Holy Season ... and Stressful Days ... Are Upon Us!

As shopping, festivities and holiday mayhem reaches a fever pitch in the upcoming weeks, I think it is vital that we all take a deep breath and remember "the reason for the season." At Saint Joseph Academy, we start each day with a prayer. I think that's a good idea whether you are at school, on break or even someone whose school days are distant memories! A daily prayer gives us all a chance to have a moment of peaceful contemplation and thankfulness to God for our blessings. So if you are feeling stressed, whether it be because of busy schedules or other challenges, remember to take a deep breath and pray. It really will help! ~ James M. Cantwell, Ed.D.

Two Juniors Selected for "Look Up To Cleveland" Leadership Program

Juniors Julianna Minich and Missy Drapac have been selected from hundreds of area high school students to participate in “Look Up To Cleveland” sponsored by the Cleveland Leadership Center. The six-month program is a high school leadership development and diversity awareness program for Greater Cleveland’s outstanding high school student leaders.

Participants are in their junior year and are selected from a pool of applicants representing public, private, charter and parochial schools within Cuyahoga County. The 55 students in the program participate in sessions that address Cleveland’s Economy, Arts & Culture, Government, and Neighborhoods, a team project and civic involvement beyond the program.

The goal of “Look Up To Cleveland” is to develop and enhance student leadership skills while fostering an appreciation for the Northeast Ohio community. The program helps prepare students for responsible citizenship.

"We are excited because Julianna and Missy will benefit immensely from the team projects and the opportunities to interact with business, government and community leaders throughout the year," shared College Counselor Ms. Susan Jensen.

"Missy and I were honored when we heard we had been selected for 'Look Up To Cleveland.' We are looking forward to the team projects!" stated Julianna Minich '14.
College Corner

Location: Alliance, OH (1.5 hours from Cleveland). Rural, small town.

Enrollment: 2,200 undergraduates.

Strongest Programs: Sports Management, Physician Assistant.

Fun Fact: Students are encouraged to participate in the annual Belly Flop competition!

www.mountunion.edu

Basketball

On Saturday, November 24, the Jaguars hosted their first home game of the season against the Lakewood Rangers. The Jaguars came up with a big win, defeating the Rangers 63-52. The Jags out-scored the Rangers 22-8 in the fourth quarter. Play was led by seniors Daija Jones, Ann Conroy and Katie Battaglia. Daija had 18 points, 10 rebounds and 4 assists. Ann had 12 points and 10 rebounds and Katie scored 16 points and had 6 assists.

JV lost to Lakewood 32-30
Freshmen beat Lakewood 33-26

Basketball Coach Interviewed on Radio Program

Head Basketball Coach Maggie Steadley Ferrando was one several coaches interviewed this week on the popular WCPN 90.3 Ideastream radio show "The Sound of Ideas," hosted by The Plain Dealer columnist Michael McIntyre. The topic was the purpose of youth sports -- fitness, teamwork, and sportsmanship. The who asked if some coaches and parents are too focused on the scoreboard?

"Saint Joseph Academy players know they have to work and earn playing time, but at the same time, it's about having fun," shared Mrs. Ferrando. "Winning can't be the only focus." To listen to the whole show, click here.

Other guests included Dr. Jack Lesyk, sports psychologist director, Ohio Center for Sport Psychology, and Gregory (Dobie) Moser, executive director, Cleveland Catholic Youth Organization.

Scholarship Info Available

Applications for scholarships are now available at www.sja1890.org for the 2013-14 school year.

Click on “Parents” and “Scholarships and Tuition Assistance” for the scholarship applications.

Scholarship applications are due on Monday, (December 3), so be sure to get your application in now!

Please contact the Finance Office with any questions.

Academy Parents Group Is Sponsoring Second Annual Advent Night

Academy Parents wish to invite all SJA parents and families to the Second Annual Advent Night on Tuesday, December 4, at 7 p.m. at the school. Coffee and juice will be served. Academy Parents asks that every family who attends bring a dessert to share.

Again this year, the group will work on providing much-needed gifts to be donated to Transitional Housing in Cleveland. Donation boxes are set up by the front office. The following items are needed: Laundry detergent, particularly boxes of "pods" that can be distributed individually, toothbrushes, nail polish, toothpaste, shampoo, hand sanitizer, deodorant, moisturizer, body wash, chapstick and tissues.

Academy Parents also have additional copies of the 2012-2013 Student Directory for sale. Cost is $10 for the first directory and $5 each for additional copies. The directory is available in the Main Office.

Please contact Academy Parents President Colleen Stanton Hecht at collecht@cox.net with any questions regarding this event or Student Directories.

November bookstore hours