



ST. JOSEPH BY-THE-SEA HIGH SCHOOL

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February, 2010

Dear Parents:

February is the month of the Holy Family because the Feast of the Presentation is celebrated on February 2nd. This devotion is a matter of particular interest to Catholic families who are struggling to pass on our faith and values in a culture that is often opposed to our ideals. That is why our Family Holy Hour scheduled for Monday, February 1st at 7:30 P.M. is so important.

Ash Wednesday falls on February 17th this year. As usual, we will have a large 7:45 A.M. mass in Gaffney Auditorium which will include the distribution of ashes. Likewise, ashes will be distributed during all of the lunch periods. Homerooms, teams, and clubs will be scheduled to attend the 7:30 A.M. daily mass – the schedule will be posted on the school website and announced in school throughout Lent. Likewise, we offer Stations of the Cross every Friday at 2:45 p.m. in the school chapel.

We are planning a wonderful Spring Musical this year: *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. I know many of your sons and daughters will be trying out for parts and we're all looking forward to seeing the show. In addition, Mr. Bruce Turner is going to need help from parents and will be in touch shortly with specifics.

I know that many families are also struggling to pay tuition in an economy that is less than favorable. Once again, we have worked hard to trim as much fat from the budget as possible without compromising any element of instruction or student life.

In order to meet our expenses, as well as the increases in salaries, health insurance, and other benefits, we would have to raise the tuition to \$6,000. With the help of the faculty and staff, we have been able to cut the budget in such a way that we can make do with just \$5,920. Furthermore, the Monsignor Joseph C. Ansaldi Fund will pay \$100 (\$10/month) per student, making the parent portion of the tuition **\$5,820 (\$582/month)**, which represents only a \$70 (\$7/month) increase. This means that your cost for tuition will only increase 1.2% for the 2010 – 2011 school year.

Everyone understands that the economy is weak and that families are struggling to make ends meet. We are working hard to run as efficiently as possible. Please be diligent in paying tuition and fees in a timely manner – it's so much easier to maintain an affordable tuition when everyone does his/her part. As is always the case, we are not budgeting for uncollected tuition, which means that we will not be able to meet our expense unless everyone pays on time and in full.

May God grant you and your family a prayerful Lent.

Faithfully In Christ,

Fr. Michael Reilly
Principal