

Nativity BVM School
1046 Beach Blvd.
Biloxi, MS. 39530
www.nativitybvm.org

September 5, 2006

Dear Parents and Guardians,

We remember, we celebrate, we look to the future! As we celebrate our 50th year, we give thanks for the many staff members, parishioners, families and students who have gone before us and who have made our school what it is today!

On Friday, September 8th, we will observe the birthday of Nativity BVM School with a special Mass at 1:00 p.m. in our school gym. We have invited Bishop Rodi along with our area priests to join with us in prayer and celebration on this, the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Near the end of the Mass we will have the rededication of our school gym. As you well know, we are grateful to the Imperial Palace Mississippi Charities for assuming the financial responsibility for the restoration of our gym as well as for many of our other hurricane damages. I hope that you will be able to join us on this day and offer your personal thanks to our generous donors from the Imperial Palace.

The Nativity School Choir has been invited to participate in the groundbreaking ceremony of St. Patrick's High School on Monday, September 11th at 10:00 a.m. St. Patrick's High School, as you know, will be our new diocesan high school and will be the joining of Mercy Cross High School and St. John's High School. We are honored to be invited to participate in this historic event.

School pictures are scheduled for Tuesday, September 12th. We will begin first thing in the morning so please be sure that any appointments are made for later in the day. Interestingly, Mr. Robert Stockton has taken school pictures at Nativity for well over twenty five years. In the last few years his son has joined him as well.

If you haven't already done so, please consider helping at the booths that our school will sponsor at the Biloxi Seafood Festival. This is an important event not only for our city but for our school! We have had the opportunity to be part of an event sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce and, at the same time, have raised funds for our school. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** In past years, we have needed over 200 cakes for our Cakewalk booth! Cakes may be brought to school on Friday or brought directly to the booth on Saturday or Sunday. They should be placed on disposable plates/trays and should be securely wrapped with a **clear wrap** or covering. Workers are needed for both our cakewalk booth and jambalaya booth so please consider signing up for one of the scheduled times! A big thank you to Mrs. Jennifer Schmidt for taking care of this event.

Our Sally Foster fund raiser is nearing completion. We appreciate whatever you are able to do to make this successful. Special thanks to Mrs. Gerry Ann Holt for organizing this event.

Through the work of the Junior Women's Auxiliary, our fifth and sixth graders will be learning the fine points of etiquette. The RSVP program will be presented to our young people on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 19th and 20th. A final reception and

celebration will be held on Thursday, September 21st. We are grateful to these women for their interest in our children.

During the first week of October each year, we are asked to present the Child Protection Program of the Diocese of Biloxi to our students. The program helps children better understand appropriate and inappropriate communication and touch. In preparation for this presentation, a parent session will be held on Thursday, September 28th at 6:00 p.m. At that time I will review the guidelines of the program and give you an overview of what will be presented to the children. At the same meeting, I will also give you information about the Wellness Policy that we have recently adopted for our school.

An election of officers took place at our recent School Advisory Council meeting. Congratulations to Mr. Steve Givens, President; Mr. David Leckich, Vice President and Mrs. Jody Grimes, Secretary. I look forward to working with these, and all the members of our School Advisory Council over the coming months.

Thank you for your great participation in our recent School Information Night and our Family Picnic. Your attendance at one or both of these speaks of your interest in your child and in our school. Know that you are always welcome to attend any of our special events!

Please help us! As you know, the cost of many things continues to grow. Textbooks are no different. The cost ranges from \$25 to \$50 for the books that your child uses. Please be sure that these are covered and remain covered (and protected) for the school year. Most of our textbooks are the property of the State Department of Education and we would like to take care of them as best we can.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen that many of the items that have been ordered with federal funds have required assembly. If you are one of those people who have a knack for assembling things, please let us know. We could use your help!

As we celebrate this 50th year as a school, "we remember, we celebrate and we look to the future." We consider it a privilege to work with you and with your child. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help in any way.

May God bless us as we work together.

