



**MISSION STATEMENT:** Grand Traverse Area Catholic Schools are dedicated to providing a Catholic education ensuring educational quality for all families willing to enter into a partnership to develop each child to his or her fullest spiritual and academic potential.

**Published September 30, 2011**

Deadline for submissions to this newsletter is Thursday @ 11:00 a.m.

Please email information for the SF newsletter to Kathy Hunt at [khunt@gtacs.org](mailto:khunt@gtacs.org)

Please email information for system-wide distribution to Cathy Nelson at [cnelson@gtacs.org](mailto:cnelson@gtacs.org)

## Christ – Above All Things

### **From the Principal**

#### **College and Career Readiness Parent Seminar:**

On October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in Kohler auditorium Mr. Mark Esper, our curriculum director, will lead a discussion about college and career readiness. He will focus on the Explore and Plan test as he guides each parent through his or her student's data. These tests are extremely important for your child's college readiness and college entrance. (The Explore and PLAN predict success on the ACT, and the ACT predicts success in college.) While this is only one measure of academic progress, it is one of the single most important for gaining entrance into college. Parent understanding and involvement are critical to student success. The more parents understand these tests and the reports the greater chance that their student will perform well. Please call or e-mail Mrs. Kathy Hunt at [khunt@gtacs.org](mailto:khunt@gtacs.org) to register for this meeting. It is important that we know ahead of time who will attend so that we can have your student's reports ready.

#### **Kairos, Homecoming, and the Feast of Saint Francis:**

We ask for your prayers as our senior class leaves for the Kairos retreat this Saturday. This is the most important and intensive retreat in their four years at Saint Francis. It is a student led and directed retreat, and a team of fourteen seniors have spent hours planning and preparing for this retreat. We thank these students and the adult leaders.

As the seniors return on Tuesday, we will be in the mist of homecoming activities: hallway decorations, dress-up days, banner and t-shirt making, Hall of Fame celebration, the Pep Assembly, the game against Kalkaska, and the dance at the Grand Traverse Resort. Further, the Feast Day of our patron is on October 4<sup>th</sup>. Since our seniors will not be with us on the Feast Day we will remember Saint Francis and his tremendous contribution to our Church on Thursday. Below is one of our favorite prayers of Saint Francis.

**Saint Francis of Assisi's vocation prayer:**

Most High, Glorious God,  
enlighten the darkness of our minds.  
Give us a right faith, a firm hope and a perfect charity,  
so that we may always and in all things act according to Your Holy Will. Amen

Peace and All Good,

Mr. Erick Chittle

**\*There will be no choir class this Monday October 3rd**

**Parents of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors!** Please expect an underclassmen retreat form to come home today (Friday, September 30, 2011) or Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> with your student. Forms are due back Monday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, along with the retreat fee (some of you paid this on-line at ESCO) and medical release form. Retreats will all take place on the same day, Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, with each grade being at a different location. This will be senior service day, with some of the seniors assisting at the underclassmen retreats.

**Homecoming is October 8, 2011**

Homecoming Week is Spirit Week at SF. Click on the following link to read about all the activities planned. [Homecoming/Spirit Week Schedule](#) We are in need of chaperones for the homecoming dance on Saturday night. Please e-mail Rod Taplin at [rtaplin@gtacs.org](mailto:rtaplin@gtacs.org) if you are interested.

**SF Blood Drive**

St. Francis Student Council will be sponsoring a blood drive here at SF on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Anyone age 16 or older can donate. Parents are also invited to sign up for a slot. The sign-up sheet is located in the high school office.

**Upcoming:**

October 1-4 Kairos Retreat for seniors  
October 3 – 8 Homecoming Week  
October 4<sup>th</sup> Feast of Saint Francis  
October 8<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) 10:00 AM - Hall of Fame Induction – Homecoming Game SF vs. Kalkaska @ 1:00 Dance at Grand Traverse Resort 7:30 PM.  
October 17<sup>th</sup> Underclassmen Retreats and senior service day  
October 21<sup>st</sup> Late Start –Jean Day/Breast Cancer Bowl – SF Blood Drive  
October 28<sup>th</sup> Gladhander Preview Night - No school for High School  
October 29<sup>th</sup> Gladhander

