

November 14, 2007

Dear Families and Friends,

The topic I've chosen to write about today is one that should be of concern to all of us. I don't usually dismiss a movie or book based on a few people's opinions. However, this one is evaluated by too many sources to ignore. The Movie, "The Golden Compass" will be out on December 7, 2007. It is being billed as a children's fantasy and is being promoted just in time for Christmas. The movie, based on the book Northern Lights, is part of a trilogy (His Dark Materials) written by Phillip Pullman. Pullman is an avowed atheist and said in an interview (The Sydney Morning Herald), "My books are about killing God." The Golden Compass is the first in the series, which is said to be the least offensive of the three. Critics maintain that the movie has been dubbed down to fool children and parents into seeing the movie and then going out to buy the trilogy. In the third book, children kill God and everyone can then do as they please. I am passing this information on because I believe we must be aware of the many threats to children's well-being that are lurking out there with the purpose of luring them away from the traditional values we hold dear. Television also disguises improper values and language as cartoons or animated characters with adult themes (ex: The Simpsons, Family Guy, etc.). It is so important today that we be vigilant monitors of all media and entertainment sources.

In Christ,



BOOK FAIR

Flyers for our school Book Fair are going home today. This will take place the week we get back from our Thanksgiving break (Monday – Friday). We still need a few more volunteers especially for late afternoon until 3:15 p.m. when a teacher will take over. This gives parents a chance to come and look without their children around. If you can volunteer, please send your name, phone # and the time you are available to the office.

PLEDGE CARDS

Many thanks to all of you who have turned in their Annual Fund pledge cards.

If you haven't done so, we are looking forward to receiving them.

GOT CANDY?

Do you still have lots of Halloween candy left over? Kindergarten and 1st Grade are collecting candy for our parish Food Bank. Many families come with little ones in tow to collect the basic food needs. A piece or two of candy will brighten the children's day.

Uniforms

Please check uniforms daily. There are still some violations of the dress code. In particular, we are seeing wrinkled and /or soiled shirts. I realize that white is hard to keep clean. Anyone interested in a change of color (for instance, navy blue or dark green)? Let me know.

MASS AND PRAYER SERVICES

We omitted these on the November Calendar because we did not have the dates when a priest would be available. Father Fitzgerald will celebrate with us on November 20th and 26th. On Tuesdays, when mass is not available, we have a prayer service. Both begin at 10:00 a.m. We invite all parents to join us.

Be sure to read the information included in today's folder regarding our Annual Auction and the Middle School Dance.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

**LET US JOIN TOGETHER AS ONE FAMILY IN PRAYER.
GIVING THANKS FOR THE MANY BLESSINGS WE HAVE
AT SAINT JOHN CATHOLIC SCHOOL.**