



SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA SCHOOL

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“EDUCATING STUDENTS FOR THEIR LIFE'S JOURNEY HOME TO GOD”

Friday, April 30

To: All School Families and Grandparents
From: Doug Lonneman
Re: Grandparents Day/Walk-a-thon

As May 7th grows closer, we wanted to give you an update on our plans to help make the day great for everyone. By now, you should have already returned your form stating whether or not anyone will be attending Grandparents' Day. If you haven't done this, please send this in right away or call the office and let us know. You should also be finishing your pledge collections for the walk-a-thon. Remember that this is our only real fundraiser this year and we are asking each family to get at least \$100 in pledges. All of the money that we raise goes directly to school as part of our budget. If you have not made your family goal of \$100, please do your best to get more pledges this week. All money should be turned in by Friday, May 7th.

For Grandparents, the day will begin with Mass at 8:45. Students will sit with their class as usual but grandparents are invited to sit with their grandchildren. To make this work, we ask that grandparents come to school between 8:15 and 8:30 and we will direct them to their youngest grandchild's room. Siblings may sit with their youngest brother's and sister's class if they wish to be with their grandparents for Mass. At the end of Mass, the students will move toward the outer aisles of church to get ready for the Praisefest. Grandparents will be asked to move toward the middle pews for a better view. The students will do a collection of religious songs as a large group and as individual classes. This should take about 45 minutes.

At the end of the Praisefest, all classes will return to their classrooms to get ready for lunch. Grandparents who wish to stay and eat lunch with their grandchildren may go downstairs to the cafeteria (sorry but parents may not stay for lunch unless a grandparent needs your help). There will be no cost for lunches thanks to a donation from the Foresters. Our plan is to have a picnic style lunch. Lunch will be served as usual in the cafeteria and grandparents can stay inside or go out to the lower parking lot to eat with their grandchildren. We will have some chairs for grandparents who wish to eat outside but they may want to bring a lawn chair and/or blanket for the kids to sit on. In case of rain, we will not have any outside seating for lunch.

After lunch, the younger kids will go to recess for a few minutes while the older grades finish eating. Around 12:00, we will meet as a group on the top playground and get together in our "Team up with God" teams. Grandparents are welcome to stay and walk with the kids or wait for them to return. Each group will have an adult leader with a map of the walk. We will stagger the groups by a few minutes as they make the first half of the walk to Southgate Park. We will have a short water break there and then continue back to school for the last leg of the walk. Once back, we will have an activity for the kids.

For students, we ask that you do a few things. First, please try hard to reach your pledge goal. It is very important that everyone do their part so that we reach our school goal. Students must wear their uniforms to school but should bring their "Team Up with God" t-shirts to put on for the walk-a-thon. Students should wear good walking shoes if they have them. Please contact the office if you have any questions and pray for good weather on the 7th. If it does rain, we will reschedule the walk-a-thon part of the day.

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