of guides – but we can always use more help. In fact we would be delighted if more of our Dads would be able to serve as guides also. You were such a big hit at our November Open House! Our visitors are always impressed with the warm welcome that they receive and the wonderful help given by our parents who take them on tour.

## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Every school works on making their school well known by the community it serves. We diligently communicate with the school community. It is a well-known fact that the best publicity a school can receive comes from the good word that parents share with other parents about the school. Sadly, we also see what happens when people talk negatively about our school. Word of mouth is a wonderful advertising tool for any organization. When was the last time that you told someone the good news of Little Flower? How about taking the time to do this? Spread the word to your friends and neighbors! Invite them to come visit and see what we have to offer.

When we asked our visitors this past November how they found out about our school, 96% said from friends and neighbors.

What can you do to support our Open House?

1. Plan to come visit the classes yourself and invite a friend to accompany you.
  2. If neighbors have young children, invite them to visit on this special day.
  3. If your neighborhood community has a listserv, please post the details of our Open House on it
- Help spread the word.

If you have friends who have children in the neighboring nursery schools, invite them to come in and see our Pre K and Kindergarten.



The annual Catholic Schools Week celebration is a joint project of the National Catholic Educational Association (NCEA) and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB).

This year's theme, **“Catholic Schools: Learn, Serve, Lead, Succeed.”** encompasses the core values that can be found in Catholic schools across the country. Not only are we teaching students to become future servant leaders, faith filled disciples and enriched citizens in our communities, we as educators are growing with them. In Catholic schools we are all learners, servants and leaders. These shared qualities are what make Catholic schools succeed.

The official CSW logo brings the theme to life. The open book made up of multi-colored pages symbolizes how all areas of Catholic schools blend together, with faith — symbolized by the cross — at the forefront. Catholic schools are vibrant, dynamic and excellent.

## **CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK**

### **OPENING LITURGY            Sunday, January 28, 2018**

The school community is asked to attend this opening Mass at 9:00 am which formally opens our celebration of Catholic Schools Week here at Little Flower. Faculty, parents and students take active roles in the liturgy and the homily will also highlight the importance of Catholic education in our parish. Little Flower's Children's Choir will sing at this Mass.

### **SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD**

All members are asked to be present for our general meeting on Wednesday, February 7, 2018 at 7:30 pm in the Faculty Room. Please note this is a different date than the one on our original schedule.

### **REGISTRATION FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR – RETURNING STUDENTS - GRADES K-7**

The process of Registration for school year 2018-2019 is on-line. Complete instructions for this process will be sent to you by email from TADS. Kindly complete this process on or before January 25, 2018

The fee is non-refundable and includes the annual family enrollment fee of \$125 and a down payment of \$400 per student for the 2018-2019 school year's tuition.

\*\*\*\*\*When entering information on these forms, may we please ask that you make certain that your form is complete. Kindly use proper capitalization and complete ALL fields as this information is merged into other files and it is very time consuming to have to go in an reformat all of the information. Your cooperation with this request will be greatly appreciated and will prove to be very time saving for our office staff.\*\*\*\*\*

### **TRANSCRIPT FEE**

A transcript fee of \$75 is required for each set of transcript materials requested by a parent to be forwarded to other schools. Please be reminded that letters and transcripts will not be released until the parent has met with Sister Rosemaron regarding this request. These forms should **come to the office first** and will be given to the appropriate teachers from there. Note: This fee is not a requirement for our eighth grade graduating class.

### **REGISTRATION**

#### **Please Note:**

- Children registered for Pre-Kindergarten for School Year 2018-2019 **must be 4 years of age by September 1, 2018.**
- Children registered for Kindergarten for School Year 2018-2019 **must be 5 years of age by September 1, 2018.**

### **EARLY DISMISSAL:**

When a student comes in late, leaves early or misses school mid-day, class time is lost, important instructions or homework are missed and the classroom routine is broken up for everyone. Interrupting classes to call students out before the dismissal bell distracts others and interrupts end of day prayer and routines.

We highly discourage the interruption of instructional time for any reason except emergencies and unusual circumstances. Early dismissals should occur only in rare situations as every effort should be made to schedule appointments outside of school hours or on early dismissal days. If circumstances absolutely necessitate an early release, please notify the school in writing so the teacher can have the child packed up and dismissed in the least disruptive manner.

The end of the day is a very busy time in the school. To minimize interruption during closing activities and prayer, **we will not call into a classroom for any release or change of dismissal after 2:30 pm.** After that point, you are to pick up your child(ren) in the usual manner at the 2:50 closing time.

Thank you for your cooperation.

## **AS THE NEW YEAR BEGINS – Grades 6-8**

Please take a good look at your daughter's uniform skirt and if it is too short, please let the hem down. Our girls are getting taller and taller and their skirts are not growing with them.

### **MAY WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REMIND YOU OF THE FOLLOWING:**

1. Students are not permitted to have cell phones at school unless the Principal has given special permission for a child to have one.
2. Parents are asked to drive carefully and slowly any time they are on the school grounds.
3. Parents who come through the neighborhood to school are asked to obey the posted speed limits and look out for our children who walk or ride their bikes to school, and for adults who may be walking to and from the Church.
4. At morning arrival – all children should exit their cars on the passenger side.
5. At dismissal - car engines should be turned off as soon as you park in the lot.
6. Children should not be picked up at afternoon dismissal by car in any other location than the upper school parking lot. Massachusetts Avenue, Briley, Chesterbrook, Kirkwood Road or the main entrance of the school are not school supervised locations.
7. Please do not call the school office at dismissal to have us alert children to play date arrangements or new ways of getting home unless it is truly an emergency. The end of the school day brings with it its own busyness and it is rather confusing to get messages to several families when teachers are closing the school day and preparing for dismissal.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY**

**For school closings and delayed openings we follow Montgomery County.**

For delayed openings we open 2 hours late.

If Montgomery County announces that all after school activities are canceled, then our after school activities will also be canceled. In such situations, our After Care program will also close and we ask that parents of children in After Care make every attempt to pick up their children as close to 3:00 pm as possible.

Please do not call the school, convent or rectory for school closing information. We need to listen to the radio announcements just as you do.

## **SAFETY**

Be assured that we strive to maintain a safe environment for your children. We engage in fire drills, shelter in place exercises and Code Blue and Code Red drills. These are part and parcel of the school safety environment plan. In turn, we ask that you exercise safe driving practices and that you not speed in our bordering neighborhoods or on our school property.

## AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS WINTER OF 2018

DAY	CLASS	INSTRUCTOR	GRADE	TIME	FEE
<b>MONDAYS January 22 – March 19</b> (No Class on Presidents Day)					
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Beginners Art</b> K-1-2 grade students will learn how to draw different subjects in all different types of art mediums. During each class, students will create a step-by-step drawing led by Mrs. Rossomondo to create a one of a kind piece of Art! Students will get messy during some classes, so an “Art Shirt” is suggested, but not required. A small snack is provided at the end of class.	<b>Mrs. Rossomondo</b>	K-1-2	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (15 students)	\$150 (includes supplies)
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Martial Arts</b> Class offered by Mike Wholihan, Master Instructor 8th Degree, Black Belt <b>Description and registration on the following website:</b> <a href="http://www.KCAmartialarts.com">www.KCAmartialarts.com</a>			3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Yoga</b> Class offered by Xcel Fitness. Description and registration on the following website <a href="http://www.xcelfitness.net">http://www.xcelfitness.net</a>		K-1-2	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	
<b>TUESDAYS January 23 – March 13</b>					
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Basketball</b> Class offered by Xcel Fitness – Mr. Jeremy Patten Description and registration on the following website, <a href="http://www.xcelfitness.net">http://www.xcelfitness.net</a>		K-2	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Math</b> The class will be a mixture of Hands-On Equations Program and math projects to stretch mind. Hands-on Equation uses manipulative pawns and cubes to take the students through beginning of algebraic concepts. The program is design to provide young children with a successful introduction to algebraic concepts and methods through a game-like, hands-on, concrete approach. Math projects are fun hands-on activities that are designed to stimulate thinking and put math concepts into practice.	<b>Mrs. Sibilska</b>	4-5	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (6-12 students)	\$150
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Unsolved History II</b> There are thousands of mysterious events in world history that have never been solved, but Mr. Sorokes wants to find answers! Last year, students were presented with mysteries and given potential explanations. This year, the students will be tasked with picking an unsolved mystery from the annals of history, and researching the explanations over the course of eight weeks. The club will develop students’ research as well as creative writing skills in a fun, historical context.	<b>Mr. Sorokes</b>	6-7-8	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	\$150
<b>WEDNESDAYS January 31 – March 21</b>					
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Tumbling</b> Students will be introduced to the fundamental skills of tumbling and acrobatics and will work to develop their strength and flexibility. Each student will be challenged individually according to their skill level.	<b>Mrs. Ross</b>	1-2	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm (16-25 students)	\$150
<b>THURSDAYS January 25 – March 22</b>					
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Floor Hockey</b> Program offered by Xcel Fitness – Mr. Jeremy Patten Description and registration on the following website, <a href="http://www.xcelfitness.net">http://www.xcelfitness.net</a>		K-2	3:00 pm – 4:00 pm	

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND ON THE PARENT PAGE

THEY SHOULD BE RETURNED BY TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018



**HOT LUNCH – SECOND SEMESTER**  
 All Orders due on or before Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
**February 13 – June 7, 2017**  
**Grades Kindergarten to Eight**  
**Grade K – 7 – 31 x \$5.50 = \$170.50**  
**Grade 8 – 30 x \$5.50 = \$160.00**

Tuesday	2/13	Hard shell beef taco, yellow rice, cheese, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, fresh fruit, sugar cookie
Thursday	2/15	Caesar salad, grilled chicken, roasted potatoes, minestrone soup, orange slices
Tuesday	2/20	Bow tie pasta, w/meat sauce, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, three bean soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	2/22	Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, carrots/celery sticks w/ hummus, watermelon triangles
Tuesday	2/27	All beef hot dog, chili, cheese, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, fresh fruit, chocolate pudding
Thursday	3/1	Lunch in Classroom – Rummage Sale: Turkey/cheese roll up with lettuce and tomato, banana, potato chips, chocolate chip cookie
Tuesday	3/6	Roasted turkey, egg noodles, carrot/celery sticks w/ranch, minestrone soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	3/8	Meatball sub w/marinara sauce and parmesan, chicken noodle soup, fresh fruit, chocolate pudding
Tuesday	3/13	Chicken fajitas, cilantro lime rice, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, cream of broccoli soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	3/15	French toast slices, maple syrup, sausage, roasted potatoes, orange slices, chicken and rice soup
Tuesday	3/20	Hamburger sliders on potato roll, sweet potato wedges, chicken and rice soup, watermelon triangles
Thursday	3/22	Beef lasagna, green salad, chicken noodle soup, fresh fruit, chocolate pudding
Tuesday	3/27	Grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, carrots/celery sticks w/ hummus, lentil soup, chocolate brownie
Tuesday	4/10	Caesar salad, grilled chicken, roasted potatoes, minestrone soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	4/12	Beef and bean burrito, yellow rice, romaine salad, corn chowder, watermelon triangles
Tuesday	4/17	Rigatoni w/meatballs and sauce, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, chicken and rice soup, orange slices
Thursday	4/19	Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, roll w/butter, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, fresh fruit
Tuesday	4/24	Bow tie pasta w/ meat sauce, romaine salad, cream of broccoli soup, orange slices, chocolate brownie
Thursday	4/26	Lunch in Classroom – Gala: Turkey and cheese rollup w/lettuce and tomato, potato chips, clementine, chocolate chip cookie
Tuesday	5/1	Roasted turkey, egg noodles, carrots/celery sticks w/ ranch, minestrone soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	5/3	Chicken fajitas, cilantro lime rice, chips and guacamole, watermelon triangles, sugar cookie
Tuesday	5/8	Pulled pork BBQ sandwich, mac and cheese, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, orange slices
Thursday	5/10	French toast slices, maple syrup, sausage, roasted potatoes, orange slices
Tuesday	5/15	Hard shell beef taco, yellow rice, cheese, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, fresh fruit, sugar cookie
Thursday	5/17	Chicken tenders, mashed potatoes, carrots/celery sticks w/hummus, three bean soup, chocolate pudding
Tuesday	5/22	Chicken/cheese quesadilla, sour cream, guacamole, cilantro lime rice, corn chowder, fresh fruit
Thursday	5/24	Beef chili w/shredded cheese and sour cream, corn bread, fresh fruit, chocolate pudding
Tuesday	5/29	Eighth Grade Trip – Only K-7 students: Bow tie pasta w/ peas and parmesan, romaine salad, chicken and rice soup, fresh fruit
Thursday	5/31	Hamburger sliders on potato roll, sweet potato wedges, chicken noodle soup, watermelon triangles, chocolate chip cookie
Tuesday	6/5	Roasted turkey, egg noodles, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, minestrone soup, orange slices
Thursday	6/7	All beef hot dog, chili, cheese, carrots/celery sticks w/ranch, watermelon triangles, chocolate brownie

Menu is also posted on the “School Lunch Menu” website calendar  
 and upcoming days menus can also be viewed from the Parent page of the website

Please complete and return on or before Tuesday, January 23, 2018

HOT LUNCH ORDER FOR THE SECOND SEMESTER

February 7, 2017 – June 1, 2017

Grades Kindergarten to Eight

Grade K – 7    31 x \$5.50 = \$170.50

Grade 8        30 x \$5.50 = \$160.00

FAMILY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

		CHILD/REN:
NAME		GRADE
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____
_____		_____

PARENT SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

# Of K-7 children participating \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 170.50 = \_\_\_\_\_

# Of Grade 8 children participating \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 160.00 = \_\_\_\_\_

It is not possible to place partial orders.

If you sign on for the Hot Lunch program, it involves signing on for all the lunches that will be served during the Semester.

SAVE THE DATE:

HOME SCHOOL MEETING

JANUARY 25, 2018

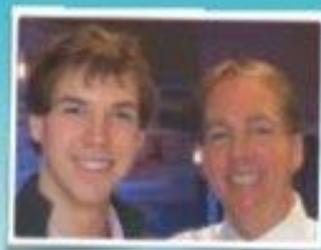
# CelebrateCalm™.com

## 10 Ways to Stop Defiance, Disrespect, & Yelling

with America's Calm Coach Kirk Martin & his son, Casey

- Perfect for parents with kids ages 2-22.  
- Leave with strategies that work immediately!

# FREE WORKSHOP!



### Kirk will demonstrate 10 ways to:

- Get your kids to listen the first time.
- Stop defiance, disrespect and yelling.
- Stop whining, tantrums and sibling fights.
- Get kids off video games/screens without a fight.
- Create stress-free mornings, homework time and bedtime.

**Little Flower School and Celebrate Calm** invite parents and teachers of the St. Bart's, Blessed Sacrament, and Little Flower Parish communities to one FREE dynamic, laugh-out-loud funny parenting event. The event is FREE and there is no need to register.

**Thursday, January 25 7:00pm – 9:30pm**

Little Flower Church Parish Hall / 5601 Massachusetts Ave. / Bethesda, MD 20816

**\*HSA meeting begins at 7:00pm. Workshop begins at 7:30pm\***

*“Practical, relevant and laugh-out-loud funny”*