



Principal's Thoughts

The final days of Lent are upon us and we look forward with great anticipation to the resurrection of Christ, the most important Feast Day of our liturgical calendar. Holy Week is a time to reflect on Jesus' final days of suffering, sacrifice and eventual victory over death. There are many opportunities during this sacred week to deepen our faith and I encourage you attend as many services as you can, especially if you have not participated in the past.

This Sunday, Palm Sunday, will mark the beginning of Holy Week. We will receive palms that will be blessed as symbol of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem. These are considered a sacramental because they have been blessed and should be treated with care. The Passion will be read so we can reflect on Jesus's final days in preparation of Holy Week.

The Chrism Mass will be held on Tuesday, March 26th at 11AM at the Cathedral of Light. The sacramental oils used throughout the year for baptisms, confirmations and anointing of the sick are blessed and given to the Churches within the Diocese. This Mass also celebrates Christ's introduction of the priesthood when he appointed his disciples to be the first priests. The Bishop will welcome the priests in the Diocese to this Mass to celebrate his unity with them.

Next Thursday we will have a minimum day in order to prepare for the Triduum, the three days before Easter. During the Holy Thursday Mass, the Holy oils received at the Chrism Mass will be presented. We will reflect upon the Last Supper as Jesus said farewell to his disciples and prepared for his death which is central to our celebration of the Eucharist at Mass each Sunday. We are also reminded of the call to service as the washing of feet and hands take place during this Mass.

Many opportunities for prayer will be offered on Good Friday, especially the re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross by the 8th grade class. This is a long standing traditional at St. Agnes and a pivotal moment for our graduates as we focus on the crucifixion of the Lord. This is a day of fasting and abstinence.

The Easter Vigil takes place on Holy Saturday and is a time when those in the RCIA program are formally initiated into the church. The Mass begins outside with the lighting of a fire and the new Paschal candle symbolizing that through the Resurrection, Christ is the Light of the World.

On Easter Sunday we will rejoice in the Resurrection and the fulfillment of scripture. On this holiest of days we gather in community to give thanks for our faith and our Covenant with God. This is a holy day of obligation. I encourage you to use this opportunity of renewed faith, to rededicate time to attend Mass each week with your family. Let's celebrate together, Fr. Luke is waiting to welcome you!

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March 23, 2024
COUNTDOWN: 4 DAYS!

- **Check it Out!**

- Online bidding starts in 4 days. Preview the fabulous items being offered at the Auction on the Auctria website <https://event.auctria.com/0d27404d-a9cd-4053-98e9-99c1ac428bd4/>!



- **Are you Curious?**

- School Board members will be hosting a Meet and Greet to share information with parents about the role of the School Board before their monthly meeting tomorrow Thursday, March 21st at 6:00pm in the Ministry Center. All are welcome.

- **Rice Bowl Collection**

- As the Lenten season comes to a close, it is time to send forth your Rice Bowl offering
- **Ways to Donate:**
 - Directly to CRS. Donate online at www.crsricebowl.org/give
 - Send a check (with "CRS Rice Bowl" written on the memo line) to:
Catholic Charities East Bay
c/o CRS/CCHD Coordinator
433 Jefferson Street
Oakland, CA 94607
 - Twenty-five percent of your donation will go back to your diocese to support local hunger and poverty alleviation efforts.

- **Easter Egg Hunt**

- Check out the flyer posted on our website inviting all children to the parish Easter Egg Hunt after the 11am Mass on Easter Sunday. Refreshments will be served!
- Please bring your own baskets.

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TIME SENSITIVE

- **Scrip News-Fire Sale!**
 - Check out the flyer in your envelope about the scrip for sale at a discounted price!
 - No scrip will be sold during Holy Week March 28th-29th.
 - Sales will resume on April 11th.
- **PLEASE Slow Down**
 - For the safety of the children and our families please slow down when you enter our campus AND while driving on Chestnut Avenue.
 - You may see traffic being enforced soon so let's practice now: 25mph, no parking in red zones and stopping at the stop sign.
- **Vacation Bible Camp Registration**
 - St. Bonaventure will be holding VBC again in June, registration will begin April 1st!
 - Parent volunteers are always needed.
 - Hours served can be used toward the parent volunteer commitment (15 hours max.)
- **Help!**
 - We want to document important school events with pictures in our yearbook! Do you have a special pictures with your child's classmates?
 - Please send pictures to Mrs. Sacco: ksacco@csdo.org.



- Congratulations to the Jarin Family (J. Alexander 5th, Sadie 3rd, Elise K) as they welcomed their new baby sister, Grace to the family last month! We pray sleep will return to their home soon!
- Great Job Maya Kelley who competed last weekend at the State level in the Knights of Columbus Free Throw Contest. She place 5th in the state! Way to go Maya!

St. Agnes School Mission Statement

St. Agnes School, in partnership with the Catholic Schools in the Diocese of Oakland educate children in the Catholic faith and nurture their minds, bodies, and souls, inspiring them to live the Gospel of Jesus Christ, achieve their highest academic and creative potential, and actively serve and enrich the community.

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- **St. Agnes-Oakland A's Day**

- Join us April 13th @ 1PM to cheer on the A's and watch the choir sing the National Anthem! The A's will donate \$10.00 per ticket back to St. Agnes!
- A flyer with all the details and a QR code to purchase tickets can be found in your envelope today! See you there!

- **Porcelain Tea Cups Needed**

- The Father/Daughter Dance Chairs are needing tea cups for the dinner dance this year.
- If you have any cups you would like to donate, please wrap them carefully and place them in the box labeled FDD on the table outside the office door. Thank you in advance!

- **Last Chance! For Egg My Yard**


- Order your Easter eggs and the Easter Bunny will make a special delivery to your home!
- Last day for orders is March 22nd! Order now: www.auctria.events/eggmyyard2024.
- A flyer with all the details is posted on our website.

- **Spring Fundraisers**

- **Flower Power**

- Spread some Spring cheer, order bulbs and plants online now until May 15th!
- Shipping begins April 1st.
- The QR code has been posted on the website.

Weekly Schoolwide Learning Expectation: 3.3 An academically prepared life-long learner who is able to experience the fine arts.

	IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS
3/21	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Scrip Sale 9-11• Lenten Soup Supper
3/22	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Stations of the Cross 2:15
3/24	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Palm Sunday (Jn 12:20-33)
3/26	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spirit T-Shirt Tuesday
3/28	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Minimum Day-Holy Thursday
3/29	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good Friday-Stations of the Cross

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