



Principal's Newsletter

September 2017

"If you can dream it, you can do it."

Walt Disney

It seems that we have been in school longer than one month and accomplished so much in less than thirty days. We have completed SFP Follies, Strategies for Academic Success, iPad distribution, and training for the 9th graders; an orientation day for sophomore, juniors, and seniors, 11 class days, Back to School Night, our opening Liturgies for all levels, College Fair, and the Walk-a-thon. We are a community of learners in a nurturing, rewarding, challenging, and inspiring environment at St. Francis Prep. Our faculty, staff, and students live out our Franciscan values on a daily basis: To Live Lovingly, Care for Creation, Proclaim Joy and Hope, and Be Living Instruments of Peace.

May you have a peaceful, productive, and enriching 2017-18 school year! **Mr. McLaughlin**



Feast of St. Francis

On Wednesday, October 4th, at 8:30 a.m. in the school Auditorium, the Prep will celebrate the

Feast of St. Francis of Assisi with a liturgy celebrated by Bishop James Massa.

At the liturgy, we will be honoring:



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Brother Robert Kent, O.S.F. Brother

Leonard Conway, O.S.F.

on the occasion of their *50th Anniversary (Golden Jubilee)* as Franciscan Brothers.

The **Canticle Citation Awards** will be presented to the following:

25 Years of Service

Margarita Argüeso Gerilyn

Coccia

15 Years of Service

Robert Angeletti

Robyn Armon

Gerard Kruger

Christian Sullivan

Nancy Williams

Also at this liturgy, the **President's Award** will be presented to:

25 Years of Service

Kathleen Carroll

Welcome!

We are delighted to welcome 2 Irish Franciscan Brothers from Kenya to St. Francis Prep and the USA!

Brothers Bernard and Gerald arrived on Wednesday, Sept. 27, and will be in the area until October 13. Brother Leonard, our president, met them when he visited the school that we help in Lare, Kenya: St. Francis Secondary School.

They participated in our Walkathon, and will participate in the Feast of St. Francis, and the Franciscan Brothers Jubilees and will visit other schools staffed by our Brothers. They will also tour the area. The Brother's will attend our Alumni reception in Washington, DC, before flying to Los Angeles to visit with the fellow Brothers who work there.

There will be a welcome assembly for visiting Brothers Bernard and Gerald on Monday, Oct. 2 in the auditorium.

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It is great to have them here to share with our Franciscan family at SFP!



From the desk of Brother James McVeigh, OSF, Franciscan Mission Coordinator :

Our Franciscan Mission

As we prepare for the feast of Saint Francis, our Holy Founder, on October 4th, we invite all in our Franciscan family to join us as we introduce our students to our Franciscan values: Live Lovingly, Care for Creation, Proclaim Joy and Hope, and Be Living Instruments of Peace. We as your children's teachers and you as parents and guardians have the awesome task of challenging these young people not just to talk but to put these values into practice in their everyday life. St. Francis' values are as necessary today as they were in his time. Look around: homelessness, environmental catastrophes, so much hate talk, a fear of war. Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me. Your child can be proactive in giving action steps to these values through our Franciscan Youth Ministry (FYM). Challenge your children to be involved in our FYM and Campus Ministry activities.



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Blessing of the Tau Crosses

On Wednesday, September 20th, the Senior Cor Teachers presented their students with their senior Tau crosses. The students and crosses were blessed at the Mass of the Holy Spirit. The students were challenged to make our Franciscan values a centerpiece of their last year in high school. [Facebook Slideshow](#) [HERE](#)

From the desk of Mr. Castellano:

JANUARY REGENTS EXAMS

We will be offering many of the Regents exams in January. Students who did not pass a Regents exam and would like to re-take it in January must see Mr. Castellano by 18 October. Students who did not pass a Regents exam required for graduation will be automatically registered for the exam and must take it in January. Students who passed a Regents exam may not re-take it to get a higher grade. Parents or guardians with questions may call their child's guidance counselor or Mr. Castellano: 718-423-8810, ext. 209.

Seventh Annual Walk-a-thon, September 29, 2017



Campus Ministry

On Sunday, September 24th, Campus Ministry hosted the annual retreat leader training weekend at Camp Alvernia. All members of the Campus Ministry team were on hand and 51 juniors and seniors in training to lead this year's sophomore retreat program. Our leaders worked hard to ensure a fantastic retreat experience for the class of 2020. The students were able to learn all about the workings of the sophomore retreat while having a unique retreat experience themselves. The overnight experience included a bonfire, games, Mass with our chaplain Fr. Mark Simmons, and a little bit of peace and quiet on beautiful Centerport Harbor.

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Special thanks to Mrs. Cosgrove who chaperoned overnight and to Cheyenne Coco '13, EMT and former Retreat Leader herself.

The sophomore retreat will begin in the coming weeks. We are looking forward to a great year of fun and spirit-filled experiences at Camp Alvernia.

We are also currently accepting applications for the Junior Overnight Retreat which will take place November 15, 16, and 17 in West Hartford, Connecticut. Please visit Campus Ministry or call ext. 292 for more information about this experience. Registration is limited and will fill up fast!

Good Job!

Arianna Goolcharan, Cor 206, and Jada Jackson, Cor 207, on the JV Cross Country Team: on September 16th, while competing in the Villa Bears Invitational Cross Country meet at Van Cortland Park, both student athletes came upon a runner from another school who had collapsed from dehydration. The two girls stayed with her until the athletic trainers arrived to administer first aid, sacrificing their own chances of winning a medal. Thanks for living out our Franciscan values!



Exchange Students

A group of students from the Albert Einstein School in Maintal, Germany, arrived at the Prep on September 18. For ten days, the German students lived with the families of Prep students, attended classes with them, and took trips to Manhattan. The Prep has been conducting student exchanges with the German school since 2004. A group of Prep students is scheduled to spend ten days at the Albert Einstein School next summer. Any student wishing to participate in the exchange should contact Mr. Kruger in the Social Studies Department.

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Faculty News

Congratulations to Mr. Eric Hafker for publishing his new book, Bare. The book, which contains 38 poems, has won several awards, including an Honorable Mention in Writer's Digest's 200 SelfPublished Book Awards for poetry. Mr. Hafker teaches English, American literature, and Poetry and is Moderator of the Little Portion and Poetry Out Loud.



Homecoming 2017

The Annual 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament in memory of Jimmy '79 and James Prendergast H'11 is a perennial favorite for so many men and women. This year, on **Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017**, the event will also honor the late Brian K. O'Connor '86 with the 3-Point Shooting Contest named in his memory. Our



students serve as the game officials and Alumni Board volunteers organize the event. The event begins at 6:30 pm in the Prep's gym. Refreshments are served after the contest and there are many raffles and prizes! Advance registration is required. Online registration can be found at: alumni.sfponline.org

Friends of SFP Football will be holding **their 2nd Annual Casino Night** at Bourbon Street Restaurant, 40-12 Bell Blvd., Bayside, NY, on **Friday, Oct. 20, 2017**, from 7:00- 10:00 PM. This year, we will be remembering a true friend of SFP Football, **Royce Mulholland '79**. The entrance donation is \$125 per person and includes \$200 in play chips, an open bar and appetizers, and much more! Online registration can be found at: sfpfootballcasinonight.eventbrite.com/.

SFP Parents, Alumni, and Friends are invited to participate in our Annual Homecoming **Day at Belmont Park on Saturday, Oct. 21, 2017**. This event is always an exciting and enjoyable time! The Turf and Field Club room will be reserved exclusively for SFP. It offers spectacular views of the track and has private betting windows and linen-covered tables. A delicious buffet lunch will be served. (A cash bar is available.) Seating is limited and only advance reservations are accepted. Online reservations can be made at: alumni.sfponline.org

On **Sunday, Oct. 22, 2017**, SFP will be hosting the annual **5K Fun Run in memory of our 9/11 Heroes**, RAIN or SHINE. Advance registration is requested. It will begin with Mass at 8:00 a.m. in the School Chapel. Day of Race Registration and Check-in is from 8:00-9:15 AM. A post-race breakfast is included. Register online at: alumni.sfponline.org.

Later that day, alumni, parents and friends will cheer on the Terriers at the Annual Homecoming Football game at Martin Van Buren High School at **1:00 PM**. Vs. Xavier High School.

Alumni News

A Terrier standout who went on to study and play football at Harvard University, Dr. Gerard Hevern, (SFP Class of 1968, Hall of Fame 2011,) has demonstrated throughout his life that being a champion means far more than scoring goals or achieving fame and fortune. Jerry has distinguished himself by staying true to the Franciscan values he was taught at St. Francis Prep.

Just last week, the American Academy of Family Physicians awarded its highest honor to Jerry. He was named the AAFP's National Family Physician of the Year, recognizing him as the top American family physician when it comes to providing patients with compassionate, comprehensive care while also serving as a role model in his community and to other health professionals.

