



Sister Mary Walter Hickey, RSM
President

President's Notes



On Friday, September 23rd the school community celebrated the Feast of Our Lady of Mercy, the feast chosen by Catherine McAuley, the founder of the Sisters of Mercy, as a patronal feast. It is also the day on which Catherine opened the first House of Mercy on Baggot Street in Dublin, Ireland. We remembered Catherine's deep faith and her service to the poor, the sick and the uneducated.

Catherine chose Mercy because there was a need for it – a need then and a need today. Mercy calls us to be compassionate, to be empathetic, and to respond to the needs of others. It is a call to action.

In 19th Century Ireland, when Catherine founded the Sisters of Mercy, it was a time of urbanization. With people moving into cities, there was much poverty, women were abused and children were neglected. She saw the plight of the poor, especially women and children. She responded to this need by setting up the first House of Mercy in Dublin. She said, "The poor don't need help tomorrow or next week, they need it now" and she used her own resources to help them.

In the day's gospel reading Jesus spoke to his wrangling apostles about service. When the Mother of James and John asked the favor of special seating in the Kingdom of Heaven, he answered by telling them that it was not for him to decide but for His Father. They were challenged to follow his example **NOT TO BE SERVED BY OTHERS BUT TO SERVE.**

How do we combine Catherine's commitment to service and the gospel message? We do so by following the words she gave her friends in community. "There are three things which the poor prize more highly than gold, tho' they cost the donor nothing; among these are the kind word, the gentle compassionate look and the patient hearing of sorrows."

A Kind Word: Encouraging another when there is doubt; Asking a person how they are doing and mean it; Telling another that you are so sorry to hear about their troubles and responding to their immediate need.

A Gentle Look: Making another feel loved and welcome; by not being indignant or exasperated; by not being haughty or cliquey giving the impression that you are better than the other, but by being gentle, loving and kind.

Patient Listening: Listening to the same story over and over again when you are visiting. A gentle listening ear makes a big difference to a lonely person.

We are all challenged to make kind words, gentle looks and patient listening a goal for this year and remember like Catherine we are called not to be served by others, but to serve. In doing this our school will be a reflection of God's abundant mercy.

Sr. Mary Walter Hickey, RSM



A Message from our Principal:

My start as the Interim Principal of Notre Dame High School has been rewarding and exciting. The staff has been collegial and most helpful in the transition process.

Faculty and staff have had a very busy few months opening school. In August, we participated in training in the new student management system, Renweb. In September we welcomed back thirty faculty members including three teachers new to Notre Dame. Opening day of school saw 62 Freshmen begin their High School careers with a welcome Freshman Day that included team building activities and introduction to High School life. The Student Council hosted a well-attended Welcome Freshman Event at a Picnic Supper in the Parking Lot on Monday, September 12, 2011. Dr. Alveda King (niece of Dr. Martin Luther King) spoke at a student assembly on September 13, 2011. On Friday, September 16, Attorney Richard Rich spoke to the student body on the importance of the U.S. Constitution in recognition of Constitution Day on Saturday, September 17, 2011.

On September 21, 2011, the Faculty and Administration hosted a Freshman Parent Orientation evening. The parents followed the student schedule and met in the classrooms. On September 23, 2011 all Freshmen along with Senior Leaders participated in a Freshman Retreat day held at the Marian Center.

Spirit Week and Homecoming were held during the last week in September. All in all the school year is off to a wonderful start.

Mr. Jim Snyder

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News briefs

Doing Your Fair Share

It is important that every family does their "fair share" to make up the difference between the stated tuition and the cost of educating a student at Notre Dame High School. Your contribution of (\$1750) or your hours of service are very important in sustaining the Notre Dame community. In reviewing our records all families have not signed up or submitted their forms for service. The school is in need of volunteers in the concession stand. Parents are needed to make Mayfest and the Fall Fundraiser a success.

Open House

It is never too early to start thinking about the next school year! **We are having an Open House on Sunday, November 13, 2011** from 1-3PM for families who might be interested in sending their children to Notre Dame High School for the 2012-2013 school year. We would like to ask you to mention this Open House to family and friends and encourage them to come and see what Notre Dame has to offer their sons or daughters. Thank you for all you do to help promote Notre Dame High School.

Save the Date

Friday, November 18th, Saturday, November 19th and Sunday November 20th, the Notre Dame Drama department is presenting **OKLAHOMA**, a 1940's musical by Rogers and Hammerstein. It is a fun production for our students, and one you will surely enjoy.

Guidance

Financial Aid presentation for all parents of college-bound students

The Guidance Office will hold an evening for parents of seniors to outline the process of applying for College Financial Aid on **Wednesday, November 30, 2011 at 7 pm in the ND Library**. This information is of particular assistance to parents who are new to this process but since the world of college financial aid is always changing there will also be pertinent information for parents who have been through it before. The presentation is free and open to the public.

Guidance - continued

School-wide Testing Day

A school-wide Testing Day for all 9th, 10th and 11th graders is on Wed., Oct. 12th. The juniors will be taking the PSAT in their homerooms in the morning and will have regular classes for Day 7 in the afternoon. Sophomores will be taking the PLAN test, a practice for the ACT college entrance test that also has an Interest Inventory component, in the morning in their homerooms. Any sophomore who wishes to take the PSAT may do so at Horseheads High School on Saturday morning, October 15th. Please see Mrs. Barron for more information. Freshmen will take the EXPLORE test, a standardized test from the ACT Company. Freshmen will be testing in their homerooms as well and will resume their normal day 7 schedule at 11:10am with the rest of the student body. They should come prepared with pencils and a calculator for testing. Students should prepare for these tests by getting a good night's sleep and having breakfast.

Speaker for Seniors

On October 12th, seniors will participate in "Three Key questions", a program developed by Boston College to help seniors discern their future. The morning promises to have a variety of activities with three-dynamic presenters and to help Seniors to reflect on three important questions.

What brings you joy? What are you good at? What does the world need you to be?

College Information Day at the Arnot Mall

We will be taking all seniors to the Mall in the afternoon of October 20th for the opportunity to talk with representatives from over 100 colleges. Permission slips will be given to seniors, **who must ride the bus** in order to go. We will leave ND at 11:15 AM and return by 3PM. Seniors may change into appropriate, casual dress clothes for the trip.

College Representatives visiting the Guidance Office

October is the busiest months for these visits that are open to all juniors and seniors, with permission of the teacher whose class they might possibly be missing to hear the presentation. The colleges and the times are posted on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs near the Guidance Office, downstairs on the main bulletin board and in junior and senior homerooms. Students should get a pass from Mrs. Shannon in the morning; get the pass signed by their teacher and show up in the Guidance Office at the beginning of the period.

KUDOS

Congratulations to the candidates for the Homecoming Court: **Emma Anderson** escorted by **Connor Sharkey**, **Olivia Hoover** escorted by **Kevin Geiser**, **Brina Pochal** escorted by **Collin McLaughlin** and **Victoria Prybyl** escorted by **Brett Skelly**.

National Merit Scholarship Program

Joseph DiFabio and **Amelia Neumayer** have been named a Semi-Finalist in the 2011 Competition for National Merit Scholarships. They are among 15,000 Finalists from which some 8,200 Merit Scholarship winners will be selected.

Rebecca Mozdy has been named a Commended Student in the 2011 National Merit Scholarship Program. A Letter of Commendation from the school and the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC), which conducts the program, has been presented to these scholastically talented seniors.

AP Scholars - Class of 2011

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP Exams. At Notre Dame High School, ten students qualified for the National AP Scholar Award by earning an average grade of 3 or higher on a five-point scale on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on three or more of these exams. These students are **Alex Beck, Jack Coughlin, Michael Davis, Ben Dawson, Luke DeLuccia, Julia Hannon, Emily Morgan, Sean O'Connor, Porter Weeks** and **Alyssa Wolfe**.

Two students qualified for the AP Scholar with Distinction Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. These students are **Shaan Amin** and **Genevieve Marcy**.

Two students qualified for the AP Scholar with Honor Award by earning an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. These students are **Madison Leonard** and **Melissa Mahajan**.

Middle School Madness

The NDHS students are hosting the third annual Middle School Madness on Friday, November 4th from 7 til 9:30 pm here at the school. All 6th, 7th and 8th grade students in the area are invited to this fun night of games, music and food. The event is free and we encourage any interested middle schoolers to invite their friends and neighbors and come to Notre Dame for a really great time!

KUDOS - continued

The following Seniors have been recognized for their great leadership during the freshman retreat: **Detta Gublo, Kyle Halm, Rebecca Mozdy, Shane Manning, Brina Pochal, Tory Prybyl, Becca Saggiomo, Sean Smetanka, Jake Wich-towski**

Thank you to all those who contributed in the March Out Hunger.

Thank you to **Mr. Tom Gaige**, owner of the Jubilee located in Horseheads for donating the ingredients for the delicious spaghetti supper that was recently held. The Senior class sponsored the supper and were praised for their work as they waited tables, help set-up and take down as well as pushing the dessert cart throughout the evening.

Fundraising

Your participation and support of fund raising events throughout the year is very much appreciated.

Discover 2011

The tickets for the **2011 Pot of Gold Drawing**, with a guaranteed minimum prizes totaling \$60,000 were recently mailed. The early bird drawing of \$500 prizes are held each Friday in October. The grand prize winner will receive \$25,000 on November 16, 2011. There is a \$100 prize for each seller of an early bird winning ticket. Tickets are \$100 each.

All profits support the Catholic schools of the Southern Tier: Notre Dame High School, Holy Family and All Saints Academy. Tickets are available at these schools and parish offices. The main drawing will be held in the library at Notre Dame High School on November 16.



Cell Phones/Ink Cartridges-Recycling Fundraiser

Don't throw out your old cell phones, iPods, GPS, or small ink cartridges. Instead, drop them off in the Advancement Office and help ND money. It is easy; when we send these used items to EcoPhones, they give money back to the school. In turn they restore the phones and cartridges, or use them for pieces and parts.

Candy Drive: Sept. 19 to Oct. 21

One hundred percent participation in the CANDY DRIVE is essential. If you have not returned your form for your candy sale please do so by October 8, 2011 so we can get the Gertrude Hawkes Chocolate Bars to you to sell.

This Classic fundraiser is a proven way to earn money and satisfy anyone's sweet tooth. Students have received a box of chocolate bars to tempt their friends and relatives with caramel, almond, crisp and milk chocolate varieties. Please send in returns by Oct. 21st.



Annual Phonathon

The annual phonathon begins on Sunday October 16th. Phone calls will be made to alumni, alumni parents, current parents and friends of Notre Dame to secure pledges for gifts to the Annual Fund.

These gifts help pay for academic programs, athletics, financial aid, creative arts and much more. Thank you in advance for your support.



Classic Corvette Raffle

We hope you have already taken a chance to win this beautiful Red on Red 1964 Corvette Convertible. Visit our website and click the link for the Classic Car Raffle to purchase your ticket. Tickets are only \$25 each or 6 for \$100. You may also contact the Advancement Office to pay by cash, check or credit card. Don't miss your chance to drive away in this beautiful, red classic.

Gift Ideas-Crusader Cards (Scrip)

Give yourself and your family a treat-take a road trip or go out to dinner after you purchase SCRIP cards for Tops gas or any of our participating restaurants! You can download an updated scrip form from the ND website under the Crusader Cards tab.

Top Ten Scrip Card Purchasers:

1. Mr. & Mrs. Joseph LaVelle
2. Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Keefer
3. Mr. & Mrs. James Miller
4. Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Barkley
5. Mr. & Mrs. Dennis Martin
6. Mr. & Mrs. John DeMuth
7. Mr. Mark Quesada & Ms. Michelle Hilton
8. Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Volino
9. Ms. Mary Hosey
10. Mr. & Mrs. William Smetanka

Be sure to check out the new additions such as **WEGMANS, AEROPOSTALE** and several others to the scrip form. They are highlighted on the form. This form can be downloaded from the ND website under the parents tab/crusader cards/scrip forms.

- Save the Date -

NOTRE DAME HIGH SCHOOL'S

AN EVENING AT THE CASINO ROYALE

SATURDAY THE 5TH OF NOVEMBER 2011
6:00 PM - 11:00 PM
CORNING COUNTRY CLUB

TO DONATE AUCTION ITEMS,
CALL SUSAN @ 654-7171 OR EMAIL
NDHSAUCTION@GMAIL.COM

PROCEEDS BENEFIT NDHS

Notre Dame High School
Cordially invites you to attend
An Evening at the Casino Royale
on Saturday the 5th of November 2011
6:00 pm - 11:00 pm
Corning Country Club
\$50 per ticket
RSVP by October 28th
Live & Silent Auctions ~ Chef Attended
Stations ~ Beer & Wine ~ Casino ~ Music
Cash Bar for mixed drinks
Dress: Business Casual
Proceeds to benefit Notre Dame High School
NDHSAuction@gmail.com

Fundraising - *continued*

Graduation Celebration 2012

The committee representing the Class of 2012 is very busy trying to raise money for the events following the 2012 graduation. Keep checking your mailbox for fundraiser forms. There are several fundraisers underway and senior parents appreciate all of your support.



Parents' Advancement Fund

Each school year we make a special appeal to our parents to support the Annual Fund. As you know the income from tuition does not cover the complete cost of educating a child. Each parent is asked to make a contribution of cash or services to help make up that difference. This fund raising does not "bridge the gap" completely. Therefore, we will once again appeal to your generosity in November. If each family could give what is possible according to their means, the school will be able to reach its goal for the Parents' Advancement Fund which is \$37,500 – a reasonable and an attainable goal. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthy cause.

School Calendar

The calendar is posted on the school's website. As you study it and make plans for vacations, please keep in mind the dates that have already been set aside for time away from school. Students, who miss school because of family plans at times other than those already set aside, miss valuable classroom time.

Thanksgiving Recess

**Wednesday, November 23, 2011 -
Sunday, November 27, 2011**

Christmas Recess

**Thursday, December 22, 2011 -
Monday, January 3, 2012**

President's Weekend Recess

**Friday, February 17, 2012 -
Monday, February 20, 2012**

Spring Recess

**Friday, April 6, 2012 -
Sunday, April 15, 2012**

Student athletes need to be aware of games and practices during Thanksgiving, Christmas, President's Weekend Recess and Spring Recess. These students should consult with their coaches prior to making plans.



The School Calendar and Sports Schedules can be accessed on the Notre Dame Website at:

www.notredamehighschool.com.

To access the sports calendar, click the orange "Sports Schedule" tab under Quick Links on the home page.

To access the School calendar, click the black "Calendar" tab at the top right corner of the home page.

To access the "Crusader Connection", click the "Parents" tab on the home page then click Crusader Connection.



Events throughout the year

Your participation and support of the fund raising events throughout the year will be very much appreciated.

Save the dates for:

5th Annual McAuley Dinner at the Elmira Country Club

Tuesday, October 18, 2011

6:00-7:00 PM Cocktails

7:00PM - Dinner

Notre Dame Casino Royale at the Corning Country Club

Saturday, November 5, 2011

6:00PM-11:00 PM

Fun with Inflatables

Saturday, February 25, 2012

10:00AM-3:00PM

Big Band Dance

Saturday, March 10, 2012

7:30PM

Mayfest

Saturday, May 12, 2012

10:00AM-3:00PM