

Roanoke Catholic School

SINCE 1889

*Blending learning with faith and faith with daily life*

**November 7, 2014**

**From the Administration:**

 “Give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together and running over, will be poured into your lap. For with the measure you use, it will be measured to you.” Luke 6:38(NIV)

This has always been one of my favorite Bible verses. Can’t you just see a container of beans (or skittles, my favorite!)? You pour as much as you are able into the container. You are sure that no more can go in there; but, lo and behold, shake it a little, wiggle it a little, even gently bounce it on the table, and there’s room for even more. Many people like this verse because they see it as how Jesus will reward us, financially, for our giving. But I see it differently.

There is a wonderful bulletin board in the cafeteria from 5th grade depicting a quilt with many student’s and teacher’s pictures on it. It is reminding us to be thankful. Yet, it is a fantastic metaphor for so much more. Each picture represents an integral part of our community. Each student who greets me in the hallway is an integral part of our community. Parents who give of their time, talents, and family commitment to be here are an integral part of our community. Teachers and staff who choose every day to love your children are an integral part of our community.

Parents, you made the choice to “give” the gift of your children to be a part of this community. This measure of your giving, these precious students you share with us, is the measure that we have received back: “pressed down, shaken together, and running over.” What a precious gift you have given! Because of your gifts, our community quilt is filled with so many beautiful faces, all an integral part of the picture God has painted at Roanoke Catholic. Thanks be to God!

*Julie Frost*

*LS Assistant Principal*

**Inclement Weather**: Decisions to open or close school during inclement weather are made by the Principal before 7:00 am. We will first send an emergency message via the free RCS School Way App with any changes directly to families, then email, then post the information on RENWEB Parent Portal and the school website. TV channels 7 (WDBJ) and 10 (WSLS) will be notified next, followed by 13 (WSET) and local valley radio stations. It takes about a half hour to post in all of these locations, so please sign up for the free School Way App today for instant notification on your mobile! In the event that school needs to close due to inclement weather, we ask that parents please observe the following guidelines:

\*Continue to listen to media announcements if school is delayed. Sometimes the delay changes to a closing. Updates will be posted via emergency message on the school app.

\*Make an advance “bad weather plan” with your child(ren). What will happen if school closes early? Can he/she get into the house? Will he/she go to a neighbor’s if you can’t get home? Who will pick up your child if he/she is a car rider?

\*Plan ahead by making arrangements for your child(ren) during inclement weather. Understandably, the school’s phones lines and personnel can become critically overloaded when swamped by last minute calls. We ask your cooperation in helping with this vital process.

\*If bad weather is possible after the opening of school, and you do not have access to your phone or internet, please make arrangements to have a “snow buddy” who can notify you if an early dismissal is announced.

\*After-School Care will be cancelled in the event of an early dismissal.

**Development:**

You should receive your Fall Celtic Newsletter and Annual Report in the mail this week. We are celebrating 125years on “The Hill”! Our celebration event is scheduled for April 23, 2015. Please mark your calendars. You will receive additional details about the event later in the year.

Please consider making a donation to our Annual Fund which supports current operations and remains the school’s priority for charitable gifts. These gifts are vital, as they immediately support work at the school and directly affect the experience of each current student.  We have been blessed with many faithful supporters who believe in our school’s mission.  Roanoke Catholic depends on the support, loyalty and generosity of our parents, alumni, faculty, and grandparents and parents of alumni, together with corporations and friends in order to continue our tradition of excellence. For additional information please contact Debbie Stump, RCS Development Coordinator 540-982-3532 x2110, dstump@roanokecatholic.com

*Debbie Stump,*

 *Development Coordinator*

**Mustard Seeds:** The purpose of the RCS Mustard Seed Prayer Chain is to strengthen the Roanoke Catholic School community through intercessory prayer and to provide prayerful support for those in need. This year the Roanoke Catholic Mustard Seeds Prayer Chain has been connected to the school web-site through SchoolRack and will be up-dated weekly. The SchoolRack web-site gives you the opportunity to pick the Categories you would like to reflect upon. In the past, some have said the Prayer Chain email is very lengthy, so this will allow for the Prayer Chain to be put in the following categories on the web-page and you can utilize whatever section you are called to each week. You will receive an email update with the link to the Roanoke Catholic Mustard Seeds Prayer Chain as it is up-dated for an easy on-line connection. You may send a Prayer Request to ederringer@roanokecatholic.com. More information is on the website under the Faith tab.

**Fruit Sale:** The Roanoke Catholic Alumni Association presents the Great American Citrus Sale. Proceeds support the Alumni Scholarship Fund. Order forms were sent home with students last month and are also available in the office and on our website under the Alumni Tab/Citrus Sale Fundraiser. The deadline for order submission is November 26th. Order today!!

**Yearbooks**: Last Chance for Yearbook orders is November 14th. Please order today!

## [****Click here for Yearbook Orders Online****](http://yourschoolphotos.com/roanoke-catholic-online-yearbook-order-form/)

**Dance:** Parents – our Christmas show will be December 1st. Students will meet in After School Care by 3:15 and then proceed to Our Lady of the Valley. Please mark your calendars.

**Things we collect:** Used cell phones and empty printer ink (not toner) cartridges for Band, soda pull tabs for the Kindergarten Ronald McDonald House Charity, Tyson & Campbell’s labels and Box Tops for extra school supplies.

**Labels & BoxTops:** With the holidays right around the corner, our grocery lists are sure to grow and grow. Be sure to save and clip your Campbell's Labels for Education labels, BoxTops and Tyson's Project A+ labels! There is also a mailbox in the main office for labels. Thank you for helping our school earn free money and supplies!!!

**ATHLETIC NEWS:** MostWinter sports practices started this week.  Please be sure your student has the following turned in to the athletic department:
-concussion information sheet
-sport registration
-VHSL physical (not the same as a school entrance physical)
-code of conduct
-athletic fee

You can get the forms at the front office or on [rcsceltics.com](http://rcsceltics.com/).

If the student played a fall sport then the only thing the athletic department needs is the athletic fee of $100.

**LOWER SCHOOL NEWS:**

**Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!** Parents, you have done a fabulous job of dropping off and picking up your students since the opening of the St. Andrews drive. I really appreciate that nearly everyone is following the rules of dropping off only in the car line (which is running even more smoothly than I had hoped!) and using the car line to pick up in the afternoon. I feel secure that our students are safe, and I really enjoy greeting them in the morning!

**Uniforms**: Uniform compliance begins at home. Now that we have switched to our standard uniform, please take the time to check your child’s uniform. Skirts should fall no higher than one inch from the center of the knee (with the child standing straight up), shoes and socks should be the appropriate solid color, and hair ornaments should be no larger than one inch in diameter. I mention all of these things because these are the uniform issues that I have seen so far this year. I would rather not have to address this with your children, since sometimes they feel embarrassed when I do. Please check this out at home before they come to school.

**Grandpal’s Day:** Bring your students’ grandpals to school on November 14th. They can visit your class, see some performances, have their picture taken with your students, and shop the bookfair. Here is a general schedule of the day:

**8:00-8:30      Light breakfast/Coffee and Juice in St. Andrew's Social Hall**

**8:30-9:00      Prayer Service in the church**

**9:05-9:35      Program in the Social Hall**

**9:35-9:50 Travel to School Campus**

**9:50-12:00 Enjoy meeting teachers and classroom visits, an activity in the art room writing postcards to our soldiers, a keepsake photo opportunity, visiting the book fair, and a delicious lunch with your grandchild or grand-friend.**

More volunteers are needed to help with Grandpals’ day. If you can help or have further questions, please contact Ann Kovats at laagk@verizon.net.