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Students from St. Augustine High School have embarked on "The Underground Railroad - A Real March for Life" trip. While visiting the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, they got to see the St. Augustine High School picture featured on the wall in the museum.

News from Jan...

Next week, we celebrate Catholic Schools Week and recognize the gift of Catholic education. With the ministry of the Ursuline sisters in 1727, almost 300 years ago, Catholic education began in the city of New Orleans.

What is the significance of Catholic education? How has Catholic education made a difference in our archdiocese?

We are a family of schools that strive to be authentically Catholic in a culture of academic excellence with accessibility to families who want a Catholic education. Under the dynamic leadership of Archbishop Gregory M. Aymond, clergy, religious, educators and many others work passionately in the ministry of Catholic education to make that vision a reality for the children in our archdiocese. Parents work and sacrifice to give their children the gift of Catholic education. I thank and applaud these heroes for instilling

ANNOUNCEMENTS

High School Principals

As you plan your calendars for the 2017-2018 school next year, please send me your OPEN HOUSE date and time.

At their January 17 meeting, the high school principals agreed to maintain the traditional OPEN HOUSE dates (1st Thursday, of October, 2nd Tuesday, etc.).

2017 Catholic Schools and ESSA Workshop

All schools and Civil Parish LEA Coordinators are invited to attend the 2017 Catholic Schools and ESSA Workshop on Wednesday, February 22nd from 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. at the Catholic Life Center Main Auditorium, Baton Rouge. Morning refreshments and lunch will be provided at a cost of \$25 per person to be invoiced to the schools. Additional information can be found on the [attached flyer](#). Please register by February

their faith in children.

As many of us reflect on our years in Catholic education, we can see how learning to live our faith shaped our entire person and made us who we are today.

In reflecting upon my years in Catholic education in our archdiocese, first at St. Angela Merici and then at Ursuline Academy, I realize making the world a better place through the teachings of Jesus Christ was instilled in me at an early age.

With the idea of serviam, Latin for "I will serve," I chose the ministry of Catholic education. In discussions with family, friends, and colleagues, I have consistently heard the same message. Catholic education brings people closer to God by instilling in students and families the teachings of Jesus Christ.

In celebrating Catholic Schools Week, I honor those of you associated with Catholic education. I honor the many of you who live your faith and give of yourself to serve others because of the values instilled in you by Catholic education. I honor the many people who sacrifice to make Catholic education a reality for others. I honor those that are working to ensure that Catholic education is available to all families who want their children to have a Catholic education. I thank each of you for making a difference in the lives of many through the ministry of Catholic education.

What a gift Catholic education is to all of us!

Jan

Calendar at a Glance...

March for Life in Washington D.C. - **January 24th - 29th**

Second Collection for Champions of Catholic Schools - **January 29th**

Catholic Schools Week - **January 30th - February 4th**

New Student Registration for Elementary Parochial Schools - **February 6th - 10th**

Facility Managers Meeting - **February 8th**

10th.

Catholic Schools Week Mass

This year's Catholic Schools Week Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Aymond at St. Dominic Church on Friday, February 3, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Every Catholic school is asked to participate by sending students with an administrator or teacher.

We will have our usual procession at the beginning of Mass, with one student from each school bringing a scroll to the altar. Attached [here](#) are the scrolls. You are asked to roll them and wrap them with a ribbon of your school's colors. Attached [here](#) you will find the week's agenda for each school to follow throughout the week. Each schools may invite however many students they choose.

Crimestoppers Event

Please see the Save the Date [here](#) for the next Crimestoppers event at UNO.

Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder Conference

Melissa Cook, who is an advocate for families living with Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) in Atlanta, will be participating as a presenter at a conference for FASD being held in New Orleans, February 3rd from 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

The program will be a strong day of discussion regarding strategies and interventions for FASD. The information is valuable to anyone in the special education field, justice and prison ministries, respect life ministries, as well as for parents. For more information visit the website [here](#).

REMINDERS

Lakeside Kids Expo

Please see attached flyer [here](#) for the Lakeside Kids Expo at Lakeside Shopping Center. The event will be held Saturday, March 11th, from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. To sign up click [here](#); for information on the mascot competition click [here](#).

Referee Payment Policy

Please see attachment [here](#) for the Archdiocese of New Orleans Referee Payment Policy.

River Parishes Region Meeting -
February 13th

Orleans Region Meeting - **February
14th**

Northshore Region Meeting - **February
15th**

East Jefferson Region Meeting -
February 16th

Westbank Region Meeting - **February
17th**

Facility Managers' Meeting

The next training session for Facility Managers is scheduled for Wednesday, February 8th from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at the Office of Catholic Schools. The training will focus on building maintenance relative to paint issues. Please RSVP to khanson@arch-no.org.

Test Coordinator Meetings

For schools that participate in the Louisiana Scholarship Program and/or the Tuition Donation Rebate Program - LDOE mandates training for all school test coordinators. The training will be held on Monday, February 6, 2017 from 1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. at Our Lady of Perpetual Help (Kenner). Please RSVP [here](#).

There will be a training meeting for ACT Aspire test coordinators on Thursday, February 9, 2017 from 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. at OCS. New school test coordinators are strongly encouraged to attend; it is optional for returning school test coordinators. Please RSVP [here](#).

High School College Fair

Save the date for the College Fair on March 20, 2017. Counselors see [here](#) for details on registering. Students see [here](#) for details on event.

Calling All 5th Graders

Please see attachment [here](#) for the next "Calling All 5th Graders" event.