



ST. FRANCES ACADEMY

May 2007

Saint Frances Academy

501 East Chase Street

Baltimore, MD 21202

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*The theme for
this year...*

**STEPS
ANCESTRY
NEED
KNOWLEDGE
OBEDIENCE
FELLOWSHIP
ANCHOR**

**OBLATION
SPIRITUALITY
P**

SPIRITUALITY

Oblate spirituality rests upon three great Gospel truths: that God has provided, does provide and will provide; that Jesus our Redeemer has suffered, died and risen just to save us; and that the Holy Spirit will guide and strengthen us in all situations.

Let us remember the God of our ancestors and remember that He hasn't changed. He brought them through and He will do the same for us.

SPIRITUAL VITAMIN

Why Go To Church?

A church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

"I've gone for 30 years now," he wrote, "and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons. But for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them.. So, I think I'm wasting my time and the Pastors are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all."

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This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column, much to the delight of the editor. It went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

"I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this... They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing.... God is UP to something!

Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible and receives the impossible! Thank God for our physical AND our spiritual nourishment!

"When Satan is knocking at your door, simply say, "Jesus, could you get that for me?!!"

WE CAN, WE WILL, WE MUST!!

ADMINISTRATIVE ANNOUNCEMENTS

MUSINGS FROM SR MARCIA

Glory and praise to our God! It is nearly the end of the school year, and God is still blessing us. Aric Brooks distinguished himself at the Charm City Classic at the beginning of April. The top three students in the senior class (Chanaye Jackson, Morgan Russell and Deonte Tuggle) were recognized for their achievements at the Archdiocesan Distinctive Scholars Convocation on April 24. Other seniors continue to hear news about college acceptances. Danielle Branche is preparing to go to Israel this summer as one of the Elijah Cummings Scholars. The junior class had a successful trip to the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. The entire school has been working on a love and forgiveness project, thanks to a grant secured by Rabbi Ruskin. In its tenth year at SFA the baseball team is starting to gel as a team and win games. Tennis is in its 4th year and has a good chance to win the city championships. Last but definitely not least, we continue to receive donations because of the Leonard Pitts column. So we give thanks to God.

The struggle continues for some of our students, however, because they haven't yet developed a strong work ethic or motivation to learn. Have faith as we work to help your children find academic success. "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in your faith, so that in the power of the Holy Spirit you may be rich in hope." (Romans 15:13) God Bless!

A MESSAGE TO PARENTS

There will be no freshman parent meeting on Wednesday May 9. Instead, there will be a meeting for all interested in helping with the September 29 crab feast. This meeting will be at 7 pm in the Multipurpose Room in the Community Center.

Sunday May 20 is the last Sunday for Prayer around the Square for this academic year. We would love to have more people come out and pray St. Frances through the rest of the school year. We meet at 3 pm in the foyer of the 1870 building. See you then!

FROM THE TUITION OFFICE

SENIORS: FINAL PAYMENT IS NOW DUE (OR OVERDUE). After May 15 payments must be made in cash, money order, or certified check. Personal checks will not be accepted after May 15. If payment is not made prior to May 18, the name of the student will not appear in the graduation program, which must go to the printer on that date. If the tuition is not paid in full, the student will be able to graduate or to receive a diploma from Saint Frances Academy.

UNDERCLASSMEN: If final payment of this year's tuition is not paid, the student may not return to Saint Frances Academy next September. Final report cards and transcripts will be mailed after the tuition is paid.

The tuition for 2007-08 is \$7,600.00. If you wish to receive tuition assistance from the school, you must complete the *Family Financial Statement*, attach a copy of your 2006 1040 form and return it to the school office before May 15, 2007. We will notify InTuition of your tuition. The **method of payment** will be the same as this year, unless you call InTuition (1-800-468-8484) and tell them to change it.

ADDITIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM THE BOOKSTORE

All remaining balances on student book bills are now overdue !!

The book bill is an annual fee that must be paid each year your child attends school. This fee must be paid by May 31, 2007. Another notice will go out this month to inform parents of the balance due for their child. If this fee is not paid by the deadline, students will not be able to return to school next year or receive their transcript.

Payments can be made in the main office between 7:30 am-4:00 pm Monday– Friday. You also have the option of mailing your payment, or sending it to school with your child.

OFFICE OF RECRUITMENT AND PARENT VOLUNTEERS

June is the last month to collect 10 Community Service hours for Parent volunteers.

We are setting aside one last clean up day.

Saturday May 19th, 9 am – 1 pm here on the SFA campus.

We will supply the tools, you the labor. **Please contact Coach Owens for details.**
 david.owens@sfacademy.org

Chaperones are needed for the Junior / Senior Prom.

Please contact Mrs. Ward for details. toreana.ward@sfacademy.org

The Annual SFA end of school year trip will take place on Friday June 8th. We are going to Six Flags Great Adventure in Jackson, New Jersey. We need chaperones for this trip. **Please call Mrs. Missouri for details. mary.missouri@sfacademy.org**

Mrs. Sanders needs help with the reception after the Senior Baccalaureate Mass June 2nd at 11:00 am. Any parent can volunteer for this event. It will be held in Sacred Heart Hall (at Mount Providence). Help is needed with decorations, refreshments, set up and clean up. Someone will need to pick up the cake for the event. **Please call Mrs. Sanders for details.**
 esther.sanders@sfacademy.org

Help is needed with re-organizing a classroom after school or on a Saturday.

Please contact Mrs. Thorpe-Johnson for details. angela.thorpe@sfacademy.org

Families not completing the 10 hours should forward a check to the school in the amount of \$150.00. Thank you very much!

ACADEMIC CALENDAR

Middle States Goal:

“Meeting Our Mark in Reading, Mathematics, and Technology!”

MAY 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|------------------|
| | | 1 4th Quarter Progress Reports Due | 2 Junior/ Freshmen Testing | 3 Department Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15a | 4 | 5 SAT Testing |
| 6 Gold Week | 7 | 8 | 9 Crab Feast Committee Meeting 7:00p | 10 Council Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15a Science Fair | 11 Love and Forgiveness Ceremony | 12 |
| 13 Blue Week Mother's Day | 14 | 15 Freshmen Retreat | 16 Freshmen Retreat | 17 Freshmen Retreat Last Day of Classes for Seniors General Faculty Meeting 8:00-9:15a | 18 Senior Farewell 1p | 19 |
| 20 Gold Week | 21 Senior Exams | 22 Senior Exams | 23 Senior Exams Black Scholars Convocation 1:00p | 24 Last Day of Classes for Underclass- men Team Faculty Meeting 8:00- 9:15 | 25 No School Junior/Senior Prom 8:00p-12:00a | 26 |
| 27 Blue Week | 28 Memorial Day No School | 29 Exam Day for Underclassmen | 30 Exam Day for Underclassmen Baccalaureate Mass Practice 10a-12p at Mt Providence | 31 Exam Day for Underclassmen Graduation Practice 10a Senior Luncheon with Administration | | |

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Class of 2007 Calendar of Events For Graduation

****A van will be provided for those seniors without transportation****

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Thursday, May 17 | Last Day for Seniors |
| Friday, May 18 | Farewell Ceremonies 12:30 – 2:30 pm SFA Gymnasium - Please Dress Up! !!Last day to pay tuition balance in order to graduate!! |
| Monday, May 21 | Senior Exams 9 am – 12 noon Graduation Practice 12:30 – 2:30 pm Chapel |
| Tuesday, May 22 | Senior Exams 9 am – 12 noon Graduation Practice 12:30 – 2:30 pm Chapel |
| Wednesday, May 23 | Senior Exams 9 am – 12 noon Honors Convocation 12:30 – 2:30 pm Gym |
| Friday, May 25 | Prom 8:00 pm - 12 am Renaissance Hotel Downtown Baltimore |
| Wed., May 30 | **Baccalaureate Rehearsal** 10 am -12 noon Motherhouse – Mount Providence 701 Gun Road Catonsville, MD 21227-9 AM at SFA for van! |
| Thursday, May 31 | Graduation Practice 10 am – 12 noon **St. Matthew's Catholic Church 5401 Loch Raven Blvd.**-9 AM at SFA for van! **Luncheon with Administration** 12:30 – 2:30 pm Cactus Willie's Essex at Eastpoint Mall |
| Saturday, June 2 | Baccalaureate Mass 11 am Report by 10 AM, at the latest Mother House – Mount Providence |
| Sunday, June 3 | Graduation 4 pm Report to the church by 3:00 pm, at the latest St. Matthew's Catholic Church |

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT

Class of 2008!



Junior College Planning Checklist for Parents

Parents of Junior students- please review this list with your student before summer begins. This checklist will assist you and your student in preparing for college. Before the end of summer, your student should have...

_____ ...typed a resume. (<http://www.alec.co.uk/resume-examples/high-school-resume-samples.htm> to get some examples. <http://www.monster.com/>). You will need a professional looking resume to apply for jobs, internships and submit to colleges.

_____ ...researched and explored careers of interest. (www.careerexplorer.com; www.mycoolcareer.com.)

_____ ...pursued a summer employment or internship opportunity. This may be a paid internship or experience that would help your student explore careers and college majors of interest. Summer job and internship experiences may be placed on college applications and resumé's.

_____ ...began researching colleges and generated a list of schools of interest. (www.ACTstudent.org; www.collegeboard.com; www.fastweb.com; www.collegenet.com; www.petersons.com.)

_____ ...scheduled as many college visits as possible (get a tour and admissions interview.) Your student needs to feel comfortable on campus before a four-year college commitment is made!

_____ ...registered to take challenging academic courses in the senior year. If your student is college-bound, consider having your student take a math and science course next year. Colleges want to accept students who push themselves academically.

_____ ...practiced and be well-prepared for the SAT or ACT test. Have your student take a prep course (CCBC Continuing Education has an inexpensive course; Loyola Blakefield, Calvert Hall College do, too.)

_____ ...began to research scholarships to find free money to pay for my education. Begin your search on our website at http://www.sfacademy.org/programs/academic_guidance/collegeopportunity.php

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

NEW MURAL IN THE CAFETERIA

Would high school juniors spend time during their spring break painting a mural in the school cafeteria? Of course, they would! The result is a beautiful, colorful depiction of the history of SFA and the current activities. But how did this come about? Months ago, the class of 2008 decided that they wanted to paint a mural in the cafeteria as their class project. The daughter of a friend of mine, who is a college student at Brandeis University, has been involved in mural projects for Social Change, especially after Hurricane Katrina in her hometown of New Orleans. While Hannah was in town for her grandfather's funeral, I invited her to come to SFA to meet with the junior class officers about designing a mural in the cafeteria. They took her on a tour, proudly describing the noble history and mission of the school. Together they discussed some concepts for the mural. Ms. Fitzpatrick and Tom Nealis sent her some digital photos that characterize SFA. I met with her to discuss the concept. She sketched a design. Her father donated the paint and brushes.

On April 2, a group of junior students, along with Ms. Fitzpatrick and Mr. Vaughan, met in the cafeteria. Mr. Buddy was also very helpful in providing painting supplies. Hannah sketched in pencil the entire mural. Then all of them together painted it, with the students adding some of their own special touches. You can see some photos on our website.

Hannah and the junior painters have captured the spirit of our school. Lunch in the cafeteria even tastes better when you can look up at Mother Lange, the basketball players, the Umoja drummers, the liturgical dancers and the school motto.

Shalom, Rabbi Gila Ruskin

LOVE AND FORGIVENESS

Maryland Public Television gave our school a grant to implement a program "to foster awareness of the power of love and forgiveness." The Campaign for Love and Forgiveness began on Career Day, where the freshmen and seniors met with two community activists, Maria Broom and Selwyn Ray.

Maria Broom is a native of Baltimore and is well known for her roles on "The Corner" and "The Wire." In addition to being an actress, she is also a dancer, director, and storyteller. Maria is on the steering committee of the MPT Campaign for Love and Forgiveness.

Selwyn Ray is an activist in Baltimore and community leader. He currently serves as the Director for Recruitment and Partnership for the Maryland Mentoring Partnership.

Through the course of this campaign, all grade levels had the opportunity to meet with Selwyn and Maria, where they discussed the power of love and forgiveness in the quest for peace and reconciliation in our family, our schools, and our society.

The freshmen class also had individual group sessions to further discuss the power of love and forgiveness. As a group, they made a plan of how to implement more love and forgiveness in their every day life.

This program will conclude on May 11th with a ceremony presenting the school with a vinyl chain. The links of the chain have messages of love and forgiveness that were written by students, parents, staff, and community members. The chain will symbolize our increased awareness about the power of love and forgiveness. It is our hope that the Campaign for Love and Forgiveness will promote respect and understanding among our students, our school, and the Saint Frances Community.

DEPARTMENTAL NEWS

Saint Frances Academy
Is having a
Crab feast!

When?
Saturday September 29 2007
1:00pm – 5:00pm

Where?
In the Community Center

We need people to work on the following areas:
Advertising;
Ticket sales;
Music;
Food;
50/50 raffle

Contact Sr. Marcia at
srmarcia@sfacademy.org or
410.539.5794

ATHLETIC SCHEDULES

SFA Varsity Baseball Schedule

| Date | Opponent |
|-------------------------------|---|
| May 1, 2007, 4:00 p.m. | vs. Balt. Lutheran @away, Pine Grove Mid. School. |
| May 3, 2007, 3:45 p.m. | vs. Beth Tfiloh @ home, Druid Hill Park |
| May 7, 2007, 3:45 p.m. | vs. Boys Latin @ home, Druid Hill Park |
| May 9, 2007, 3:30 | vs. Chapelgate Christian @ away, Chapelgate |
| May 10, 2007, 4:15 | vs Friends @ away, Medfield |
| | |
| May 14-21 | vs. Play Offs |
| May 23 | Championship @ Ripken Stadium |

***Hanlon Park will be used as an auxiliary field**

SFA Varsity Tennis Schedule

| | | | | |
|-------|----------|-------------------------------|-------------------|---------|
| May | | | | |
| 1 | SFA vs. | Poly Tech | Home | 4:00 pm |
| 3 | SFA vs. | Mervo | Away | 4:00 pm |
| 4 | SFA vs. | Edmondson | Home | 4:00 pm |
| | | | (Senior Farewell) | |
| | | | | |
| 7-11 | Dist. IX | City Championships | Away | 1:00 pm |
| 14-18 | | Regional Qualifier Tournament | Away | 1:00 pm |

SFA Varsity Golf Schedule

| | |
|------|------------------------|
| MAY | |
| 2 | MIAA INDIV (1ST ROUND) |
| | |
| 8 | MIAA INDIV STROKE PLAY |
| 10 | TEAM QUARTERFINALS |
| 16 | TEAM SEMIFINALS |
| 19 | MIAA B CON FINALS |



SFA Varsity Lacrosse Schedule

| | | |
|-----|-----------|------|
| MAY | | |
| 7 | @PALLOTTI | 4 PM |

COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

MAY 2007

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--|--|---|---|--|-----|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 SFA Board Meeting 8:30a-3:30p MPR Faculty-Student Basketball Game Gym 3:00-6:00p | 5 |
| 6 | 7 9:00a-3:00p MPR D. Boland Food Service workers | 8 Class Meeting 8:20-9:50 AM MPR Mediation Conference Rm 12:30-3:30p | 9 Set up for Science Fair 3:00 PM Gym SFA PTA Meeting 7:00 PM MPR | 10 Science Fair Gym All Day | 11 Medical Terminology Class Caroline Center 8:00a-1:00p | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 City Detention Center Basketball Game Gym 6-9p | 16 | 17 Parent Power MPR FORE 5:30-7:00p | 18 Medical Terminology Class Caroline Center 8:00a-1:00p | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 Parent Power MPR FORE 5:30-7:00p | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Caroline Center Cooking Class KIT 8:30a-1:00p | 31 Caroline Center Cooking Class KIT 8:30a-1:00p | | |

