



# News and Views

Volume 4, Issue 10

May 2010

## Message from the Principal

As the 2009-2010 comes to a close, I want to thank each of you for all you have done this past school year. Your interest, prayers, and general support for our students and staff have been overwhelming, as usual. Your participation in our school advisory council, co-op club, room mom and dad program, and all of the many other activities express your love for St. Francis de Sales Cathedral School. So to each of you, thank you from the bottom of my heart. As I always say, St. Francis has the best students, staff, and parents.

I am always filled with feelings of sadness at this time as I watch another group of students leaving our school family. It is particularly hard to see our seventh graders move on to another phase of their lives because I have had the privilege of watching them grow over the years. They have grown into wonderful pre teenagers and they will certainly be missed. Please keep them and all of our students in your prayers over the summer months.

Have a great summer. Remember to keep the Lord close and attend mass on the weekends. I will see you shortly in August.

## Religion Focus

As I write this May article I recall a statement I made for the Alumni newsletter a few years ago for a given month as the featured teacher. I quote it again: because I do firmly believe that “Providence directs and governs all things.” And so at this time in my life, it is not easy to share this information with you. After much prayer, I’ve come to realize that God is giving me signs that it’s time for me to retire. What has assisted me to decide is an invitation by my congregational Leadership to live in our convent house which is located on the Cane River in Natchez, Louisiana off of Interstate 49 North. The happy news for me is that I will still be in my home state, God willing, for a few more years. Sister Margaret Ann Verwyvelt, who is there now, will minister in Alexandria to be closer to her cardiologist; as of the latest communication with my Leader, Sister Elizabeth Dale Van Gossen (from Alex) and I will be occupying the convent and overseeing the up-keep of the property. For insurance purposes and to help with the up-keep of the convent, I said, “Yes” to the invitation. We know how quickly a place can deteriorate when not in use. I shall volunteer in the church parish; help Sister direct the Providence Mission project; I may try my luck at planting a vegetable garden. Knowing myself, and hopefully with good health, I’ll keep productively busy and find quality time for spiritual renewal too...taking time to be “a Martha and a Mary”.



*Make  
A  
Difference*

With a “novena” of years here, I feel very blessed to have been missioned at this school to serve under a faithful administration, a loyal, dedicated faculty/staff, supportive parents, and sweet loving children. However, with the accumulation of happy birthdays, my mind-body-heart-soul tells me that the time for retirement is this fall of 2010.

My prayers for St. Francis de Sales Cathedral School is that you, the parents, continue to support “the tradition of excellence” you value in this school. What a gift to the civil community, to the Church and to the Mission of Jesus. You are assured of my prayers, and may I ask and occasional remembrance in yours. Au revoir and enjoy a safe and wonderful summer.

Sister Annalee Prather

## Advancement News

We are once again blessed by the response to the Annual Fund Drive. As of April 22, 2010, we have received \$87,324. We wish to thank Mr. & Mrs. Earl Eues for their gracious assistance with the Parishioner Phase this year.

Please call Debbie Womack in the Advancement Office at 868-6692 or 868-6646 for additional information. We thank everyone who has responded to this year's drive. It is not too late to be included in the 2009-2010 annual report that will be mailed in August. Please send in your remittance envelope with prayer and/or monetary gift indicated.

Perhaps you might consider remembering St. Francis de Sales Cathedral School in your will. A bequest made to the school is a very special way to help the future of St. Francis for generations to come. Or you may want to remember a loved one by donating to our endowment fund. This provides interest income to supplement our budget. Every endowment fund donation will be acknowledged with a card notifying the family that you have made a gift in memory of the deceased.

### **Please make note of the following dates:**

- Final school liturgy will be held Thursday, May 20th at 1:00 P.M.
- Final day of school will be Thursday, May 20th.
- The school office will close during the week of May 31. Our answering machine will be on, and you may call 868-6646 and leave a message. Someone will return your call. Your patience is appreciated in the return of these calls.

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Summer Vacation

## Please continue to collect the following items during the summer to help us raise money for our school:

**COMMUNITY COFFEE** sponsors an annual “Cash for School’ Campaign”, which encourages schools to collect the UPC seals from Community Coffee products. Please cut the UPC seals from your Community Coffee products and send these to school. This year St. Francis was awarded \$1205.20 because of these seals.

Please check your General Mills products for the “**BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**” seals. These are collected during the school year and are redeemed for cash. This year St. Francis was awarded \$1195.00 because of these seals.

Student Council is asking for you to **RECYCLE YOUR NEWSPAPERS**. These can be deposited in the C.Y.O. lot recycle bin. Please no plastic bags, telephone directories, magazines, etc. For safety reasons we ask that parents deposit the newspapers, not children.

**CAPS FOR KIDS:** We will continue to collect pull tabs from aluminum cans. By redeeming these pull tabs for cash we have been able to help various charities that are associated with children.

**While you are shopping during the summer, please remember to mention our school name at the checkout of the following stores:**

When you shop at **Office Depot** mention our school ID (**70041911**) at the checkout and we will receive credits equal to 5% to use for **FREE SUPPLIES**.

Mention the school’s name when you check out at **Best Buy** and we will earn reward credits

If you have a **Target Red Card or Target Visa** you can designate St. Francis as your school of choice to receive up to 1% of your purchases made with your Target card. You can sign up at the store or online at [Target.com/tcoe](https://www.target.com/tcoe). Our school ID is **7609**.

# Community Partners

A World of Travel

Acadian Ambulance---education

American Dental Association---education, contest

Amedisys Home Health---binders

**Anonymous partners**---who help us, but wish to remain behind the scene

Artistic Embroidery---aprons for art

Bayou Catholic---publicity, Christmas art contest

Bayou Printing

Bayou Terrebonne Waterlife Museum

Best Buy---mention our school at purchase time to earn reward credits

BP America---recovery grant

Brushworks Academy of Art & Guitar

Caps for Kids---4-H **aluminum pull tab recycling**

CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate)---program spring fundraiser

**Community Coffee**---"Cash for School" **coupon** redemption

District Judge Bethancourt's office---education

ExxonMobil Educational Alliance---grant

Food Bank

General Mills---**Box Tops for Education** redemption program

Haydel Family Practice---staff flu immunizations

Hill City Oil Co.'s Civic Stop Exxon---grant

Houma Daily Courier---publicity, newspaper recycling through Student Council

Houma Fire Department---education

Houma Heart Association---Tunnel Run

Houma Arts and Humanities Council---education, art contest

Knights of Columbus Councils of Houma---essay contest

Kiwanis Club of Houma---Coats for Kids

**Office Depot**---SFS ID #70041911 for reward credits

Petersen Studios---professional photography

Rotary Club of Houma

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

South Louisiana Wetlands Discovery Center

**Target**---SFS ID #7609 Target Red Card or Target Visa

**Terrebonne General Medical Center**---blood drive

Terrebonne Parish 4-H program

Terrebonne Parish Consolidated Government---recycling

Terrebonne Parish District Attorney's office---education

Terrebonne Parish Library---Early Childhood Literacy Program

Terrebonne Parish School Bus Transportation

Terrebonne Parish Sheriff's Office---education

The Haven---food drive

Tri-Parish Times---publicity

*Our partnerships are increasing steadily...*

*Would your business like to partner with us?*

*contact Debbie Womack or Mary Anné Goodwin at school*