



AHS PARENT CONNECTION

KEEPING YOU INFORMED / October 24, 2019



Mission: *To inspire excellence and personal growth grounded in Catholic principles and tradition*

Vision: *A community of academic excellence, Catholic in spirit and culture, nurturing integrity and respect.*

Dates to remember:

- Oct. 25: AHS Retreat Day
- Oct. 30: Catholic Speaker @ Sacred Heart
- Oct. 31: ACS Halloween Costume Party
6:30-9:30 (All K-12 families and
Guests are invited to attend.)
- Nov. 1: No School K-12
- Nov. 4: NHS Induction
- Nov. 9: Auction Royale

Athletic Event

- Oct. 24: VB Regional Semi Final @ Athens
- Oct. 25: CC Sectionals
- Oct. 26: VB Regional Final
- Nov. 2: CC State @ Ridges

FROM THE DESK OF FATHER BECKER: *From Cross to Addition Sign*

5t "If God exists and He is all good, then people should not suffer." The conclusion of this simple argument is that God does not exist because people suffer. This acute observation has commonly been posed by atheists to debunk the existence of God. If we're honest, we sometimes find ourselves desperately grappling with this dilemma as well. Our faith tells us that God is all good and He exists. We know from experience that people suffer. So the question for us, Christians, is not whether the existence of suffering negates the existence of God, but rather, how can our belief in God effect our lived experience.

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that people suffer and some quite immensely. Natural disasters decimate towns and alter the lives of many: someone drives under the influence and kills or severely injures another person, countless individuals struggle with mental health and physical ailments, and dreadful diseases randomly plague the life of young people, etc. All these people seem to suffer for no reason at all. They never asked to get cancer at a young age. They did nothing to deserve being hit head on by a drunk driver. They didn't have the choice to be born with mental or physical illnesses. We can somewhat understand people suffering for something they did, but we struggle to see anything good when someone suffers through no fault of their own.

In an effort to understand our experience of suffering we look to our belief in God and His Son for an answer. Did God create suffering? NO. God created all things good (cf. Gn. 1). Suffering is not good. It is an absence of good. Though God did not create suffering, He allows it. We believe Jesus suffered death on the cross and rose from the dead for our salvation. Why? Why couldn't God have just snapped His fingers? Why did He undergo suffering? Among other reasons, Jesus chose to redeem us through suffering to redeem suffering itself. By that I mean, suffering took on a redemptive meaning because Jesus who is 100% God and 100% human suffered and rose from the dead. Because of Jesus suffering is no longer pointless, but can be redemptive when endured with and in Christ. From Jesus's death came resurrection and life—salvation. Therefore, suffering is allowed by God because it has a redemptive quality to it.

Consequently there is no such thing as meaningless suffering. Suffering is still not good, but the great Christian hope is that our suffering can help us get to heaven. Without His suffering and death Jesus wouldn't have risen from the dead, and so our suffering can lead us to new life and salvation. Jesus suffered with perfect love. He did not feel sorry for Himself nor did He play the victim card. Jesus actually embraced His cross and challenged His disciples to do the same. "If any man would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me" (Mk. 8:34). Embracing our crosses, our sufferings, is extremely difficult and can seem pointless. However, if we endure our suffering with love, our suffering is transformed.

So what is/are your cross(s)? Are you personally suffering with a disease, an illness, or financial struggles? Are you suffering from worry and heartache as you watch a loved one suffer from cancer or a life altering accident? The cross used to be an instrument of torture and death, but no longer. The cross is now an instrument of redemption and life because of Jesus. Give Jesus permission to draw close to you and wrap you in His arms. Hear Him say, "Follow Me. It will be ok. I've got you." Regardless of the shape our cross(s) have taken, when borne with love, Jesus forges them into the shape of an addition sign.

Thursday, October 31st, 2019
Assumption Catholic School's

HALLOWEEN

Costume Party

Join us for a great night of Halloween fun!
6:00-9:30 p.m. @ Assumption High School

All K-12 ACS families and guests are invited to attend
Kids can "Trick or Treat" down the halls from 6-7 p.m.
Halloween dance in the gym from 6:30-9:30 p.m.
Spooky Walk for our "Little Royals"

Concession stand with supper items will be available,
and proceeds will benefit Casa Hogar.

Costume Contest with winners in the following groups:
K-2 / 3-5 / 6-8 / 9-12 / Family Group
And back by popular demand ...

"THE HAUNTED HALLWAY"

RSVP by October 28th
Tickets \$2.00 per person. Pay in advance or at the door.

Our K-12 Halloween Party for ACS families and their guests is taking place next week on Halloween night.

We are working on finalizing our preparations and it is very important for us to know who and how many to plan for.

If you plan on attending, please RETURN THE RSVP by no later than Monday, October 28th.

Additionally, if you could spare some time, we would love to have your help. We need volunteers to help with entry door tickets, gym set up and clean up.

For those who signed up to bring in candy donations: Please drop off in the AMS office by Monday, October 28th, or you can drop off to your school office, labeled ACS Halloween Party, and it will be couriered to the AMS office.

