

Dear Parent/Guardian,

January 7, 2015

Happy 2015! I hope that you enjoyed the holidays with your family and friends. I am looking forward to a wonderful new year for St. Hilary School.

I am incredibly thankful to Mr. Carl Chadek and Ms. Kelly Lamorena for organizing our 2nd Annual St. Hilary School and Parish Christmas Concert. The concert was a huge success and we received numerous compliments on the warm holiday spirit that was felt by everyone who attended. Thank you to all of our amazing children, talented musicians and singers who made this event so memorable.

Thank you also to the Advent Committee for preparing the Advent/Christmas Prayer Service on Dec. 19th. Also, thank you for all their time and efforts in organizing all the events and projects throughout Advent.

Thank you to Dr. Peg Hanrahan and all the children who participated in the children's pantomime at the Family Christmas Eve mass. This representation of children during the liturgy exemplified the importance of including and celebrating children at mass.

Congratulations to Ms. Montemurro, one of our 1st grade teachers, who has been nominated for the Golden Apple Excellence in Teaching Award. Her dedication to our children and her passion for teaching certainly warrants this nomination.

Friday, January 16th marks the half way point of the 2nd trimester. Please be vigilant with your financial obligations. Parent-teacher-student conferences are scheduled for Friday, January 23rd. A conference request form is included in today's envelope. These conferences are <u>not</u> mandatory for every child. They are based on teacher and/or parent requests. Please return the conference form to school by Wednesday, January 14th. You will receive notification if a teacher has requested to see you regarding your child's progress on Friday, January 9th. If you do not receive notification of a requested conference and you do not wish to schedule a conference no further letter will be sent home to you. Confirmation of schedule times will be sent home on Tuesday, January 20th. If you have any questions on this process please do not hesitate to contact me either by email or phone.

On Saturday, January 10th our 8th graders will be taking their high school placement tests. Please keep them in your prayers as they begin the process of continuing this new journey in their education.

As winter is now upon us please remember to dress your child appropriately. As stated in our handbook we will have indoor recess if the temperature is 25 degrees or below real or with wind chill. Snow boots have certainly been a necessity these past couple of days; please remember to send a pair of shoes with your child so that they can change out of their boots. Wearing these boots all day is not healthy or comfortable, also they track snow and salt throughout the school and classrooms where children often sit on the floor for activities. There will be boot trays outside of each class so that the boots can dry out until the end of the day. I appreciate your cooperation and understanding in this matter.

I would like to call your attention to a few things in this week's envelope.

- A letter regarding free and reduced lunches. If your child/ren does not already receive free/reduced lunch and you have not previously applied I encourage you to complete this form so that an application can be sent home with your child. Providing your child with a hot meal at a reduced cost is a benefit that we can share with you to help reduce any financial difficulties one may have.
- 2. I am looking for parents to help me with a new program, St. Hilary Parent Ambassadors. We all know what an incredible place St. Hilary's is, I need you to help me spread the message and let others know all about us. Please read the flyer enclosed and contact me if you are interested. I thank you in advance for your time and continued dedication to St. Hilary.
- 3. The National Catholic Educational Association is working towards improved federal policies which will impact Catholic schools. They are encouraging everyone involved in Catholic education to subscribe to NCEA. This subscription is free and will keep you updated on important information.
- 4. Thank you to everyone who has been participating in the Recycling Contest. The amount of plastic and aluminum that we have saved is overwhelming but we have a long way to go. The St. Hilary classroom contest ends on Friday; however the Pepsico Challenge will continue until April. This is our chance to win up to \$50,000.00 to help cover the cost of providing a quality Catholic education to each of our children. Keep recycling, it is certainly appreciated!

Dates to Remember:

- Wednesday, January 7 1:45 dismissal
- Sunday, January 11 Family Mass at 10:00 a.m.
- Tuesday, January 13 the Feast of St. Hilary, all school mass 8:30 a.m.
- Thursday, January 15, 2014 1st Communion Parent Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria
- Friday, January 16 8th grade Graduation pictures taken

Emergency Closing/Cold Weather

Cold weather: Students will be kept in for indoor recess when the temperature is below 25 degrees (actually or with wind chill) or in wet rainy/snowy conditions. Please make sure your child comes prepared to go outdoors – gloves, scarf, hat or hood. This is especially true of those who are on patrol.

Emergency Closing Information

Our SchoolReach system will notify you either by phone or email in the event of our school closing due to weather. In addition, emergency closing information will be announced on WBBM Radio Newsradio 780 and WGN Radio 720. The television stations to watch are CBS Channel 2 Chicago, Channel 5, ABC Channel 7 Chicago, WGN Morning News, Fox 32 and CLTV News. On-line you may access information at <u>www.EmergencyClosings.com</u>. Our website <u>www.sthilarychicago.org</u> will also have closing information. We will close if the Archdiocese closes and if CPS closes – extremely rare events. You should choose, based on your own judgment and situation, whether or not to keep your child (ren) home.

Please check out the Peek at the Week for a look at the week ahead.

Gratefully,

Mrs. Kathie Donovan Mrs. Kathie Donovan, Principal

A Peek at the Week

Week of January 12 - 16

St. Hilary where faith, family, and academics thrive!

MONDAY: January 12th

Altar Servers: L. Sirgiovanni, Z. Abalos

- ✓ Religious Education classes
- ✓ Cadet band 7:00 7:50 a.m. in Room 109
- ✓ Concert band 3:00 4:00 p.m. in Room 109

TUESDAY: January 13th

Altar Servers: W. Lopez, L. Nguyen, D. Dinh

- ✓ Student Council meeting for officers
- ✓ Feast of St. Hilary 8:30 all school liturgy
- ✓ Board of Specified Jurisdiction Meeting 7:00 p.m. in rectory

WEDNESDAY: January 14th

Altar Servers: G. Carreon, C. Portokalis

- ✓ Family & School Association Meeting 7:00 p.m. in cafeteria
- ✓ Cadet band 3:00 4:00 p.m. in Room 109

THURSDAY: January 15th

Altar Servers: M. Cabrera, M. Crowe

- ✓ Concert band 7:00 7:50 a.m. in Room 109
- ✓ Choir 3:00 4:00 p.m. in Room 109
- ✓ First Communion Parent Meeting 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria

FRIDAY: January 16th

Altar Servers: T. Dang, J. Grahf

 \checkmark 8th Grade Graduation pictures taken

SATURDAY: January 17th

Altar Servers: 8:30 a.m. I. Aco, S. Yunez-Torres

5:00 p.m. L. Sirgiovanni, J. Sirgiovanni, S. Habert

SUNDAY: January 18th

Altar Servers: 8:00 a.m. G. Carreon, B. Ho, L. Nguyen 10:00 a.m. M. Oquendo, S. Oquendo, B. Ancelet 12:00 Noon C. & K. Buenaventura, D. Flatsoussis

No School on Monday, January 19th – Martin Luther King Day



January 7, 2015

Dear School Families,

This year St. Hilary will be scheduling our parent teacher student conferences which will be held on Friday, January 23rd from 1:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Parents are asked to fill in the information below in order to help schedule your family. Teachers will schedule conferences based on the family information received no later than January 14th. Families who have more than one child in the family are the first to be scheduled. It is very important that this form is returned to the school no later than Wednesday, January 14th, in order to honor the time you requested. Confirmation of your parent conference will be sent home on Tuesday, January 20th.

A reminder school is dismissed on Friday, January 23rd, at 11:30am for parent conferences. There is extended care for students registered in the extended day program.

Thank you, Mrs. Donovan			
Mis. Donovan			
Name of Family			
Child's Name	Grade	Room #	
Time preference			
Child's Name	Grade	Room #	
Time preference			
Child's Name	Grade	Room #	
Time preference			
Child's Name	Grade	Room #	
Time preference			

<u>Indicate your preferred date and time for your conference</u> – times should be indicated in 30 minute increments (i.e. 2:00 – 2:30 pm). The conference time per child is 10 minutes unless requested and scheduled otherwise.

<u>Teachers will be on a dinner break from 3:00pm to 4:00pm.</u> There should not be a conference filled in between the time period of 3:00pm to 4:00pm.

Top 5 Reasons To Become A Parent Ambassador

- 5 . You will meet a lot of great new friends.
- It is a great way to earn participation hours.
- 3. You will learn things about the school that you never knew.
- You will be playing an active role in the growth of the school.
- 1. You will get a cool St. Hilary shirt.

ANNOUNCING!!!

NEW

The St. HILARY Parent Ambassador Program

2014 - 2015 THIS PROGRAM IS:

- a new way to communicate with St. Hilary families
- a recruitment opportunity to share St. Hilary with others
- encourages involvement in St. Hilary activities
- offers assistance for St. Hilary parents navigating challenges that may arise each year

PARENT AMBASSADORS ARE:

- a resource for prospective, new, and current St. Hilary families in need of information
- a way to create unity within the St. Hilary family by making sure everyone is up-to-date on school-wide events with personal contact ahead of time

PARENT AMBASSADORS WILL:

- make periodic phone calls and e-mails to prospective and new families to see how students and families are adjusting to St. Hilary
- guide new families through the transition to St. Hilary
- attend school-wide events to meet new families and introduce them to current families
- assist current families with any new questions that arise throughout the year
- visit parishes without schools or with closing schools
- provide tours to prospective families
- work in conjunction with our Family & School Association

INTERESTED IN PARTICIPATING?

If you are interested in serving as a Parent Ambassador please RSVP to Mrs. Donovan at or email Donovan@sthilarychicago.org

Catholic Schools Week begins Jan. 25th – I need you to help us grow our school and the time is now!

Recycling Competition Is Still On!



There are still 2 more days left to help Santa recycle old year's plastic and aluminum cans. The final amount will be tallied this Friday, January 9.

Recycle Winners: The classroom that brings in the most items will be given an "out of uniform" day

A specific date for "out of uniform" will be determined by Mrs. Donovan in the near future.

*If any family needs service hours the next few days, contact Maestra Busscher via email to help out with sorting and delivery. <u>busscher@sthilarychicago.org</u>

Santa will only accept #1 plastic items and aluminum soda cans				
No milk jugs/cartons	No paper	No cardboard	No aluminum baking cans	
No tin foil	foil No trash		No glass	





MAKE YOUR 2015 NEW YEARS RESOLUTION TO START USING SCP!

You can now use your rebate towards reducing your tuition, your book fee, purchase gym uniforms, after school care, or add to your lunch card and as always you can buy more certificates, or donate your rebate to the school which would be used towards the school technology program

Remember, no order too Big or too Small. It all goes to benefit our children.

- ST. HILARY RECEIVES A COMMISSION ON EACH CERTIFICATE SOLD.
- ✤ WE WILL SPLIT THAT COMMISSION "50-50" ON YOUR TOTAL PURCHASE FOR EACH QUARTER. IT CAN BE USED TOWARDS TUITION, BUY MORE CERTIFICATES OR DONATE IT TO THE SCHOOL.
- "FACTS" PARTICIPANTS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR ALL THE BENEFITS OF THE SCP PROGRAM.

✤ USE THEM TO SHOP INSTEAD OF CASH, CHECK OR CREDIT.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SCP* KATHY ERNST @ email ernst@sthilarychicago.org

CERTIFICATES USUALLY ON HAND:

CERTIFICATE ORDERS RECEIVED BY FRIDAY WILL BE AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK:

RESTAURANTS:		RETAIL:	
		Bath & Body Works (6.5% rebate)	\$10
Burger King (2% rebate)	\$10	Best Buy (1.5% rebate)	\$25
Chili's (5.5% rebate)	\$25	Carson Pirie Scott (4.5% rebate)	\$25
Chipotle (5.5% rebate)	\$10	Claire's (4.5% rebate)	\$10
Dunkin Donuts (1.5% rebate)	\$10	Dick's Sporting Goods (3% rebate)	\$25
I Hop (4%rebate)	\$25	Gordon Food Service (1.5% rebate)	\$25
Kentucky Fried Chicken (4.5% rebate)	\$5	Home Depot (2% rebate)	\$25
Lettuce Entertain You Restaurants (6.5% rebate)	\$25	Jewel-Osco (2% rebate)	\$25
Lou Malnatis (3.5% rebate)	\$25	Jewel-Osco (2% rebate)	\$100
Panera Bread (4.5% rebate)	\$10	Lowe's Home (2% rebate)	\$25
Olive Garden/Red Lobster (4.5% rebate)	\$25	Marianos (2% rebate)	\$25
Panera Bread (4.5% rebate)	\$10	Marshall's/T J Maxx(3.5% rebate)	\$25
Pizza Hut (4% rebate)	\$10	Muller Meats (3% rebate)	\$20
Starbucks Coffee (3.5% rebate)	\$10	Old Navy,Gap,Banana Republic (2% rebate)	\$25
Subway (1.5% rebate)	\$10	Ross (5% rebate)	\$25
Wendy's (2% rebate)	\$10	Toy-R-Us (1.5% rebate)	\$20
		Walgreens (3% rebate)	\$25
SPECIALTY:		Wal-mart (1.25% rebate)	\$25
AMC-Cineplex-Sony-Lowes Theaters (4% rebate)	\$25		
AMC-Cineplex-Sony-Lowes Theaters (4.5% rebate)	\$9		
Fannie May (12% rebate)	\$20		
l Tunes (1.5% rebate)	\$25		
Mobil/Exxon (0.50% rebate)	\$50		
Shell Debit Card (1% rebate)	\$25		
Shell Debit Card (1% rebate)	\$100	ST. HILARY GIFT CERTIFICATE	
U.S. Postage Stamps 20 @ .49¢ (0% rebate)	8.8	CHOOSE THE AMOUNT \$	
CERTIFICATE ORDERS (FROM BOTTOM SECTION)	RECEIVED BY FRIDAY W	/ILL BE AVAILABLE ON TUESDAY OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK:	
RESTAURANTS:	\$10	RETAIL:	
	\$10	Ded Deth 9, Decledd (200 echelol)	625
Boston Market (6.5% rebate)	\$10	Bed, Bath & Beyond (3% rebate)	\$25
Buffalo Wild Wings (3.5% rebate)	\$25	Build A Bear (4% rebate)	\$25
Eduardo's Pizza (4% rebate)	\$10	Crate & Barrel (3% rebate)	\$25
Houlihan's (4% rebate)	\$25	CVS Pharmacy (2% rebate)	\$25
Mrs. Fields Cookies (9% rebate)	\$10	Eddie Bauer (4.5% rebate)	\$25
Outback Steakhouse (4% rebate)	\$25	Express (5.0% rebate)	\$25
Red Robin (4.5% rebate)	\$25	Foot Locker (4% rebate)	\$25
		Hair Cuttery (4% rebate)	\$10
SPECIALTY:		J C Penneys (2% rebate)	\$25
		Land's End (7% rebate)	\$25
Barnes & Noble (4% rebate)	\$10	Lane Bryant (4% rebate)	\$25
B P Gas (.50% rebate)	\$50	Mario Tricoci (4% rebate)	\$25
Chuck E. Cheese (4% rebate)	\$20	Menard's (1.5% rebate)	\$25
Honey Baked Ham (4.5% rebate)	\$25	Office Depot (2% rebate)	\$25
Hyatt Hotels (4% rebate)	\$25	Office Max (2.5% rebate)	\$25
Oberweis (4.5% rebate)	\$10	Payless Shoes (6.5% rebate)	\$10
Timber Ridge Lodge (4.5% rebate)	\$25	Pier 1 Imports (4.5% rebate)	\$20
		Pottery Barn/Wm. Sonoma (4% rebate)	\$25
		Shutterfly (4.5% rebate)	\$25
Please note: When one or more companies are listed together, the certificates a	re good at either store.	Sports Authority (4% rebate)	\$25
		Target (1.00% rebate)	\$25
NAME		Target (1.00% rebate)	\$100
ORDER TOTAL \$			
SEND WITH STUDENT *		PHONE NUMBER	
		Disease marks also also assume to the Cr. 1995 Colored	
WILL PICK-UP AT SCHOOL		Please make checks payable to: St. Hilary School	
*PLEASE NOTE: St. Hilary School & its Board cannot be held responsible for any loss that may occur in transit.		ROOM #	
Any Questions, Call Kathy Ernst (773) 989-9249.		······································	

The FSA is looking for helping hands at the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 25, in the cafeteria. Volunteers are needed to set up, greet, cook, serve and tidy up. This is a fantastic way to get to know others in the St. Hilary community, welcome prospective families, and earn service hours.

Arrailable times and annortunities

Available times and opportunities		
Set up	7 – 9 a.m.	
Greeters	8:30 a.m. – <mark>10:30 a.m.</mark>	
	10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.	
Cooks	8 a.m. – 10 a.m.	
	10 a.m. – noon	
Servers	8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	
	10:30 a.m. – 12 <mark>:30 p.m</mark> .	
Clean up	Noon – 2 p.m.	

How to volunteer

Return the form below by Friday, Jan. 23, contact Maria Hench (773-620-0642 at mariahench@gmail.com), or signup online via SignUp Genius at http://goo.gl/TEvrjY

** Please bring your service hour cards so you receive credit for volunteering.

I'd like to volunteer for the Pancake Breakfast on Sunday, Jan. 25.

Name:				
Phone:	_ email:			
I can help set up greet	cook serve clean up			
If you checked "greet," "cook," and/or "serve," what time(s) can you volunteer?				

Please return this form by Friday, Jan. 23. Thank you for your volunteer service!

Market Day Time!

Start FRESH with the New Year by making a purchase that contains the perfect blend of delicious and easy. Market Day will allow you to maintain that New Year's resolution by preparing meals that are easy to make and easy to store!! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR??

Pick-up: School Parking Lot

Entrance Door #6

When: Saturday, January 31

Time: 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Order Deadline: School by Friday 01/23

Internet orders by 11 p.m, Tuesday 01/27



National Catholic Educational Association Leadership. Direction. Service.

Announcement

January 5, 2015

Dear Friend of Catholic Education,

The start of the 114th Congress in January offers a new and promising opportunity to get ESEA (No Child Left Behind) improved and reauthorized. The House and Senate are both expected to reintroduce bills to reauthorize ESEA as early as late January and early February. We will be working closely with USCCB and our other partners to ensure that the proposed bills include provisions which improve equitable participation, including technical fixes for the issue of "set asides" being taken off the top prior to calculation of our equitable participation.

USCCB, with the support of NCEA, is organizing advocacy efforts and will be leading Congressional visits on January 29, 2015 and February 12, 2015. These visits will include some superintendents, Catholic Conference directors, diocesan public policy directors as well as members of USCCB, NCEA, and CAPE.

In order to maximize the impact of these Congressional visits and to ensure that the Catholic school community across the country has a voice in these important discussions, we are asking that you encourage your teachers, parents, and the entire educational community to join the <u>subscription list</u> at http://cqrcengage.com/catholicbishops/catholic-education so that we can build a robust and coordinated grassroots response to federal policies which impact Catholic schools.

The Secretariat of Catholic Education will use the CQ Engage System to notify people about the virtual and social media advocacy efforts at the appropriate time and provide an opportunity for advocacy through electronic letters, e-mail, phone calls, and social media.

NCEA is happy to partner with the Secretariat of Catholic Education to ensure our parents', teachers' and students' voices are heard on Capitol Hill! Thank you for what you can do to foster this important initiative.

Sincerely, Robert R. Bimonte, FSC NCEA President

> National Catholic Educational Association • 1005 N. Glebe Rd., Ste 525 • Arlington, VA 22201 • (800) 711-NCEA [6232] www.NCEA.org





Men's Club Candlelight Bowling

Saturday, January 24th 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. **Lincoln Square Lanes**

\$50.00 / couple Includes bowling and dinner (Dinner only: \$10.00) Cash bar and shoes extra

RSVP/Contact Miles Conway 773-552-8420 conwaymiles@yahoo.com











St. Hilary Men's Club "The Big Game" Gathering Sunday Feb. 1, 2015 School cafeteria Ladies welcome \$40/person \$60/couple 2:00 p.m. – 9:00 pm

Family & Friends welcome Games of chance Snacks and dinner served Game on large screen and HD television





