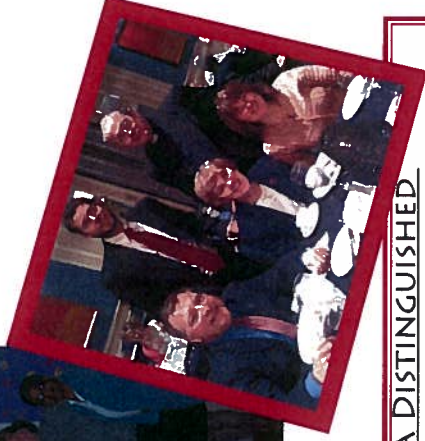


ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

THIS YEAR'S DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI IS TOMMY CRAGGS. MR. CRAGGS GRADUATED FROM BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL IN 1943. HE SERVED IN THE AIR FORCE AND GRADUATED FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA. HE OWNS AND IS THE PRESIDENT OF CRAGGS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IN OCALA. HE HAS BEEN MARRIED TO PHYLLIS CRAGGS FOR ALMOST 50 YEARS, HAS TWO SONS AND FIVE GRANDSONS. MR. CRAGGS HAS BEEN A LONG TIME PARISHONER OF BLESSED TRINITY. HE WAS A VERY ACTIVE CAMPAIGNER AND SUPPORTER OF THE BUILDING OF TRINITY CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL AND IS STRONG ADVOCATE FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION. MR. CRAGGS WAS HONORED AT A MASS ON JANUARY 30, 2009 DURING CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK AND IS PICTURED WITH HIS FAMILY.

THE FOLLOWING FAMILIES/BUSINESSES THAT HAVE JOINED OUR **SCHOLASTIC SPONSORS** FOR THE

2008-2009 SCHOOL YEAR:

LAW OFFICES OF VICTOR J. MUSLEH, JR., P.A.
CITRUS BONE & JOINT SPECIALISTS
DR. AND MRS. MARK SOMBAT AND FAMILY
MR. & MRS. RANDALL SCOTT

LAWRENCE J. SUTTON, D.D.S., P.A.
DRS. WAYNE & MILLIE POOLE

THE NEUROLOGY INSTITUTE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA
DESERT WIRELESS

THE LAFFERTY FAMILY

PARTNER IN EDUCATION
INDEPENDENT BANK

THANK YOU ALL!

NCEA DISTINGUISHED

PASTOR AWARD

SIXTEEN YEARS AGO, FATHER PAT INTRODUCED THE PARISH AND SCHOOL COMMUNITY TO THE STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE, TEACHING THAT OUTTING GOD FIRST AND TRUSTING IN HIM WOULD ALLOW THE PARISH TO OVERCOME MANY CHALLENGES. BLESSED TRINITY BECAME A TOTAL STEWARDSHIP PARISH WITH MEMBERS GIVING OF THEIR TIME, TALENT AND TREASURE BACK TO GOD AND THE CHURCH. FATHER PAT'S EFFORTS HAVE RESULTED IN TREMENDOUS GROWTH AT BLESSED TRINITY. WE CURRENTLY HAVE A STUDENT POPULATION OF 700 WITH A WAITING LIST IN EVERY GRADE. FATHER PAT IS A TRUE SPIRITUAL LEADER. HIS HIGHEST PRIORITY IS THE SPIRITUAL GROWTH OF THE PARISH AND SCHOOL FAMILIES. HE IS TRULY COMMITTED TO MAKING A CATHOLIC EDUCATION POSSIBLE FOR ALL WHO WANT IT. THE NATION CATHOLIC EDUCATION ASSOCIATION IS THE LARGEST PRIVATE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION ORGANIZATION IN THE WORLD, REPRESENTING 200,000 CATHOLIC EDUCATORS AND SERVING 7.6 MILLION STUDENTS. THE DISTINGUISHED PASTOR AWARD IS PRESENTED ANNUALLY BY THE NCEA DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS. EDUCATION THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES. ON APRIL 14, 2009, FATHER PAT RECEIVED A DISTINGUISHED PASTOR AWARD AT A CEREMONY IN ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA. CONGRATULATIONS, FATHER PAT.

ALUMNI NEWS

Dear Alumni:

Another year is coming to a close at your Alma Mater. We have a school full of enthusiastic students – well, except for a few who would like to be expelled so their parents would have to send them to a public school and then no more uniforms! I must say for the most part we have very happy students – much more happy than I was as a student in grade school.

The test results throughout all grades have improved three years in a row. We measure progress a whole lot more carefully in recent years especially under our new young energetic Principal, Mr. Jason Halstead. Also, since most of our 8th grade graduates go to Trinity Catholic High School, we are able to measure results year to year from the entrance exam results.

We have waiting lists in most all grades. At present we are seriously planning to buy 25 acres of land out near Golden Hills on US 27. Once the economy improves we will begin plans there for a second Catholic grade school. We firmly believe that all Catholic parents, who sincerely desire a Catholic education for their children should be afforded that opportunity, even if they are not financially able to afford the cost.

Like most other families or businesses we have our fair share of financial woes with all our current budgets, including the school. Salaries are frozen from the quality of our ministries. We are heavily indebted to a few everywhere possible without taking from the quality of our ministries. You can earn extra spiritual brownie points in heaven if you have any spare dollars lying around for your Alma Mater.

We wish all of you and your family relaxed, trouble-free and blessed summer months.

In Christ,



Rev. Patrick J. Sheedy
Pastor

PJS/jw



BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL
55-E 17TH ST
OCALA, FLORIDA 34471
PHONE: 352-622-5808
FAX: 352-622-1610

BTSSCHOOL@BTSCHOOL.ORG
WWW.BTSSCHOOL.ORG

FROM THE DESK OF MR. HALSTEAD

I RECENTLY HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO ATTEND A GATHERING OF PARISHIONERS FOR THE DIOCESAN "ALIVE IN CHRIST" CAMPAIGN. LOU HOLTZ, FAMED NOTRE DAME FOOTBALL COACH, WAS THE GUEST SPEAKER AND SHARED HIS THOUGHTS ON CATHOLIC EDUCATION AND SHARED THE CORE VALUES THAT HE BELIEVED WERE VITAL TO SUCCESS:

• "ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST"

• "LET OTHER PEOPLE KNOW THAT YOU CARE ABOUT THEM"

AS I LISTENED TO HIM, IT OCCURRED TO ME THAT BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL HAS A PROUD TRADITION OF TEACHING THESE VERY SAME IDEALS TO ITS STUDENTS. WHILE WE OFTEN DO NOT ARTICULATE THEM AS ELOQUENTLY OR SUCCESSFULLY AS MR. HOLTZ, THEY NONETHELESS PERMEATE THE CULTURE OF BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL.

"DO THE RIGHT THING" – GOOD DECISION MAKING SKILLS DEVELOP WITH TIME AND EXPERIENCE. FOR ALMOST 80 YEARS, BLESSED TRINITY STUDENTS HAVE BEEN HELD TO A HIGHER MORAL STANDARD. WITH CHRIST AS OUR MODEL, WE WERE TAUGHT TO RESPECT OTHERS AND TO MAKE GOOD CHOICES. MR. FRANK SMITH, GUIDANCE COUNSELOR AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL THROUGH THE PAST TWO DECADES WAS FAMOUS FOR TELLING STUDENTS, "DO THE RIGHT THING."

"ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST" – A GOOD WORK ETHIC IS ONE OF THE KEYS TO SUCCESS. BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL ENCOURAGES STUDENTS TO WORK HARD, TO BE RESPONSIBLE, AND TO BE ACCOUNTABLE FOR THEIR ACTIONS. WE HAVE ALWAYS HAD HIGH EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR STUDENTS BECAUSE WE KNOW THAT HIGH EXPECTATIONS YIELD SUCCESS. BLESSED TRINITY ALUMNI HAVE ACHIEVED GREAT THINGS NEAR AND FAR BY "ALWAYS DOING THEIR BEST".

"LET OTHER PEOPLE KNOW YOU CARE ABOUT THEM" – COMPASSION AND ALTRUISM ARE HALLMARKS OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH AND THE STEWARDSHIP WAY OF LIFE. EXPRESSING CARE FOR OTHERS OCCURS WHEN WE GIVE OUR TIME, TALENT, & TREASURE AND IN OUR DAILY INTERACTIONS WITH THE PEOPLE WE MEET. BLESSED TRINITY STUDENTS AND GRADUATES ARE WELL-KNOWN AND RESPECTED IN THE COMMUNITY FOR THEIR KINDNESS AND CARE FOR OTHERS. BY LETTING PEOPLE KNOW WE CARE ABOUT THEM, THROUGH OUR WORDS AND ACTIONS, WE BECOME POSITIVE ROLE MODELS AND AMBASSADORS FOR OUR SCHOOL, OUR CHURCH, AND OUR FAITH.

BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL CONTINUES TO ENCOURAGE STUDENTS TO LIVE BY THESE IDEALS, JUST AS THEY DID WHEN WE YOU WERE A STUDENT HERE. THROUGH THE YEARS, OUR COMMUNITY AND SOCIETY HAVE UNDERGONE MANY CHANGES, YET THE CORE VALUES HIGHLIGHTED ABOVE REMAIN A CONSTANT AT BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL. TEACHING AND LIVING BY THESE PRINCIPLES IS NOT ALWAYS EASY, BUT WHEN ABIDED BY, THEY LEAD TO SUCCESS.

RED & WHITE NIGHT

BLESSED TRINITY'S 17TH ANNUAL RED & WHITE NIGHT WAS HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2009 AT GOLDEN HILLS GOLF AND TURF CLUB. THIS YEAR'S THEME WAS "A NIGHT IN PARIS." MANY TERRIFIC ITEMS WERE AUCTIONED, INCLUDING A TRIP TO IRELAND AND A SCOOTER SIGNED BY JOHN TRAVOLTA. ALL CLASSES MADE BASKETS FOR THE SILENT AUCTION. OVER \$100,000.00 WAS RAISED FOR BLESSED TRINITY'S BUILDING AND TECHNOLOGY FUND. A SPECIAL THANKS TO STACY SHOEMAKER, CYNTHIA HANNA, ANGY SCROBLE AND MANY OTHERS WHO WORKED SO HARD TO MAKE THIS EVENT A HUGE SUCCESS.

DUKE TALENT SEARCH

THIS YEAR THIRTY-ONE SIXTH GRADERS QUALIFIED FOR NEXT YEAR'S DUKE TALENT SEARCH. STUDENTS MUST SCORE IN THE 95TH PERCENTILE OR HIGHER IN ONE OR MORE AREAS OF THIS YEAR'S ITBS TEST. THESE STUDENTS WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TAKE THE SAT OR ACT, WHICH IS NORMALLY ADMINISTERED TO HIGH SCHOOL JUNIORS AND SENIORS. THIS YEAR WE HAVE THREE SEVENTH GRADERS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE DUKE TALENT SEARCH AND MET THE STATE QUALIFYING SCORE CRITERIA. ABBY O'CONNOR, MELISSA MEZA, AND PETER ORDENEAU WERE RECOGNIZED ON MAY 14, 2009 AT THE STATE RECOGNITION CEREMONY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA. PETER ORDENEAU QUALIFIED FOR THE GRAND RECOGNITION CEREMONY HELD AT DUKE UNIVERSITY IN DURHAM, NC ON MAY 19, 2009.

WALK-A-THON

THE KICK OFF FOR THIS YEAR'S WALK A THON WAS A HEALTH FAIR. THE CHILDREN LEARNED THE IMPORTANCE OF A HEALTHY DIET, EXERCISING AND STAYING SAFE. THE WALK A THON WAS HELD ON APRIL 21, 2009 WITH THE AWARDS CEREMONY ON MAY 26, 2009. EVERYONE GOT LOTS OF EXERCISE AND HAD A GREAT TIME. THE WALK A THON RAISED MUCH NEEDED FUNDS FOR THE SCHOOL.



2009

GRADUATING CLASS

SAVANNAH ALLEN
MARISA ANDERSON
BRANDON BEHAN
MATTHEW BIENKO
GABRIELLE BROWN
BRIAN CAPLAN
MICHAEL CHUNG
MATTHEW CORTEZ
NICOLE CORTEZ
CLAIRE COUCH
ANTHONY CRISERA
CRYSTAL CRUZ
JERRED CURTIN
JILLIAN CZURYLA
RACHEL DEAN
WILLIAM DECLERK
ROSARIA DELPRETE
MCCAELA DEMARY
JEREMY DIAZ
CHRISTOPHER DIMARE
ROSE MARIE EVANGELISTA
HANNAH FALESTINY
SHANNON FANELLI

KRISTINA FERGUSON
BRITTNEY FERKO
CAELA GANGLER
ANDRES GARCIA
JOSHUA GOURLEY
BRIANA GRAVEL-CANE
JOSHUA HARDING
ARON HARRIS
KYLE HEARNS
SHELBY HEITMULLER
MORGAN HENRIQUES
REBECCA HILDNER
LAUREN HIPKE
QUINT HOFFNER
TIFFANY HUMES
JESSE JOHNSON
JUSTIN KIM
MATTHEW KLUMP
ELIZABETH KOECH
CARL LEIBRANDT
JESSICA LEON
NICHOLAS LEONARDI
MARILYS LOPEZ
EMANUEL MANCIA
MICHAEL MARINO
JACQUELINE MCNIFF
LAUREL MENGERS
ALEX MERRITT
MICHAEL MOYER

DANIELLE NICHOLSON
BRYAN PACHECO
SAMANTHA PASKO
STEVEN PERSAVICH
KAMIL PIETRZAK
TIMOTHY PIGEON
TYLER PORTER
LAUREN RANDALL
TIMOTHY RETAMOZA
DALLAS RIPLEY
ANDREA RODRIGUEZ
JAIRIZ RODRIGUEZ
JOHANNA ROMERO
JAMES ROSS
KELSEY SAN MARTIN
HANNA SCHUMM
SIENNA SCUDERO
ANNA SHALA
JOEL SHAW
VALENCIA SIMS
THOMAS TCHIR
TABITHA TINDELL
MITCHELL WILSON
ADAM WISE
DAVID WOODS
BRENNAN YATES
KAITLYN YEAROUT
STEPHANIE ZACCO

Do you have updated info for our records, please send: If so, please contact us: write to the address below, or e-mail us at btschool@btschool.org Please put attn: alumni on the subject line.

**BLESSED TRINITY SCHOOL
5 SE 17TH ST
OCALA, FL 34471**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED