



## *A message from the Principal*

St. Michael Families,

As I reflect upon our last two weeks that we have been together at school, I feel a great sense of pride and joy. I know that I have only been the principal here at St. Michael for a few months, however, I have felt more at home here at St. Michael than I have at any other school I have worked at. I am proud of every staff member, every student and every family. Already we have overcome so many obstacles to be here at school together in person and I feel confident in the direction this school year and our school is headed.

A few days before school started, something crossed my mind that hadn't yet since I took the position of being principal. I was overcome with a sadness of not having my own class and my own students. The students have always been my favorite part of being a teacher and I was afraid I was going to miss that daily interaction with them all. Little did I know that now, instead of having just one classroom of students, I have a whole school!

I was able to have discussions during Religion class with the middle school students. I read daily to elementary classes. I joined classes for lunch and talked with students about how their day was going. I got to observe teachers present amazing lessons and watched

## Upcoming Dates

- Mass on Monday  
September 14th
- Mass on Thursday,  
September 17th &  
24th
- Friday September  
25th Diocesan  
Professional day (No  
School for students)
- Weekend of  
September 26th &  
27th is the  
Celebration of  
Father's 10 year  
Ordination  
Anniversary
- Mass on Thursday,  
October 1st & 8th
- Thursday, October  
8th @ 5:30pm  
BINGO in the gym  
(open to school and  
parish families, look  
for SignUp Genius &  
more information)



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as student's eyes lit up as they learned new information. The students are still my favorite part of my job and I must say we have the most wonderful ones here at St. Michael.

We've been able to celebrate two masses together as a school. The first day of school, Father Rossi came and blessed our school, our students and staff. On Friday, we participated in a school Eucharistic Procession in which Father Rossi visited each classroom with the Blessed Sacrament, our Lord Jesus Christ. Each class had created a small altar and spent several minutes in silent adoration before Father Rossi led them in prayer. We did this in lieu of the Eucharistic Congress that is typically held this time each year in Charlotte.

I cannot thank you all enough for your continued support, prayers and open communication. We have started this year off on a great note and I hope the rest of the year continues in this way. I want to reiterate that your child's health and safety is still my top priority and main concern. Our staff and faculty work diligently each day to ensure we are properly cleaning and adhering to all protocols and safety measures put in place. Please continue to come to me with any questions or concerns that you may have. Have a wonderful week, God Bless!

*Michelle Vollman*

## Reminders

- Students may wear their PE uniforms on Monday to Mass
- Turn in lunch orders by noon Friday at the very latest each week.
- Athletes, please turn in your Parent/Student contract ASAP. We will be in touch about teams and schedules by next week
- Dr. Wilkinson will be at the school to conduct physicals for our Athletes on Saturday, September 26th from 10 - 12. Look for Signup Genius that will be sent out



## Father Rossi's Column

Dear Saint Michael School Families,

It was an amazing first week of school! Seeing our students return to Saint Michael was a great joy for me! The first day of school is always a special one for me as Pastor, but this was one of the most memorable. I truly believe our Heavenly Father has given us the grace and strength to embrace the challenges of learning in the midst of this pandemic. Being able to offer a special blessing and then sprinkle holy water in each classroom, blessing the teachers and students, was a singular joy for me. It was also a great gift to receive so many wonderful birthday cards. I enjoyed reading each one! Thank you dear students. I also extend my gratitude to Principal Vollman, all the teachers, staff, and volunteers for their dedication and unwavering commitment to our Tiger Family!

Let us continue to pray for all those who are sick and suffering throughout our world. Please know of my continued prayers for all of you! May Saint Michael protect us!

In Christ,  
Fr. Rossi

## One Word

At the beginning of the school year on one of the first days that I met with the staff of St. Michael, we participated in a team building activity called "One Word". This "one word" concept comes from a book written by authors Jon Gordon, Jimmy Page and Dan Britton. The idea this book is based on is instead of creating lengthy and wordy resolutions and goals, you chose one word to be your driving force for the year. One word to focus on, one word to motivate, one word to help change your life. They even wrote a children's book about it, in which the main character, Stevie, goes through the process of choosing his word to help him have the best school year ever! I went to each grade level last week and read the book and did the activity with them, helping them and encouraging them to find their one word. It only takes three simple steps: Look In, Look Up and Look Out! I've encouraged each student to find their "one word" to help them stay focused and motivated through the school year. We reflected and had discussions as a class. I told them to pray about it and see which word came to them. Ask your child, which one word did they choose? Or rather, which word chose them?

## Disciples of Christ: Virtue of the Week

This year our school has implemented a new program called "Disciples of Christ". A virtue considered the "habit of doing good". The Christian virtues give us freedom from being overpowered by temptations and our vices. Everyone is born with a capacity for virtue, but we need education and practice to attain the freedom, harmony, and balance of the virtuous, excellent human being. It is through this program that students are able to do so!

Our first week of school, our virtue was Prudence. Prudence is one of the Cardinal virtues and it enables one to reason and to act rightly in any given situation - "right reason in action". It is one of the Cardinal virtues and considered a "Gift of Counsel".

This week, we discussed Circumspection, which falls under the virtue of Prudence. Circumspection is careful consideration of circumstances and consequences. This means pausing to think before you say or do anything, think before acting and speaking and seeking advice. Silently reflect upon the circumstances and consequences before acting.