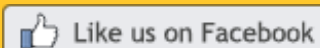




St. Stephen Catholic School



February 15, 2018

Principal's Points

Lent is here and typically we think of giving up something. This year think about giving up something that keeps you from being close to Christ and replacing it with something that brings you closer. Here are some ideas:

What to Give Up...

Give up complaining... focus on gratitude
Give up pessimism... become an optimist
Give up harsh judgments... think kindly thoughts
Give up worry... trust Divine Providence
Give up discouragement... be full of hope
Give up bitterness... turn to forgiveness
Give up negativism... be positive
Give up anger... be more patient
Give up gloom... enjoy the beauty that is all around you
Give up jealousy... pray for trust
Give up gossiping... control your tongue
Give up giving up... hang in there!

Please read through tidbits for what is happening at school this month and enjoy the 3-day weekend.

Peace

Linda Umoh

Remember to like our Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/sscsfl/>



School Office Hours

Monday - Friday
7:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

If you miss a weekly Tidbits or need to look at a previous one, you can find it on the School



Facebook page.

Upcoming Events

**NO SCHOOL
MONDAY
FEBRUARY 19**

~~~~~

## **Important Dates Coming Up**

**Rice bowls were blessed and distributed at the Ash Wednesday mass yesterday. This is a great tool to teach children about almsgiving. Please encourage your child to participate in giving. Rice bowls are due back at the school by Monday, March 26, 2018. Here is a link for your online resources:**  
[Rice Bowls](#)

**8th Grade Confirmation is this Saturday, February 17th at 12:30 in the main sanctuary. Please pray for our Confirmandee**

**Sacrament of First Eucharist Workshop: Saturday, April 14th at 12:30 in the FLC**

**Rehearsal for First Eucharist: Thursday, May 3rd at 6:15 pm in the church**

**First Eucharist: Saturday, May 5th**

## **Walk a thon results!**



Thank you all students, parents, and staff that helped make this year's walkathon a huge success. We raised a little over \$17,000!!! Remember 10% of each class earnings are going back to each teacher to buy supplies for the classroom.

This Friday February 16, 2018 will be free dress for any student that brought in \$10 or more in donations. Stickers will be given out in class to those students.

No homework passes will also be given out to those students that sent in \$50 or more in donations.

1A Mrs. Hoffmann's class brought in the most money per student. The class is getting a pizza party and movie as their prize.

KB Mrs. W's class is in second place for money turned in and 3rd place is PK4 Mrs. Julie's class. Those classes will get extra fun bubble recess and ice pops on Friday.

Only two classes had 100% of the students turn in donations for the Maker Space lego build and super soaker destroy time with Mr. Siffermann. The winning classes are 1B Mrs. Sidelinger and 4th Mrs. Clendenen!!!

The student who brought in the most donations is Gianna B. in 1A and she will get to be Coach for the Day!!!

Three students tied with the next highest amount brought in and will get to have lunch with Gianna and coach. The students are Alexander D. in PK4, Killian S. in 1B, and Ethan VS in 6th grade!!



## **Raffle tickets**

Keeping it Kool  
St. Stephen Spirit Raffle

at  
10 am

## Sponsors needed

If you are a business owner interested in advertising on our Student planners Please click on the link below for more details

[Sponsors](#)



## Volunteers Needed!

Volunteers needed to help at the Fish Fry during Lent. The Fish Fry is held at the FLC every Friday from 4:30-7:30 beginning February 16. Volunteer hours will count toward your school volunteer hours. For more info, please see the sign up

[Fish Fry Link](#)

7th Grade will lead the Parish Stations of the Cross on Feb. 16th, the first day of Lent. the Stations will begin at 7pm and the 7th graders should arrive at the sanctuary at 6pm.

Tickets went home today in the Thursday folder. There will be a family prize for the family that sells the most tickets. Please contact the office if you need more tickets.

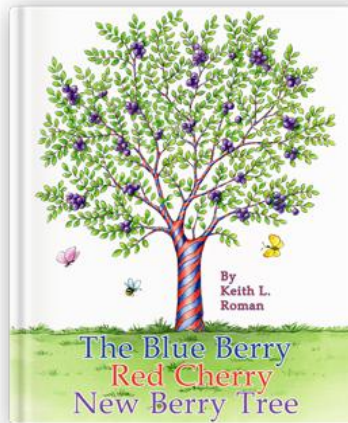


Volunteer Opportunity



Click [HERE](#) to sell raffle tickets at the Fish Fry

## Author visit



Children's author Keith Lawrence Roman will be visiting our school next Thursday, February 22nd. Keith grew up in the parochial school system and is a graduate of Bishop Moore Catholic High School in Orlando. He feels strongly that the quality of education he received in the Catholic School System to a large part enabled him to achieve his success. Mr. Roman will be speaking with all classes from PK-8th grade. Students and families have the opportunity to pre-purchase one of Mr. Roman's books from the order form in this week's folder, and the author will personally autograph your child's book on the day of his visit. Read more about Keith Roman's books at [www.thechildrensbookstore.com](http://www.thechildrensbookstore.com)



DIOCESE OF  
ST. PETERSBURG

**Free Workshop Gives  
Parents Advice for  
Protecting their Children  
from Exposure to  
Pornography**

The Diocese of St. Petersburg is hosting a free workshop featuring a national expert on the dangers of Internet pornography to give guidance to parents on how to keep kids from accessing pornography. Statistics show that 43% of children first view pornography before age 13. Also, scientific research on the brain reveals exposure to pornography has long-term, harmful effects through abuse, broken families and damaged relationships. The workshop will help parents learn about:

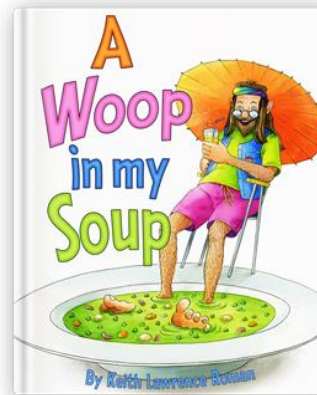
- How and When to Speak to Children about the Dangers of Pornography
- Accountability Services that Monitor Internet Activity and Apps
- The Risks of Exposure to Pornography
- How to Protect and Guide your Family in a Hyper-Connected World

This workshop is offered at two location, Tampa and Clearwater:

Feb. 27, 7 pm - 9 pm, St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, 1955 S Belcher Rd, Clearwater

Feb. 28, 7 pm - 9 pm, St. Mark the Evangelist Catholic Church, 9724 Cross Creek Blvd, Tampa

To learn more and to register, visit: <http://conta.cc/2FjRxl2> or call 727-346849.



**St. Stephen Children's Choir**



**COME JOIN the ST. STEPHEN CHILDREN's CHOIR!!!!**

Attention ALL Families of St. Stephen Parish and School:

If you have children in your household, please consider bringing them to

Children's Choir.

Ask any kid who has been singing with us WE HAVE A BLAST!!!!

We rehearse on Tuesday afternoons, in the Church Choir Loft, from 5:15 to 5:45. Yes, that's right, just 30 minutes, but everyone in the room has a great time. Parents or caretakers are welcome to stay to cheer the choir as they raise the roof singing to our Lord.

The appropriate ages are **Kindergarten thru the Sixth Grade.**

Come and join in the fun. Hope to see you next Tuesday at 5:15 !!!!

Mr. Chris

**Amazon smile**

**Thank you for supporting St. Stephen Catholic School with your amazon smile account! The school received \$142.72 for the 4th quarter 2017. Keep shopping and supporting SSCS!**



Did you know you can earn money for the school every time you shop on Amazon? And with the



(Registration  
Deadline: February 20,  
2018 but walk-ins also  
accepted)

### Counselor Corner

Discipline mistakes...and how  
to fix them [Link](#)



### Handbook Highlights

## Parent/Teacher Organization

All parents with children  
attending St. Stephen Catholic  
School are members of the  
Parent/Teacher  
Community Organization (PTCO).  
The objective of the PTCO is  
to help promote the welfare and  
finances of the school, and to  
provide educational and social  
opportunities for school  
families. Please refer to PTCO  
guidelines for further  
information. PTCO sponsors  
general meetings each year. The  
purpose of the general meetings  
is to communicate PTCO  
business.

Page 12

### Safe Environment & Background Screening

[Fingerprinting and Safe  
Environment Process](#)

### Birthday Treat Request Form

The Birthday treat request  
form has been updated.  
Please complete and return

holidays approaching, that can be a lot of shopping. The Amazon Smile program allows individuals to choose a charity to support and a percentage of all purchases they make is donated directly to the charity. You can register at [Amazon Smile](#). There are no fees or charges to the shopper, just money in the bank for the school! The school just received our 2nd quarter deposit of \$123.00 and to date, we have received almost \$1000. Anyone, anywhere can sign up and support our school; parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and friends. For questions or more information, please contact Bonnie Rose at the school, 813-741-9203 ext 1203, or [brose@sscsfl.org](mailto:brose@sscsfl.org)

### Mustang Sports News



#### BOYS BASKETBALL:

The boys varsity basketball team is on a 6 game winning streak. The Mustangs beat Corpus Christi 33-18, and were led in scoring by Frankie F. 12 points and Brandon D. 10 points. The Mustangs also beat Mother Teresa 37-12, with Brandon D. scoring 22 points and Jakob M. 10 points. The varsity is back on the court today vs local rival Nativity here in the FLC at 4:00. The varsity wraps up the regular season next week with games vs Villa Madonna and St. Joseph.

The boys JV basketball team beat Villa Madonna 31-24, and were led in scoring by Austin W. 15 points and Antonio M. with 5 points. The JV is back on the court today for their last regular season game when they play local rival Nativity here in the FLC at 5:10. The JV earned the #2 seed for the playoffs and will host Nativity in a quarterfinal game on Tuesday in the FLC at 5:00.

\$2 admission to the FLC for ADULTS ONLY for St. Stephen sporting events.

Girls JV and Varsity Track is the next girls school sport. Girls in 5th-8th grade can participate. Mrs. Stencel and Mr. O'Reilly will be coaching the team this season. Practice will start March 5th and the running and relay meets are set for Friday's April 13 and April 20 at Tampa Catholic 5:00-9:00. Sign ups for track season start next week. See Coach Green to get your name on the list to run and compete!

GO MUSTANGS

to the homeroom teacher 2 weeks prior to your child's birthday treat day. Thank you.

[Birthday Treat Request Form](#)

### Uniform Information

Risse Brothers School Uniform Store, located at 4228 N. Armenia Avenue. Below are the forms for the 2017-18 School Year:

[Spirit Wear Order Form](#)

[Uniform Policy](#)

[Boys Uniform Information](#)

[Girls Uniform Information](#)

### Yearbooks



**Yearbooks are \$45 until tomorrow 2/16/18!**

Order yours now

Print out order form here:

[Order Form](#)

You may order online:

[Jostens yearbook](#)

**Check out the school's free photo sharing app.**

[Replay It](#)

### Art Blog



Coach Green

### Thank you to our Seraphim Sponsors

We would like to Thank our Seraphim Sponsors. Funds raised through Angels have been used to meet the needs of St. Stephen Catholic School for the benefit of the children. This would not be possible without our special Angels and their support:

**Ann Marie Vaughan, Realtor  
Bill and Julie Brown, Expert Construction Managers, Inc.**

**Aaron and Beth Niec, HN Wealth Management  
Mr. and Mrs. Rick Hughes  
Dr. and Mrs. Antonio Zumpano**

**Check out Mrs.  
Gonzalez's Art Blog**

[Art blog](#)

**Own the Avenue**

Order your Own the Avenue street sign. What a great way to recognize your child's birthday or another special event during the school year.

The street sign is posted for 1 week (Mon.-Fri.) It is \$30 to repost a sign, and \$50 to create a new one. After you sign up please drop off your payment to the front office.



[Sign Up Genius](#)

St Stephen Catholic School | 813-741-9203|  
kbiase@sscsfl.org| <http://ststephencatholic.org/school>  
10424 Saint Stephen Circle  
Riverview, FL 33569



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