

# ST. AUGUSTINE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



Dear St. Augustine School Parents,

This second week of April, we celebrate Palm Sunday and Holy Week as we approach the most important day of the Church calendar: EASTER. Lent officially ends on Holy Thursday. That is when the "Triduum", the great three Days of Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday occur leading to Easter. Easter, not Christmas as some mistakenly think, is the principal feast of the ecclesiastical year. For Catholics, it is THE greatest feast.

As April begins and Lent comes to an end, let's make this Easter Triduum sacred and focused. Let's get the distractions out of our lives, and let's spend Lent with our families. Our churches should be full, and they should be full of families praying and worshipping together.

We enter Holy week made "holy" forever by the self surrendering love of Jesus -- for us all. All week, we remember how he loved us. Whatever we do, no matter how busy or distracted we might be, we can let the power of this week be in the background of our daily reflections. He entered into our lives that we might never experience life's struggles alone. So, no matter what we experience this week, we can let it become "holy", touched by the graces of this week. From the humble, yet triumphant, entry into Jerusalem, to our standing together at the foot of the cross, this can be a week which helps us bring all of the elements of our lives, all our experiences of sin and death, into the font of His redeeming, liberating death and resurrection.

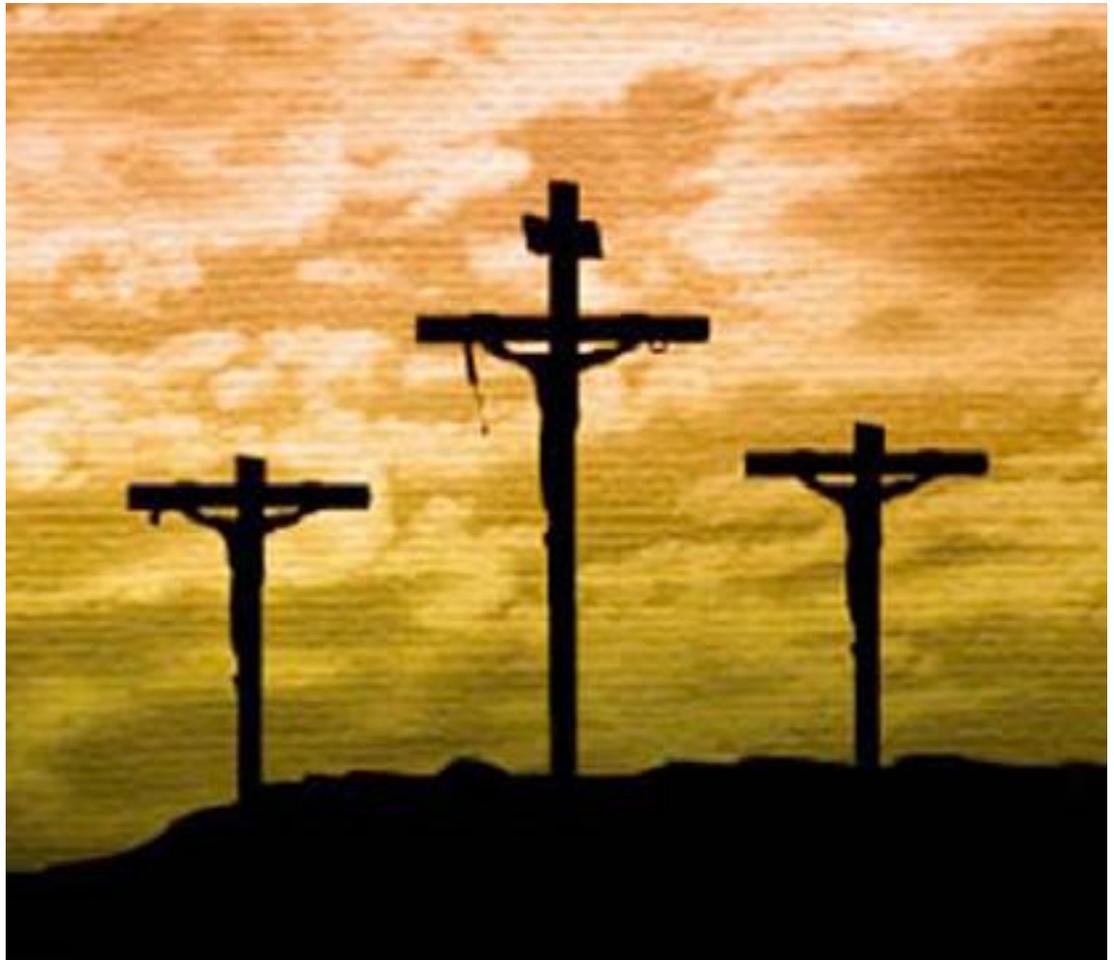
Have a blessed Easter, St. Augustine families!

Mr. Yaptinchay

## HOLY WEEK SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

We are busy preparing various activities for Holy Week, which include

- 1) STATIONS OF THE CROSS (2pm Monday, April 10 at the church)
- 2) HOLY THURSDAY SCHOOL RETREAT  
Our Grade 7 students will host four gatherings in our gym through a shadow play telling the story of Jesus' journey to the Cross.  
Session 1 - Love & Joy  
Session 2 - Love & Commitment  
Session 3 - Love & Courage  
Session 4 - Love & Forgiveness  
Please, feel welcome to come and join us for any portion you can.



**A N N O U N C E M E N T S**

**NO SCHOOL**

There is no school Good Friday, April 14 and Easter Monday, April 17.

**UNIFORM UPDATE**

Our school uniform provider underwent new ownership in January. We have been working closely with our new

provider, NEAT Uniforms, to create new UNIFORM expectations that will commence the week after Easter with a "phase in" period over the next year. There are updated uniform items, as well as brand new items. All details

were communicated in a memo included with your child's report card.

**NEW PICK-UP PROCEDURES**

Also the week after Easter, we will be implementing new TRAFFIC and PICK-UP PROCEDURES.

These new procedures were communicated in a memo distributed at Student-led Conferences.

**DIVERSITY AWARENESS MONTH**

April 19 is Diversity/Autism Awareness Day for us at St.

Augustine's with a focus on bringing attention to diversity. To celebrate together, this day is a NON-UNIFORM day – all students are encouraged to wear BLUE. The day is aimed at teaching all learners the values of friendship, empathy and inclusion.

**P A S S T H E T O R C H**

**WE ARE 90% SOLD OUT!**

On April 22, we'll be holding our 16<sup>th</sup> annual Pass the Torch (PTT) dinner, dance and auction at the Hellenic Centre.

This is our biggest social event of the year -- and all of the funds raised are to complete the third floor of our school. PTT is friendly, high energy and always has a fabulous theme — and this year it's going to be Moroccan!

We'll sit down to an amazing three course dinner, hear live music from

a 19 piece big band (think Frank Sinatra), enjoy a wonderful array of live and silent auction items ... and then dance the evening away.

All of this is only possible through the tireless work of our volunteers who spend months getting ready for this event.

To purchase tickets, you can go online at [faithandfoundation.com](http://faithandfoundation.com). We hope to see you there to help support our school, our families and our parish.

**PTT RAFFLE TICKETS**

Our annual Pass the Torch Raffle sales is going strong! The raffle is a significant component of the Pass The Torch fundraising event. Just like last year, we sent home a book of 6 raffle tickets with each student. The cost of the raffle tickets are \$5.00 per ticket. Each student is asked to sell a minimum of 6 tickets. Tickets can only be sold to adults 19+. A reminder to, please, return the tickets (sold and unsold) and money by Tuesday, April 18.

**L I T U R G I C A L C A L E N D A R**

*Holy Week is the last week of Lent before Easter, beginning on Palm Sunday and ending on Holy Saturday. Holy Week is the part of the Church Year where Jesus' final moments are commemorated. The final three days of Holy week are part of the Paschal Triduum. Holy Week consists of the following events:*

Palm Sunday:

*On the sixth Sunday of Lent, Palm Sunday, we celebrate Our Lord's triumphant entrance into Jerusalem where he was welcomed by crowds worshiping him and laying down palm leaves before him. It also marks the beginning of Holy Week, with the greatest tragedy and sorrow of the year.*

Holy Thursday:

*This day celebrates the institution of the sacraments of Holy Eucharist and Ordination. Holy Thursday also celebrates the agony of Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane and the betrayal of Jesus by Judas Iscariot, events that took place on the night before Jesus' crucifixion. The Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday begins the Triduum, which is the three-day celebration of the heart of the Christian faith: Christ's death and resurrection. The Paschal Triduum begins on the evening of Holy Thursday and concludes with the Evening Prayer (Vespers) of Easter.*

Good Friday:

*A Fast day of the Church commemorating Jesus' crucifixion and death, Good Friday is the Friday within Holy Week and is traditionally a time of fasting and penance, commemorating the anniversary of Christ's crucifixion and death. For Christians, Good Friday commemorates not just a historical event, but the sacrificial death of Christ, which with the resurrection, comprises the heart of the Christian faith.*

Holy Saturday:

*This is the final day of Holy Week and the 40th day of the traditional fast of Lent, although Lent ends liturgically on the evening of Holy Thursday. The evening of Holy Saturday begins the third and final day of the Paschal Triduum. In the Western Church, no Masses are said on Holy Saturday, and the day is essentially a liturgically sparse time of reflection upon Christ's death and burial in anticipation of the Great Vigil of Easter (Paschal Vigil). The vigil usually begins the night of Holy Saturday, lasting until Easter morning.*