



St. Catherine Catholic School (SCCS)

The Mission of St. Catherine Catholic School is to provide a Christ-centered education and a strong Catholic foundation where children can strengthen their relationship with God and prepare for life's challenges and their service to others.

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, 2021

When The Saints Go Marching In...

On the Feast of All Saints Day, students continued the tradition of dressing up as their favorite Saint and led the procession into Church for the Children's Mass. In addition, each student researched and wrote a report on their "Saint". Fr. Jose visited the classrooms to see the children and the work they had done to prepare for this special Feast Day! November 1st also kicks off our Diocesan Devotional Project. Throughout the year, two Junior Catechists will visit each class sharing special lessons about the Saints, Name Days, our Catholic devotion to saints.



"You cannot be half a saint; you must be a whole saint or no saint at all."

- St. Therese of Lisieux

Supporting Our Students

St. Catherine Catholic School also utilizes many tools to help support our students academically. Among them are online programs: IXL, MyOn, and Accelerated Reader. IXL is a personalized learning program that adjusts instruction as students complete lessons in Math and English Language Arts. MyOn is an online library of student reading material that students use (in addition to traditional books) to practice reading for research and pleasure. Accelerated Reader (AR) is a program that allows students and faculty to monitor the progress of student reading skills and comprehension. Together, with our classroom instruction, these tools help students to learn and reach their goals.

Since the start of school on August 9th, our students have practiced 3,402 skills in math and ELA; have shown proficiency in 2,239 skills, and mastered 1,943 skills. Those students who reached their Accelerated Reader goal after the first quarter were treated to a pizza party by our Assistant Principal, Mr. Cullipher! *Keep up the great work students!*

We have over 30 students participating in our Homework Help & Tutoring Program that is offered Monday – Thursday. Thank you to our volunteers, teachers, and National Junior Honor Society students who assist each week.

South Florida State College Visit

On November 4th, our 7th- and 8th-grade students received information on programs in the STEM fields from Mrs. Christi Bobo, of the South Florida State College. Mechatronics combines the principles of mechanics and electronics to design computer-controlled technology. Mechatronics technicians assist design, development, and engineering staff and work closely with the installation, operations, and repairs of the automated, robotic, or electromechanical equipment.

Our students will visit the Highlands SFSC campus next semester to tour the new state-of-the-art laboratory and learn more about the programs and certifications available to students.

8th grade completed their study of the solar system with a field trip that included mining for, classifying, and studying rocks and minerals.

2nd graders were happy to see the recent rainstorms as they were learning about the changes in weather. Their classroom project included building and testing rain gauges. Students used the engineering design process to learn and apply the scientific concepts.



Student Council

Our Student Council is busy promoting our Canned Food Drive! The class that brings in the most cans gets to brag with the SCCS Spirit Stick, as well as a snack party.

Once the Canned Food Drive is complete, the Student Council will get busy with our Toy Drive in December. The best thing we can do is teach our children the importance of giving back and helping those in need. Thank you to all – parents, friends, parishioners, faculty/staff and students.



Bishop Dewane visited St. Catherine on October 18th to celebrate Mass with our children, Faculty and Staff and bless our new school year!



Growth Mindset



This month's Social Emotional Learning Curriculum (Friendly) is focusing on "I can do it" instead of "I can't"! What we say to ourselves can help us or hurt us. Mistakes help us learn and having a growth mindset is powerful. Students participate in the weekly curriculum during their Religion class.

Thank you, again, to Mrs. Alexander and the Art Club for the beautiful bulletin board.

"I can do all things through Him who gives me strength" Phillipians 4:13

Robotics Team

Our first Robotics Team has been selected and will begin training for competition. The Team is led by Mr. Cullipher and Mrs. Berryman, both experienced in science and engineering. The Team is made up of students in grades 5 – 8 who are interested in the STEM fields or just love to play with robots! The Team will travel to Fort Meyers on November 13th to observe a competition and learn what they can in order to prepare for their own Spring Tournament.

Field Day is Coming – November 19th.

We are rewarding our students with a few hours of "fun in the sun" – games, competitions, and fun are on the agenda!

"Wishing all our Families and Friends a Blessed and Happy Thanksgiving!"

Christmas Raffle!

St. Catherine School is holding a Christmas Raffle to help support our school programs. All money raised goes directly to our school! The Grand Prize winners will receive cash prizes: First Prize is \$5,000; Second Prize is \$2,500, and Third Prize is \$1,000. The winning tickets will be drawn on Sunday, December 19th. Tickets are available at the Parish Office – 1 tickets for a donation of \$25 or 5 tickets for a donation of \$100. Please contact Ms. Claudia Spradlin at (863)991-3271 or email claudia@stcath.org.

Our PTO *World's Finest Chocolates* fundraiser is also going on during the month of November. Watch out after the weekend Masses - you may be asked to buy a chocolate bar!



Scholastic Book Fair is coming in December! Families can visit our Library and see the most recent books from Scholastic – great Christmas gifts for children. *Dec. 6th-10th*.



Veteran's Day, November 11th. Thank you to all the men and women who have served our country and to those who continue to serve and protect our country. May God bless you and your family. We will honor our Veterans at our Children's Mass on November 12th.

Website: www.stcathschool.org **School Phone:** (863)385-7300

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