

Nativity BVM School  
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[www.nativitybvm.org](http://www.nativitybvm.org)

May 1, 2017

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As we begin this month of May, we join others around our community and diocese in welcoming our new bishop, **Bishop Louis Kihneman III**. As part of the Nativity BVM Parish, we know that we will see him not only for large diocesan celebrations but also for Sunday Masses and celebrations. Be sure to make it a point to introduce yourself and your family when you see him. He is new to our community and we want to make sure that we reach out in welcome.

Our calendar is filled with special events and activities. We have tried to include all special (and not so special) events. Please refer to the calendar often and please take time to read the extra signs/notes/emails that we may have throughout the month.

During the month of May we honor our own mothers as we observe Mothers Day and, in the Catholic faith, we honor Mary, the Mother of Jesus. We especially honor her as a model for us in saying “yes” to God as we are faced with choices in our lives. Our annual May Prayer Service, in honor of Mary the Mother of Jesus, will be held at school on **Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>** at 9:00 a.m. Our first and sixth graders will lead the prayer service and first graders will be part of the special procession presenting flowers in honor of Mary. Children of other grades are more than welcome to bring flowers as well to decorate the May altar. On Sunday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, we hope that you and your family will be able to participate in the May Crowning celebration following the **9:00 Mass at the Cathedral**. ALL children are invited to be part of the procession at the end of the Mass. Flowers will be provided for the children to carry in procession.

On May 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>, our **Arts Alive** (Drama) program will present the play, “Home is Where the Haunt Is: The Reunion.” This original play, written by Mrs. Wanda Stewart, will feature our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students who have participated in the program this semester. Mrs. Stewart and Mrs. Pennell have done an amazing job with the children and I know that you will enjoy the production!

Although these are busy days, I hope that you and your family will be able to enjoy the family Movie Night on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. Our Movie Committee has done a great job in organizing the evening! This is our school’s/NPA’s way of saying thank you to each and every one of you for the many ways in which you have helped our school this year!

A **Celebration of Ministry** will be held on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m. to honor our four staff members who will not be returning for the next school year: Mrs. Nanette Burke, Mrs. Daphne Hilton, Mrs. Sue Kostmayer and Mrs. Bianca Wooden. Please consider joining us we pray for these dedicated women and ask God to bless them and be with them in the days ahead.

Here at Nativity School, we have a tradition of celebrating “**Peace, Love and Saints**” near the end of each school year. Although the events have changed somewhat

during the past 12 years, it has remained a time to pray and to celebrate the accomplishments of our students, faculty and staff, families and larger community. On Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, we will begin with a prayer celebration at 9:30 and follow this with a special kids walk and then have field events for all grades. From Noon to 1:00, we will enjoy a family picnic (Bring your own lunch! Ice cream and water will be sold) and then we will have some “wet and wild” activities for the children in the afternoon. On Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, we will have our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual **Peace, Love and Saints Run** event. Although you have already received some information about both of these events, please be on the lookout for any updates.

Just as we will try to continue to “teach until the last day of school,” we would ask you to encourage your child to continue to take school seriously and to work hard until that last day. As our days grow warmer and as extra activities and practices crowd in, it gets more challenging to remain focused and ready for school. School begins promptly with morning prayer at 8:00 a.m. Please have your child arrive on time so that he or she is able to begin the day praying together with the class. As I often tell the children, this is our most important activity of the day!

Registrations for the new school year continue to be accepted. We have a waiting list for two grades and several other classes are near their maximum number. If you have not already done so, please return your **registration packet** as soon as possible. If you did not include your registration fee at the time that you returned your completed packet, please do so as soon as possible. It is that fee that secures your place in the particular grade. If you know of anyone who may be considering our school, please encourage them to contact the school office as soon as possible.

If your child will not be returning to our school, please contact me. I would like to speak with you and see what I can do to make the transition as smooth as possible. Also, please remember that a formal withdrawal request must be completed and all financial obligations must be current before school records can be transferred to the next school.

Our God certainly IS an awesome God! As we look back over the days and months of this school year, we can certainly see God’s hand in the activities and events that have taken place. May we continue to rely on God’s loving support and grace as we enjoy the days and weeks ahead.

May God bless us as we work together.