



ST. FRANCIS HIGH SCHOOL

KNIGHTS & DAYS

Volume 10 Issue 9

May 2008

www.sfhs.net

Upcoming Calendar Dates and Changes

Friday, May 9
Seniors Christian Service
Hours Due!

Saturday, May 10
Tuxedo Brunch
Alumni Reunion

Monday, May 12
Frosh/Soph/Junior Parents
FSP Hours Due!

Tue.-Fri May 13-16
Kairos Retreat for Juniors

Friday, May 16
Junior Service Hours Due!

Saturday, May 17
Mother/Son Communion
Breakfast

Monday, May 19
Senior Holiday

Tu.-Th May 20-22
Senior Final Examinations/
Graduation Practice

Friday, May 23
Baccalaureate Mass 8 pm
Notification of Senior Fail-
ures
Sophomore Christian Ser-
vice Hours Due!

Saturday, May 24
Graduation 10 am

Monday, May 26
NO SCHOOL-Memorial
Day

Wednesday, May 28
Friday Schedule (early re-
lease time)

Friday, May 30
Freshman Service Hours
Due!

Wed.-Fri., June 4-6
Final Examinations

Friday, June 6
Book Buy Back on campus

Monday, June 16
Grades Mailed

Monday, June 23
Summer School Begins

Brotherhood Highlighted This Quarter



Dear Parents:

**You are all brothers; you have no enemy
except yourself, *Francis of Assisi***

The Franciscan Spirit and Life program is highlighting the Franciscan virtue of Brotherhood. As you are aware, St. Francis saw his community as his primary gift from the

Lord. One of the first things that St. Francis writes is, "And the Lord gave me brothers." Even though St. Francis was an only child, he learned to be a brother to the world, especially to those in most need. Our call is to do the same. (For more information see our website under: "About Us" – Franciscan Spirit and Life.)

Annual Fund

We are finalizing the plans for our annual summer projects which we have outlined in our publications and meetings over this past year. Again, these include:

- Library Computer Lab: (new computers with dual core processors);

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Graduation, Next School Year Planned

Mistake in dates for 2009 Easter Vacation correction In the March edition of Knights and Days, there was an error in the publication of Easter Vacation dates for 2009. The correct dates of our Easter Break next year are: Friday, April 10-Sunday April 19. We apologize for the inconvenience.

We would like to thank all of the parents and students who participated in our WASC Accreditation Visit during April. The Visiting Team got a great sense of what St. Francis High School is all about, and complimented our programs and our people during their four days. More complete details will be included about the visit when we send out final grades in mid-June. We will not be advised of the term of accreditation until later this summer.

If you have re-registered your son and he has fulfilled all of his requirements (Christian Service and retreat), you will be receiving his course request information in the near future. We intend to mail a preliminary verification of his classes for next year along with his final report card. Parents are reminded that their Family Service Hours must be completed by the deadlines listed on the school calendar. We also request parental assistance with assuring that students complete their Christian Service Hours and have their attendance at a retreat verified by

the dates listed on the calendar. A student's re-enrollment is not complete until these obligations have been cleared.

Summer school brochures are now available in the front office and online. Our co-educational, five-week program begins on June 23 and ends on July 25. Any student who has received a failing grade on the January or June report card must make it up in summer school in order to be officially re-enrolled next fall. If you son receives a failing grade in any second semester course, you will be contacted by telephone by June 17 so that he has time to enroll in summer school. Written notification was mailed after the first semester regarding those grades that must be made up in summer school.

Please be aware that final exams will be held on June 4-6 (May 20-22-for seniors). Tuition accounts must be up-to-date in order for students to take their finals. These exams usually account for a significant percentage of a student's final grade, so make sure that students begin their preparation now. If you are sending payment within one week of the start of exams,



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The President's Letter ...continued

- Mimio – Whiteboard technology which interacts with the internet
- Sports Medicine: *Impact* (sports concussion management software); InterX Sport (electric stim units for injuries);
- Upgrades in technology in the theater and classrooms
- Flat screen television monitors for KNIT broadcasts in each classroom;
- Additional tables and benches for student use on campus;
- Franciscan Spirit and Life Program: Murals of St. Francis behind the altar in the chapel

In order to ensure that we are able to do complete these projects as planned a letter has been mailed to those who, for whatever reason, are late in their pledge payments. Your commitment to these is extremely important and greatly appreciated. It does affect our ability to be consistent in achieving our goals. If life has changed since you made that commitment and need to re-visit this commitment, please give me a call.

Again, I want to thank all those who have participated in our pledge programs. Your generous support continues to sustain the timeliness of our projects. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you!!!

We will be setting our goals for the 2008-09 Annual Fund in June.

Alumni Reunion

We will be hosting our Annual Alumni Reunion on May 10th. We will begin with Mass in our chapel, followed by a reception and dinner under the Oaks. This year's reunion will be for classes ending in "3's" and "8's". Please spread the word. For information, please contact Dianna in the Development Office at ext.515.

Mother-Son Communion Breakfast

In the Catholic Church, the month of May is devoted to the Mary, the Mother of God. Francis of Assisi recognized the gift of the Blessed Mother when he placed her as Patroness of the Franciscan Order. Thomas of Celano, Francis' first biographer, writes: "St. Francis embraced the Mother of Jesus with an expressible joy because it was she who made the Lord of Majesty our brother." It is in this spirit that we invite you to join us for our Mother-Son Communion Breakfast, Saturday, May 17th at 9:00am. (Naturally, grandmothers and those who serve as your son's maternal figure are invited.) The Booster Club will be hosting this annual event. Please join us as we pray for one another.

Finally, know that you and your loved ones remain in the prayers and Masses of the friars' faculty and staff. This

Gratitude, Humility Part of Mothers Guild Experience

Wow, the end of another scholastic year is upon us! As we reflect on this past year, we are truly humbled by the good works of all of you! We have served cookies & brownies, cooked lunches, poured coffee and lemonade, organized events and raised dollars, but more importantly, we have laughed, cried, and prayed together. We are so convinced that that is the true mission of the St. Francis Mothers' Guild - to hold one another up in good times and in times of sorrow. Thank you, thank you, thank you for the tremendous gift of your precious time!

We especially want to thank the following committee chairs this month: Laurie Tixier, Laura Vargas, Salma Dinaully and Lynn Carmody for their help with Kairos 70, Rene Korth, and Kim Kaufman for another wonderful faculty lunch, Betty Dowling for the huge job of coordinating our annual yard sale, Monica Paredes and Anita Parys for keeping us fed and happy at our Mothers' Guild meetings, Louise Vallone for hospitality at "Moving On for Senior Parents Night", Melinda Anderson and Maureen Manocchio for continuing to keep our supply closet in top shape and Barbara Lluís and Nadine King for always making the window display look wonderful. Thanks to the Hospitality Fine Arts ladies; Pat Camp, Sharon Miller and Beth Cohen for all your hard work supporting the cast and crew of AIDA. This committee is also preparing for the upcoming the Festival of the Arts week in the beginning of May. Don't miss out. These events are truly worth seeing; we promise you will be impressed. Thanks to Jenny Schwing for all her help with

the Choir Concert. Our biggest event of the year is always our "Tuxedo" Brunch, this year renamed "Tissues & Tulips". Huge thanks to Kal Antoun, Lisa Orlandini, Mia Fernandez and Sara Hurley for the many, many hours spent on this important event where we welcome our new freshman moms and say a fond farewell to our senior moms. The Spring Sports Banquet is on May 20th; thank you in advance to Stephanie Doerning, Angela Parris, Sandy Campbell and Debbie Morrow.

As this academic year comes to a close, we want to thank all of you for your hard work, dedication and support. Returning Moms, look forward to an exciting year with Kim Kunitake joining Alicia as 2008-2009 Co-President and graduating Moms, you will be missed. We hope you treasure your memories and your friendships from St. Francis to last a lifetime.

**God bless and thank you all again,
Michelle Salzman and Alicia Walker
Co-Presidents**

The Principal's Notes ...continued

please send in cash or cashiers' check ONLY and direct it to St. Francis, not to the Credit Union. This will ensure that your payment is credited promptly.

A reminder to students and parents regarding student websites: many of our students are currently hosting their own websites on Myspace and Facebook. While we reserve the right to discipline students for inappropriate content, because some have been "privatized," we are not always able to access them. We do however, routinely scan these websites to make certain that our school name and reputation is not besmirched, and also to make sure that our students are safe. Please, discuss this issue with your sons, and remove any objectionable material.

We have arranged with our textbook vendor, Varsity Books, to purchase and sell used textbooks next year. A representative will

be on campus on Friday, June 6 from 9:30 am until 1:00 pm to purchase used books. When purchasing texts for next year, parents will have the option of buying used texts at a discounted price directly from Varsity. Parents may still exercise the option to purchase used books from other students, however, we will not host a used book sale on campus. The list of texts that will no longer be used will be sent with your end of year mailing.

St. Francis High School will honor the class of 2008 with the Baccalaureate Mass on Friday, May 23, and with our graduation ceremony on Saturday, May 24. This has been a wonderful class and they have collected an impressive array of college admissions and scholarships. We wish them the best of luck in the future.

Christian Service Opportunities for May-please see website!

Gavel Passes To John Moe

As the 2007-2008 school year comes to an end, this my last news letter article as Booster Club President gives me a chance to thank some very important people for all their efforts in making this year such a success for the Booster Club. First, I want to thank the School administration and staff: Mr. Moran, Toni Zollner, Betty Dowling, Frank Nevaril and the Maintenance staff of Bryan Callicot and both Ramon Hernandezs. Every event the Booster Club participates in whether it is a Friday night football game, Winter Concession sales, Freshman Registration or the annual Mother-Son Breakfast would not be a success without the contributions of all these individuals. A special thanks to Mr. Moran for being such a tremendous help in coordinating all of our needs, listening to concerns, providing solutions and most importantly **thanking** our volunteers for all their efforts. St. Francis is truly blessed to have such a wonderful and supportive administration and staff.

I would like to add a special thanks to Coach Terrazone for all his efforts in helping the Booster Club be a success year in and year out. I loved getting the opportunity to work closely with him this year and I admire so much his commitment to the success of St. Francis High School.

Most importantly, I want to thank Fr. Matt for his leadership and confidence. I have considered Fr. Matt a part of my family for many years. He has been there for us to enjoy the good times and helped us get through hard times. What I love about him the most is his devotion to making St. Francis High School such a wonderful place to send your sons. His devotion and love for the school shows in his actions and words. I will be eternally grateful for the opportunity he has given me to hold this position and appreciative of everything he has done for my family and everything he does for St. Francis High School.

To all this year's Board members, Committee Chairs and volunteers, I thank you such much for all your hard work and dedication over this year. The success of the Booster Club is a reflection of the pride, effort and dedication of its members. It never ceases to amaze me that whenever we needed help there were always someone there willing to make a difference. It started this past Summer with Pride Day and continued all year throughout all our events. Our members are made up of both new parents and long time parents but together all our efforts are channeled into making every event we undertake a success.

The desire of the Club members to succeed and continually make things better for our sons and the school is something I will always remember about being part of the Booster Club. As I move next year into the position of Immediate Past President, John Moe will pick up the gavel and take on the position of Booster Club President. I thank John for his tireless effort this year and know he will have great success because of his dedication to getting things done and improving everything we do as a Club. Most importantly, I thank John for being such a good friend and for listening and helping all year with decisions and work related to the Club.

To our current parents, if you have considered getting more involved in the Booster Club or Mother's Guild. I can only encourage you to take the step and find your niche. Each Club has volunteer opportunities that are both large and small and the reward of being part of such successful organizations and part of your son's High School experience is one that will make your memories of St. Francis all the more special.

Lastly, I would like to thank my wife Maria and our kids RJ-'07, Steven-'08 and Kaitlyn for all their support this year. Throughout the year when I needed help, they always pitched in to lend a hand. From making copies, stuffing envelopes, making signs, running buckets down to the Booster Club cage after a long night at the football games, loading and unloading the car after an event or manning the Winter concession stand they were there for me every time and I couldn't have done this without their love and support.

Upcoming Events

Mother-Son Communion Breakfast is May 17th @ 9:00am. Flyers with the details are available on the school website. The price is \$6 per person.

Service Opportunities

We are still in need of a few more volunteers to help with the Mother-Son Communion Breakfast. The date of the event is May 17th and we need help with Cooking, Serving and Clean up. It is a great event and we have a great time throughout the morning. If you are interested please give me a call. Cell 818-482-0728

Ray Arriola-'84
President

Farwell to Class of 2008

Congratulations to the Class of 2008!

It is hard to believe that this year is almost over and that you will be graduating in just a few weeks. By now you have all committed to the college of your choice! As you enter this new chapter in your life, we wish you much happiness and success. Each of you has something special, and we encourage you to build on your attributes and become the best person you can be. This time in your life will provide you with many wondrous opportunities. Savor them all. Please come back and visit. Our doors will always be open to help you in any way we can.

Seniors: Please note that final transcripts will be mailed to the colleges you will be attending by the end of June.

What is College Orientation? Should I attend?

Yes, you definitely should attend. You are probably receiving information from your college regarding orientation. Orientation programs are designed to help you adjust academically, emotionally, and socially. Although orientation programs are often voluntary, we strongly encourage you to attend. Orientation will give you a preview of the college experience and an opportunity to become familiar with the campus, student activities, services, faculty, and staff. Summer orientation and pre-registration sessions will make your transition in the fall less hectic and less stressful. Please try to take advantage of this great opportunity. A great start in college is the first step to a positive college experience.

Advanced Placement Examinations

AP exams will be administered May 5 through May 16. By now you should have received letters at home confirming times, instructions, and what items to bring to the tests. Please follow the directions very carefully. (Dress code is in effect on exam days.) It is essential that AP students arrive on time, at least fifteen minutes prior to the scheduled time, 8:00 a.m. or 12:00 p.m. If you have an AP exam scheduled in the morning, you may go home immediately after the test. If you are scheduled to take an exam in the afternoon, you are excused from all morning classes. Be sure to check with your teachers regarding calculators (for calculus, chemistry, physics, and statistics), rulers (for physics), and tape recorders (for Spanish language). *The College Board prohibits cell phones from testing rooms during AP exams and disallows use of them during breaks.* Following College Board policy, if you are found in possession of a cell phone during an AP exam (including break time), you will be dismissed from the test and your score will be cancelled. *St. Francis High School now requires students to leave their cell phones in the Counseling Office before reporting to their testing location. You will be able to retrieve your cell phone after the conclusion of your exam.* Should you have any questions, please call the Counseling Office.

College Counseling Activities for April

April has been very busy this past month for the College Counseling Office. In conjunction with Princeton Review and Revolution Prep, students took the mock SAT Subject Tests and mock ACT, respectively. In addition, students and parents attended the scoreback sessions, which provided helpful hints and strategies in taking the tests. Seniors and parents also participated in Moving On Night. The panel representatives gave good insight to topics such as the transition process, organizing and balancing time, and homesickness.

Juniors - Soon To Be Seniors!!

- Register for the SAT/ACT.
- Make an appointment with Mr. Pelletier or Ms. Rico.
- Continue to visit and research colleges.
- Make your summer plans now. Volunteer, work, and/or take a summer course.
- **READ!** It is the best way to prepare for the SAT/ACT.

Juniors should take full advantage of their summer break before senior year. We recommend that all juniors retake the SAT/ACT in the fall, so it is important that you spend the summer months preparing for these exams. We would also like for you to continue researching and visiting colleges and we encourage you to work, volunteer, and/or take a summer course. We also ask that you complete your senior questionnaire (including your preliminary college application essay and your resume). The senior questionnaire will be mailed to you and your parents shortly; the deadline for returning the completed questionnaire and related documents is June 30. Use your valuable time in the summer to prepare for college and get involved in activities that you do not have time for during the regular school year.

All Students and Parents Invited to the Colleges That Change Lives Fair

The Colleges That Change Lives (CTCL) Fair will be held on Monday, August 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Universal Hotel in Universal City. Forty colleges and universities throughout the United States will be represented, such as Allegheny, Evergreen State College, Juniata, St. Olaf, Whitman, Kalamazoo, and Southwestern University. This is a wonderful opportunity to talk to admission representatives and to find a liberal arts college that might be a good fit for you. For more information about this free event, go to www.ctcl.com

Reminder - All Parents

Colleges require that students present proof of immunization against hepatitis B prior to enrollment. Since the immunization requires a series of shots at specific intervals over a several-month period, it is advisable that parents immunize their children as early as possible.

It was wonderful working with all of you this past year! We wish you all a very happy, safe, and fun-filled summer! See you in the fall!

*Daniel Pelletier and Mary Lou Rico,
College Counselors*