

#### A Look Ahead Newsletter

Dear Providence Community,

"When beginning to work: 'My God, I offer you this action. I ask for the grace to do it well, for your glory and my salvation." --Blessed John Martin Moye

These words of our founder are part of my morning prayer each day before I enter the doors of Providence Catholic School and serve as a great reminder to myself and all of us that all we do should glorify and honor God for the gifts His Providence has given us. As I reflect on my first few weeks at Providence, I cannot help but focus on the word "grateful.". I am grateful to the administration for giving me this opportunity and to the faculty and staff for their warm welcome and helpfulness. I am grateful to the students for the joy and life they bring to this school and for their parents



who have reached out to welcome me and to express their willingness to help should a need arise. I am grateful to my Sisters in the Congregation of Divine Providence for having the vision to found this school and for trusting and encouraging me to represent them here. Most importantly, I am grateful to our Provident God for leading me to ministry at Providence Catholic School!

Being a part of the Providence community has reminded me what a joy and a privilege it is to journey with and minister to young people. Our Provets are exceptional young women, and they bring me so much energy and hope. I am looking forward to meeting each of our students and to walking with them in their faith lives.

As we look ahead to this semester, I am excited to be planning retreats, liturgies, and prayer services for our students. I hope to learn what they are longing for in their faith lives and how we can better serve and guide them in living as women of Providence. I have big shoes to fill with the Sisters who have come before me at Providence, and I will definitely be relying on their prayers and guidance in this ministry. I am ready for the opportunity to work with our students on their Christian Service Experience, to help them find service opportunities in which to participate, and to teach them how to reflect on the experience to see how and where they saw our Provident God through the encounters they had. I have been impressed with some of the creativity I have seen thus far in some of the service experiences, especially in these days where nothing is "normal."

In these uncertain times of a pandemic and so much civil unrest, know that I am praying for each of you in your needs. Our Sisters are praying as well, and they are anticipating the day that we can welcome the Providence faculty, staff, and students back to our convent center for events and visits. We have missed your presence greatly since COVID began!

You all remain in my daily prayers!

Yours In Providence, Sister Melissa Cessac, CDP



# Mass to Celebrate our 8th Grade Class





On January 14th, we celebrated our 8th grade class at our monthly mass. As these students journey toward the milestone of transitioning from middle school to high school, we want to show our appreciation and our support of them and their families. These students and their families are in a time of discernment as they near the time to make a decision on which high school to attend. We are praying for and with them during this time, and of course we pray that their experiences here at Providence Catholic School will lead them back to us for the next four years.

We want to continue this partnership in educating you. We take pride in preparing our students in becoming Provident women. This is the home of the Sisters of Divine Providence, who have been educating young women at Providence Catholic School since 1951. We hope this continues to be your second home. May our Provident God guide you in all of your decisions.

We appreciate Fr. Richard Hall, OMI for reminding us all to wake up, pay attention, listen to God, and "harden not our hearts."





Each 8th Grader from Providence receives a \$1200 Bridge Grant to attend Providence in high school. Those who were unable to attend the in person mass this week, will be mail their certificate. Congratulations!

## **EARLY Registration ENDS TODAY!**

Price increases to \$25 this weekend for the 13th Annual Providence 5K Run/Walk on March 6!

All registrants will be automatically upgraded to in-person registration pending city ordinance. All proceeds benefit Providence Catholic School!

#### **SIGN UP NOW or DONATE**

Contact <u>Coach Delgado</u> for sponsorship opportunities.



# **INVITE Future Provets to our Open House**

# TAKE A TOUR AND



# JAN. 21ST 5:00PM - 7:00PM

# It is time to Re-enroll for the 2021-2022 school year!

We are already planning for next school year, and we must ensure we are prepared for your daughter. We are drafting our calendars and academic plans to seek approval from accrediting agencies to keep our flexible Fridays for special seminars, retreats and study sessions. We also will be prepared to adapt to needs of the community as it relates to the pandemic. Administration and counselors will hold parent meetings this Spring to give details as we did this summer and fall. We definitely want to have more students and activities on campus next school year!

Re-Registration forms are found on the Parent Plus Portal Account, under the Forms tab. In order to ensure accuracy ONLY the PRIMARY Contact listed has access to the forms. If a parent does not have the form, please log in to the alternate parent account or call the front office. This is NOT under the student log in because a parent/guardian must complete all forms.

### The re-registration form on your Plus Portal includes:

- 1. Updating demographic and contact information in our database.
- 2. Completing Required Medical Information (all students) Note: Current annual physical and medical history forms will be required for any students in PE, Athletics, Band, JROTC and Dance. The Physical/Medical History is not an online form.

#### 3. Tuition Contract Agreement

All must be completed in order for your daughter(s) to be registered for next school year. If the student is not returning or your family is unsure, the parent/guardian must contact the Business Office in writing by March 31, 2021 in order to receive a refund for the Advance Registration that was paid with your current year's tuition.

We encourage all families to complete this form as soon as possible ONLINE. The form that you update in Plus Portal will integrate with our database to ensure we have the most update information for your daughter. You will not have access through the ParentPlus App. You must go through a Web Browser (Google Chrome preferred).

Priority for course selection will be given to students who have completed all re-enrollment forms. Academic counselors are visiting with students by grade level to go over course selection process beginning in February.

We anticipate questions regarding this process, so please do not hesitate to call our front office. We have several staff members who are able to assist you with any questions about how to access the online forms.



Due to the pandemic, we decided it was not an efficient use of time and resources to plan a traditional gala.

In lieu of this fundraising event, we are holding a Virtual Silent Auction and a Telethon on:

**April 10, 2021** 

#### **\$pring for Providence**

Bid For Success - Give To Empower

As with the fall virtual silent auction, we will be collecting donations for items and baskets to be auctioned. More information will be sent to families in each grade level.

The live-streamed telethon will feature student performances, special features, CDP and alumnae stories. This will be a team effort between school staff, Board members, alumnae and parents. If you are interested in helping with Sponsorship, please contact <u>Alicia Garcia</u>, Ph.D.

# FEED THE NEED FOOD DRIVE Ends January 29

The PCS Middle School Student Council in partnership with the San Antonio Food Bank is sponsoring a food drive to benefit those with food insecurity during this pandemic. Donation boxes can be found in each grade level advisory through January 29th. The high school grade level and the middle school grade level with the greatest amount of donations by January 29 will be awarded a Blue & White Day with a Paletas treat. (Date TBD)

Here is how you can help!

Bring Food Donations to school and placed in Advisory Collection Box Faculty/Staff/Alumnae SA Food Bank Red Barrel in Front Lobby Drive-through to Drop Off Food Donations on Specific Dates Wednesday, January 20 from 3-4 PM Friday, January 29 from 12-2 PM

Donate Online (\$1 provides 7 Meals) http://bit.ly/PCSFoodDrive

Suggested Grade Level Food Items for Donation

6th Grade – Oats or Cereal

7th Grade – Canned Vegetables or Soup

8th Grade – Water or Fruit Juice (individual bottles)

9th Grade – Trail Mix or Peanut Butter

10th Grade – Granola Bars or Crackers

11th Grade - Beans or Canned Meat

12th Grade-Rice or Pasta

Faculty/Staff/Alumnae- Mac & Cheese or Canned Fruit

# **COVID-19 SAFETY**

We currently have less than 25% of our student coming in person for classes. We will continue to follow our academic and safety guidelines, which allows all families to choose in person or online learning modes in order to keep each individual as safe as possible. It is important everyone continue practice caution and vigilance.

Covid-19 Testing is readily available.

Con Conrazon San Antonio is a program for Next Day

testing results for faculty, staff and students for ANY school in Bexar County. The attached flyer here has more information or go to <u>Con.CorazonSA.org</u>.

Updated guidelines from the CDC regarding quarantine guidelines (December 2020):

- If you have come in close contact to a confirmed positive case, you must quarantine for at least 10 days from the date of exposure. A fourteen day quarantine is still recommended whenever possible.
- Close contact is within 6ft of the positive individual for 15 min or more within a 24 hour time period. Close contacts are determined to be any person in close contact with the positive individual from 2 days prior to the onset of any symptoms, or in the case of asymptomatic exposure, 2 days prior to test specimen collection.
- If an individual wishes to return to campus prior to the 10 day quarantine, the individual can test no sooner than 5 days after exposure. If the individual tests negative, the individual can return after 7 days of quarantine. All records of testing must be submitted to the school.

**Vaccines:** Currently, the Covid-19 Vaccine is not available for children. PCS will not require the vaccine, unless state officials mandate it. We encourage all eligible adults to get the vaccine when it is made available.

**Covid-19 Testing** is widely available in San Antonio. We encourage any persons who may have been exposed to Covid-19 to take advantage of testing availability. Any person who has tested and awaiting the results should remain AT HOME as a precaution until results are received. Results must be provided to the school by email edenoux@providencecatholicschool.net or text to the Covid phone line.

Any person who has come on campus must report if tested for Covid-19, experiencing symptoms or come in close contact with a positive case. Call 830-719-4711 to report any case after coming onto campus or attending a PCS activity. An individual's medical information is private and confidential. This phone line is designated specifically for Covid reports in order to expedite a communication response as efficiently as possible for the health and safety of all in our community.

## **DON'T FORGET!**

#### **HOPE FOR THE FUTURE APPLICATIONS OPEN JANUARY 4th!**

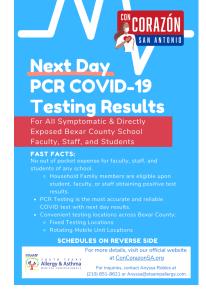
Hope for the Future (HFF) grant and aid applications open Monday, January 4, 2021. Please mark your calendars or set a reminder to apply. The link to apply is <a href="https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3G2W5">https://online.factsmgt.com/signin/3G2W5</a>

Your application will also be available to Hope for the Future to review once you have completed all steps in the application process.

#### TURN IN YOUR CATHOLIC LIFE RAFFLE TICKET STUBS AND MONEY!

The FINAL deadline to turn in the funds and ticket stubs is Friday, January 29, 2021

Contact: Mrs. Jessica Sanchez x221





# **CALENDAR**

January 16 - Mass in the Stands @ Glahn Gym 5:30pm
January 18 - MLK Day - School Holiday - HS Softball Begins 8am at PCS Varsity Basketball @ St. Anthony 10am

January 19 - B Day

January 20 - Varsity Basketball vs St. Anthony 5pm. All home games <u>Live-streamed</u>.

**January 21 - EXPLORE PROVIDENCE - Tour 5-7pm** Invite your friends and family to Explore Providence! <u>RSVP</u>

January 22 - A DAY - Varsity Basketball vs Saint Mary's Hall 6pm. All home games <u>Live-streamed</u>.

January 26 - Varsity Basketball @ Austin Regents 5:15pm

January 29 - 8th Grade Retreat @ OLLU Chapel Auditorium

10th Grade Real Essential 9a-12p Provet Cafe, All Class Meetings 1pm (Virtual)

Varsity Basketball @ Hyde Park Austin 5:15pm

<u>Public Calendar</u> - Please log into Plus Portal to see Calendar of all school events. If you know of an event that is not listed, please email <u>edenoux@providencecatholicschool.net</u>.